

The first day of the DISSOLUTION SALE IS TO-DAY

No time to write an ad. Watch the papers tomorrow

The Variety Store

BOOPHILUS ANNULATUS (Ticks—Texas Fever)

Address Read Before the State Farmers' Convention by Dr. E. P. Guerrant

Ladies and Gentlemen—It is not my stronghold to deliver a lecture or read a paper, before such a gathering as is assembled here today, and especially before such notable speakers as we have here at this meeting. I consider the time more or less wasted that I take up, so will cut my little talk as short as possible.

For the discussion of the subject that I have taken, I am indebted to our friend here Dr. Carey, and the college stations of Georgia, South Carolina, Mississippi and Texas, with what little experience I have had. Doubtless many of you know that the most vital problem before the South today is the tick, or Texas fever, sometimes called bloody murian, splenic fever, etc. The South suffers an annual loss of something like 40 or 50 millions of dollars from this cause; loss in flesh, from its butchers, or market cattle and from losses of imported stock from above the quarantine line. Also Southern cattle sell from one-fourth to one-half cent less on the northern markets, which means quite a neat sum annually, which the Southern producer is entitled to.

Now why is all this? First and last, it is the tick, about the size of a bean, brownish in color, and very harmless in its appearance. This tick leads somewhat a peculiar life, but an active one.

Before touching upon tick or Texas fever, I will give a short history of the tick itself. This tick fever has been existing for centuries in parts of Europe, Asia and Africa, and was introduced into the United States by the Spaniards through Mexico and Florida. And I may say that it's called Texas fever from the fact that the early settlers of Texas, trailed or shipped their market cattle North and along these lines, outbreaks occurred of the fever, and it was commonly called Texas fever.

The large fat female tick when completely filled with blood taken from its host drops to the ground, crawls under leaves, or litter, or manure heaps and in a few days begins to lay eggs. In six to fifteen days she may lay from 1500 to 3500 eggs. As the tick lays eggs she gradually shrinks in size (or withers up) and dies in a few days after having her last eggs. The eggs are small, oval, brown and waxy. They may hatch in 12 to 30 days or may live over winter and hatch in the following spring. From these eggs are hatched a small tick, which are six-legged, lively, brown larval ticks, and only a little larger than chicken mites. They crawl upon grass blades, weeds, shrubs or any object near their locality, and there await the coming of their host (cow or other animals).

The seed ticks cannot eat grass or weeds and if they are not successful in finding a cow, mule or horse, they soon starve to death: In summer from one to four months, and one to seven in winter. They cannot withstand an excess of cold weather. When they are successful in finding a host, they crawl up to the soft and thin parts of the skin, and begin to suck blood from the host; this is the time they inoculate the cattle with the micro-parasite, of tick or Texas fever. In about six days the seed tick sheds

its skin (molts) and becomes an eight legged nymph. In eight to twelve days more the nymph tick sheds its skin again (molts). Up to this time the male and female are about the same size, but just after the second molting the female becomes fertilized. The male grows little if any larger, but the female gradually enlarges for six to twelve days, and then rapidly becomes engorged with blood during the next two or three days before dropping off the cow or ox. Then the life cycle is about 35 days in summer, and from 6 to 8 months in winter.

Symptoms of the Tick Fever

Any one that has ever come in contact with tick fever will never forget it. The cattle have a very depleted look, drops its ears, stands with its head lowered, feet rather under body, flanks drawn up, breathing rather accelerated, walks with an unsteady gait, and sometimes get so weak that it will fall around. Bulls will stand and champ their jaws together, making a peculiar dry rubbing sound with their gums, eyes staring and protruded. If inoculated from a tick infestation, you should find small ticks around the underlins between the thighs, forelegs, etc.

Temperature rises before any other noticeable changes take place. The fever will range from 103 to 107½ degrees and generally it is higher in the afternoons than Mornings. Usually the temperature will run high for 5 to 8 days then drop back to normal. But in obstinate cases, where the fever is very irregular, running from 102 to 107, in one day, and then falling again, just as rapidly, are hard to control, and generally fall below normal, and the animal dies.

But when the temperature ranges from 104 to 105½, from 5 to 10 days there is little to fear so long as you keep the bowels open, and appetite good. In acute cases, where you have a stubborn case rumination is suspended, the animal wanders off to itself to some secluded place, usually hides in the bushes, or goes to some marshy swamp, and remains there until death, unless brought out and treated.

Bowels may be inactive. Loss of appetite, suspension of rumination and inactivity of the bowels indicate that the alimentary canal is inactive. The lining of the intestines and the fourth stomach may be more or less inflamed and the inactivity may be in part due to this inflamed condition. Also, inactivity may be due to paralysis resulting from the action of toxic waste products on the nervous system and to excessive action of the kidneys. The food in the third stomach or manifold may be dry, due to the high fever and excessive loss of water from the system.

Generally in the early stages the bowels are more or less loose; the feces may sometime be streaked with blood or covered with mucous; the feces will generally be colored differently according to the feed that is fed. The kidneys are usually very active in acute cases. In mild cases the urine may be quite dark in color or have the natural color. But in severe cases it may be highly colored with the broken down red corpuscles causing the urine to have almost a blood appearance.

Some cases become wild and somewhat crazed or violent. This is due to an insufficient or improper supply of blood to the brain, or to absorption of toxic materials from the stomach or

Willow Chair SALE

Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 10 and 11

We have about 200 Willow Rockers on hand, in the store and warehouse, and are going to sell them out regardless of cost, to make room for our big spring stock, which will arrive in a few days. The chairs embrace the latest patterns, and all are new goods. This is the housekeepers opportunity of a lifetime.

The sale will be for Monday and Tuesday only, and is for CASH. Don't forget the dates.

THEUS-ZACHRY COMPANY

THE FURNITURE MEN

ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY

LORETTO, (Near Mandarin) FLORIDA.

Boarding School for Boys Conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph.

Young Boys from 8 to 14 years Received. Carefully Trained along Physical, Intellectual, Moral and Social Lines. Healthy Location, Magnificent swimming Pool, Complete Equipment in Schoolrooms, Dormitories, Dining Hall and Recreation Rooms.

Apply for Prospectus to the SISTER SUPERIOR,

ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY, LORETTO, FLA.

intestines. A wabbling gait and inability to see may also be present.

An animal will often lose flesh. Cows will often abort, and in such cases, it is very hard to save your cow, and then run the chances of having a chronic case thereafter.

Diagnosis is very easy. As stated before, any one accustomed to seeing tick fever cases, can generally tell one as far as he can see it. In living specimens, you will have a weak pulse, accelerated respirations, the mucous membranes of mouth, nostrils and eyelids will be very pale, or purple looking. No appetite, and sometimes red urine.

After death, the post mortem will show the following: The liver is usually greatly distended or enlarged and filled with blood, the bile having a

(Concluded on Seventh Page.)

E. C. SMITH

C. V. ROBERTS

FUNERAL DIRECTORS AND LICENSED EMBALMERS

We are equipped to do the very best work and use only the latest and best methods. Telegraph orders receive immediate attention. Chapel and undertaking parlors, corner Main street and Oklawaha avenue.

OCALA FURNITURE COMPANY

Day Phone, No. 10; Night Phone, No. 197