

A.-The breastplate, when used, should be fitted so that the upper edge of the rosette is the breadth of three fingers above the breadth of the breastbone. It should admit the breadth of the hand between it and the flat of the shoulder.

Q.-How should the rifle bucket be fitted?

A.-The rifle bucket should be fastened to the back arch of the saddle on the off side, hang perpendicularly, and well back from the off spur; the butt plate the breadth of four fingers below the elbow.

Q.-How should the blanket be folded?

A.-With a horse of normal shape and condition the blanket is folded lengthwise in three equal folds, one end is then turned over 24 inches, the other end is turned into the pocket formed by the folds; the blanket thus folded is placed on the horse's back, with the thick part near the withers.

Q.-What is the size of the blanket folded and unfolded?

A.-Size when folded 2 feet by 1 foot 8 inches. When unfolded 5 feet 5 inches by 4 feet 8 inches.

Q.-How should the following articles fit:- (a) Bridoon. (b) Bit. (c) Curb. (d) Headstall. (e) Nose-band. (f) Throat-lash. (g) Bridoon-rein?

- A.-
- (a) The bridoon should touch the corners of the mouth, but should hang low enough not to wrinkle them.
 - (b) The bit should be placed in the horse's mouth so that the mouth-piece is 1 inch above the lower tusk of a horse, and 2 inches above the corner tooth of a mare.
 - (c) The curb should be laid flat and smooth under the jaw, and should admit two fingers easily between it and the jaw bone.
 - (d) The headstall should be parallel to and behind the cheekbone.
 - (e) The nose-band should be the breadth of two fingers below the cheekbone, and should admit two fingers between it and the nose.
 - (f) The throat-lash should admit two fingers between it and the horse's jaw.
 - (g) The bridoon-rein should be of such a length that, When held by the middle, in the full of the left hand, with a light feeling of the horse's mouth, it will touch the rider's waist.

Q.-How are the following articles carried?:- (a) The haversack. (b) Water-bottle. (c) Head-rope. (d) hoof-picker. (e) Nose-bag?

- A.-
- (a) The haversack will be carried on the left side, the strap passing over the right shoulder under the bandolier (under the waistbelt in the NWMP).
 - (b) The water-bottle will be carried on the man under the left arm, the bottom of the bottle to be on line with the elbow, The strap over the right shoulder and under the bandolier.
 - (c) The head-rope will be fastened round the horse's neck, with ten coils, the front of the coil to be about 10 inches from the head-rope ring.
 - (d) The hoof-picker will be slung on the strap outside the shoe-case, which will be carried on the near side.
 - (e) The nosebag, when not required for carrying oats, will be rolled and carried on the

shoe-case, fastened to the baggage strap. When full, the strap of the nosebag will be fastened to the back arch of the saddle.

Q.-How are the following articles carried:- (a) Forage-net. (b) Mess-tin. (c) Heel-rope. (d) Cloak. (e) Mallet?

- A.- (a) The forage nets, when empty, will be fastened on the saddle between the cantle and the cloak. When full they will be fastened in front of the saddle.
(b) The mess-tin will be fastened by the off baggage-strap to the off side of the saddle.
(c) The heel-rope will be coiled round the shackle and carried on the pack.
(d) The cloak to be about 26 inches in length, rolled with a waist and fastened in rear of the saddle.
(e) Mallets will be carried in the wagons.

Q.-What is carried on the horse in marching order?

A.-Saddle and bridle complete, with head-rope; regulation proportion of breast harness and pioneer equipment, hoof-picker, nose-bag, forage-net, mess-tin, heel-rope, rifle (carbine) in bucket, sword in frog on shoe case, edge to the rear (n/a-NWMP) cloak, rolled, in rear of saddle; surcingle-pad.

Q.-If the built-up rope is issued with wooden picketing pegs, where are they carried?

A.-On the rear pack.

Q.-Lay out a saddle for Commanding Officer's inspection.

A.-Carried out practically in accordance with regimental standing orders.

Corporals Only:

Q.-Why must a horse never be watered directly after feeding?

A.-Because the water is apt to wash the undigested grain out of the stomach into the intestines, where it swells and causes colic or stoppage.

Q.-Is very cold water bad for horses? How may this be remedied?

A.-Very cold water reduces the vitality of young horses, and consequently their power of resisting diseases, because it lowers the temperature too rapidly. The temperature of drinking water may be raised by adding a little hot water to each bucket.

Q.- How can you tell good oats?

A.-Good oats should be clean and free from dirt, of a uniform size, hard when squeezed with the thumbnail, no smell of mustiness, should taste like flour, be plump and have a heavy feel in the hand; they should rattle like shot, and weigh 38 to 40 lbs. per bushel when fairly measured.

Q.-How can you tell good hay from bad?

A.-Good hay should be moderately hard, well saved, sweet to the smell, and of a brownish green colour. The grasses should lie flat and not confused; flowering heads should be abundant. When you examine hay, first note the uniformity of the lot, then choose several trusses and open them

out and note if they are dusty. Note the smell, freedom from weeds, and whether the heads of the grasses are missing, which would indicate second crop. New hay feels warm and damp, and should not be issued before October.

Q.-What is bran and what effect does it have on horses when given wet and when given dry?

A.-Bran is the husk of ground wheat. Dry bran constipates, wet bran is a laxative. A handful of dry bran in a horse's feed prevents him from bolting it. Bran should be clean, smell sweet, and be perfectly dry.

Q.-What are the general orders for stable duties?

- A.-
- Jack boots should not be worn at stables.
 - No man is to lead more than one horse at a time through a stable door.
 - Mangers should frequently be washed out and walls opposite horse's heads whitewashed.
 - Smoking in the stables is forbidden.
 - A shoeing list, showing when horses are shod or have had their shoes removed, is to be hung up in every stable.
 - No clothing or equipment is to be hung on the bales, off which they are liable to fall and be trodden on.
 - Service frocks, while grooming, should be folded and laid on the saddles, and not under the manger. The manger is only intended for the horses corn, and must be kept clean. No bathbrick, grooming articles, &c., are on any account to be put in them.
 - Droppings should be picked up with a shovel and carried away, and not swept up, as sweeping spreads the dung over the stables and causes it to smell badly.
 - Currycombs must be tapped out on the floor, near the drain, and not knocked out on the bail or heel-post.
 - Any man who considers that his horse has not the proper weight of corn, should report to the troop officer, who will get it weighed.
 - Numnahs must be dried and beaten with a stick; if very dirty, scrub with soft soap and hot water, and then dry carefully.

Q.-What substitutes for straw can be used for bedding?

A.-Moss-litter, sawdust, sand, leaves, shavings. Great care should be taken to remove the soiled portions, and have a large supply to make a comfortable bed.

Q.-Can any other kind of food be given to horses in place of the government ration as laid down? Mention the qualities of those you name.

- A.
- Carrots should be given, when obtainable, during the winter. They may be taken in lieu of straw at their market value.
 - Linseed should be boiled and mixed with the corn or mash. Useful for pulling round a delicate or stale horse.
 - Peas; a handful in the feed is good for conditioning a horse.
 - Beans are more heating than peas and are not adapted for young horses which are not doing hard work.

- Maize (or mealies) should be crushed or soaked, otherwise it is hard to masticate; it is very sustaining and good for putting on condition.
- Turnips should only be used in limited quantities; help to put on flesh.
- Potatoes are excellent for fattening purposes; they should be boiled and thoroughly strained; ten to fifteen a day.
- Green forage during the spring is very good for horses; it should be quite fresh and sweet.
- Barley, if given boiled, is very fattening; not more than two to three pounds boiled should be given a day.

Q.-How should the shoe fit?

A.-The shoe should fit the foot accurately, its outer surface being level with the wall of the hoof all round, except at the heel, where the shoe should overlap it slightly.

Q.-What is dumping?

A.-Putting on the shoe too small, and afterwards cutting or rasping off the wall of the foot to make it appear to fit. It is strictly prohibited.

Q.-How is over-reach caused and how may it be prevented?

A.-The inside sharp edge of the toe of the hind shoe catches the heel of the fore foot and cuts it; to prevent this, the sharp edge must be rounded off when the shoe is made.

Q.-How should you deal with a crib-biter or wind-sucker?

A.-Keep him turned round in the stall and fasten him to the posts with long collar chains, so that he can lie down at night, and feed him out of a barrow. For a wind-sucker use a strap round his throat pressing on the larynx.

Q.-What is the routine of stable duties when the horses return from work about 11 o'clock?

A.-'Stables' should sound fifteen minutes after the return. Bits, stirrups, and bright buckles may be rubbed over with an oil rag to prevent rust, but horses should be groomed before the saddles are cleaned. Each horse, when reported clean, should be inspected by a squadron officer, and, if cool, taken to water; the man should then get on with the saddle. As soon as most of the horses are reported clean by the squadron officer to the orderly officer, they can be bedded down. When all the squadrons are reported the commanding officer will sound 'feed'; all the horses are fed at the same time. No man is to go on grooming his horse while it is feeding. Officers then leave stables, and the saddlery is finished under the superintendence of the N.C.O.'s. Each man should be allowed to leave the stables as soon as his kit is passed. (K.R. 867)

Q.-What is the routine of stable duties when the horses return about the dinner hour.

A.-The horses are watered and fed. The saddles or numnahs are kept on to prevent the risk of chill to the back or loins. All doors and windows should be closed on one side of the stable to prevent draught while the men are at dinner. Three quarters of an hour are allowed for dinner, then the stables and arrangements are as detailed above. (K.R. 873)

Q.-Why does taking the saddle off too soon sometimes cause a sore back?

A.-During the march, the weight of the man on the saddle presses on the vessels of the skin under the saddle and drives the blood out of them. When this weight is removed, the vessels are suddenly filled again and cannot stand the strain, so that swelling is formed. If the saddles are left on for an hour circulation is gradually restored. Colonists on the march often take their saddles off at once in order to allow their horses to roll, but they always rub the horses back over with a wisp of grass or a handful of sand in order to restore the circulation.

If the saddles are removed at once, the backs should be immediately hand-rubbed, slapped, or rubbed against the direction of the hair for a few minutes in order to restore circulation.

Q.-Why is it necessary that the saddle should have a front arch over the withers and a rear arch over the spine?

A.-to relieve those bony parts from all pressure. Bone, unless covered with flesh and muscle, is not adapted for sustaining either weight or pressure.

Q.-What are the usual results of a bad system of shoeing?

A.-Brushing, forging, speedy-cutting, corns, wired-in heels, pricks, &c.

Q.-What are the usual results or injuries of a careless system of fitting and putting on saddlery?

A.-Girth galls, sore backs, sore withers, rubs, bit injuries, horses unsteady, &c.

Q.-What are the usual results or diseases of a bad system of watering and feeding?

A.-Colic, bolting food, loss of appetite, constipation, diarrhoea, purging, loss of condition, hidebound, &c.

Q.-What harm arises from a bad system of ventilation?

A.-Coughs, influenza, debility, bad coats, fever, pneumonia, &c.

Q.-In the absence of a veterinary officer, how would you treat a horse for a cold?

A.-Steam the horse's head by holding it over a bucket of boiling water with some hay in it, head and bucket to be covered by a rug. Give plenty of water with the chill taken off it.

Q.-What should you do if your horse show symptoms of fever?

A. Clothe his body and legs well, and give laxative diet till medicine is available.

Q.-What do you do for cracked heels?

A.-If severe, poultice them till the inflammation is removed and then rub in cart grease or glycerine.

Q.-How are sprains treated?

A.-If there is much inflammation, use hot fomentations, and when the heat is reduced put on cold water bandages.

Q.-What should be done for broken knees?

A.-Irrigate til the wound is clean, then cover with clean linen rag well damped till ointment is available.

Q.-If a horse's eye appears to be injured what must be done?

A.-Examine the eye carefully for a hayseed or other cause. If anything is found, remove it with a clean sponge, sponge the eye and hang a wet linen cloth over it to keep it cool. Frequently soak the cloth in cold water.

Q.-How is a common poultice prepared?

A.-Take a handful or so of bran and add boiling water sufficient enough to soften it. Place the mixture in a strong cloth, apply at once to the part required and tie on. If the poultice be required for the foot, the foot should be soaked in hot water for half an hour previous to the poultice being applied.

Q.-How is a 'stimulant' applied to the throat?

A.-Some of the liniment must be poured into the palm of the hand and well rubbed in round the under side of the joining of the head and neck, underneath the jowl, and for about six inches down the neck itself on the underpart. Rub for about ten minutes at a time.

Q.-If a horse is pricked in the foot what must be done?

A.-Get a shoeing-smith if possible and personally see the shoe removed, and then apply a bran poultice.

Q.-What are the four vital points to attend to in the care of your horse on the march?

- A.-
1. Watering and feeding; water frequently, especially on a hot day; see that he eats his food, and if he refuses his grain try him with hay, grass, bread, oatmeal, &c.
 2. Weight off the back; dismount whenever you can to ease him.
 3. Walking on foot; lead frequently, especially down hill.
 4. Off-saddling; take the saddle off or loosen the girths whenever you have the time and can safely do so; hand-rub the back to promote circulation.