

Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

Removing Stumps.

My apple orchard was killed with scale. What is the best and quickest way of removing the trees? I have been told to cut them off close to the ground and bore a hole in the stump and fill it with salt-petre. In three or four months they will then burn quite readily. What do you consider the best means of getting rid of stumps?

Ans.—It takes an apple stump a long time to rot off and the idea of putting salt-petre, oil and other material into the stump to hasten decay does not always work out in practice. Either use stump-powder and blast the stumps out, or else secure a stump lifter which proves satisfactory.

Thick Milk.

I have a cow which is going dry at present but is not expected to freshen until the first of July. She gives thick milk. She is in good condition and is fleshing up instead of giving much milk. What is the cause of thick milk and what can I do to stop it? Will she be all right when she freshens?

Ans.—It frequently happens that a cow near the end of the lactation period will produce rather thick milk. It is doubtful if anything can be done to remedy it. Sometimes the milk will get thick or ropy a short time after it is drawn. This is due to a bacteria which develops very rapidly in milk. A thorough scalding of all utensils and not rinsing in cold water is recommended. No doubt the cow will produce normal milk when she again freshens.

Colic—Acute Indigestion.

1. What treatment do you recommend for colic?
2. What treatment do you recommend for acute indigestion?

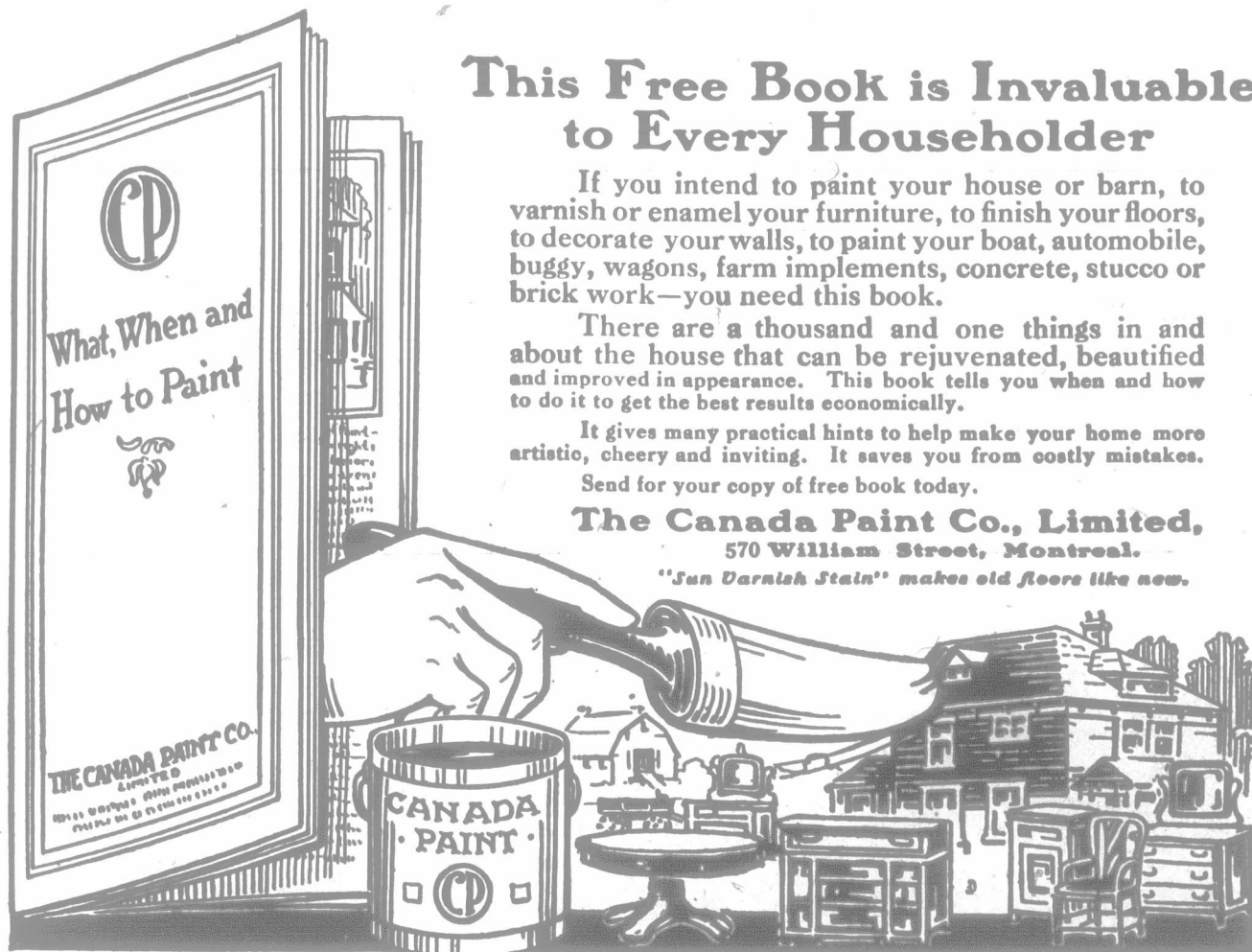
Ans.—There are two kinds of colic which give considerable trouble; the first is spasmodic, due to improper feed, sudden changes, over-feeding, water when heated. The symptoms are general uneasiness, pawing and rolling at frequent intervals. When the first symptom is noticed, drench with 1½ ounces each of laudanum, sweet spirits of nitre and tincture of belladonna in a pint of water. Repeat in two hours if necessary. Flatulent colic is generally caused by a change in food, or too much succulent and easily fermented food, as green clover. The symptoms are much the same as for spasmodic colic but not quite so violent and the pain is continuous. Bloating soon occurs. Drench with 2 to 3 ounces of oil of turpentine in a pint of raw linseed oil and repeat in two hours if necessary.

2. Treatment for acute indigestion is a drench of 2 to 3 ounces oil of turpentine in a pint of raw linseed oil. Apply hot cloths to the abdomen and if pain is severe give 2 drams of solid extract of belladonna. This may be repeated in two hours if it is necessary. It is also advisable to give injections per rectum.

Sowing Salt to Check Wireworm.

I have 8 acres of land which was manured and plowed last fall, which I would like to sow to corn this year. The sow thistle is very bad in it, but the field is in too good shape to leave idle. I can't afford to summer fallow it and it is too dirty for a spring crop. As it is a second plowing after sod, I am afraid of wireworm. Would you advise sowing salt? How much would you advise sowing per acre? Is there any other means of preventing the wireworm?

Ans.—Some claim that salt will prevent the wireworms from working, but it is doubtful whether it is safe to apply enough salt to the land to guarantee its effectiveness in destroying the worms. Common salt in itself contains none of the constituents essential to the growth of plants, but it probably aids in promoting the liberation of some of the plant essentials. It is not advisable to apply more than two or three hundred pounds to the acre, as brine is detrimental to vegetation and that amount would have no effect on the wireworms, except to stimulate the growth of the corn. We know of no way of preventing the wireworm from attacking the crops, except a short rotation of crops. If the land was not in sod over a couple of years before being broken up, the wireworms should not be bad.



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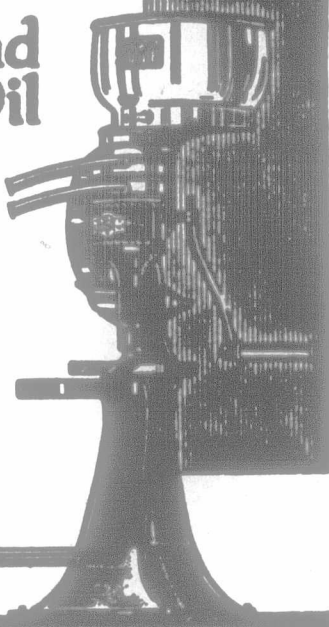
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