

MISCELLANEOUS.

A DEED—RECKONING WAGES.

1. A gets involved and his farm is sold at sheriff's sale, and B buys it and gets a sheriff's deed of it. After a number of years, B sells to C. What sort of a deed should B give to C? Would it be a quit claim or a common deed?

2. I hired a man for eight months. He put in about six. By counting 26 days to the month there would be some odd days over. Would the man be entitled to get pay for the odd days?

King's Co., N. B.

SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. Judging, as we must, from your statement of case alone, we should say a deed of conveyance in the ordinary statutory short form. A "quit claim" deed would certainly not be appropriate.

2. No.

FEED FOR WEANLING PIGS.

What kind of food is the best for little pigs after being weaned from the sow, when we have no milk? I have some notion of feeding some. Would there be any profit for me if I bought my grain?

W. C. P.

Prince Edward Co., Ont.

Ans.—Shorts and kitchen swill are the best foods we can advise. If enough swill cannot be had, water would have to take its place when the pigs grow older, and biscuit dust from a biscuit factory might be used to advantage, mixed with hot water and allowed to cool, or the mixture cooled by adding cold water, but if the whole is fed lukewarm it will aid digestion. At present prices of grain we do not see that any considerable profit can be realized from feeding pigs where the grain must be bought.

A HOMEMADE DRINK—CIDER PRESSES WANTED.

You would greatly oblige by giving a recipe in your paper how to make grape wine; also, where cider or apple presses are to be got, and the price of them?

JAMES F. GRIERSON.

Lanark Co., Ont.

Ans.—1. Take twenty pounds of Concord grapes; bruise them and put a little water on them, and simmer slowly in a porcelain kettle for an hour; then press and strain; boil slowly for a short time and skim well; add four pounds of white granulated sugar, to be put in when nearly done, to prevent burning; put hot into self-sealing bottles or jars, like fruit. If too thick when using, dilute with water. The above makes a healthful, delicious, non-intoxicating drink, one that is much relished by sick people. Some use less sugar than the amount given.

2. Enquire of the Grimm Manufacturing Co., Wellington St., Montreal.

SPELT ASKED ABOUT.

Enquiries are reaching us from all quarters in regard to spelt, and where seed can be got? On the latter point consult seedsmen who advertise in the "Farmer's Advocate." Most of them can supply it. We judge that it will be carefully and generally tested this year. We advise readers not to go too extensively into novelties until their merits in the locality are proven. It is a sort of intermediate between barley and wheat, valued in Europe as a stock food either for grain-feeding or soiling purposes, and well adapted for poor land. The results of the co-operative experiments by the Ontario Experimental Union last year show an average yield of 24.1 bushels per acre grain and 1.5 tons straw, beating the spring wheats and some of the barleys. From Lambton Co., Ont., we had reports of yields ranging from 28 to 40 bushels per acre, and a very favorable report from Oxford Co., Ont. Would be pleased if other readers who have given it a fair trial would report results and the plan of cultivation and feeding grain that are most satisfactory.

GRASS FOR WOODLAND—LIME FOR CLAY LAND—BOOK ON ALFALFA.

1. Have a portion of beech and maple woodland on our farm. Have thinned it out and am anxious to get it to grow pasture. Can you or some of your subscribers inform me what grass seed is best adapted to shady land, as we left a scattering of small trees?

2. Have a field which I intend to seed this spring; is heavy clay. Which is better for the land, common red or alsike? Would lime help to loosen the ground?

3. I saw some time ago (I think, in your paper) a book offered by some publishing house on alfalfa. Where can I get this book?

Kent Co., Ont.

S. H.

Ans.—1. Orchard grass and Kentucky blue grass do well in shady places. Timothy would do to begin with, and the natural grass (June grass), which is much the same as blue grass, will in time take possession, crowding out the other.

2. The common red clover is best for the land, but it is well to mix this and alsike, which is more fibrous-rooted and sometimes holds longer in the ground. Lime is said to have the effect on clay soils of opening channels, which render them more friable and porous and produces conditions which allow freer passage of water downwards and of moisture upwards by capillarity, liberating mineral matter and securing more comfortable conditions for plant roots.

3. The book on alfalfa, by F. D. Coburn, can be had from this office. Price, 50 cents.

WASTE WATER FROM DWELLING.

I am thinking of putting a sink in the kitchen of my house this spring, and had intended to use 4-inch drain pipe with a collar attached, and to run contents of sink a distance of 100 feet north of the house to a cesspool, which I would build. I might say we have very little fall to the land, and a cesspool is the only way convenient. Would be obliged if you would tell me the size, shape, and material to use in construction of pool? The family is a small one, and the quantity of water would be about five or six pails a day emptied in sink.

Lincoln Co., Ont.

Ans.—If your soil is sufficiently porous so that the water will soak away rapidly, a big oak barrel or puncheon without a bottom, put down so that it can be covered with planks and a couple of feet of soil to protect from frost, will serve the purpose; but if the water has to be pumped out and removed regularly, you will need something more substantial, say of brick, large enough to hold several barrels of water. There must be a 3 or 4 inch vent pipe from this tank or barrel to let off any gas that might form. The 4-inch pipe from house to pit must have a fall of at least 1 inch in every 10 feet, and be below the frost line throughout. Between the sink and the pipe there must be a trap, and the pipe itself (2-inch) must continue on up through the roof as a vent for the escape of gasses that form in the pipe and pit. A portion of that work must be done by a competent plumber.

CORN ENSILAGE—GRASS PEAS—MANURING FOR MANGELS.

1. As the bugs have destroyed our pea crop, would you advise growing corn to feed to sheep in place of pea straw? Would sheep thrive on cornstalks and pulped turnips the first part of the winter, say for three months?

2. Would you advise me to sow grass peas on sod "spring plowed" that had not been broken up for a number of years; if so, how much seed per acre?

3. Would it be profitable to sow mangels on a poor piece of land if it were well manured in the spring, not having it to put on in the fall?

4. Would you advise a young farmer to borrow money to improve his farm by draining low land, putting in cement floors, re-shingling, building new fences, putting up stonework, etc.?

Durham Co., Ont.

W. J. S.

Ans.—1. Corn fodder is being used more than formerly as roughage food for sheep, and is highly thought of by some. We know of one prominent sheep-breeder who wintered his sheep once without any other rough food, and uses it largely every year. He puts it through a cutting box.

2. Grass peas are an excellent substitute for ordinary peas, and give a fair yield. Sow five or six pecks per acre. We could suggest nothing more suitable than spring-plowed sod. Many farmers in Middlesex County will sow this year a mixture of grass peas and Banner oats, about three pecks peas and six pecks oats per acre, last season's yield being so satisfactory. Are cut with the binder.

3. Spring manuring for mangels answers very well, either put in the drills and covered up or plowed under.

4. For advice as to whether a young farmer should borrow money for improvements, look up an article on "Starting Farming" in Feb. 1st issue.

STONE VS. WOODEN SILO.

Could you tell me, through your valuable paper, whether a stone silo plastered on the inside with cement or a cement one or tub silo would be the cheapest, all the same size: about 12 ft. in diameter and 30 ft. high? Will the silage keep as well in a stone one as any of the others? Give me an idea of the price of them separately.

FARMER.

Waterloo Co., Ont.

Ans.—Silage will not keep well in a stone silo, and we would strongly advise against risking it. We have known several instances where it was tried and found wanting. Cement silos, round or of octagon shape, or square, with the inside corners cut off, have generally proved satisfactory, though in some cases the silage has moulded for an inch or two next the wall, owing to the cement absorbing the moisture from the silage. This is said to apply only to the first season after erection. A cement silo should be very smoothly finished on the inside to facilitate even settling of the contents. A stave silo is probably the cheapest in construction, and will keep silage as perfectly as any. The relative cost will depend largely on the value of material and labor in your district. These questions are treated in reply to another in this issue.

N.-W. T. CATTLE BRANDS.

Could you kindly inform me how or where I can get a cattle brand for Alberta? I intend to send some cattle out there this spring, and would like to have them branded before I send them.

Addington Co., Ont.

MILES PINLEY.

Ans.—Write G. H. W. Bulyea, Commissioner of Agriculture, Regina, N.-W. T.

Kindness versus Cruelty to Animals.

In this age, happily, cruelty to dumb animals is vastly less common than was the case half a century ago, though there is yet room for much improvement in some lines in this connection. Clara Morris, in the March number of McClure's Magazine, gives a vivid sketch of the life-history of Henry Bergh, of New York, the originator of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in America, and who was made the butt of much ridicule, abuse and persecution in the early days of his campaign in contending for the rights of the lower animals, in which purpose he persevered with zeal, tempered with wisdom, until the righteousness of his cause was recognized and the best of the community came to his assistance and he was finally clothed with the power and invested with the badge of an officer of the law. Among many interesting incidents in connection with the prosecution of his work, cited by the writer of the article referred to, is the following, which will appeal to the sympathy of all who understand the nature of the case:

It was in a certain incident occurring on Fourth Avenue and Twenty-second Street one morning that Mr. Bergh's conduct was the most like the conduct of the gentle and dignified Don from la Mancha, whom he so resembled in face and figure. Gloved, caned, perfectly gotten up, with flowering button-hole and all, he was walking briskly to his office, when from behind him he heard such frantic moaning from a cow as told plainly of suffering and wild excitement, and now and then the weaker sound of the half bleat, half bawl of a very young calf.

He stopped, faced about, and saw a thick-set, sturdy man who, with the aid of a rope, resounding blows, and many oaths, dragged a struggling, protesting cow down the avenue, while, hunger-crazed and thirsty, a weak-kneed little calf stumbled along trying to keep up with the frantic mother. Nor was the cow's misery merely maternal excitement—she was suffering cruelly. She was fevered, overweighted, her udder so swollen, so distended that the milk dripped and trickled to the pavement as she moved, a condition, according to those who understand cattle, of excruciating pain. Hence Mr. Bergh to the rescue.

He halted the man and asked "Why he did not allow the cow relief?"

The man glowered stupidly, then sullenly repeated, "Relafe? Relafe? Relafe from what? I've druv' no finer cow thin that these five year!"

"You know she suffers," went on Mr. Bergh, "and so does that calf—it's weak with hunger."

The sulky drover was all the time keeping the small creature away from the tempting milk. "Hungry, is it?" he grunted. "Well, what of it? Sure, it's nothin' but a calf—it's no good!"

"Well, the cow's some good, isn't she?" went on the interfering gentleman. "Why don't you ease her pain? Just look at those dripping udders. It's shameful. Let the calf go to her!"

But fairly dancing with rage the man refused, crying out that that condition would bring him a better bargain in selling the animal. Then Mr. Bergh declared officially, "This calf is going to—!" Perhaps he did not know the technical term, or perhaps its sound was offensive—at all events, what he said was, "This calf is going to breakfast right here and now! Tie the cow to this hydrant! You won't? Do you wish, then, to be arrested?" and he showed his badge, and taking at the same moment the rope from the ugly, but now stupefied man, he himself led the cow to the corner and tied her with his own neatly-gloved hands; and as the frantic moos had brought the neighbors to their windows, there were many laughing lookers-on at the unusual picture of an elegant and stately gentleman standing guard over a red cow with brass buttons on her horns, while her spotted baby calf began the milk-storage business with suck reckless haste that the white fluid drizzled from either side of its soft, pink mouth, and the mother meantime, not to waste the blessed opportunity, hastily but tenderly made its toilet. And though to the human eye she licked the hairs mostly the wrong way, the two most interested seemed to be satisfied with the result.

And there the tall man stood in patient, dignified waiting, while the enraged owner, with a few sympathizing male and female compatriots, made the air blue about them—stood, until at last baby-bossy let go and faced about, when two long, contented sighs, and the calmed glances of two pairs of big soft eyes told their protector his work was done and to their complete satisfaction. Then he loosed the rope, gave it into the owner's hand, and having in a public avenue superintended a young calf's breakfast and toilet, he calmly resumed his way, and all unrumpled entered his office, the whole thing being like a page torn from Don Quixote.