

### Petition for Feedingstuffs Legislation.

The subjoined resolution, endorsed at the Ontario Experimental Union, at Guelph, December last, has been circulated this winter as a petition through the Ontario Farmers' Institutes. The law it asks for is badly needed, and will be more and more necessary with each succeeding year. If you have had no opportunity to sign the petition, clip out this copy and mail with your address to the Department of Inland Revenue, Ottawa. It would be well for Provinces other than Ontario to be heard from, as the legislation needed will be national in scope and application.

As the paper with which the resolution was presented says, a casual review of these concentrated commercial feedingstuffs, with reference to the percentages of protein and fat, will suffice to assure those informed on the subject that in most instances the feeding values and prices of these feeds are not in accord. In fact, at the present time feed is retailed at so much per ton, whether it is rich in protein and well suited to supplement our ordinary farm feeds, or whether it is a starchy feed, and, therefore, of much less value (as a general thing) in compounding suitable rations for cattle. Such being the case, special care in the purchase of feeds and some knowledge of their chemical composition will be found of great value in selecting the feeds that will produce the greatest profit. Economical purchase does not imply the purchase of the lowest-priced foods. Many of the waste products of our mills are not altogether worthless, but it is important that the purchasers should know what they are and what relation they bear to standard feeds (bran, shorts, etc.).

In view of these facts, and in view of the further fact that the committee appointed previously to deal with this matter did not deem it practicable to establish limits of variation, the resolution was framed as follows:

"Whereas on three previous occasions the subject of commercial feedingstuffs has been before this Association, and two separate petitions have been presented to the Government asking that some means be devised whereby the purchasers of mill by-products might be able to judge of their nutritive value; and whereas the Government has complied with these requests in so far as to order a collection and analysis of most of the by-products of the mill; and whereas the analyses show that the composition of wheat bran, shorts, the whole grains, or meal obtained by grinding any single grain, is fairly constant, but that the composition of other commercial feeds varies widely; and whereas bran and shorts constitute the whole output in the way of by-products of many small mill owners throughout the country, and there being no purpose to be served in requiring these men either to employ a chemist or to have analyses made of these by-products of constant composition; and whereas the adulteration of these by-products is fully covered by the Adulteration of Foods Act (R. S. V., Chapter 24 and 26); and whereas the Committee do not deem it practicable to establish standards or limits of variation for by-products, therefore be it resolved: (1) That the terms "bran," "shorts," or "middlings," when used without further description, shall be construed to mean by-products derived solely from wheat in the ordinary processes of milling, and the products so described shall be free from oat hulls, barley hulls, buckwheat hulls, ground weed seeds, or other substances not derived directly from wheat in the process of milling, and that feedingstuffs containing products not derived from wheat in the process of milling, and sold under the name of "bran," "shorts" or "middlings," without further qualifications or description, shall be regarded as adulterated feeds; (2) that other milling by-products which are not derived from wheat, but which may be properly described as "bran," "shorts" or "middlings," shall not be offered for sale without prefixing the name of the grain from which they are derived to the terms "bran," "shorts" or "middlings," such as, for example, corn bran, pea bran, buckwheat bran, buckwheat shorts, buckwheat middlings, etc.; (3) that it is not advisable to require any formula for the composition of wheat bran, shorts, the whole grains, or meal obtained by grinding any single grain; (4) that in the case of other feedingstuffs, each manufacturer or vendor should be required to label each bag or package with the percentage of protein and fat, or, if sold in bulk, that the manufacturer or vendor shall be compelled, on demand, to give a written guarantee of the percentage of protein and fat; and, further, if the product offered for sale as a concentrated feedingstuff is a mixture containing weed seeds, milling by-products, or any by-product derived from the manufacture of starch, cereal foods, split peas, or other manufactured products, the manufacturer or vendor shall be required to furnish a statement showing the kinds of by-products contained in the mixture, and the percentage by weight of each by-product in the mixture; (5) that the Government be urged, in the interests of feeders of live stock, to take such action as indicated in (4); (6) that a copy of this resolution be submitted at farmers'

Institute meetings for the signature of members, and when these signatures are secured, this resolution be construed as a petition to the Government for the action outlined in No. (4); (7) that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Inland Revenue forthwith, and that the signatures be forwarded as soon as obtained.

### Would Like to Hear from Sandy Fraser on the Dog Question.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Articles have been appearing in your recent issues on dog taxation for the protection of sheep. As it is very difficult to draw the line for the shooting system, the next best resort is taxation. Dogs do a considerable amount of harm in this county to the sheep industry, driving many farmers out of sheep-raising altogether. Whether there are more dogs than sheep in the County of Russell, I will leave for someone else to answer, but in the Township of Cumberland, where I live, from personal observation, I would be inclined to think there are more dogs than sheep. A great many of the sheep-killing dogs are the half-starved curs, of which so many are met in villages and towns, mostly all depending on the refuse from the village butcher shop and the farmer's sheep. A good many of the sheep-killers, also, are dogs where two, three, four, or more, are kept in one place. The dogs eat of the crumbs that fall from their master's table, and if a man keeps three or four, the chances are enough crumbs will not fall, and the dog is led to rambling in search for food, and thence to sheep-killing. Fortunately, in their rambles, they sometimes treat themselves to a fox bait, which generally puts an end to their unprofitable career. If there was a good strict dog tax, at the following figures, I think sheep-killing dogs would soon be a thing of the past, and our most profitable farm animals would have a chance to show their real value to farmers: Where one dog is kept, \$3.00; where two are kept by the one man, \$5.00 for the second dog, and then add \$5.00 for each additional dog. Let this tax be collected with the yearly taxes and go into the township treasury, to be used, as far as necessary, for the insurance of sheep against the ravages of dogs, and let the injured sheepman apply here for redress. Under such a tax useless scrub dogs would soon disappear, while the good dogs, if there are such, would be retained. As to dog taxes being kept as a separate fund, as advocated by H. Misner, I have known these separate taxes to be rendered ineffective. It was in the following way: The dog, at the time his owner paid his tax, was to receive a mark or brand, and the magistrate or constable received authority to shoot any dogs not so marked, but, through tender-heartedness, or some other cause of which I am not aware, he failed to do so. If men like R. S. Holdsworth were chosen to look after the dogs, this law would likely have proved more effectual.

Wishing your paper all success, I hope we may hear from Sandy Fraser on this subject. I would also like to know if J. E. M., Glengarry Co., doubts the economy of dogs, as well as manure spreaders?

Russell Co., Ont.

### An Inexpensive Watering System.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In reply to your printed inquiry about how stock is watered, it might be worth while to describe our present system. We feed fattening steers, loose, in large basement stables. The well is just outside the shed, at the end of the barn. For some time I pumped the water with a common iron-top stock pump. Last fall I had a windmill erected on a mast fastened to the end of the barn, and connected over the well by means of jerk-rods and elbows. A steel tower would have been better in some respects, but more expensive. It is simply attached to the pump I had. I then built a cement trough, holding about twenty barrels, just inside the shed. The water is conveyed from pump to trough by a common open trough, with slight fall. For sake of cleanliness, the cement trough is covered with plank two feet above top of trough. Here the cattle may come to drink at will. A regulator of the plank float kind shuts off the mill when the water gets so high in the trough. These floats are supposed to start the mill as well, but I find it safer to start the mill myself, weighting it so it will be sure to stop. The cost of the mill (which has an 8-foot wheel), erection included, was \$50. The mast was a car sill, which I furnished at small cost. The trough we made ourselves, using the cement basement for one side and one end. The remaining sides are 6 inches thick, and of Portland cement, mixed 1 to 9. Last of all, it was well washed with pure cement. Its whole cost would not exceed \$5.00. For my requirements, this outfit answers every purpose. It was not expensive, and seems durable.

Elgin Co., Ont.

H. C. TEEPLE.

### The Lambing Season.

As the lambing season on most farms where sheep are kept in Canada commences early in March, a few hints on the care of the ewes and lambs may prove helpful to those who are inexperienced in the management of a flock. The ewes should be getting a little grain ration about this time, such as a pint to a quart each daily of oats, and if the same quantity of bran is added, all the better, to provide milk for the lambs when they come, and to give the mother strength to meet the demands of maternity. The pen should be made comfortable by closing any cracks in the walls to keep out frost and stop cold draughts. It is a good plan to have a few low, light hurdles provided, say four to six feet long and two feet six inches high, with which to improvise pens for confining individual ewes having twins or weak lambs for a day or two, till the lambs learn to help themselves. Two of these hurdles in a corner, tied at top and bottom with rope or strong twine to staples in the wall or to the hay rack, make a handy little pen, in which the ewe may be given a bran mash or a warm drink, and, if necessary, held while the lambs are suckled. It is not wise to keep the ewe thus confined more than two or three days, as there is danger of her being overfed when giving her a portion alone, causing indigestion or an oversupply of milk. Both she and the lambs will be better for moving around for exercise, and the ewe will feed better hustling with others for her portion. The careful shepherd will visit the flock before retiring for the night, to see if there are indications of an increase before morning, and if there are, he will not mind missing a few hours' sleep in order to be on hand to care for the little strangers, if need be, and to see them comfortably started in life. Lambs are often lost by neglecting to see that they get a fair start, and it is not a pleasant reflection that they might have been saved by a little sacrifice of comfort on the part of the caretaker.

It is seldom necessary to interfere with a ewe in labor; nature generally works out its own salvation better than can be done by meddling, but in cases where the labor is unduly prolonged, say two hours or more, examination should be made to find whether the presentation is normal, and if not, it should be made so by introducing the hand, first dipped in hot water and oiled. Then, force should not be used, but time given for nature to do the work, and if help be needed, it should be gentle, and only simultaneously with the natural throes or pains of the mother. If the presentation be found to be hind feet first, no attempt should be made to turn it, but the lamb should be taken away as it is presented. In a case where severe difficulty has been met in lambing, a weak solution of carbolic acid in warm water, poured from a quart bottle into the vagina, will serve a good purpose in avoiding inflammation and the eversion of the uterus, which is liable to occur after such an ordeal. In a case where this trouble does occur, the protruding mass should be carefully washed with warm water, with a little carbolic acid in it, and replaced with the hand, and the ewe kept confined in a narrow pen with her hind end higher than her front. Tying a few strands of wool across the opening of the vulva will also tend to prevent a repetition of the eversion, or a network truss, with strings tied to a strap around the ewe's neck, may be necessary in a very bad case.

If the lamb be not strong enough in an hour after birth to stand up and suck, the ewe should be gently laid on one side, and the teat, after milking out a little, placed in the lamb's mouth. When, if it has any ambition, it will help itself. It is not wise to force a lamb to take too much milk at first; nature's way is little and often. An overdose is apt to cause either indigestion or diarrhoea, or both.

In a case where a ewe has twins, and not enough milk to sustain them, it is better to hold a ewe that has more than enough for her lamb and let the youngster get a little from that supply, than to resort to feeding cow's milk; but if the latter must be used, let it be from a fresh cow and always from the same cow, fed warm, a little at a time from a bottle with a rubber nipple.

When the lambs are two weeks old, if they are grades, and the males intended for the butcher, they should be castrated, and the tails of all docked. This is best done by cutting up from the under side of the tail with a sharp jackknife against the thumb, at the second or third joint of the tail from the root. In a case of prolonged bleeding, tie a soft cord around the stump for a few hours, which will stop the bleeding. When lambs are three or four weeks old, give them a separate rack and trough, with a "creep" through which they can pass and the ewes cannot, and feed them sweet clover hay, chopped oats and bran, and sliced roots, renewed every day, and they will grow fast and make less severe demand on their dams.