THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

Hens Lay at Night. What is the cause of hens laying off the roost during the night. My flock of

50 lay from eight to a dozen every night. K. B. Ans.-We can give no direct cause for this occurrence. Eggs are frequently found on the dropping board or under the roost, but it is rather unusual to find so many laying at night. We have noticed when hens are starting to lay that this frequently happens. We do not know that anything can be done for it. If there is plenty of straw under the roosts it will prevent the eggs from being broken.

Starting in Bees.

We are getting three hives of bees this spring but don't know very much about handling them. We would ap-

Ans.-It is rather difficult to explain ust what treatment should be given to bees as you will find certain problems continually arising that would have to be solved. The book "A. B. C. in Bee Culture," by Root, which can be secured through this office for \$2.75, deals very fully with the bee problem, and you would find much valuable information in it. Once the bees commence gathering honey, it is necessary to keep them supplied with foundation frames and to watch them closely as the season approaches when they swarm. In Bulletin 256, issued by the Ontario Department of Agriculture, valuable information is given relative to the wintering and spring care of bees. This Bulletin may be secured from the Department.

Wood Ashes-Lime Sulphur.

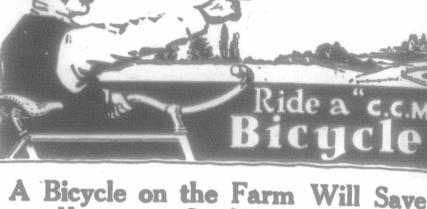
1. When is the proper time to transplant hard maple trees and how should this be done?

What is the best way to apply 2. wood ashes to the land to obtain the best results? What plant food do they

particularly supply? 3. What are the proper quantities of lime-sulphur and water to boil together for making lime-sulphur, and how long should it boil?

4. Are parsnips that have been left in the ground all winter poisonous, or when do they become poisonous D. C. G.

Ans.--1. Maples may be transplanted any time during the spring. The earlier it is done the better, as it is more of a shock to the tree once the leaves begin to come out. In transferring from one place to another the top should be cut back pretty well as it gives the roots **a** better chance to take hold. They should be planted a little deeper than they were in their original place. Fairly large holes should be dug and surface soil packed in around the roots. If the weather is dry some advise pouring a pailful of water around the roots of each tree as this aids in giving the small rootlets a start. If comparatively dry soil is packed around the roots it will draw more or less of the moisture from them, which would be detrimental. 2. If you have a large quantity of wood ashes the quickest way to apply them would be with the fertilizer drill. However, they may be spread off the wagon or may be dumped in small piles and then spread. Hard wood ashes contain a considerable quantity of potash besides some lime and phosphates. They are beneficial to practically all crops. 3. Home-boiled lime-sulphur is made by using 20 lbs. of fresh stone lime and 15 lbs. of sulphur, to 40 gallons of water. Slake 20 lbs. of lime in about 15 gallons or more of boiling water. While slaking add the 15 lbs. of sulphur, which has previously been made into a paste. Boil vigorously with stirring for one hour; dilute to 40 gallons with cold or hot water, strain, and apply at once. This is for use on dormant wood only. Home made concentrated lime sulphur is made by using 100 lbs, sulphur and 50 lbs, lime to 50 gallons of water, and an hydrometer should be used to determine the strength of the solution. 4. It is claimed that when parsnips start to grow in the spring that they be-come poisonous. However, up to that time they are edible. The winter frosts improve the flavor.

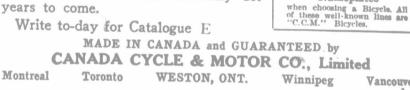


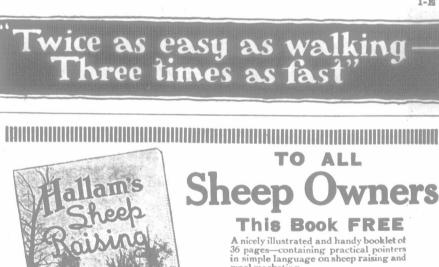
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