

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[In order to make this department as useful as possible, parties enclosing stamped envelopes will receive answers by mail, in cases where early replies appear to us advisable; all enquiries, when of general interest, will be published in next succeeding issue, if received at this office in sufficient time. Enquirers must in all cases attach their name and address in full, though not necessarily for publication.]

Legal.
WAGES.

READER:—"B. agreed by contract in writing to work for A. for two years, the wages to be \$80 for first year, \$100 for second year. B. works for A. from 23rd November, 1893 to 31st May, 1894, and then gives A. two week's notice that he intends to leave, and does leave, although A. tells him that he does not want him to leave. And A. does not consent to let B. go. B. was paid on account of his wages, \$10.85, and A. now refuses to pay B. the balance of the wages earned up to 31st May, but says that he will have another man to do B.'s work for the balance of the first year, and charge the wages to B., and then, if anything is coming to B., he will pay him the amount. How much is B. legally entitled to, and how can he collect it?"

[B. contracted to work a whole year, and having broken his agreement by leaving, he is not at law entitled to collect anything. The offer of A. appears to us a very fair one.]

MIMICO ENQUIRER:—"A promissory note was given by A. to B. which matured on 1st July last: B. endorsed the note before maturity to C. to secure payments to C. of money owing by B. to C. and on the express agreement that if the note was not paid by A. on maturity it was to be given back to B. The note was not paid by A., and C. did not give notice of non-payment to B. till October. Can C. now compel B. to pay the money owing to him by B."

[If the note was only endorsed to C. as collateral security, as appears to be the case, then C. is still entitled to compel B. to pay the money, but if C. actually accepted the note as payment of his debt, then C. would be compelled to look to A. alone for the money, and B. would be released on account of not having been notified promptly that the note was not paid by A. when it became due.]

FIRE GUARD.

BARNLEY, Man.:—"If A. goes to burn a fire guard round his hay stacks, taking three men with him—while burning the guards the wind gets up and the fire gets away and burns hay put up by B.—without a permit, can B. make A. pay for the hay?"

[Not unless A. negligently permitted the fire to get away from him. But in a case of this kind A. would be negligent if he did not take every reasonable precaution.]

IN RE PROPERTY.

SPRINGFIELD:—"A. being the owner of an estate for life in certain land, assigns all his interest to B., and B. leases the property to C. for a term of years, but before the term of years expires A. dies, and D., the present owner, requires C. to leave the property. B. claims that C. made repairs on the property to the value of \$15, for which amount he gave C. credit on account of rent, and B. now seeks to recover this amount from D. 1. Can B. recover this money from D. 2. Must C. give up the property to D."

[1. No. 2. Yes; but C. is entitled to the growing crops, if any, and after giving up possession of the property, C. may go upon the land again and remove such crops.]

Veterinary.

A. T. DELEAN:—"Please prescribe a good purgative for a horse that has worked hard all summer with very little grain? Horse is not doing well."

[After preparing the horse by giving an exclusive bran-mash diet for sixteen hours, give a ball composed, as follows: Barbadoes aloes, seven drachms; calomel, one drachm; ground ginger, two drachms; soap or syrup, a sufficient quantity.]

MRS. McDONALD, Kamloops, B. C.:—"My poultry seem to have something the matter with them; they get dark about the head and combs, while sometimes the cock-birds seem to have croup in the throat. A few days after their heads get dark in color they generally die. I feed best of wheat; give sulphur once in a while; keep clean water before them and keep the house clean. Can you advise treatment?"

[Your chickens have probably been late in moulting and have caught cold during that critical period. The dark color of the head and comb is an indication of lung disease, as well as of several other ailments of poultry. According to your statement, your poultry-house and roost are kept clean, and I would advise you to exclude cold draughts and at the same time provide proper ventilation. An exclusive diet of wheat is objectionable, and I would advise giving a ration of cooked food once a day. Give sick fowls twice daily a pill, the size of a large pea, composed of soap, sulphur and cayenne pepper. W. A. DUNBAR, V. S., Winnipeg.]

Miscellaneous.

RAPE FEEDING, SCORE BOOK, ETC.

NAAMAN DYMENT, Clappison:—"I would like to ask a few questions. 1. Is rape injurious to milk cows, either in tainting the milk or otherwise? 2. Where and when is the Ontario Poultry Show to be held? 3. Which are the most profitable kinds of hogs and dairy cattle? 4. Where can I get a score book, and at what price?"

[No. 1. We would refer Mr. Dymont to the Questions and Answers Department of the ADVOCATE, July 16. There is no doubt the manner of feeding rape has much to do with whether a taint is produced in the milk or not. We would say that rape is a wholesome and harmless food for milk cows if fed in reasonable quantities, not omitting other foods, and after milking. If fed indiscriminately at all times, forming the bulk of the ration, in all probability the milk of the cows eating it will be tainted. See in our issue of Sept. 1st, an article entitled "Feeding off Rape." 2. New Hamburg, Jan. 1st to 5th, 1895. 3. This question has been often answered one way and another in our columns. We would say, in short, that there is no "best breed," under the many conditions possible. Much depends upon selection and care whether either dairy cattle or hogs are profitable or otherwise. 4. If you mean a poultry standard of perfection containing score cards of all recognized breeds, it can be secured from this office for one dollar, or by obtaining three new yearly subscribers to the FARMER'S ADVOCATE at one dollar each.]

A HINT TO POULTRY BREEDERS.

"B. C." writes us, asking for the addresses of breeders of Buff Cochins in Manitoba and Ontario. Advertisers would do well to note this fact and let people who want to buy know what they have to sell. He also asks the weight of cock and hen of this breed.

The American Standard of Excellence gives the weights as follows: Cock, 11 pounds; hen, 8½ pounds.

AMARANTUS ALBUS.

PETER LAMARSH, Wheatly, Ont.:—"You will find enclosed a sprig of weed strange to this locality. Please name it, and give habits, etc., and if liable to become troublesome to farmers?"

[We find the weed to be one of the members of the pig weed family, *Amarantus albus*. In the green state it bears greenish flowers, in small close auxiliary clusters, stem low and spreading. It is commonly seen growing on roadsides in many parts of Ontario. With ordinary cultivation it is not likely to become very troublesome. It is of annual duration.

We received a similar sprig from a subscriber in the vicinity of Princeton, who asks if it is the "Russian Thistle." The seeds of the specimens sent are of a small shiny black, differing widely from those of the "Russian Thistle."]

INFORMATION ASKED FOR.

GEO. G. PICKETT, Oak Point, N. B.:—"I have lately purchased a farm on which there is a vast deposit of black mud, about eighty rods from my barn. Will some of your readers kindly give their experience in handling it other than using it in the stable? Will it pay to use the raw mud on grain? Will lime improve it in compost, and how much should be used, say to fifty loads of mud? How long should compost stand before using? The deposit is very deep and very black. Any information on the subject will greatly oblige?"

THE SLAUGHTER OF DISEASED STOCK.

S. S., Lunenburg, Ont.:—"Will the Government make any compensation for the destruction of cattle and horses suffering from any contagious disease. If so, how much, and what would be the proper steps to take to obtain it?"

[Under the Statute of the Dominion of Canada respecting "infectious or contagious diseases affecting animals" it is provided that a person having any cattle, sheep, swine or goats, on perceiving the appearance of tuberculosis or certain other infectious diseases, shall give immediate notice to the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa of the facts discovered by him, and if the owner neglects to give the notice he shall forfeit his claim to compensation, and if the owner fraudulently or maliciously conceals the existence of the disease, he is liable to a penalty not exceeding two hundred dollars, and he is also liable to such penalty when, knowing of the disease, he brings such animal to any fair or market or sells such animal or any part of it.

It is also provided that the Governor-in-Council may cause to be slaughtered animals suffering from such diseases, and which have been in contact with such diseased animals or an animal suspected of being affected with such diseases. And compensation may, by the Governor-in-Council, be paid for animals slaughtered under the provisions of the Act, as follows: for diseased animals, one-third of the value of the animal before it became so affected, not to exceed twenty dollars; and for other animals so slaughtered, three-fourths of the value of the animal, but not to exceed, in case of a grade animal, fifty dollars, or in the case of a pedigree thoroughbred animal, one hundred and fifty dollars: the value of the animal in all cases to be determined by the Minister of Agriculture or some person appointed by him.

It is to be observed that the compensation, if paid at all, is only to be given after an order-in-council has been passed and as to this point.

The machinery of this Act has not been set in motion in relation to tuberculosis, the Government refraining from starting a staff of inspectors upon a crusade of that sort.

As respects glanders or farcy, a disease affecting horses, the Dominion Department of Agriculture has now no administration, that having been relegated to the Provincial Governments. In Ontario there is no provision for compensation by the Government in case of animals ordered to be slaughtered under the provisions of the Statute, but provision is made for giving power to municipal councils to indemnify owners.

DEHORNING.

J. H. SIEFFERT, North Bruce, Ont.:—"Please let me know through your valuable journal: 1st, which is the best time to dehorn cattle? 2nd, is it profitable to have it done? and 3rd, what kind of a machine is best to use? Answer at your earliest convenience, and oblige."

[1. The substance of all the evidence taken by the Ontario Dehorning Commission was to the effect that, in order to rapid recovery, heat and flies should be avoided in summer, and also cold, rain, wind and frost. The month of November was given by many witnesses as the most desirable season, while October and May were also mentioned. The main thing is to secure the suitable conditions, avoiding the extremes mentioned. 2. Dairy farmers and feeders of beef cattle who have practiced dehorning extensively, appear to unite in commending the practice. The recommendation of the Commission referred to, was that it be permitted where performed with reasonable skill and proper appliances.

3. In performing the operation, the animal should be securely fastened in a strong stanchion or otherwise. Some use a good sharp, fine saw, but we find the testimony of a large number of men, on the strength of actual experience, to be most favorable to the use of what are called dehorning clippers, with which the work is done well and instantaneously. We direct the attention of our correspondent to the advertisements of Mr. S. S. Kimball, Montreal, P. Q., and A. C. Brosins, Cochranville, Chester Co., Pa., in this issue. Both of their clippers have been highly commended by users. Donald McLean, of Moosejaw, N. W. T., writing of the former, says: "I have used your dehorning clipper on 1,125 head of cattle, and it worked splendidly." Joseph La Rocio, Dingle, Idaho, writing of the latter, says: "We have dehorned about 1,500 head with them this season, and they have given the best of satisfaction."]

APIARY.

North American Beekeepers' Meeting.

The N. A. Beekeepers' Association held its 25th annual meeting last month at St. Joseph, Mo. The attendance was good in spite of the poor honey crop and dull times. After the reception of new members, a better acquaintance of those in attendance revealed the fact that beekeepers were as a rule generally engaged in some other line of occupation, mostly farming. It was recommended that fruit growing and beekeeping should go hand-in-hand because the fertilizing of fruit blossoms is much aided by bees.

There were many practical ideas brought out in the papers read. Without going into them largely, we will recite a few of the most outstanding points:—

Beekeeping is only made a success when carefully and intelligently pursued. A method of inducing large honey yields is to feed the bees sugar in the spring and up till the honey harvest commences. This induces the bees to rear large quantities of brood and fill the comb with food, so that when the honey is brought in there is no place but the sections to place it in. Discussion showed that stimulative feeding should only be done by experienced beemen, and then with good judgment. If the rearing of brood is thus forced too early, an untimely cold spell may chill the brood and leave the colony in worse shape than if no feeding had been done.

A paper on "Disposing of the Honey Crop," by Geo. W. York, editor of American Bee Journal, advocated the development of home markets, and when a home market has been developed, those supplying it should never allow their honey supply to run out. If necessary, honey should be bought in order to supply customers. The question of the most suitable packages to be used was gone into. Glass jars have the preference, as their transparent nature shows off the honey to good advantage. If the honey candies, it may be liquified by placing the vessel in hot water. For shipping honey, barrels and 60 lb. jacketed tins were recommended.

A new disease, bee paralysis, is doing considerable damage in some parts. Affected bees become bloated, dark and shiny. They crawl out of the hive, and lie about on the ground for sometime before they die. Many remedies have been tried, and among the most efficacious are salt, sulphur and a change of queens, especially the last mentioned. A diseased queen will often effect a healthy swarm, and a healthy queen will tend to restore a diseased swarm to health.

Colored beeswax can be restored to a beautiful yellow by remelting it with comb containing large quantities of beebread.

Some sweeping changes were made in the constitution of the Association, especially in dropping a lot of useless by-laws, and in agreeing to furnish each paying member a bee journal free of charge, a plan resorted to with great success in this country. The next annual meeting will be held in Toronto. The following officers were elected:—President, R. F. Holtermann, Brantford, Ont.; Vice-President, L. I. Stilson, York, Neb.; Secretary, W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich.; Treasurer, J. T. Calvert, Medina, O.

The Experimental Union—Annual Meeting, December 18 and 19.

Mr. C. A. Zavitz, Experimentalist, Agricultural College, Guelph, writes us that the date of the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union, at Guelph, has been changed from December 20th and 21st, to the 18th and 19th.