

producers of honey in America do not extract the honey till after the season for gathering is over; but instead of emptying the combs as they are filled, they allow the honey to remain in the hives, and, if necessary, tier up the cases, and the honey is thoroughly ripened in the hive. This is the kind of honey that can always be depended on to command a ready sale on account of its delicious flavor and general good quality.

Correspondence.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—1. Please write on one side of the paper only. 2. Give full name, Post Office and Province, not necessarily for publication, but as guarantee of good faith and to enable us to answer by mail when, for any reason, that course seems desirable. If an answer is specially requested by mail, a stamp must be enclosed. Unless of general interest, no questions will be answered through the *ADVOCATE*, as our space is very limited. 3. Do not expect anonymous communications to be noticed. 4. Matter for publication should be marked "Printers' MS." on the cover, the ends being open, in which case the postage will only be 1c per 4 ounces. 5. Non-subscribers should not expect their communications to be noticed. 6. No questions will be answered except those pertaining purely to agriculture or agricultural matters.

Correspondents wanting reliable information relating to diseases of stock must not only give the symptoms as fully as possible, but also how the animal has been fed and otherwise treated or managed. In case of suspicion of hereditary diseases, it is necessary also to state whether or not the ancestors of the affected animal have had the disease or any predisposition to it.

In asking questions relating to manures, it is necessary to describe the nature of the soil on which the intended manures are to be applied; also the nature of the crop.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the views of correspondents.

Exports of P. E. I. I address to you a copy of the *Charlottetown Examiner* of January 8th, giving a partial return of the exports from this Province. I am sorry I have not the complete returns to send you. Taking the size of the Province into account, the exports appear creditable, especially the horses. I presume full returns would show 1,500 horses to have been shipped. Our farmers very often complain that the exports are not noticed by the press of the upper provinces, and if you could find time and space to notice them, I know it would gratify many of our farmers.—*Examiner Jan. 13th, 1887.*—The *Pictou Standard* says that 1,295 horses shipped from P. E. Island passed over the Intercolonial Railway last year. These horses must have brought to the Island at least \$150,000. Shipped from the port and outports of Charlottetown (Queen's and King's counties) during the season of 1886, 1,277,436 bushels of oats, valued at \$380,345.80, of which 532,123 bushels went to the United Kingdom. From the port of Summerside, Prince county, 584,472 bushels, making a total of 1,861,908 bushels of oats. During the same season there were shipped from Charlottetown and outports 1,307,006 bushels potatoes, and 59,874 bushels turnips, and 1,302,236 dozens of eggs.—*W. L., Charlottetown, P. E. I.*

Degeneration of Bone.—I have a valuable Jersey cow which has a large lump on her jaw. It is hard on the bone, and has been growing very fast lately. There are about three months since it started. It has broken, but discharges nothing but blood.—*J. S. S., Truro, N. S.*

[Your cow has *Ostea sarcoma*, or degeneration of the bone. There is no cure for this disease, and the usual practice is to fatten the animal for the butcher, but as the Jersey breed does not fatten readily, you have little hope of obtaining any profit.]

Dairy Breeds—Implements for Sowing Seeds and Fertilizers—Berkshires—Peas vs. Linseed Meal for Milk and Fat.—Would you be so kind as to answer the following questions. I am going in for general farming and want cows that will make a large quantity of butter and also have young stock that will grow to a large size.—1. What breed or crosses would you recommend? 2. What do you think of a cross between Shorthorn and Ayrshire? 3. Are there any machines made in Canada for sowing turnip seed and superphosphate or any other commercial fertilizer together in drills? I have seen one that was brought out from the old country; it worked well; I tried to get one like it, but have been unsuccessful. 4. Do you think that it would pay a farmer to raise thoroughbred Berkshires just for fattening purposes? 5. Could peas take the place of linseed meal in the production of

milk and fat? 6. How long does it take maple trees to grow large enough to tap, i. e., from the time of planting?—*J. R., Lennoxville.*

[1. Your main choice is between the Holsteins and the Shorthorns or their crosses. In the Shorthorns (or their grades) you would be sure of the beef, but you would run a risk in getting a milker, unless you knew the ancestors to be of a good milking strain. From a good Holstein bull, you would usually get a good milker, and an animal that would be very likely to fatten readily. Much depends upon the milking qualities of the cow from which the grades are produced. 2. There would be some risk in a Shorthorn-Ayrshire so far as the milking properties are concerned, unless the offspring came from good milkers. 3. Write to the manufacturers of agricultural implements who advertise in the *ADVOCATE*. 4. No—unless the price of the thoroughbreds is as low as that of grade Berkshires. 5. The feeding properties of linseed meal (with the oil left in) differ very much from those of peas, the former being a poor milk producer, and the latter good for milk production. Oil cake, however—that is, linseed with most of the oil extracted—has milk feeding properties equal to or superior to those of peas, if fed in proper rations. Fatty or oily foods, however, are superior for the production of fat. 6. The time for tapping the maple does not depend upon the age of the tree, but upon the quantity of sap you take from it; the younger the tree the less sap you can get without injuring or retarding the growth of the tree. You should not expect much sap for 20 or 30 years.]

Distances Apart of Orchard Trees.—I am about to plant ground of considerable extent with apple trees, but am not a little puzzled what to make out of the conflicting views of experienced persons with regard to the distance apart to plant each tree. I am informed by individuals from east Canada that there very leading growers, at least in some instances, are adopting the plan of putting in the trees, in some cases 15 feet and in others 20 feet only, instead of 30 or 40 feet apart. Will you oblige me by saying whether those who are adopting the above new and near distances have been in the practice of doing so a sufficient long time to test the practice of it, and whether the thus considerable saving of ground is not too dearly bought at the expense of other advantages gained, it is altered, by the adherence to the old system of 30 to 40 feet?—*W. A. P., Spallumcheen, B. C.*

[The only thing that can be gained by planting close distances apart is a saving of land. Where different varieties of apples are mixed, the distances apart must be the same in order to get the trees in rows; otherwise the large growing varieties may be planted farther apart than the small. If you crop the orchard, the distances apart should be greater than when you constantly cultivate, as the shade will then not affect the growing crops so much. Where land is cheap, we would certainly always plant 30 or 40 feet apart at least, in which case the land also needs less manuring.]

Horse Breeding—Fattening Cattle—Bees.—1. Please let me know the best book on the diseases of horses and how to attend to weak colts after being foaled; also how to take care of entire horse when travelling him to serve mares? 2. What is the best book to teach how to feed and fatten beef cattle? 3. Please let me know the latest work on bees and honey and how to take care of them?—*A. P., Ashdown, Ont.*

[1. The best book on horses for the purpose you mention is "Horse Breeding," by Sanders, a new edition of which is being published, and we will soon have it on our advertised list. 2. The only book specially devoted to fattening for beef is by Prof. Stewart, but it is written mostly for feeders who fatten for exhibitions and fat stock shows. There is another book on the subject by Prof. Armsby, but it is too scientific for most farmers. 3. For the best and latest works on bees, consult our advertised list.]

Interesting Notes from Our Northwest.—Enclosed I send you one dollar for the *ADVOCATE*, which I like well as an agricultural paper, as it certainly contains a large amount of very useful information, to farmers especially; and I will here give you a few lines for your paper, if you think them worthy of insertion, respecting our great and beautiful Northwest. Some years ago I well remember reading an account of your trip to and in Manitoba, and when I came to see the country here, in passing through a portion of Manitoba, I did not wonder at you having such difficulty in traveling over the prairie, as a very large tract of country around Winnipeg is so very flat and wet. But our Northwest here, in the Temperance Colony, is mostly beautiful, gentle rolling prairie, and at the

same time is well supplied with beautiful slews, which afford a good and convenient supply of good water for stock; and plenty of good water for house use, etc., is got by digging wells from 18 to 30 feet deep. I have one well for the stock only 13 feet deep, which supplies plenty of water for 50 or 60 head of cattle, the water rising within seven feet of the top of the well; it has never frozen over all winter, though only covered over with some poles and a little snow. Our climate here is much milder than that of Manitoba, and real blizzards are wholly unknown here. Last winter was the most beautiful winter I ever saw (though I have lived in western Ontario for about fifty years), only the month of January being really cold, it sometimes during that month registering 44 degrees below zero. The rest of the winter was perfectly dry, and not quite warm enough to melt the snow during any time (it was really pleasant and lovely to enjoy it), until spring opened, the snow all going off in about 48 hours with a hot wind, and seeding commenced on April 5th; the spring wheat harvest commenced on the 26th of July. The grain was good, but light in yield and short in the straw, owing to the extreme drought, there not having been two inches of rainfall in 16 months. But it is said by the natives here that the last was the driest season for over forty years, so we live in hope of better times in future. Last summer we had no summer frost from opening up of spring until Sept. 16th. I think that many farmers who are paying heavy rents for farms, and interest on heavy mortgages on their farms in Ontario, would do well to strike out here to the Northwest, and thereby relieve themselves of their present heavy burdens.—*H. G. S., Saskatoon, N. W. T.*

Farmers' Organisations.—I am well pleased with the *ADVOCATE*. I would say every farmer ought to have it in his home. I am a member of a Grange, which is falling in interest. Would you advise us to wind it up and start a farmers' club?—*A. J., Bluevale, Ont.*

[We would advise you to re-organize and amalgamate with the DOMINION FARMERS' COUNCIL. Write to the Secretary for pamphlets and information.]

Lameness.—I would like your advice about a horse I got last spring. He has been worked hard and badly abused, and has a lameness in his fore foot; some call it knuckling. His foot bends forward when walking. Is there any cure for him?—*W. J. C., Lower Jersey, N. B.*

[Would advise you to apply a blister to the part around the fetlock, and up the back cords near to the knee, once every two weeks. Make the blister of pulverized cantharides, two drams; biniodide of mercury, one dram; lard, two ounces, rubbed well together. This will make enough to blister four times. Apply a little lard to the part blistered the third day after each application.]

Spreading Manure in Winter—Horse Ailments—Condition Powder.—1. My cow manure has been thrown out on the north side of stable, and has never heated, but is mixed with snow and is frozen. I want to use it on my potato ground next spring, and would like to haul out while the snow is on the ground. Would you advise me to haul it out while the snow is here, and scatter it off the sleigh; or would it be better to haul out and put in a heap, to be again handled when needed? 2. What is the best way to apply long barn-yard manure to potatoes—soil, sandy loam? 3. What is the cause and cure of a hen's head turning upside down and the fowl generally dying? 4. A six-year old mare fed on hay and oats, and two quarts of raw turnips daily, will rub and scratch herself for hours when let into the yard; has rubbed off the hair; no lice, otherwise healthy. 5. Give a good condition powder that may be used when a horse is working and liable to get wet.—*BELA, Allandale.*

[1. If the land is a stiff clay, spread on the manure now or any time before planting; if the land is light, put into a heap and spread shortly before planting. 2. Top dress or turn under very shallow. 3. Your information is defective. 4. Give her a dose of purgative medicine (Barbadoes aloes, 6 drams; carbonate soda, 2 drams; ginger, 2 drams, water, one pint) once every ten days. Give her 2 drams of sulphur and 1 dram nitrate potash every night in her feed. Have her thoroughly groomed, and if necessary, wash the parts that she rubs most with castile soap and water, or a little carbonate of soda and water. 5. Nitrate potash, $\frac{1}{2}$ pound; sulphur, 1 pound; resin, $\frac{1}{2}$ pound; fennel seed, $\frac{1}{4}$ pound; black antimony, $\frac{1}{4}$ pound. Give a tablespoonful every night in soft feed.]

Lameness.—I have a mare that stocks in the hind legs every winter, and you can pick the hair off quite easily. What can I do to remedy it?—*W. E. A., Drayton.*

[Give her a purgative ball (Barbadoes aloes, seven drams) once a week; then give every night, in warm bran mash, iodide potassium, one dram; nitrate potash, one dram; sulphur, two drams, until you find her improving; then perhaps two or three times a week would be often enough to give the powder in her feed. Regular exercise, with comfortable and well ventilated stable, is quite necessary in such cases.]