

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.

Agreement Not Lived Up To.

READER, Waterloo Co.:—"I bought a Poland-China pig last spring. The man agreed to have pig registered in my name. I hold his letter stating that I have written four times wanting pedigree and no answer. What steps had I better take to get it?"

[You should demand personally or demand by registered letter that he carry out his contract by delivery of the necessary papers agreed upon, and notify him if he fails to do so you will sue for damages, and if he still neglects or refuses, you should sue for the damages which you have sustained, and in such damages you should include the price paid and the expenses incurred by you on the animal, as well as any other damage sustained, less the value of the animal without a pedigree and unregistered.]

Purchase of Middlings from a Mill.

WATERLOO:—"I bought seven tons of middlings from a mill. After taking them home and commenced feeding them my cattle would not eat them unless mixed with something else. I examined them and found that the smut and dirt of the wheat was all blown in. Has a miller a right to do this; if he has, I think a law ought to be passed to prohibit it, as I think it is about as bad as stealing—selling something that is not only no use, but is harmful for the cattle?"

[You have not supplied sufficient information to enable a lawyer to answer fully. It may be said, however, that what you had a right to expect and get as middlings would be what is ordinarily known as such in the custom and course of trade in that business, and whether you got this or not is for you to ascertain yourself.]

Sale of Hay in Field.

SUBSCRIBER:—"I sold some hay as it lay in the windrows in the field to B for \$21. Nothing was said as to when the money was to be paid. After a few days B, with my permission, came and stacked the hay in my field, and shortly afterwards B came to draw some of the hay away, and I then forbid him to take it till he paid for it. B then forbid me selling the hay to anyone else until I paid him for stacking it up. B is a minor under twenty-one years of age. What are my legal rights and liabilities?"

[You have a right to insist on payment to you of the price before the hay is taken away, and you could not get a judgment against B (an infant) for the price after he took away the hay. You should not sell the hay to another without first notifying B that you intend to do so, unless he pays for it forthwith, and then if B does not pay within a reasonable time, you would be at liberty to sell to another, and B would have no legal claims for his work in stacking the hay.]

Veterinary.

Injury to Cow's Teat, or Polypus.

J. T. CRAIG, Lanark Co., Ont.:—"I have a cow that has about lost one of her teats by some cause unknown; supposed to be bitten by a milk snake or injured by jumping over a fence. Her bag is swollen in front quite hard. I can hardly get any milk out of it. Can you suggest how to reduce the swelling and get a free flow of milk?"

[The inflammation is due to an injury, as suggested, or polypus in the milk duct. Reduce the inflammation with the following liniment: Potash nitrate, acetate of lead, oil terebin, liq. ammonia fort, of each 6 drams; spts. camphor, 4 oz.; fl. ex. belladonna, 1 oz.; water to make 1½ pts. Shake and bathe on the udder twice daily, and give teaspoonful of saltpetre twice daily for six doses. Milk carefully. Report if polypus (a small tumor in the duct) is present when swelling is reduced.]

Ringworm on Cattle.

MR. JOE N. FARBER, Ohio, U. S. A.:—"Some cattle that I bought, which came from Canada, have spots (white) all over them, more or less. It started on one first, on his nose, and extended half way to his eyes. Then it came on others on their sides. They are as large as a dime to half a dollar. Please state the cause and what to do in the next number of ADVOCATE?"

[The white spots are evidently ringworms, which are frequently seen on calves. Although once believed to be the work of minute worms, it is now understood to result from a fungus propagated by spores. It is really a sort of skin disease, which will sooner or later exhaust itself, usually from six weeks to three months. To wait for this is unnecessary, as it can be readily cured by three or four applications of carbolic acid mixed with four times its bulk of sweet, linseed or castor oil. It is well to wash off the scaly surface with warm water and a little soap before applying the carbolic acid. Other remedies are bichloride of mercury, ammonia, chloride of

mercury, chloride of zinc, and tincture of iodine. The first three mentioned are poisonous, and should be sparingly and carefully applied.]

Pigs with Worms.

WM. HILL, Elgin Co., Ont.:—"A number of young pigs, five weeks old, which are still on the sows, get very stiff all over; their jaws become set and they froth badly at the mouth. The sows have been fed on bran, shorts, and corn. They have plenty of room in a dry, clean shed. Some of the young pigs die soon, others live for days. On opening some of the pigs I found in the stomach worms about three inches long. They seem to thrive well until they are taken sick all at once. What is the trouble and remedy?"

[Even without the knowledge that worms were found in the stomach, all the other symptoms point in the direction of intestinal and stomach worms, which are not at all uncommon in young pigs and lambs, due to certain secretions existing in those organs favorable for their existence. Good treatment would be to wean the pigs and add to milk given them for each pig ten drops of creoline twice a day for three days.]

Cow Pox.

SUBSCRIBER, Middlesex Co., Ont.:—"Our milk cows all took sore teats. It began by small mattery lumps, which broke, and a hard scab formed. It was hard to get the cows to stand to be milked. One cow would not give the milk; her udder got hard and one quarter dried up, and in a few days later the other one, so she only gives milk from the two back teats now. 1. Will she come all right when she calves again; or will these two teats remain dry? 2. A heifer one year old has one quarter swelled and matter coming from the teat. Will that injure her udder if kept for a cow? The cattle all took swelled eyes, which ran water for several days, and mattery lumps formed in the corners. They all had good pasture and clover fields to go to, and the creek runs through their pasture. Salt always within reach. Please state cause and treatment?"

[Your cows are evidently having a run of cow pox, and the bad results mentioned will in all probability come all right. The proper treatment will be to keep them in a clean place, and bathe the teats and udders where effected with warm water daily, in which is added a teaspoonful carbolic acid to the pint, and dress with oxide of zinc ointment. Give each cow a tablespoonful of hypsulphite of soda once daily in sloppy food, previously dissolved in the hot water. Bathe the eyes with warm water, previously boiled, adding a teaspoonful carbolic acid to two quarts. 1. The affected teats will likely come all right at next calving. 2. The result will depend on the extent of the disorder, but the chances are in favor of a full recovery.]

Mammitis.

P. T. BARRY, Renfrew Co., Ont.:—"I have an Ayrshire cow, a very fine milker. Last fall milk became thick in the udder. I could scarcely milk her, so dried her up as soon as possible. The same thing has occurred this fall. She will not come in until 1st May, '98. Please give cause and remedy?"

[The condition described is one of subacute inflammation of the mucus membrane of the udder, due, no doubt, to the fact of her being a heavy milker, the glands being called upon daily to carry out an enormous amount of labor and become exhausted at a time when the circulation is becoming more feeble. I would put her on a modified diet through her next milking period, and give her a laxative dose of salts (1 lb. occasionally). A few teaspoonful doses of saltpetre (say one every other night in a light mash) will also assist the absorbents in removing much of the material.]

Miscellaneous.

Cement Floor in Stable.

OLD SUBSCRIBER, Victoria Co., Ont.:—"Would you kindly give in your next issue of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE directions for putting in a cement floor for cattle and horses in a cellar stable?"

[We have on several occasions described fully the use of cement in floor construction in the columns of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. We would refer "Old Subscriber" and others wanting the information to turn up the following back numbers of the ADVOCATE: March 2nd, 1896, page 95; Aug. 1st, 1896, page 313; and June 15th, 1897, page 272. A useful pamphlet on the subject may be obtained by dropping a post card to Isaac Usher & Son, Queenston, Ont. Just here we would emphasize the importance of filing and preserving all numbers of the ADVOCATE, as the information contained in last year's numbers are as applicable now as then, and often of more value to many who now desire to apply the information. We might add a caution to the instructions contained in the articles referred to, which is not to attempt concrete work in frosty weather, unless it can be covered so as to protect it thoroughly from frost for a month or six weeks.]

Rape Feeding for Milk, and Pasteurizing.

J. W. F. HURON Co., Ont.:—"I have a considerable acreage of rape which was sown amongst oats that is producing an abundance of feed this autumn. I have twenty cows and only fourteen young cattle, and no sheep. The young stock cannot possibly eat all the rape this fall. I make butter from my milk, and therefore do not like to turn the cows into the rape for fear of injuring the flavor. I

noticed in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE last winter that the Guelph Dairy School, to get rid of turnip flavor, pasteurized the milk or cream from which butter was made. Would it be advisable for me to adopt that system; and if so, what sort of pasteurizer would you recommend, and how much would one cost? I would like to save as much as possible of my winter feed?"

[In reply to J. W. F., who, I presume, is a farmer without steam appliances, I would say that the best way to pasteurize your cream (and that is the only way to treat it if you wish to make good butter from cow's milk tainted with rape) would be to put a large dish pan or boiler on the stove, filling it about half full of water. Get this water very nearly boiling (say 180 degrees), then set your cream pail into the hot water. Keep the cream well stirred by means of a dipper until it reaches 160 degrees; then remove it from the hot water and allow to stand for twenty minutes. After doing this, cool the cream, by setting the can in cold water, down to about 90 degrees, and then put in some nice, clean-flavored buttermilk or sour skim milk to act as a starter. Allow it to cool down to 70 degrees, and then leave it at that temperature until the cream thickens, when it should be cooled to churning temperature—say 60 to 65 degrees if it is deep-setting cream, 50 to 60 degrees if separator cream.

O. A. C. Dairy School.

H. H. DEAN.]

What Shall We Feed the Calves?

MR. R. S. W., York Co., Ont.:—"I have a number of September and October calves which I wish to raise well on skim milk. I notice an article in your issue of Oct. 15th dealing with raising calves on separator milk, based on an experiment conducted by Prof. Curtiss, Iowa Experiment Station, in which a preference is given to crushed grains rather than oil cake to be fed with separator milk. I would like to hear more on this question, as I have always had good results from using oil cake in connection with skim milk. Kindly indicate in your next issue what grain you would recommend me to use, also the best method of feeding them. Is there any advantage from feeding young calves their milk in single stalls, keeping them there for some time after a meal, over the ordinary method of allowing all of the same age to run together as soon as they have finished a feed? By answering these questions you will greatly oblige an appreciative reader of your valuable paper."

[With regard to the inquiry of R. S. W., York Co., re calf feeding, I may say that your comments upon the experiment conducted by Prof. Curtiss are so full that little more remains to be said. It is well to remember that skim milk is nature's food, less the fat, and in supplementing a skim milk ration, we must look for something that will supply the place of the fat. Though oats supply comparatively little fat, still they supply a large amount of carbohydrates, which perform functions in the animal body similar to those performed by fat. Skim milk contains too much nitrogenous matter, and is apt to cause indigestion, and while oil meal contains more fat than is contained by oats, corn, etc., still it is very rich in nitrogenous matter, and consequently when we add it to skim milk we are adding a highly nitrogenous food to one already too rich in nitrogen, so that the benefits derived from the fat of the oil meal are largely counterbalanced by the extra nitrogenous matter which it contains. I confess that I am rather disappointed in the results of the flax-seed mixture, but the method of feeding it may have affected its value. I am also surprised at the results obtained from corn, but as there was only one test with corn, too much importance must not be attached to it. It seems to me that flax seed and oats should constitute an excellent supplementary food, since oats are good bone-formers, and, in addition, would serve to dilute the nitrogenous matter of the ration; while the flax seed would supply the deficiency in fat. I have seen good results obtained from feeding oats and shorts made into a porridge and mixed with the milk, also from flax-seed jelly, made by steeping flax seed in about six times its bulk of water. I certainly think it would be a good plan to feed calves in single stalls as described, where such an arrangement is practicable.

G. E. DAY, Agriculturist.

Ontario Agricultural College.]

Ration for Young Pigs.

CHAS. S. CHAPPELL, York Co., Ont.:—"I have eight pigs seven weeks old, from a Tamworth sow and Berkshire hog, and would like to know through your paper how to mix two or more of the following foods: Peas, barley, rye, oats, and shorts, to make the pigs up to one hundred and fifty pounds in the shortest time? Have sweet milk and mangels also?"

[I should prefer shorts and middlings with skim milk until the pigs were about ten weeks old. At this time, a few ground oats may be added to the ration, say one-quarter oats and remainder shorts or middlings, with skim milk. I would not feed much of other grain until pigs reached 100 lbs. live weight, and would reserve the peas until the last three or four weeks of feeding, when they may constitute half the ration, or more, if required. I like to feed a mixture of grains, and would feel inclined to feed all the list given, if they were available, continuing the skim milk as long as possible. A very few boiled mangels, mixed with the grain ration will help keep the pigs in thrifty condition, though I do not care for roots for small pigs.

Ontario Agricultural College.

G. E. DAY.]