Docking and Castrating the

The Neglect of These Means Money Lost A. A. MacMillan, Macdonald College, Que.

L NDOCKED and uncastrated grade lambs are the handling of sheep, and no farmer who takes an interest in his flock will neglect the performance of these operations. Both are very simple and if properly performed at the right age there is little or no danger or loss. Moreover, docking adds to the neatness, comfort and appearance of the flock, while castrating enables the farmer to hold his wether lambs for late fall sales when a heavier weight usually brings a higher average price per pound. Ram lambs become troublesome about the

weight usually brings a flight average price ber pound. Ram lambs become troublesoms about the middle of September, their gains are slower, tary have to be separated from the rest of the flock or sold their mass. The pound is below that of the flower of and is better ected, not being so liable to injury when catch or docking. An assistant is necessary for caurating, and although he may be dispensed with for docking, his services are useful and result in a neater and more uniform dock. A good sharp knife and a basin of water to which some disinfectant has been added is all the equipment that is required for the work. The operation is best performed in the morning of a bright clear day.

Castrating.

The lamb is held by the attendant at the proper height with the underside of the body outward, rump downward and the front and hind legs held together. The scrotum is grasped with the left hand of the operator and pulled outward to its full length when it is severed straight across about one inch from the body, removing one-third to one-half. The testicles will now protrude and may be removed by the teeth will now protrude and may be removed by the teeth of the operator or with small pinchers specially made for the purpose or by slitting the peritoneal covering with the knife and pulling the testicle with the finger until the cord breaks. The first method is most commonly practiced in all large sheep rais-ing countries. It is quicker and is seldom followed by compilications of any kind. Removal with pinch-ers having claws that fit around the testicle is very ers having claws that fit around the testicle is very similar to the first method except that the pluchers are substituted for the teeth. There is more danger of crushing the testicle and it is slower. Lambs which show any tendency towards rupture should not be castrated by either of the above methods as the removal of the peritoneal lining allows the intestines to protrude. The last method, namely, sitting the peritoneal lining with the kinds and pulling the testicle free is commonly practice and pulling the testicle free is commonly practised with small flocks. Care must be taken that the testicle is not crushed, otherwise the lamb will display male characteristics and will be troublesome in the fall. The pertineal covering should be stitched in lambs that show any signs of rupture. In all three methods it is highly important that the lower part of the scrotum be removed. This permits of proper drall-age for the wound and it does not heal too quickly. In no case should the testicle be renormed and the In no case should the testicle be removed through a small still in the side of the scrotum leaving a pocket at the bottom in which the blood can accumulate, causing the wound to fester. If festering does occur the wound should be opened at once and all pus squeezed out. Lambs having abnormal testicles should not be operated upon until they become normal, otherwise there is much greater risk and danger of loss.

Docking.

The lamb is held in the same manner for docking as for castrating. A stub of one and a half to two inches in length should be left. If severed at the second joint from the body the destred length is usually obtained. The joints may be felt with the thumb of the left, hand, the kinfe being placed directly over the second joint when with one downward stroke the tall is severed from the body. When one man is docking alone the lamb is allowed to stand on its feet with its head-between the legs Docking. stand on its feet with its head-between the legs of the operator when the tail is severed with one stroke from below upwards. The practice of sever-ing the tail with a chisel is not to be recommended as the bone is very often splintered leaving a pain-ful wound that takes a long while to heal. It is very seldom that lambs bleed excessively

if docked at the right age. However, occasionally a lamb will bleed to death if not looked after. The application of pressure just over the artery for a few moments will sometimes coagulate the blood. Tincture of iron is also used, but falling this a small cord may be tied around the stub and left for twelve or twenty-four hours when it should be removed. or twenty-four hours when it should be removed, otherwise circulation is stopped and the part sloughs off. Cobwebs, puff balls, flour, etc., have been used with success, but many of these pr! tive methods, while effective in so far as stopping the bleeding is concerned, subject the lamb to danger from infec-tion. The docking of older sheep is a much more tion. The docking of older sheep is a much more serious matter than with lambs. A large, sharp knife is the best instrument to use, the tail being severed at the second joint the same as with lambs. The most effective method of stopping the bleeding The most effective method of stopping the bleeding is to sear the artery with a red hot tron. Searing is recommended by some authorities for lambs, but its use is seldom necessary and the lamb is saved much pa'n. The docking shears are more costly less practicable and have no special advantage out. the use of the knife

After operating, the flock should be turned into dry pasture field where they can be watched



Prof. Wade Toole.

Prof. Toole has recently been appointed to the chair of Animal Husbandry, at the O.A.C., Guelph. He goes to his new position after several years success as man-aging editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

during the day and any necessary attention given. during the day and any necessary attention given. There is seldom any danger after the first day, al-though it is advisable to watch the flock closely until the wounds are healed. Neither of the above operations should be performed in warm weather when the fly season is on, as maggots are almost certain to get into the wounds.

The importance of docking and castrating cannot be over emphasized. Both tend toward the production of greater profits and they go hand in hand with good practice in the management of the farm

A Fertilizer Experience A Story From a Ouebec Farm

Elizabeth Harris, Shefford Co., Que.

E have used commercial fertilizers for seven consecutive years, supplementations W. E. have used commercial fertilizers for seven consecutive years, supplemented with barnyard manures and we have raised some "bumper" frops of corn, wheat, oats, turnips, carrots, and hay. Our potatoes are always mealy and fice, but some seasons the bugs work overtime; however, one year we raised 290 bushels from one acre collend. The next series this land was not belowed. of land. The next spring this land was not plowed; just disked with a cutaway disk harrow, and commercial fertilizer applied, disked again and seeded down to clover and timothy with nurse crop of wheat, and we won Jrst prize on wheat from the agricultural society.

Here is a list of the fertilizers used:—Albert's basic siag, acid phosphate, nitrate of soda, muriate of potash and high grade sulphate of potash. These were purchased previous to the war, and we have enough to tide us over another year, nitrate of soda excepted. On old meadow land we broadcasted the slag and muriate at the rate of 500 lbs., and 200 lbs.,

respectively, per acre. The sulphate was applied mostly by the drill to the potatoes and sugar beets. Nitrate of soda has been used sparingly with us,—just enough to give the crop a good start. It is well to bear in mind, when soving the smaller grains, which make their growth in the cool spring weather, that a little available introgen applied at time of plainting will keep the plants growing and keep down the weeds. Much, however, depends upon the quality of seeds used, the time of planting. The fancing of the seed bed for the small grains, the singing out, and the cultivating of hode crops just at the right time, to leave a maximum yield.

General Principles.

Soils rary so in manurial requirements that it is difficult to find a fertilizer suited to all soils and corpy. The farmer hould study the nature and conditions of his soils, and the special needs of his erops before deciding what kind of commercial itertilizer to use.

fertilizer to use.

Home-made mixtures will supply plant food at a lower cost than the so-called special brands. The elements deficient in most soils are nitrogen, phophoric acid and potash. Therefore, in mixing a fertilizer, all three elements should be included as termizer, an three elements should be included according to the needs of the special crops. For instance grasses and all kinds of cereal grains require stance grasses and all kinds of cereal grains require more nitrogen than phosphoric acid and potash. The cabbage family should have phosphoric acid as the most dominant element, and potatoes, corn and legumes should have potash predominating. This calls for some deep thinking, as economy requires that see apply only what is needed for the special

No set rules can be laid down to follow if the No set ruies can be laid down to follow if the farmer hopes for highest success. Here in Quobec the seasons are all too short for the maturing of certain crops; however, there is one thing we do not have to worry about, and that is a cover crop; for the blanket of anow comes early and stays late.

Big Crops of Potatoes

G. A. Williams Gets Over 400 Bushels Per Acre

C. A., Williams Gets Over 400 Bushels Fer Acre

NE of the most successful potato growers in Peterboro' Co., Ont., is Mr. O. A. Williams and there are just 10 acre. and protection of the provided and provided and protection of the protection of th with New Brunswick seed, but also put in a con-siderable acreage of my own seed, grown from New Brunswick seed the year before. I found that the New Brunswick seed in the second year was no better than the old stock raised for years in Ontario better than the old stock raised for years in Ontario and my conclusion is that it will pay to sell all potatoes grown and buy New Brunswick or New Ontario seed every year. Last year, for instance, the difference in yield between the New Brunswick

the difference in yield between the New Brunswick seed and home grown seed was 137 bushels per are? "Why, that is a fair crop in itself," we interjected. "Not with us," repiled Mr. Williams, "We couldn't live on our small place unless we grew greater crops than that. This last year we had a pice of ground 300 by 42 feet in which we planted five bags of New Brunswick seed, Irish Cobbler variety. bags of New Brunswick seed, Irish Cobbler variety. The yield was at the rate of 485 bushels to the are and even then there were some misses in the stand as a part of the seed had rotted, due to the vet weather. The soil on which this crop was grown was pure black mick. The vines never mature so I believe that the crop grown on this soil will make good seed for the coming year.

4871/2 Bushels Per Acre.

487½ Bushels Per Acre.

"On our farm we ha calso sandy soil. On this soil I planted five bags of New Brunswick potates on a strip 14 rods long and 60 feet wide. The yield was it the rate of 487% bushels per acre. We have a strip rate of 487% bushels per acre. We have in bushel crates. Our main crop on the other had was grown from our own seed and it yielded at the rate of only 300 bushels to the acre."

All of these are exceptional rields. "How do yes do it?" we asked Mr. Williams.
"It is largely a case of soil fertility," declared he emphatically. "We manure heavily; 30 to 35 good big aingle horse loads to the acre. "his manure is drawn, from a slaughter hour in Peterboro' and quite a bit of it is pig manure. We have not used commercial fertilitier. We use 14 to 15 bags of Continued on page 15.

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The Nev Who He

W HO is this man Bu This is a questio people as well have bee

It is a natural question From a position where known to comparatively f ers, besides those of his o ship, and a number of bre Holstein cattle, Mr. E Burnaby, of Jefferson, On-the past three months, has into a place where he is of the most prominent me ricultural circles in Canad ple, therefore, are naturall what are the qualities wb enabled him to make such enabled him to make such advance, who he is, and wh

advance, who he is, and winot he is likely to make a Mr. Burnaby's first big ji the provincial limelight to last December, when the who are shareholders in the Farmers' Cooperative Co., elected him a director of pany, and when immediate wards the directors of t pany appointed him, aith had had no previous exper dent of the company. A s by him in February, when dian Holstein-Friesian Cat at their annual meeting, el tained only after a breede

Who Is Mr. Burnaby farms on ounty. Highland Lake Fa county. Highland Lake Fa prises 170 acres. Across the aby owns another 50 acres, purchased 100 acres near to all this, he rents 450 a pasturage purposes adjoining between what he owns and

770 acres under operation.
Mr. Burnaby is one of most successful Holstein b advance, as a breeder, has thing he can do, he likes to believes that it often is earliers in the search of the search of the search operation. beneves that it often is earthings in a big way than small way. His success will point. When analyzed it is stand. The principles he easily to be understood, a ability such as Mr. Burnab

to make them succeed.

The Highland Lake Her The Highland Lake Hor-head, of which 30 are in re-head, of which 30 are in re-head of the head of the head of the Holatiens was made only to asked why he selected this characteristic: "I found," he records for milk and butter, periods, were held by Holst-fore, that that was the bree the which will be the head of the sart, he replied, "I went a the head of the best-breed



A general view of