

es.
be, is most
so tensely
Far East
Per cent.

27
24
24
25
29
26
26
23
13
14
16
27
12
17
18

not yet be
e enormous
00,000 and
he present
ated that
s, by land
this way:
prisoners,
ivity, and
it is im-
e loss, but
about 820
ome fifteen
00,000.
r disposed
; thirteen
reat quan-
hips, coast
liers, etc.,
0,000,000;
\$165,000-
ssia. The
ships, two
even gun-
Japan are
two coast

nservative
d expended
these sums
\$105,000-
00,000, of
sia. And

e."

vain.

past,

,
1,

;

wed,

duce.

Build-

ings at
dding on
founda-
de walls
e build-
e ready

MARCH 23, 1905

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

431

Thinks the Test Unfair.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—There are two sides to every question, and I avail myself of this opportunity of replying, for the International Stock Food Co., to the article on "Stock Foods in Pork Production," by Mr. J. H. Grisdale, of the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, published in a recent issue. Our food should be fed, first, as a tonic or condiment, to be used in connection with stock suffering from bad health of some description. Mr. Grisdale agrees with us on this point, as is shown by the following extract from his article: "That place" (for stock food) "being as a tonic or condiment to be given to cattle or live stock suffering from indigestion or ill health of some description." Kindly carry the point made regarding indigestion in mind, for it assists me greatly in proving that the test on our food was unfair, although, no doubt, this was unintentional on the part of the Experimental Farm. Secondly, it should

be used as an addition to the grain rations of all fattening stock, for the purpose of stimulating the digestive organs, and by enabling the animal fed to assimilate or take into the system more nourishment than if fed grain without it, promotes rapid fattening and growth. Our second claim is made to appear wrong by the results of the test, but when the point is admitted that stock food aids digestion, then our second claim must be admitted also in a very large majority of cases.

It is a well-known scientific fact, that the average farm animal has impaired digestion to a greater or lesser extent. In our advertisements we claim that by increasing the digestibility of the feeding stuffs, the farmer is enabled to fatten his stock in less time than he could without it, and because more of the feeding stuff is taken into the system and goes towards building up the body, less can be fed. We know these facts hold true with the average farm animal, and to prove our belief we offer to ship 100 lbs. of stock food to any farmer in Canada, with the agreement that if it does not save him more than its cost, he need not pay us one cent. If we did not know that our claims would be upheld by a practical feeding test, we could not afford to make such an offer. We do not claim a miraculous preparation, but our per cent. of failures is very small. We try to meet the conditions that confront the average practical farmer, who generally knows his business, is honest, and will give our preparation a fair test for himself.

We have nothing against the Experimental Farm, but why should they come out and create the impression that our food will not lower the cost of pork production, when they have made but one short test, while we have received thousands of testimonials from practical feeders who have used it for years, and who certainly know what they are talking about. By no combinations of feeds, with and without stock food, did the Experimental Station succeed in making any one lot gain over 1.31 lbs. per day, while we know of practical men who think little of a gain of 1.5, and who often succeed in putting 2 to 3 lbs. per day on their hogs.

The results of the test are published in the form of a statistical table. It is often said that anything can be proved by the use of statistics. How can one short test, made under the following conditions, count, especially in the face of the testimonials we have received from farmers who face ordinary practical conditions, and not conditions found on an experimental farm?

1st.—The pigs on which the test was made differed widely in weight to start with.

2nd.—There were eight lots of pigs, four to the lot, and I think every reader of the "Farmer's Advocate" will agree with me, that it would be practically impossible to gather together 32 pigs from various points that would take on flesh with equal rapidity, any more than you could collect 32 men, and by feeding expect to fatten them in the same length of time.

3rd.—The same amount of grain was not fed to each animal, and this fact alone would make a big difference in results.

These are some of the points we take exception to. There are others, but I think the ones I have mentioned are sufficient to win our case. E. B. SAVAGE.

U. S. Grain-growers Organize.

A gigantic struggle between the 10,000,000 farmers and grain-producers of the United States on one hand, and the National Grain-dealers' Association on the other, is disclosed in the numerous farmers' organizations which are being rapidly formed in all grain-producing States for the purpose of fighting the trust. Many of the elevators of the United States are railroad property, and a combination of the railroads and trust has placed the farmers of the country wholly at the mercy of the combine, which extorts from 4 to 10 cents on every bushel of grain raised by the producer. Many farmers receive 10 to 12 cents less than the actual market price of their grain per bushel. What the farmers propose doing is to organize locally, and ship direct.—[Live-stock World.]

Good Razor.

I received the razor O. K., and am well satisfied with it. Your respectfully,
Huron Co. S. SANDERS.

Patrons of Husbandry.

The Order of Patrons of Husbandry, whose members are familiarly known as "Grangers," was originated in 1868 by Hon. O. H. Kelley, at Washington, D. C. He recognized a great truth, which is equally applicable to the farmers of to-day and to their condition, viz., that organization is the watchword of our present form of civilization. Liberty and prosperity are most perfectly secured to those classes of people whose prosperity and liberty are regulated and restrained by the most complete and equitable organization. Mr. Kelley associated with himself some half a dozen other philanthropic farmers and farmers' friends, and they began



Mr. F. W. Fisher, Burlington, Ont.
Secretary Dominion Grange.

to expound these and kindred facts and principles to the farmers of the United States, and their good seed fell upon responsive soil—they soon found hearing ears and willing and understanding hearts. The growth of the order was phenomenal, and soon spread into Ontario and the other provinces of Canada. By the year 1874 the order was of sufficient strength and importance to warrant the establishment of the Dominion Grange of Canada as an independent body, yet in affiliation with the National Grange. Ten years later there were a thousand subordinate Granges in Canada, spread over Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, and



Spring Preparations.

Manitoba; the membership was large and enthusiastic, but evil days came to the Grange, and both in the United States and Canada the retrogression was very rapid, but the movement in this direction was brought to a halt, and the National Grange has fully recovered its numbers and prestige, and to-day its members are numbered by the tens of thousands in single States. In Canada the Grange has not been so successful, yet the downward movement has been checked, and the membership for 1904 showed a substantial gain over the previous year. Ontario is still well leavened, with about one hundred subordinate Granges, composed of a loyal and zealous membership, and their hope and aim is to again in the near future bring the Grange into its legitimate position, as the leading and only stable farmers' organization yet instituted. It has outlived all its kindred and rival organizations, and is now waiting to receive its old and many thousands of new members into its fold. The Dominion Grange has been an important factor in shaping legislation in the Local House for Ontario, particularly along municipal lines, including the Drainage Act. Substantial benefits have accrued to the farming community as a result of their personally presented petitions year after year. For information as to the formation of new Granges, or the resuscitation of old Granges, application should be made to Jabel Robinson, Middlemarch, Ont.; Henry Grose, Lefroy, Ont.; the Secretary, W. F. W. Fisher, Burlington, Ont., or to the Master of any subordinate Grange.

The Grange aims at the consolidation of all other organizations of the various sections of husbandry and kindred occupations. Fruit-growers; beekeepers; horse, cattle, sheep and swine breeders; poultrymen; dairymen, etc., all have associations, and many of them meet only annually; they are all isolated, and consider interests pertaining to their particular pursuits only. They lack the bond of fraternity and the principle of concentration, and form no unit to make their influence felt on broader lines. They further lack independence, for all are being maintained largely by public funds, and so are in a measure subservient to the governmental hand which feeds them. The agricultural interests of this country, allied in the Grange, could leave an important impress on its legislation, and this is one of the principal functions of the Grange to-day. This, with the social features of monthly or semi-monthly meetings, and the influence always at work in the order to enhance the comforts and attractions of farm homes, and to strengthen the attachment of farmers and farmers' sons to their pursuits, are sufficient reasons, though many more might be adduced, for the claims which the Grange makes upon the agricultural community for its continued existence, and the material increase of its membership. W. F. W. F.

How They View Soil Inoculation in Great Britain.

Soil inoculation is engaging some attention in the continent of America, but in this country it had practically been given up as a scientific wild-goose chase. The reason for this is partly that such experiments as have been undertaken have shown no encouraging results; and, secondly, because of the explanation given in what is called the "new soil science," which explains how the bacteriological utilization of the food of the soil is due entirely to the fact that the soil must in the first place be rich—bacteria will not exist in a barren soil. Some particulars are given in the Journal of the Board of Agriculture for February of the use of pure cultures in soil-inoculation abroad. Some years ago, it will be remembered that a fanciful idea possessed the souls of one or two that the farmer of the future could go about with his manure heap in his waistcoat pocket, and that soil inoculation might prove of infinite benefit to agriculture. It would appear that the most satisfactory results of the experiments abroad come from inoculation on soils which are almost or entirely devoid of nodule bacteria, such as newly broken-up soil, newly-cultivated moorland, or old soils which contain the bacteria, but not in a form suitable for the particular crop which it is proposed to cultivate. Those cultures are sent out in glass tubes, which should be preserved in a dark, moist room. The Board of Agriculture has obtained a supply of these soil germs, and they will be tested at various agricultural colleges and experimental farms in this country. The report of the United States Secretary of Agriculture indicates that where these organisms are used in accordance with the directions an increased yield, ranging from 15 to 35 per cent., is secured. However, that belongs to the future, and we await the result of tests in this country.—[F. & S.]

The hog industry is keeping up well; hardly any hogs are dressed for market, being nearly all sold on foot. Good prices have been paid all along, which keeps the farmer's courage up. There is a marked improvement in the character of live stock also.

What is necessary to be done to make 1905 a successful year may be summarized as follows:

Firstly: Get implements ready for service early, in order to not lose time when spring opens up.

Secondly: Use nothing but first-class seed, and cultivate land properly before sowing.

Thirdly: Keep farm free from weeds; be sure to take the "Farmer's Advocate," and by so doing keep abreast of the times, and success will surely crown our efforts. I. E. N.