

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

THUMPS IN PIGS.

A subscriber wishes to know the symptoms and also the cause of the disease known as thumps.

The disease known as thumps is very common among pigs, especially young ones. It is, however, not a disease in itself but an evidence of disease, and is an accompaniment of many diseases. Its symptoms are a jerking or twitching action of the heart or diaphragm. As thumps are merely an evidence of other diseases, to cure it it would be necessary to get at the disease itself. The remedy given by a western farmer in *FARMING* for Feb. 28th may have been successful in that it cured the disease which produced the thumps in his pigs.

FEEDING OATS IN SHEAF.

A subscriber at Pownal, P.E.I., asks: "Is it more profitable to feed oats in the sheaf to the cows or to thresh and grind them? Some say that if fed in the sheaf the cows will dry off."

Answered by Professor G. E. Day, Agriculturist, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ont.

There is no reliable information regarding the merits of feeding oats in the sheaf as compared with threshing and grinding. Many good dairymen follow the practice to a greater or less extent. Sheaf oats afford variety and are much relished by the cows. There is certainly no danger of drying off the cows, but of course the sheaf oats should not constitute the entire ration. A good sheaf of oats will furnish in the neighborhood of two pounds of straw for every pound of grain. Of course there is great variation in this respect, but the proportion stated will serve as a general guide.

SPRAYING FOR PROFIT.

We have received, "just from the press," a copy of "Spraying for Profit," by H. E. Weed, M.S., manager Mont Vista Fruit Farm, and formerly entomologist of the Mississippi Experiment Station. The aim of the author is to place before the farmer and fruit-grower a small, practical handbook for ready reference, describing the application of the more common insecticides and fungicides so largely used for suppressing injurious insects and fungus diseases. This object has been very creditably accomplished, and the book is one which should be worth many times its

cost to every farmer. The price, in paper covers, is 20c., and it will be sent by *FARMING*, postpaid, to any address for that sum. Any subscriber sending in his renewal subscription for one year may obtain a copy of the book by enclosing 10c. additional.

THE FEDERAL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

In another column we publish the 17th annual report of the Federal Life Assurance Co. The statement furnished by the directors shows a marked increase in business during the past year. New business for the year represents the enormous sum of \$2,248,850, and covers nearly 1,500 applications for new policies. The increase in income, the additions made to assets, and the satisfactory condition of investments are indications of the

sound financial standing of the company and the wise and prudent management of its affairs by the directorate. Shareholders and policy-holders alike will be gratified with the report and a large increase in business may be looked for during the coming year.

REMARKABLE RESULTS FROM ONE APPLICATION.

Germantown, Pa., May 8th, 1897.
The Lawrence Williams Co., Cleveland, O..
Replying to your favor of March 29th, after awaiting results of the application of "Gom bault's Caustic Balsam," to a bad strain on my trotting horse, Samuel T. (back tendons on hind leg), I am pleased to report the lameness entirely gone and the limb as good as before. I am well repaid for my patience and

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Passengers travelling WITH LIVE STOCK should take train leaving Toronto at 9:00 p.m.

Colonist Sleepers will be attached to each train.

For full particulars and copy of "Settlers' Guide" apply to any Can. Pac. agent, or to C. E. McPHERSON, Assistant General Passenger Agent, 1 King St. East, Toronto