

Questions and Answers.

1st.—Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to the "Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free.

2nd.—Our purpose is to give help in real difficulties; therefore, we reserve the right to discard enquiries not of general interest, or which appear to be asked out of mere curiosity.

3rd.—Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer, as a guarantee of good faith, though the name is not necessarily for publication.

4th.—In veterinary questions, the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.

Veterinary.

NAMES AND ADDRESS ABSENT.

Of late we have been receiving a few letters of enquiry which, in some cases, did not contain the name of the sender, and in others the post-office address was absent. Enquiries of this kind we must refuse to answer, for obvious reasons. We have no desire to use the name or address for publication, when otherwise desired, but we must in good faith insist upon the full name and address of each enquirer being sent.

CHRONIC DIARRHŒA.

I have a cow eight years old that commenced scouring in January last. When she calved in March she was not in good condition, and did not properly clean, and as she continued to scour we dried her milk and fed her a little crushed barley, but she has not gained in flesh. She eats well and chews her cud, but is still scouring. Can you prescribe for her? SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—Prolonged diarrhœa and wasting in condition is frequently symptomatic of a tuberculous condition of some of the digestive organs, and I would therefore advise you to, if possible, have the cow subjected to the tuberculin test, and if she reacts to the test, kill her and cremate the carcass; but if there is no reaction, give her, morning and evening, for two weeks, or until scouring ceases, in one quart of thin flour gruel: Opium pulv. and cupri sulph., of each one and a half drams; acid sulph. dilute, one ounce.

ENLARGED SCROTUM.

My three-year-old boar is suffering from abnormal enlargement of the testicles. They have enlarged to four times the normal size, and have been growing out of shape for the last two weeks. The enlargement is soft to the touch. He seems healthy in other respects, only a little stiff. Would castrating save him? BREEDER. Brandon.

Ans.—Without a personal examination the exact nature of the enlargement cannot be ascertained, for there are at least three abnormal conditions that would produce it: First, fleshy enlargement of the testicles (sarcocoele); second, dropsy of the testicles (hydrocoe); third, rupture (scrotal hernia). Castration, properly performed, would be the best remedy in either case. A qualified practitioner only should operate.

VETERINARY CAPSULES.

Will you kindly let me know where I can procure veterinary capsules for breeding purposes? I shall feel very much obliged if you would insert an answer in next issue of the "Advocate." Hartney, Man. STOCK-BREEDER.

Ans.—The capsules for the purpose you mention can be procured from the Bole Drug Co., Winnipeg, or may be ordered through any retail druggist. They are designated No. 10 Veterinary Capsules. One box contains ten capsules. Price, about thirty or thirty-five cents.

LUMP ON HORSE'S JAW

A lump has grown on the under jaw of my six-year-old horse where the jaw branches. The lump is hard. It came on about three months ago, and it broke about two months later. It did not suppurate, is quite dry, and at broken part nothing can be seen but a small wound. It seems to have a grip of the bone. It does not seem to grow any. P. H.

Ans.—These lumps are sometimes caused by the beards of foxtail grass burrowing down through the soft tissues beneath the tongue and lodging close to the bone, causing irritation, and consequent inflammation of the peritoneum, hence the bony enlargement. Examine well below the tongue, and if you find a sore or ulcerated spot you may be pretty sure that the above cause has operated. It is generally necessary to enlarge the external opening and inject once daily with dilute muriatic acid: muriatic acid, one ounce; water, one pint. Apply compound tincture of iodine externally.

TUBERCULIN TEST.

Can the tuberculin test be conducted by an inexperienced person? Would it be advisable for him to do so? Where and at what price can the instruments be procured? J. C. R. Winnipeg.

Ans.—The tuberculin test is simple, and may be conducted by any one of average intelligence and sufficient education to enable him to read a clinical thermometer. Of course, in applying the

test there are certain conditions which must be observed relative to the health and condition of the animal. The instruments required are a hypodermatic syringe with strong needles, and a reliable clinical thermometer. These can be procured from any dealer in veterinary surgical instruments. I may mention Sharpe & Smith, 92 Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Miscellaneous.

GROWING TIMOTHY—PREPARING FOR POTATOES.

1. How should land be prepared to seed down to timothy? Should it be sown alone, or with a nurse crop? Also, what is the best time, and what quantity per acre? E. B.

2. How should land be prepared to grow a good crop of potatoes? Carstairs, Alta., N.-W. T.

Ans.—1. Timothy should do well in your section of Alberta, provided the particular location is not too dry. The better state of cultivation land is in before timothy is sown, the greater the assurance of a "catch." Freedom from weeds and a mellow surface are desirable. Sow as early in spring as the land can be worked, at the rate of from five to six pounds per acre. Sowing broadcast gives good results, and wheat as a nurse crop is made use of by the most successful growers in this country, but it would do very well if sown with a moderately thin seeding of either barley or oats.

2. A good crop of potatoes may be grown by breaking and backsetting the prairie sod, and harrowing the following spring. Also, on stubble land which has received a fair coating of manure during the winter or spring.

MOWING SWAMP.

On my land I have a slough or swamp of about twenty acres, on which there is a good crop of swamp grass. I have been told that I can use a mower about end of August. As the swamp is full of water, I don't see that it will dry up. If so, how can I get the grass mown? "HAYMAKER."

Lodgminster, Sask., N.-W. T.

Ans.—The probability is that the slough will be about dried up by the end of August. Old residents in the district would be the best to get information from on the point. We would advise, however, if the outer edges of the slough be dry now, that you have it cut, if not too soft, down to the water's edge, and, if you can find time to do so, cutting all that dries up every week will allow the air and sunshine to act upon the remaining part with less hindrance, thus drying up more quickly; and you will have better quality of hay the earlier it is cut; the swamp may left to ripen after coming to full maturity contains little else than fibre.

DAMAGES FOR MARE.

A took a mare to B's farm, and enquired if there was a stallion there to which he might breed her. B informed him that there was, but that he did not travel him, and that the fee was \$7.00 for one or \$6.00 each for two. The mare was bred, being healthy, but not fat. In three weeks mare was found to be again in season, and in even better condition. Mare was bred again, and this time the horse was handled by B's hired man, and mare by A himself. During the act of copulation, the horse ruptured the mare to such an extent that she died from the effects three weeks after. Nothing was said at the time regarding damages. No bills had been issued for the horse under the laws of the Territories. A contends that the horse was not handled properly. Is B liable for damages? Vegreville, Alta. S. H. K.

Ans.—B would not be liable in the absence of any agreement accepting liability. A assumed risk to mare, and B assumed risk to horse.

HORSE MATTERS.

1. If a mare is served on the first day of one of her "periods," will the foal necessarily be a mare? How soon after foaling should she be served?

2. Are Percherons the best class of heavy horses to breed on a ranch?

3. What hens are the best for laying and table use combined? "BEGINNER." Medicine Hat.

Ans.—1. The question as to the origin of sex remains quite undecided by the most advanced embryologists. For a time there were those who believed that if a mare conceived during the beginning of the period of oestrus the progeny would be female, and if during the latter stages it would be a male. Careful investigations along this line, however, have failed to prove this theory correct.

2. The class of horses to be bred on a ranch should depend very largely upon the breeding of the mares that are to be used as foundation stock. If Percheron, it would probably pay to use a Percheron stallion, but if Clyde, only Clyde stallions should be used. This is a question which every ranchman must settle for himself. No hard-and-fast directions can be laid down.

3. The recognized general utility breeds are the Rocks, Wyandottes and Orpingtons. Of the former, the Barred are, perhaps, most popular, and of the Wyandotte varieties the Whites are in the lead.

ENQUIRIES.

1. Please let me know, through the "Advocate," whether Graham Bros., of Cairnbrogie Stock Farm, Claremont, Ontario, are still doing business. Are they a reliable firm? I cannot get track of them since last March.

2. Is a horse which is registered in Canada and United States eligible for registration in England, the sire and dam both being registered there, and imported from there? If so, please let me know what steps to take, and the probable cost. SUBSCRIBER.

Birch Hills.

Ans.—1. Graham Bros., Claremont, are still doing business at the old stand, and as far as we know are quite reliable.

2. Yes. Write the editor of Studbook for terms; you do not state what breed.

QUALITY OF UNION CEMENT.

Has the cement made and sold by the Manitoba Union Cement Co., at Arnold, Man., been properly tested, and is it reliable and perfectly satisfactory for the purpose of laying floors in stables? SUBSCRIBER.

Oxbow.

Ans.—as far as we can learn the cement in question is giving satisfaction. Write A. B. Potter, Montgomery, Assa., who has had experience in its use for building purposes.

STOCK LAW.

What is the law concerning "letting hogs run." If a man won't pay for damages, can I shut them up and claim them without notifying an officer?

Morinville, Alta.

"YOUNG FARMER."

Ans.—In a herd district, hogs can be taken to the nearest pound, damages claimed and collected by poundkeeper. If not in herd district, hogs may be treated as stray animals, advertised in N.-W. Gazette, free of charge, and in nearest newspaper for \$1.00. If not claimed and costs paid, take to nearest poundkeeper.

Father—Well, how did you come out in the bean-guessing contest?

Dull Boy—I guessed there was one hundred and fifty beans in the jar, and there was nine thousand two hundred.

Father (sadly)—I'm afraid you'll never be fit for anything but a weather bureau chief.—(Youth.)

Field Notes.

C. P. R. Land Deal.

It is said that the Canadian Pacific Railway has made a final selection of the lands reserved for it in Manitoba and the Northwest, which will place at the disposal of the Dominion Government over 10,000,000 acres which has been kept back from settlement in order to enable the railroad to make a choice. The land chosen is situated in what is known as the semi-arid belt, lying alongside the main line of the C. P. R., and consists of about 2,950,000 acres. The company also propose to take another tract of about 100,000 acres of semi-arid lands adjoining the irrigation tract of the Alberta Railway & Coal Co. The tract along the main line of the company, as now decided upon, is about 150 miles long by 50 miles in width, extending eastwardly from Calgary to Langevin Station, and bounded on the north and south by the Red Deer and Bow rivers respectively. The cost of irrigating these semi-arid lands has been estimated at about \$3.50 per acre.

Dispersion Sale at Moose Jaw.

On the 5th of August, eighteen pure-bred Clydesdale horses belonging to Mr. J. M. Macfarlane were sold by auction at Mr. D. McNair's stables, Moose Jaw. Mr. Macfarlane is well known in the district as a successful breeder of a fine class of Clydesdales, and when the hour for the sale arrived a large number of farmers and other buyers were on the spot ready to become the owners of the animals about to come under the hammer. Most of the horses still remain in the district, having been purchased by local buyers, although a number from a distance wrestled for the possession of several animals.

The duties of auctioneer were very well discharged by Mr. Ben. Fletcher, V. S., and an idea of the briskness of business may be given when we state that the entire sale, with five additional animals, occupied only one hour and fifteen minutes.

The most extensive purchasers were Mr. W. J. Smith, who became owner of seven animals, including two foals, at a gross total of \$1,770.00; and Mr. F. W. Green, of the Greendale Stock Farm, who purchased four, including one foal, at a total of \$1,300.00. The sale was in every way a success, and one of its most gratifying features is that most of the animals still remain in the district, having been secured by local purchasers. The animals were in grand condition, and moved with the grace, spirit and freedom characteristic of the Clydesdale breed.

The grand total realized for the eighteen animals sold amounted to \$5,825.00.

The following is a detailed list of the transactions, with the prices, taken from the Moose Jaw Times of August 6th:

J. W. Smith, Moose Jaw, purchased Lady Beresford,