

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.  
Miscellaneous.

PIG RUNNING AT LARGE.

Is a hog pig allowed to run at large and smash gates and fences? We have asked our neighbor repeatedly to keep his in, but he pays no attention. T. R.

Ans.—Control of animals and their freedom of roadsides rests with municipal councils. In some districts horses, cattle, sheep and hogs are permitted to roam at will, while in other parts no stock can run the roadways unattended. Undoubtedly you can have redress if an animal breaks a reasonably substantial gate or fence. Your best plan is to communicate with the clerk of the municipality as to the local by-law covering the question, and then govern your action accordingly, if your neighbor persists in allowing his animal to do damage.

BOOK ON TRAPPING—DUTY ON PUMPKIN SEED.

1. Where can I purchase the best book on trapping such animals as are trapped for their furs in Middlesex County, Ont.?

2. What is the duty on a pound of pumpkin seed coming from New York to Montreal? H. A. F.

Ans.—1. Opinions differ as to the best book on trapping. "Hunter and Trapper" contains very useful information. "The Farmer's Advocate" will supply this book, postpaid, for 55 cents.

2. On pumpkin seed in packages one pound or less, the general tariff is 25 per cent. and the intermediate tariff 22½ per cent. From the United States to Canada the general tariff would apply. The value of pumpkin seed varies with the variety. Some common sorts might not be invoiced at more than 5c. or 10c. per pound, while new varieties run as high as 75c. or 80c. per pound.

CEMENT OR BRICK FOR HOUSE

1. What kind of a house is the cheapest and best to build—a cement block or brick veneer? What would the blocks cost? I can get brick at \$5 per thousand about six miles away, and sand and gravel at lake about 4½ miles.

2. About how many blocks would it take to build a part 20 x 24, 20 feet high, leaving out the ordinary number of windows and doors?

3. About how many feet of lumber for sheathing, studding for four rooms, hall and closets up stairs, and three rooms down stairs, and joists for both floors?

4. Will you give me a good plan for that, as I have a part, size 14 x 24, to put on behind, which I want to put on the back crossways of the front, and would it be best to put on deck roof. I want the old part to run to the side so as to have a veranda at the north-east side of the house. I would like to get small bedroom, pantry and kitchen in the old part, and dining-room, parlor and hall, with open stairs, and four bedrooms and hall, with closets, up stairs.

5. I have the timber for lumber and flooring. Would red oak make a good finish when oiled, or would it be best to get pine? E. B. W.

Ans.—1. There is little difference between the total cost of constructing houses of cement blocks and brick, as you suggest. A great deal will depend on your facilities for making cement blocks. Brick, at \$5 per thousand, are reasonably cheap. Contractors in towns and cities who have to purchase the building materials, find difficulty in deciding which is the more economical. Opinions differ, too, as to which is the best. Much depends on the quality of both materials. Either first-class brick or properly-made cement blocks are durable, and entirely satisfactory.

2, 3 and 4. Your best plan is to have a local contractor estimate these for you. His services will be required in any event and he is only too willing to assist you in regard to the quantity of materials and the desirable plans for your building. Without knowing details as to number and size of doors and windows, height of rooms, width of halls, etc., we could give only a rough approximate.

5. Red oak for wainscoting and window and door casings would be satisfactory. For flooring, it is rather dark in color, and not as desirable as white oak or soft maple. Whether or not it would pay to get pine or any other material, would depend on how you could dispose of red oak and purchase the others.

SOURCES OF CANE SUGAR.

In an argument about cane sugar (C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>11</sub>). A claimed that it was a name given to pure sugar, that may be manufactured from sugar beets, or maple syrup, or grapes, etc., and is not limited to that from sugar cane. B claimed that it is only made from sugar cane. Which is right? H. G.

Ans.—A is right. Chemically speaking, cane sugar is a standard sugar (with chemical formula C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>11</sub>), and this particular article can be derived from sugar beets, honey, maple sap and other sources. In each case, however, it is possible that it may be popularly distinguished by certain flavors, being called cane sugar, beet sugar, maple sugar, etc., according to the source. No doubt the particular designation cane sugar is used by chemists because of the fact that sugar cane was for a time the main source of high-grade sugar.

BLASTING STONE.

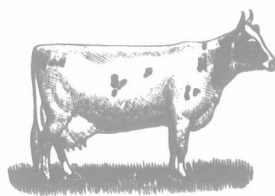
Kindly give me some information regarding blasting stone. C. M.

Ans.—Large stones are readily broken into pieces that can be handled, by judicious use of blasting materials. For economy of powder and efficiency of work, particularly with rocks of close texture, it is advisable to drill a hole eight to twelve inches deep, depending on the size of the rock. The drilling is simple, but laborious. Any competent blacksmith can provide the drill. Then, by continual pounding, and at the same time a turning of the drill, and the application of water, a hole is made into the center of the rock. A few trial blasts will show how deep it is advisable to drill into rocks of certain nature and different sizes. After drying the hole with an old rag wrapped around a stick or small iron, the blasting powder can be inserted and tamped in, having a fuse reaching to the top. The quantity of powder varies with different preparations. In case you fail to get instructions along with the package, the charge can be regulated according to the work done by the first few blasts. The fuse burns slowly, and the operator has time to retreat a safe distance before the explosion occurs. The Hamilton Powder Company, of Toronto, make a specialty of blasting materials, and particulars can be had by writing the firm. Success is claimed by placing the charge in a depression on top of the rock and laying over it a huge boulder, or by digging around and under and placing the powder close to the rock underneath. Even when a hole is drilled, it is advisable to dig around the rock.

TUBERCULIN TEST.

What are the signs of tuberculosis, and is there any cure for it? I have a Jersey cow that has had a dry cough for about two weeks. The cow is looking all right and feeds well; her hair is glossy and she looks to be in perfect health. She has gained in flesh since being put in the stable. She is due to calve in March. She is still milking. Is her milk good to use, and how am I to tell if she has tuberculosis? A. I. H. J.

Ans.—Tuberculosis in cattle, as a rule, can only be definitely diagnosed by means of the tuberculin test. It is generally only in the latter stages of the disease that it is evidenced by a cough. The disease is probably more frequently found in other parts of the system than in the lungs, and in numerous instances cattle apparently in good health, thrifty and fat, have been found badly infected with tuberculosis. In other cases, in the later stages, the effect is shown in a staring coat, a failing appetite, and a fetid diarrhea. Unless there are actual evidences of the disease in the udder, the milk is not considered unsafe to use, though the cow may react to the tuberculin test. The regulations for testing require that application be made to the Dominion Department of Agriculture, stating how many animals are to be tested, giving the name and address of a reputable qualified veterinary surgeon whom the owner wishes to employ to make the test. The latter will be furnished with sufficient tuberculin to make the test, free of charge, on condition that he reports to the Department the result of the test on charts which will be supplied for that purpose. There is no cure other than sanitary conditions, good ventilation, plenty of sunlight, and nourishing food.



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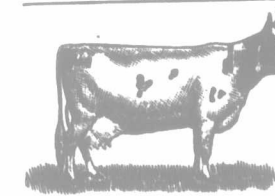
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