

The spring is the most critical time of the year with most farm stock, coming out of a long winter on dry feed and still waiting for the first appearance of new grass. Calving time, too, is at hand. Of course much of the success of this season's calf crop depends on how the dam was cared for during the past winter; if she has been well wintered, there is little danger of her going wrong at calving time. Linseed cake will be found of great value if fed in moderate quantities to coming-in cows, regulating the bowels and keeping the system cool. Mr. John Boyd, a noted American breeder of Jerseys, has been very successful in the use of linseed meal as indicated. His treatment is as follows:—"Three weeks before the cow is due to calve commence to feed one handful of pure linseed meal in each regular feed, gradually increasing the amount until she gets about twice or three times as much the day or day before calving. As soon as the calf is dropped and before the cow 'cleans,' give a warm mash, very thin, nearly as thin as gruel, made as follows: Four quarts coarse bran, half pint linseed meal, one tablespoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of arnica, warm water to suit. If the cow does not clean readily, give her from four to six quarts of whole oats, dry."

After the calf arrives on the scene, care must be given it if good results are expected. We quote the following excellent advice from the Farming World:—"A prime requisite in successful calf-raising is regularity; let the calves be fed at the same time and in the same order every day. Next to regularity, regard the amount of milk fed; while 15 lbs. to 18 lbs. of full milk is a ration, with skim milk from 18 lbs. to 24 lbs. may be fed, depending upon the ability of the calf to assimilate its food. More calves are killed by overfeeding than underfeeding. Milk should be fed at blood temperature, say 98° to 100° F., and a thermometer should be used to see that it is right. The feeding pail is often neglected; it should receive a daily scalding, and be kept always scrupulously clean. Scouring, the bane of calf rearing, usually indicates indigestion, and is often brought on by overfeeding, irregular feeding, giving the feed too cold, or the animal getting chilled or wet. To check indigestion, a tablespoonful of lime water in each feed is very satisfactory. Successful management of the calf lies at the very foundation of the live stock business, and calls for regularity of attendance and watchfulness, discerning at once all the little wants of the animal, and a general disposition to supply every need as soon as apparent."

Every breeder, whether of cattle, horses, sheep or pigs, will sometimes be called upon to assist at the birth of the young, although generally speaking all animals get along better when left to themselves, unless something is radically wrong; when it is deemed necessary to assist in these cases, the operator should exercise the greatest care to have hands and arms perfectly clean and well smeared with carbolic oil (which can be procured at any drug store at small cost); the floor should be well covered with clean, fresh bedding. Many seemingly unaccountable deaths occur from blood-poisoning, carried into the system of the dam from the dirty hand of the careless operator, or absorbed into the system of the young animal through the navel cord coming in contact with the same dirty hand or a foul stable floor.

By the time this issue reaches our readers seeding will be well underway, and as a larger area of land was plowed last fall than usual, doubtless the work will be completed in good time. Owing to the heavy snowfall throughout Canada and the heavy rains of last autumn, the land should be well supplied with moisture. Now it remains for each farmer to do his part, and if he uses the best seed he can procure, of the varieties that have proved suitable to his locality, treats his seed wheat with bluestone, sows with a drill, and sows all spring plowing the same day it is plowed—doing all his work thoroughly, even should he not cover as much ground as usual, he will at least have the satisfaction of knowing that he did his best, and can look forward pretty confidently to a profitable return for his labor.

The Secretary of the Southdown Breeders' Association of Great Britain has kindly sent us a copy of the Constitution and By-laws which govern this society. This data we print in another column. Canadian and American breeders and importers of Southdowns will do well to carefully read and digest these rules. Many Canadian buyers of imported stock of all sorts seem satisfied if their purchases have simply crossed the Atlantic. Something more than this is needed. It would be better if all other British Live Stock Associations would take similar steps. Well conducted records are a benefit to the country at large, preventing the unexperienced buyer from being imposed upon, and preventing unscrupulous dealers and feeders from stealing the trade that justly belongs to reliable and experienced live stock men.

An Unbeaten Record.

The Arctic Ice Co., like many of Winnipeg's most enterprising firms, have gone extensively into farming. Their farm, comprising 640 acres of excellent land, is situated east of the city of Winnipeg about four miles. Considering the short length of time, a little over a year, this farm has been occupied, much has been accomplished, and about 200 acres made ready for crops.

One of the most important features in connection with their farming operations, however, is their Clydesdale stallion Prince of Eastfield (6183), the subject of our frontispiece illustration. As will be seen, this horse is one of the massive sort, having lots of bone of that clean, flinty quality so essential in a first-class draft horse. He has a nice head and neck, grand quarters and a good middle; his legs are well feathered, and his feet and pasterns right.

Prince of Eastfield is a dark bay, with only a small white spot on face; foaled June, 1885. Bred by John L. Imrie, Maryhill; sired by Prince of Wales (673); dam Jess of Blackhill (5475), by Young Lorne (907); grand dam Flora (179), by Young Lofty (987)—a pedigree any horse might be well proud of. He was imported by Robert Ness, of Howick, P. Q., who has imported many of the best horses ever brought into Canada, and the fact of his having brought out the Prince should of itself be a sufficient guarantee of his superior individuality.

Prince of Eastfield has been exhibited many times both in Scotland and since his importation in 1891 in Canada, and has in every case won first place, never having been beaten. The following are his Canadian victories:—In 1891, first and sweepstakes at Canada Central (Ottawa), Huntington County and Sherbrooke fairs, and first in his class at Montreal. In 1892, he was first at Hochelaga Spring Stallion Show, and after being brought west captured first in his class at the Winnipeg Industrial, and also first in the Springfield fall fair. He is at present in only moderate flesh, and will be travelled east and west of the city.

The Company has one Clyde mare in foal to Prince. Besides a number of Clyde-bred mares, the Company keep a herd of upwards of eighty grade cattle, headed by the Shorthorn bull Captain =4386=, and also ten brood sows, upon which they are using a Chester White hog.

Report of the Experts on Live Stock for the Chicago Exposition.

The Manitoba Government, acting upon a request made by the Provincial Live Stock Breeders, appointed Messrs. McGregor, of Winnipeg, and Leslie Smith, of Wanwanesa, both thoroughly competent men, to make an inspection of the live stock of the Province, with a view to making a selection for the Columbian Exposition. Following is their report to the Provincial Minister of Agriculture:—

Acting under instructions from your department, and guided by a memorandum giving names of owners of stock of all kinds who had applied to exhibit same at World's Fair, we have been engaged for the past two weeks examining such stock, and have much pleasure in submitting the following report:—

In Winnipeg and vicinity we have examined the stock owned by the Arctic Ice Company, Sir Donald A. Smith, W. L. Puxley and W. S. Lister, and found some individual animals that were a credit to the Province, but very many were not in a condition for exhibition purposes, although well bred.

In the Wanwanesa district we visited J. B. Chambers and Smith & Stevenson, and found three very promising stallions, worthy of exhibition at any fair.

In the Brandon district we visited Jno. E. Smith, J. D. McGregor & Co., and J. S. McMillan. Almost a full line of the various kinds of horses, cattle, sheep and swine were found here, all imported stock. Many of these animals have been well selected, and they are in good condition.

We also visited Mr. Musk, near Souris; J. H. Proctor, near Virden; D. McCaig, near Douglas; A. Colquhoun, near Douglas; Mr. Shanks and Mr. Rae, near Rapid City; Mr. Darroch, near Minnedosa; Mr. Farney, near Gladstone. Among these we found a variety of horses, cattle, sheep and swine. A few were good, many could not be recommended; while sheep and swine are not up to exhibition requirements.

In Portage la Prairie district we visited Messrs. Glennie, Bray, McKenzie and Simpson. Here we found some fine herds of Jerseys and Holsteins, and the best province-bred Clyde colt we have met.

We found it impossible to reach a number of points on the list on account of snow. An extra fine Yorkshire coach stallion is owned by a Mr. Knittle, of Boissevain. We are satisfied a selection could be made that would include all kinds of horses, sheep, cattle, etc., which, if kept together at Chicago, would be a credit to the province, but we are aware they would be separated to their respective stables, and by that means Manitoba's exhibit would be lost sight of. From our experience in stock it appears doubtful if a good selection of competing animals for the different classes could be made from those we have inspected. It is hard-

ly necessary to say further that, looking at the matter in every light, we do not at present see our way clear to advise the Government to go on with the exhibit.

We understand the Government intends acting upon the report of the experts, and consequently there will be no exhibit of live stock sent from Manitoba to the World's Fair.

Timely Hints for April—No. 2.

HARMLESS FENCES.

In reply to Mr. C. Wright in March 20th issue, I may say that I am not interested pecuniarily in any particular new patent fence, but of some of the harmless fences that are really effective, I may mention the "Kitselman" woven-wire fence, and the "Harris" board or board and wire fence. There are also several picket fences that can be put up by anyone of ordinary intelligence, and that cannot hurt a child, the chief drawback to the general use of them being the high price demanded for the "right" to use them. For my own part, I fail to see why a man can't buy a fence machine as freely as a binder. I also use smooth twisted wire, and if tightly stretched it makes a good fence. The woven fences come a little high, from 40 to 80 cents per rod without the pickets. Both the Kitselman and some other fences were on exhibition at the Winnipeg Exhibition in 1892, and have been and are being advertised in the ADVOCATE. Try even a calf pen with one of the above, and see if you want to go back to the old style!

CATTLE FOR MORE THAN ONE PURPOSE.

I have followed with interest the discussion in the ADVOCATE and other papers as to "general purpose" cows. I believe in the general purpose cow, but I also believe there is scope for the special purpose animal. Let me give reasons for the faith that is in me. In Manitoba, for instance, we have only a few creameries and cheese factories, hence we must have something besides milk and butter. Our steer calves must be fed on the refuse grain and straw of our farms, and we also want a docile, contented lot of cattle, not liable to break through fences, and not great wanderers. The Shorthorn grade fills the bill, the pail, and our pockets.

The city milkmen want a cheap producer of milk, and care nothing for calves or beef. All they require is a cow that will give a good flow of milk of fair quality for a long time, and from all kinds of feed. Here the Ayrshire, and the Holstein, and their grades, find their sphere of usefulness.

Near a creamery or where people are willing to pay a high price for butter, the Jersey will be the one found most profitable.

On the ranch, away in Alberta and Saskatchewan, the active, "rustling" cattle of the Galloway and Hereford breeds, and their crosses, are found to be the best special purpose animals for beef production. For general purpose animals in Manitoba, I would unhesitatingly place Shorthorns first, and the Devons second.

For milk alone, the Ayrshire, and then the Holstein.

For beef alone, the Galloway, the Hereford, and the Polled Angus.

For butter alone, but with only good, quiet handling, the Jersey is *facile princeps*. But this is only my opinion, and, of course, I don't expect every one to concur.

MORE BARLEY.

Our last harvest and its returns in cash have forced many of us to look out for more profitable lines of farming than wheat. I think we will find it in barley. It is a sure crop; the grain is first-class all-round feed, from horses down to hens, and the straw is good fodder. It can be sown later, and taken off earlier than any other grain, on good land will give double the quantity of grain that wheat will, and if fed to good, well-bred stock will give far more return than wheat in cash. But I consider that barley requires a better seed-bed than even wheat, and more intelligent cultivation than it usually receives. Let us have more barley.

GENERAL.

The ground is warm now, so "get a move on." Experiments have proved that the last week in April is the best time for sowing wheat and barley.

If your cattle lick each other this month, they want salt. If they lick themselves, they are thriving.

"Can't see how he does it, he pays so much for feed." But that's *how* he does it, with a mixture of common sense.

Leave the mulch round your rhubarb and your currants till next month.

Don't sell inferior breeding animals; fatten them for the butcher.

So often I read of a horse dying of "inflammation"—of what? of the lungs, of the liver, or stomach? Would it not be better to say definitely what it was, so as to be guided in future to a right remedy?

The Legislature passed a bill for inspection, etc. of stallions. Is not one as urgently needed for bulls? Also, let us hope that our wolves will not laugh at the M. P. P.'s statutory efforts to exterminate them.

Sow plenty of potatoes. I find the beginning of May the best time. They may get nipped a little with a late frost, but they make a heavier crop than later sown ones.

If the weather is windy and inclined to be dry, harrow each day's plowing each night, and keep in the moisture to induce rapid germination.

"INVICTA."