

MAY 1, 1919

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

891

it would seem that it would be to import wheat than meat. The first occupies about 100 cubic ft. But we must attempt to estimate on short of tonnage should produce wheat or meat we must of acres as well as in

very simple case. Suppose an island of an island wholly after providing for their 80,000 acres of grazing production, and that the quality that produced 1 cwt. per acre per annum, then the meat would be 4,000 tons. Amount of meat a 10,000-ton island would require. Further, each year the island has to 100-ton steamer to bring a ship of this size would produce wheat, roughly the would be grown on 10,000

It is clear, therefore, were scarce it would be island to effect a very substituting wheat for ere practicable to break and to produce average within a year, seven-nonnage could be released ses.

consideration was one ons for breaking up grass It was known that ships arce, and it was obviously substitute for grass some ould reduce the tonnage country.

effects of grazing and permanent demand for of course, be determined process of estimating how d how much meat given uce. Wheat is not grown in time of war, and assum- in our illustration wished eat for a considerable ey must plough at least and, and most probably space for implements and ould be safe to conclude land for wheat-growing he results of substituting ng would be to release 4 ships out of every 5 ing wheat.

IVE STOCK.—There is a of grazing and tillage s of special interest and the present time, viz., izing and tillage on live

anch of British farming the farmer himself as rearing of live stock.

farmers cattle and sheep eding are often more the cultivation of any d the main interest of ble farmers is centred

No arable farmer will hat grass is the natural d that stock raising on not only an easier and or the farmer, but s themselves than stock crops. Thus in most

entry, even where the for tillage, every farm ent. of the land in grass ions are on the chalk). we do not grow enough ur live stock.

ur we were using over f feeding-stuffs in the eat; by far the greater eeding-stuffs consisted ts of the flour or oil substantial amount of ed for meat production.

by-products of home ck-feeding is wholly he unfortunate effect e before the War was to spend too largely ing-stuffs instead of on their own land. We ng the consequences.

dance of summer keep cks and herds and we draw for winter use, off from the feeding- y for winter fattening.

k industry may suffer plies are again available out whereas we have d sheep in the country e rations of meat, there at the end of the grass ill be a shortage in the

spring. We are reaping the consequences of using land for grazing that ought to be under tillage.

In this particular year (1918), because of the threatening position of cereals in 1917, we have even sacrificed a part of the limited area or arable land devoted to keeping stock. Our root crops and much of our temporary grass have given place to corn so that, partly from the reduced area and partly from an unfavorable season, supplies of these natural winter foods of our live stock are very limited in many counties.

Some critics of the Food Production Movement ascribe the present difficult position of live stock to the ploughing out of grass last season. Where the crops on newly-ploughed land have succeeded, as they usually have, the oats and oat straw together are worth much more to the farmer than the hay or grazing lost; where crops have failed, there is, of course, a total loss; but we cannot legitimately criticise the policy of ploughing up grass land on this account. The real fact was that war found us with a system of farming well enough adapted to the conditions of 1913, but wholly unsuitable for the period of struggle on which we embarked in 1914. We continued our system for two years trusting to luck to end the War and to the Admiralty to check submarines. When, at the end of 1916, it was realised that the War would go on, that the American cereal crop was poor, and that the submarine was increasing its toll on our ships, we decided to change our methods. It was as obvious to the Food Production Department a year ago as to their critics to-day that there would be "casualties" in breaking up grass land; but as it was essential that more tillage land must be secured these risks had to be faced.

So long as war conditions continued it was necessary to go on increasing our tillage land as rapidly as the labour at disposal enabled us to make the change. In the autumn of 1918 our own food supply was in a much less precarious state than at the beginning of this year; but had the Armistice not been signed last Monday our herds and flocks would have been in even a worse position during the next six months than they were in before America entered the War; for whereas we could represent to the United States that our own bread was more essential than their soldiers, we could not claim that it would be in the interest of the Allied Nations that American troops should be held up and the War prolonged in order that we might avoid killing off our sheep and cattle.

(Continued next issue.)

## Questions and Answers.

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

2nd—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.

3rd—In veterinary questions, the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.

4th—When a reply by mail is required to urgent veterinary or legal enquiries, \$1.00 must be enclosed.

## Veterinary.

## Severe Burns.

A month ago a sick mare was put on bran. The bran heated and set fire to the premises. The neighbors succeeded in checking and putting out the fire, but the mare was severely burned and although being treated the wounds are not healing. Did you ever know bran to heat and cause fire?

A. S.

Ans.—The rapidity with which such injuries heal depends upon the severity of the burns. When the tissues are destroyed to a considerable depth it usually requires 6 to 12 months and even then the surface is covered with only an imperfect skin. In the early stages of burns equal parts of lime water and sweet oil or raw linseed oil applied 3 or 4 times daily is considered a specific, and even at this stage the writer prefers this with the addition of a tablespoonful of carbolic acid to a pint of the mixture. Any good antiseptic as a 5 per cent. solution of one of the coal tar antiseptics or carbolic acid is often used, but we prefer the first mentioned. You will have to exercise great patience in this case. We have never known fire to originate from such a cause. It is possible, where the bran was in a large quantity, but we infer from your statement that in this case the quantity was quite small.

V.



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