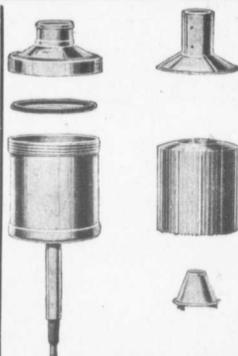


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Mr. Clemons Makes a Statement

Editor, Farm and Dairy.—Mrs. Partington once remarked that "comparisons are odorous." After reading the article in the May 25 issue of Farm and Dairy by A. S. Turner & Son of Ryckman's Corners, I would amend the saying and make it malodorous. "Broad discussions are 'flat, stale and unprofitable,'" but since the Messrs. Turner have used my name as authority for statements, about Evergreen March, of which they make use, I may be pardoned for using the columns of Farm and Dairy in order to set them correct.

In the article in question Messrs. Turner quote me as saying in an article in "The Farmer's Advocate" that Evergreen March had an average of 28 lbs. grain daily during Jan., 1911, and use that ration as a basis of comparison for cost of production of milk and butter fat, between Evergreen March and Snowflake, one of their herd. I say emphatically that I never made that statement in the "Farmer's Advocate" nor did I make any statement that could be construed to mean any such thing. Evergreen March was never fed 28 lbs. of grain in any one day in January, 1911, nor was she ever fed an average of 28 lbs. of grain a day for 30 days, nor even for seven days, and as I have handled her for nearly six years I should have her for knowledge to speak on the subject.

When I was officially testing Evergreen March I was running for records, not for economy of production, and I think all will admit that the end justified the means. I am not afraid to enter Evergreen March today in a food test against any cow in Canada, and in any breed, that freshened previous to Dec. 15, 1910.

It might be of interest to Farm and Dairy readers if the Messrs. Turner carried out on a correct basis a table of comparison showing the net profit from those cows during subsequent months, as I believe during the week from Feb. 21 to 28, Snowflake was giving an average of less than 60 lbs. of milk daily with four per cent. test, while Evergreen March was giving an average of practically 99 lbs. daily with an average of 3.2 per cent. fat. Is it possible that the cheap ration was unequal to the maintenance of the cow to which it was fed?—Percy F. Clemons, Brant Co., Ont.

More About in-foal Mares

Editor, Farm and Dairy.—The article by Robert Graham, of Simcoe county, Ont., in Farm and Dairy, June 15, describing his treatment of in-foal mares and newly born foals is one of the most valuable things I have read in any farm journal in many years. Having reared many foals and lost a few, I can thoroughly appreciate the value of all that Mr. Graham recommends and does. Being a Scotchman, I judge that Mr. Graham raises Flemish and those, like all draught breeds, are more liable to losses than the lighter sorts of horses. While I have every confidence in the veterinary practitioner, I would trust Mr. Graham before most of them to handle a foaling mare in trouble. It is evident that he is naturally mechanical, and having had much experience in horse breeding, he is able to handle abnormal cases when they arise. The lowering of the forequarters of the dam, when a foal has to be turned or adjusted, was an old plan of my father's, and many a foal and mare have been saved by this method.

Too many stock raisers do not make a careful study of the anatomy of animals. Too few take the common-sense precaution of regard to putting the mare into the best condition for foaling. It is only reasonable that steady, light work up to foaling time is a good thing, because she is thus kept normal in health by reason of the regular exercise. While this is true,

no man with judgment would think of hitching a mare well advanced in pregnancy to a land roller or other implement that would jar and jolt her while at work.

Mr. Graham's treatment of the newly born foal is rational because it is harmless in any case and a wise precaution in cases of tenosynovitis or constipation. The sanitary measures are also safe and easy of application, and as Mr. Graham points out, the materials recommended are easily available.

Mr. Graham is to be congratulated for his generosity in making public such valuable suggestions for his fellow horse-breeders.—J. B. Spencer.

To Drain or not to Drain

Some calculations on the financial side of drainage have recently been made by Prof. W. H. Day of the Ontario Agricultural College. A farm of 60 acres, with 20 acres of it, although not drained it gives \$18 an acre. The value of the crop for five years in succession, together with compound interest, would be \$1444 at the end of five years, but if the water were to drain 10 acres of the land each year, and if the drainage increased the value of the crop by \$10 per acre (which is a low estimate) then the value of the crop for five years, with interest, would be \$5712. After paying for the drainage, with interest, he would have left \$4124, the same within \$20 as if he had not drained, but if he drained the whole 60 acres at once then the five crops, with interest, would be worth \$6908. After paying for the drainage would leave him a balance of \$5121, which is \$977 more than if he had not drained. During the next five-year period drainage by the installment plan would net him \$1604 more than not to drain at all, and the complete drainage would give him by 25% more than no drainage.

The price allowed for drainage in the calculation was \$28 an acre, and the increase in the crop was placed at \$10 per acre, as giving an idea of the increase is usually worth more than this, so that the computation is somewhat unfair to drainage, however it is better to err on the safe side.

But the increase in crop is not the only return from drainage, the value of the land is largely increased. This is illustrated in the case of a certain farm in Lincoln county. It was bought for \$6000 about two years ago. Last year \$2000 was spent in draining it and it has since been sold for \$12,500.

The Department of Physics, O. A. C., Guelph over which Professor Day has charge, has a large staff engaged in making drainage surveys for farmers wishing to drain; they are kept very busy. Those who wish surveys made this fall should apply at once as there are nearly as many applications in as can be attended to this season.

The terms on which surveys are made are explained in Bulletin 13 and 175, which may be had free from the Department of Agriculture, Toronto.

Items of Interest

W. F. Stephen, Huntingdon, Ont., has for his farm a number of stock purchasers, Gilbert McMillan, Bester, N. Y., and Matt. Leggett, Bismore, Pa., intend to make it a stud farm, with Ayrshires a specialty.

Checks for the sixth annual dividend declared by the Ford Motor Company of Walkerville were mailed to stockholders last week, at the rate of 100 per cent. Several Windsor men received checks for sums ranging from \$500 to \$5,000. Last week the stockholders received dividends at the same rate as they are now getting, viz., 100 per cent.

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