

mortality at once. I would judge in this case that there was accidental poisoning of some kind, or that some animal, such as a weasel, got among them and killed a portion of them. Certainly the bran and shorts would not kill them.

A ration composed of one-quarter of shorts, one-quarter of bran, one-quarter of barley or oat chop, and one-quarter of corn meal wet with sour milk, or, if wet with water, ten per cent. of meat meal added, would give better results. Between the ages of two and seven weeks about one-third of the bulk of the ration should be of finely-cut, green oats or clover hay, or, in fact, any other green feed. Between the eighth and tenth weeks, when the ducks are being fattened for market, eliminate the shorts and bran entirely and add a little more meat meal, or, if using sour milk, give fifty per cent. of the ration of corn meal if possible.

2. In reference to turkeys—I think the turkeys would do better if the bread was dampened with sour milk, then squeezed fairly dry. Turkeys require feeding frequently but very little at a time, and would be better fed out of the hand or a clean dish. Do not feed them on the ground. If you would add to the bread about an equal amount of shorts or middlings it would add to the value of the ration. I would not advise the use of sweet skim-milk. Where turkeys of this age have a cold in the eyes as mentioned it would indicate that either the old turkey hen had been infected some time herself during her life and probably has the germs still attached to her feathers, or else the coop in which she is confined has had birds with similar trouble, either turkeys or common hens. The disease is not blackhead. It is somewhat difficult to cure, and with turkeys as small as these are about the only thing you could do would be to wash the eyes with a weak solution of boracic acid and give the small turkeys each about two small grains of Epsom Salts in their food to each bird every day. If there is no infection in the coop or with the old turkeys the trouble must be looked for either in dampness or from being in a very drafty place, but I presume from the question that this is not the case. We are taking it for granted that the turkeys have all the grit they require.

W. R. G.

Try this Mixture to Grow Pullets.

The pullet to lay early next fall must be matured as early as possible. A little forcing will do no harm. Many mixtures are good, and a mash should always be supplied once daily. Good success has been found to result from feeding the following mixture: wheat bran, 25 lbs.; corn meal, 25 lbs.; ground oats, 10 lbs.; beef scrap, 5 lbs.; shorts, 15 lbs.; ground bone, 5 lbs.; charcoal, 1 per cent. This should be thoroughly mixed, and many breeders prefer feeding it just moist enough to be dampened through. If sour milk is available to moisten the mash no meat feed is necessary. Give plenty of green feed if not on free range.

FARM BULLETIN.

East Middlesex Notes.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Since writing about a month ago the weather has "faired up," and now, July 10, seems about normal, if not on the dry side. We think that the fruit crop will not fulfil the rosy promise of last month. There's many a slip in the production of fruit, but the bees are doing fairly well so far. As the season is late it is not advisable to make any very definite statements about the honey yield just yet. Suffice to say they are off with a good start. Being a dairying district there is plenty of white clover, and almost every farmer sows a few pounds of alsike in his hay crop, but that doesn't always mean honey, even if there is abundance of bloom. So ye beekeepers don't all rush in here expecting to get rich quickly. Middlesex is already about as well supplied with beekeepers as any other county in the province, and we have one serious drawback—the lack of buckwheat to supply honey for winter feed. A few farmers sow a small patch near the hen-house and let the hens do the harvesting of the seed. It is valuable in this way, as it is used at or near the moulting period when hens need extra feed. Others sow some for pig feed, but generally these patches are few and far between. However, we hear of more being sown this year than usual in the hope of its helping out the grain ration. But the spring grain crop has improved rapidly since the deluge of rain ceased, but, of course, most of the fields are more or less "patchy," as the low spots are backward or killed out entirely. Many have commenced haying, but except on high land we believe it is not ready to cut. Probably they have got so used to rain that they think this dry spell cannot last. But it is not wise for a farmer to get panicky. He should be optimistic, believing that as long as the earth remaineth seed time and harvest shall not cease. An attempt is being made to revive the flax industry in this district. A building in St. Mary's town is being equipped with machinery, but farmers around here are not so fond of growing flax as they once were, when the land was new, with fertility to spare and rough land to subdue. Thirty or forty years ago flax was an important crop here, but the scarcity of help to pull it, and the increase of level land which would grow a crop that could be harvested with machinery, and the idea that flax was hard on

the land, because everything went off, resulted in its losing favor. If a satisfactory puller could be invented it would go a long way towards solving the help problem, but while several have been invented apparently there are none that are very satisfactory. Sugar beet growing seems to be coming into favor again. Quite an acreage was grown last year by some who were near a shipping point. Five miles seems to be about the limit for profitable hauling. Some, we are told, did not make expenses, while others did well. Like any other crop, they pay if one can grow enough of them, and that depends mostly on the man. This year the wet weather prevented more being sown.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

J. H. BURNS.

A Summer Talk.

BY PETER MCARTHUR.

I don't care what anybody says, I didn't get "bushed." It is quite true that I stopped cultivating corn in the middle of the afternoon and curled up in the shade of a tree for an hour or so, but that was not because I was "bushed." I could have kept going all the rest of the day if I wanted to, but it seemed wiser to stop, and having stopped there was no reason why I shouldn't rest in the shade of a tree. The fact of the matter is that I stopped on account of the mare. The blue-headed flies got after her until she was almost crazy. At the end of every round I would stop and slap the flies until I killed a dozen or two, but it seemed to make no difference. They swarmed around her like bees. As the day was unusually hot and the corn patch is in a corner by the woods where it is exposed to the full glare of the sun and not a breath of air was stirring, we soon got "het up." Then the flies began to pester the mare. She would slap at them with her hind feet, and every time she would bring down her feet on hills of corn. That made me fussy, even though I couldn't blame her. She was being tortured by the heat and the flies, but that didn't make it any pleasanter for me to see the corn being trampled, so I decided to stop and do the rest of the cultivating in the cool of the evening. And having stopped cultivating I saw no reason why I should not take a rest under a tree. So you see there is nothing to the story that I got "bushed."

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We have certainly had some great haying weather, but unless we get some rain before long it will go hard with the corn and oats. Fields that you could not cross a month ago without danger of being mired, are now so that you are in danger of falling into the cracks. There are spots in the corn field that are baked so hard that about all the cultivator does is to make marks on the ground. Even the best corn fields in the district are beginning to look parched, and all of them are at least a month later than on ordinary years. But the hay crop is unusually good and is being harvested in excellent condition. The long, wet spring caused a luxuriant growth of all kinds of hay and most of it is being gathered in without being touched by a drop of rain. So we have something to be thankful for, even if the weather is as much too dry just now as it was too wet a month ago.

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A few days ago I received a letter from a man who has been travelling about the country and who takes some interest in politics. He wrote:

"It is wonderful the things that are being discussed in the country. The people have less regard than ever for so-called leaders in party politics. People are certainly doing their own talking and probably their own thinking." While this does not indicate what people are either thinking or talking it points to a healthy unrest. It is in just such periods that new public policies are developed. It is a state of affairs that makes one hope for something progressive. But some discussions that I have heard do not make me feel unduly hopeful. It will not do to try to make comments on these discussions, because a couple of weeks ago an editor had his paper suppressed because he wrote an article in which he claimed to say what everybody was thinking, but everybody was afraid to say. He was entirely wrong in his claim for all the people are by no means thinking or saying the same things. I have heard comments on the war that ranged from the ultra-loyalist attitude, which would sacrifice everything and everybody Canadian to the cause, to angry protests against Canada doing anything. Between these extreme views there are many shades of patriotism and discontent. Obviously no editor could possibly write an article which would express all these views, and he deserved to be suppressed for claiming that he had done it, if for no other reason.

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One of the most disquieting things that has come to my notice is the tone of letters from returned soldiers that have been appearing in the evening papers of various cities. These letters are evidently written for the purpose of stimulating recruiting, but some of them are unfortunate in their method. They assert that when the war is over no explanations will be accepted from men who did not enlist, and they will be despised. It is to be hoped that this view is by no means general, for it would create an intolerable situation. There are men engaged in various productive occupations whose work is contributing materially to the success of the war and they do not deserve to be slurred at in this way. Moreover, they are the men who will be obliged to assume the financial burdens of the war, to provide the funds while it is in progress and the

pensions after it is over. To say that because they have not donned khaki they are contemptible is wholly unjust. The worst evils of our haphazard methods of recruiting will develop after the war, rather than during its progress. Those who would be exempted from active service even under conscription will be open to insults of this kind and much bitterness is likely to develop. What makes me dread this sort of thing is the state of affairs that prevailed in the United States after the civil war. Although it was twenty-five years after the war when I first had a chance to observe conditions I found that every public man from the President down was fiercely scrutinized as to his military record. If he had not taken part in the great conflict no explanation he could make would satisfy his opponents. I should hate to see that state of affairs reproduced in Canada.

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It is daily becoming more apparent that peace will test the quality of our patriotism and public spirit even more than war. The war has a glamor that arouses enthusiasm and appeals to the imagination of many, but will bring burdens that must be borne almost entirely by the producers of the country, the laboring men and farmers, and the way they face their problems will be the true test of their manhood and citizenship. If they will hold together the burdens can be borne without becoming crushing, but if they allow themselves to be divided they will be robbed worse than ever. "Divide and rule" is about the oldest political maxim in the world and the seekers for special privilege will be sure to use it. If they can keep the people divided they can increase their profits and it is fairly certain that they will try to do it. The most dangerous demagogues of modern times have not been discontented men who have made speeches to mobs on street corners, but able men who have carried out the orders of Big Business in parliaments and senates. They are the men whose leadership we must be cautious about accepting. And it is not only the home-keeping citizens whose patriotism will be tested by peace. The soldiers will find their patriotism tested by the issues of peace fully as severely as it is being tested on the battlefields today. The future peace and prosperity of Canada will depend to a large extent on the attitude they assume towards the government and the civilian population. Even though they are citizen soldiers rather than professionals they cannot help learning something of the military point of view, and those who seek to divide so that they may rule will be sure to try to establish a line of cleavage between them and those who did not go to the war. The present time is critical and it behooves every man, whether soldier or civilian to give careful and independent thought to every public problem that presents itself.

A Good Show at Calgary.

From every viewpoint the summer exhibition held at Calgary was a pronounced success. The weather was favorable, there was an increase in the number of entries, crop outlook is good, and all things worked together to make the best exhibition ever held in Alberta. Farmers turned out in large numbers and evinced great interest in the various classes, both in the stable and at the ring-side. The cattle classes were particularly strong, so good in fact as to be worthy of their place as the outstanding feature of the show. The dairy classes were strong as well as the beef. In horses there was a slight falling off in numbers, but the show was good all round. Sheep were more numerous than usual, and the hog pens were well filled.

The following is a list of the judges: Clydesdale and Shire horses, E. W. Cargill, Seven Persons, Alta.; Percherons, Belgians and Suffolks, Wayne Dinsmore, Secretary the American Percheron Association, Chicago; beef cattle, Mr. Meyers, Edmonton; dairy cattle, Mr. Standish, Ohio; sheep, J. McCaig, Edmonton; swine, G. H. Hutton, Lacombe.

Horses.

Clydesdales were not out in as great numbers as usual, but the competition was keen. In aged horses Scotland's Splendor repeated his success at the spring show, stood at the head of the list, and later won championship for D. Thorburn, De Winton, Alta. Baron, owned by P. M. Bredt & Co., and well known in Ontario, stood second. In three-year-olds Murray McNeil was an outstanding winner for T. MacMillan, Okotoks, Alta. In the two-year-old class, competition was very keen, Castor finally winning for A. D. MacCormick.

Female classes, if anything, were more keenly contested than the stallion classes. Of four brood mares Rosie Elcho won for Thorburn, Maggie Fleming standing third for the same owner, with Fred Jones' Miss Newton in second. There was keen competition in the yeld-mare class, the winner eventually taking the Canadian-bred championship. Her name is Albioness, and she also is owned by Thorburn. In the two-year-old class the champion of the open classes was found in Monafly, owned by John Graham, Carberry, Man. There were no Eastern breeders exhibiting Clydesdales, or, in fact, any horses.

In Percherons five horses came out in the aged-stallion class, Kaddion, a newcomer, winning first and championship for L. Palmer, of Llanelly, Alta. Marathon, a former winner, stood second, and the Calgary spring champion, Docteur, third. First of the three-year olds was Grenade, owned by W. H. Devine, Calgary; W. E. Upper stood second with