

Agriculture and Colonization.

A. I have heard from farmers at Institute meetings that horse flesh is as good an egg-producing food as you can get if care is taken that it is sound. At a meeting in Glengarry a farmer told me that he fed sound horse flesh with great success, and sold his eggs in Montreal at 45 cents a dozen. As you are well aware, horse flesh is an article of diet on many of the bills of fare in the restaurants of Europe. I am of the opinion that many of the egg-producing patent foods, so liberally advertised, are composed of horse flesh. I am under the impression that some of the patent foods I have tried have been so composed.

By Mr. Rogers :

Q. Was it fed cooked or raw ?

A. I prefer to use it in cooked mash.

By Mr. Broder :

Q. The danger in feeding animal food is that you give them too much?

A. Yes ; if you supply it in the shape of prepared food the fowls will take more than is good for them if allowed.

Q. What about raw meat ?

A. If meat is given to fowls in limited quarters in winter a good plan is to hang a piece of raw meat up and let them help themselves. The supply, however, must be regular. Experience has shown that if there is an intermittent supply, it will lead to egg eating.

By Mr. McGregor :

Q. It creates an appetite ?

A. Yes. It creates such an appetite that if not always gratified, egg eating will follow.

By Mr. Broder :

Q. Would it not be well to give bone food with other food ?

A. Yes, there are different ways of doing so. But meat is one of the essentials in the winter production of eggs in the colder parts of Canada. We prefer giving cut bone because it supplies material for shell as well as the egg. Farmers who live in the neighbourhood of cities and towns and are close to the best markets for their products have opportunity to procure raw bones from the butchers, oyster shells, &c. They can really afford to get these things and not mind paying for them, because if the price of their food is a little higher they receive higher prices for their eggs.

By Mr. Calvert :

Q. I think you spoke of eggs having been sold for 45 cents a dozen. Do you mean to say that they sold at a higher price on account of being fed on horse flesh rather than upon ordinary food ?

A. I do not mean to say so, but the eggs were sold to a club in Montreal.

By Mr. Richardson :

Q. Would you think that a horse that had died and which had not been killed would be wholesome food ?

A. No; the animal should be healthy.