

to have Parliament prohibit the planting of trees for commercial fruit-growing for a term of years. Now, while I do not believe that Government should interfere with the rights of any individual with regard to how many trees he should plant, yet it does seem unjust that a number of careless owners of trees should be the means of causing inestimable loss to progressive growers, through negligence in combating insect and fungous pests. Although we can scarcely expect spraying to be made compulsory, yet we can each aid in furthering the good work by calling attention to its beneficial results at every possible opportunity.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[In order to make this department as useful as possible, parties enclosing stamped envelopes will receive answers by mail, in cases where early replies appear to us advisable; all enquiries, when of general interest, will be published in next succeeding issue, if received at this office in sufficient time. Enquirers must in all cases attach their name and address in full, though not necessarily for publication.]

Veterinary.

Curb.

F. W., Perth Co., Ont.:—"I have a horse with a small soft curb, caused by a knock. Is there anything that will take that lump down? Have a horse with a puff in hock joint, very large in front of the joint; it never was lame. It had no cause for coming, to my knowledge. It is soft. Is there any cure for it?"

[Apply the following liniment to the curb once daily, and rub in well: Potassium iodide, 2 drams; iodine crystals, 1 dram; alcohol, 4 ounces; strong ammonia, 3 drams; water, 4 ounces. Mix and let stand in bright light until the solution becomes clear. For the puff in front of the hock apply the following blister: Bismuth of mercury and iodine crystals, of each 1 dram; lard, 1 ounce. Mix and rub in for 20 minutes. Tie horse's head up for 24 hours so that he cannot lie down or bite the parts; and on the third day after blistering apply a little sweet oil, and every third day until healed and hair started, after which rub well with liniment prescribed for curb once daily for a month.]

Digestion Disordered, or Aching Tooth.

R. N., Oxford Co., Ont.:—"I have a mare, 11 years old, which has been troubled with something about her head. When I fetch her in from work at noon hour she will not eat, but keeps tossing her head about for from a half hour to an hour before she starts to eat. She will sometimes do it at night. I am feeding four quarts of oats and cut Hungarian grass and straw three times a day. Would it be her teeth—they seem to look all right? She also has itching in her hind legs; she has had this trouble every winter for years, which passes off in summer. I have treated her, but it seems to make no difference. She does not do as well as the rest of our horses. When I fetch her out of the stable she will stop shaking her head and seem to be all right. The stable is stone, with plank floor."

[Your mare's symptoms would indicate derangement of the digestive organs; yet it is only speculation to prescribe for such a case in the absence of a personal examination or more positive symptoms. However, if you have tried and failed and wish to try again, give her bran mash only for two days, followed by the best Barbadoes aloes, 6 drams; ginger, 3 drams; bicarbonate of soda, 3 drams; dissolve in a pint of cold water, and drench. If no operation on the bowels occurs in twenty-four hours, give exercise sufficient to produce purging, during which time bran only must be fed, following up on second day with a teaspoonful of the following mixture three times daily: Bicarbonate of soda, powdered gentian, and nitrate of potash, of each one ounce; powdered nux vomica, half an ounce; thoroughly mixed. Stop feeding Hungarian, and give clean hay, oats, and bran, but have a qualified veterinarian examine her mouth thoroughly for decayed or aching teeth, as that may be the cause.]

Fistulous Withers.

J. M. W., Que.:—"Please prescribe for the following horse bought last summer from a man who had driven him fifty miles with a nail on inside of collar, which caused a bad wound on shoulder, which turned to a running sore. It was treated with iodiform; then horse was fixed up by a horse-man, partly cured, then neglected. Now it has three bad sores, one on shoulder and two on withers. I have taken this horse in hand, and would be glad to hear from you. Horse eats well and feels well otherwise?"

[Your horse has what is known as fistulous withers. The pus has not been allowed to drain, and has burrowed into the deeper tissues, and we think it a case only for a qualified veterinary surgeon who understands the anatomy of the parts. If such is not convenient, open the wound to the bottom and insert a seton (a strip of clean factory cotton, one inch wide), running down from the most dependent part of the abscess to keep it open, and wash the wound out twice daily with an antiseptic, such as carbolic acid, 2 drams; corrosive sublimate, 20 grains; boiled soft water, 1 quart; using a fountain syringe, which will force the solution through all parts of the wound to escape out of the lower portion where seton is inserted. When thoroughly cleansed, run in about a cupful of cotton-seed oil, two parts; spirits turpentine, one part; allowing as much to remain in the wound as

possible. This treatment should be continued until the parts are healed. Leave seton in for about four weeks, or until copious discharge ceases.]

Intestinal Worms in Young Pigs.

GEORGE BELL, Lambton Co., Ont.:—"Having noticed in your valuable paper the veterinary column giving name of certain diseases and cure, I would like to ask what might be the trouble with pigs, and cure, if any, for same? I have twenty small pigs which are about three months old. They did all right while with sow and for some little time afterwards, then they appeared to go back. They were fed on barley and oat chop, half and half, when taken from the sow, and have had plenty of exercise. This last six or seven weeks they have not grown any, but got thinner in flesh. I am feeding now one-third oats, one-third barley, one-third corn, ground, and mixed with warm water. I have tried the following remedies: Two teaspoonfuls of turpentine and two table-spoonfuls of linseed oil to each pig. I gave them a good scrubbing with soap suds (warm). They get sulphur and ashes at their disposal. They are very scurvy and all hunched up, and they eat each other's tails off. I lost several from this disease. They are very hearty; will eat anything and all I will give them; but they are terrible specimens of pigs. If you can give me any information as to their trouble, and what to do to effect a cure, it will greatly oblige."

[Indications point to large quantities of intestinal worms, and in case you lose any more, by all means hold a careful post-mortem. Give each pig a teaspoonful of creoline in its feed every other day for three doses; then following this, give hyposulphite of soda, sulphur, salt, and charcoal, in equal parts and well mixed. A teaspoonful to each pig in feed twice daily, and change diet to milk, shorts, and boiled roots—preferably potatoes. Oats and barley hulls are difficult for young pigs to digest.]

Inflammation of Pericardium.

E. D. LORDLY, Chester, N. S.:—"In the absence of any reliable autopsy, can you suggest the cause for the sudden death of our Durham stock bull? Out for service on Friday, appeared ill on Saturday, and died on Sunday. A large quantity of water was found around the heart."

[Your bull died from inflammation and dropsy of the pericardium (covering of the heart), which is not at all uncommon in cattle, the cause of which we are not in a position to state, but had you made a close examination of the heart substance you would have found a needle or like substance, which gained access first to the stomach, finding its way into one of the large veins, thence to the heart. No treatment.]

Miscellaneous.

Queen of the Meadow.

J. C. BICE, Huron Co., Ont.:—"Can you tell me the botanical name, the habit, and the medicinal properties of a plant commonly known as 'Queen of the meadow,' and procurable at most drug stores under that name?"

[Queen of the meadow, as sold by druggists, is obtained from the plant *E. upatorium*, called after Upator, King of Pontus, who discovered one of the species to be an antidote for poison. The drug as sold has a specific action upon the kidneys, and is administered in cases of dropsy and troubles of the urinary organs. There are over 400 species of *E. upatorium*, which include boneset (*E. perfoliatum*) and horsehound (*E. rotundifolium*), both of which have a medicinal value.]

Can Hens be Induced to Sit?

ESME, Ontario Co., Ont.:—"How can I persuade my hens to take to sitting early?"

[We regret that we cannot recommend a specific that would induce early sitting. It must be remembered that the sitting instinct is a natural one, that belongs to all fowls after having laid a certain number of eggs. It is true that the heavy breeds, such as Brahmas, Cochins, etc., are more inclined to sit than many of the lighter sorts, but even these cannot be made to sit before laying a number of eggs. All we can recommend is to follow the good advice contained in the many good poultry articles that have appeared in our columns during the past few months, and after laying has thoroughly commenced get a number of china eggs to leave in the nest, which might induce the broody instinct. We will be pleased to hear from any of our readers regarding this question.]

Pig-Feeding Questions.

S. H., Dundas Co., Ont.:—"I may say that I am feeding six pigs on mangels and provender boiled together—a bushel of cut mangels to a pail of provender (oats, barley and peas mixed). I would like to hear from some who are in the pig-feeding business, and who are successful, what proportions they feed when they wish to make the pig grow and do it as cheaply as possible?"

Cheshire Swine.

W. J. TREFFRY, Oxford Co., Ont.:—"Can you give me some information regarding the breed of hogs called 'Cheshires'? Are they a good bacon hog, and how do they differ from Chester White hogs? And can you tell me where I can secure a good Cheshire boar? I have taken the ADVOCATE a number of years and am well pleased with it."

[Cheshire swine originated as a breed in Jeffer-

son Co., N. Y., and were first exhibited at New York State Fair in 1850. They are probably the result of a cross between the large Yorkshires, the Suffolks, and the common pigs of the country. A pork-packer's prize of \$500 was won by a pen of Cheshires at St. Louis Fair in 1870. They are fairly popular in New York State. They are of medium size and mature quickly. Their meat is of fine quality, having a large proportion of lean. They are quiet in disposition, white in color, and moderately fine in bone. As compared with Chester Whites, they are somewhat less in size, and approach more nearly the bacon type. A breeder of Cheshires can do himself a favor by placing an advertisement with us.]

Round Silo Construction.

R. W. L., Kent Co., Ont.:—"I intend building a round silo, 14 feet in diameter and 20 feet high, with 2-inch pine plank. How many hoops will it require and how heavy? Would round or flat iron be best and cheapest; also, what is the best way to fasten hoops at ends, where hoops are in two pieces?"

[A 14-foot round stave silo 20 feet high should have five hoops of 3/4-inch round iron with 1/2-inch threads, or six 1/2-inch round iron hoops with 3/8-inch threads. The hoops should be closer together as they approach the bottom of silo. The hoops may be fastened at ends either by blocks or scantlings. If blocks are used they may be of hardwood or cast iron. The latter are made by J. Fleury's Sons, Aurora, and are 5 inches long, 3 1/2 inches wide, and 2 inches thick; hardware stores keep them. When blocks are used care should be taken not to screw the nuts too tightly, as in such case the blocks will twist and bend the rods. Hardwood scantlings extending the entire length of silo answer well. They may stand outside the silo, or may take the place of a plank, standing flush with inside of silo; in which case a five-inch scantling should be used so as to allow good room for the hole for the bands. When the scantlings stand outside they are liable to bulge the silo in opposite where they stand.]

Can Silo be Filled by Windmill Power?

ROBERT W. MEEK, Ontario Co., Ont.:—"I would like to know if any of the readers of your valuable paper have ever run their cutting box and carriers filling their silo with a windmill. What satisfaction do they give? And what make of a windmill do you recommend to be the best?"

[Will some reader who can answer the question re filling silo do so, and help a brother farmer? In the FARMER'S ADVOCATE of Dec. 1st, 1897, the merits of different first-class windmills were well brought out by a number of our correspondents. We must leave our readers to decide between them.]

Concrete Root House.

D. M., Huron Co., Ont.:—"Could I build a concrete root house, and how is it made? Would it be frost-proof?"

[Concrete makes an ideal root house or basement wall, as it is cheap, indestructible, and much more frost-proof than a stone wall. In building it, excavate for foundation to the depth required at least below frost, eighteen inches wide. Begin work by spreading concrete mixed thoroughly, six to one of sand, and made into stiff mortar, two or three inches thick over the bottom. Fill in with stone well hammered down, and kept apart so that the concrete may be rammed firmly between them. Level up to the largest stone with concrete and small stone; then put on not less than two inches of concrete, followed by more stone, hammered and rammed as before. Put no drains lengthwise beneath a concrete foundation. When the trench has thus been filled level, bed planks on each side of foundation trenches; for the outside corners, nail two planks firmly together at right angles, then put in angle a three-cornered strip made by ripping a two-inch square piece diagonally. For the inside corners, nail planks the same way. Set these corner-pieces inside and outside, so the inside of plank is neat with wall line. Then set up scantlings to support the two-inch plank on each side of wall, and toe-nail the bottom of upright scantling to plank bedded in foundation. Keep the upright scantlings about six feet apart and opposite each other, three inches from wall line. Nail small strips across from one scantling to the other; brace firmly to stakes driven in ground. Now the wall may be commenced. Have planks enough to go once around the building, inside and outside. Arrange the plank to proper wall line by wedges between plank and upright scantling. Now fill in with concrete mixed six to one, not sloppy. Be sure and have clean sand, or fine gravel free from soil. Spread about three inches of concrete between planks; ram both faces of wall thoroughly, then put in field stones in center of wall and hammer them down solid, having no stone nearer than two inches to the face of plank or wall line. Now put in more concrete and ram the face thoroughly, so as to insure a good, smooth surface when planks are raised. Keep on in this way until all the planks are filled. This should constitute one day's work. Raise the planks their own width towards evening, to be ready for work the next morning. In raising planks, slacken or drive out top and bottom wedges. When planks are loose, raise plank till it has about two-inch hold on completed wall; wedge up to place and proceed as on previous day. In putting in last course of cement on top of wall, bed a two-by-four-inch scantling, well