

ration, for to dispose of this, our main crop, to best advantage, is our aim, and in feeding for fat no other single grain is better. But as lambs should be kept growing in bone and muscle, it is better to add oats to the grain ration—say half and half. I have had no experience in feeding turnips or beets to sheep, and while they are said to make good additions to the grain rations, would I think, make the feeding much more expensive. Flat troughs about one foot wide with sides four inches high are nice to feed ear corn in. A pole or board should be fastened over them to prevent the lambs from jumping into them. For forage, I have found nothing better than first-class corn fodder, and know of no better way of giving it to the flock than putting it in a rail platform or a rail pen about three feet high with one side open, so the lambs can get under the platform. The weight of the fodder above holds the stalks firmly and they are well-stripped before being pulled down. If hay is fed it should be in a box, rack or manger, with the opening a foot and a half above the ground and wide enough for the lamb to get its head through easily—six or eight inches wide. If the lambs stand with their heads in the manger and eat,

#### THEY DO NOT WASTE HAY

as they do when they pull it from a rack. The trough for the salt and ashes should not be forgotten. The great English experimenter in feeding, Mr. Lawes, found that in well-bred mutton sheep of the same age, food was consumed in almost exact proportion to the size of live weight. Two Cotswold sheep weighing 120 pounds each ate as much as three Southdowns weighing 80 pounds each, but the two Cotswolds gained more than the three Southdowns. The average increase for 100 pounds live weight was with the Cotswold, 2 pounds 2 ounces per week, and with the Downs, 1 pound 10 3/4 ounces per week, both lots having precisely the same food; that is, the two Cotswolds weighing 240 pounds ate the same food that the three Downs weighing 240 pounds ate, but the two gained at the end of the experiment 34 pounds, while the three gained but 27 pounds. If weight is the main point to feed for, then the large breeds are the most profitably fed. But quality of mutton

#### CUTS A LARGE FIGURE

in the market, and it is wise to study the needs of the market before buying feeders.

In Mr. Lawes' experiment, 20 per cent. better price for the Downs would still leave them eight cents behind the Cotswolds in profit. The 34 pounds of increase of the large breed at 5 cents would be \$1.70; the 27 pounds of the smaller breed at 6 cents would be \$1.62, the difference being 8 cents. A lamb of any of our medium-sized breeds of sheep, with a good mother, and on a good pasture, will gain an average of one-half pound per diem until weaned. If born the first of May it would weigh on the first of October following 77 1/2 pounds. It would take a skilful feeder to go on after the lamb is weaned until it is a year old, and make the same daily gain.

#### MILK AND GRASS

make a combination of food unsurpassed for lambs, and the five months after May 1 are the best five in succession for making weight or growth.

A lamb six months old would eat 1 1/2 pounds of grain per diem and gain in weight 1 1/2 of a pound. That would be nearly 2 1/2 bushels of corn, and at 20 cents per bushel, 50 cents for a three months' feed, and a gain in weight of 30 pounds, which at 5 cents per pound would be \$1.50. Or we may change the figures, and say 2 pounds of corn per diem, or 3 1/5 bushels for the 90 days' feed, and 25 cents for the corn would be 80 cents, and 12 pounds per month gain: 36 pounds for the three months at 5 cents is \$1.80.

To succeed well in fitting lambs for market, as in any other business, requires close attention to details. There is no other stock nicer to handle and I believe none will pay better at present prices.

#### AMERICAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

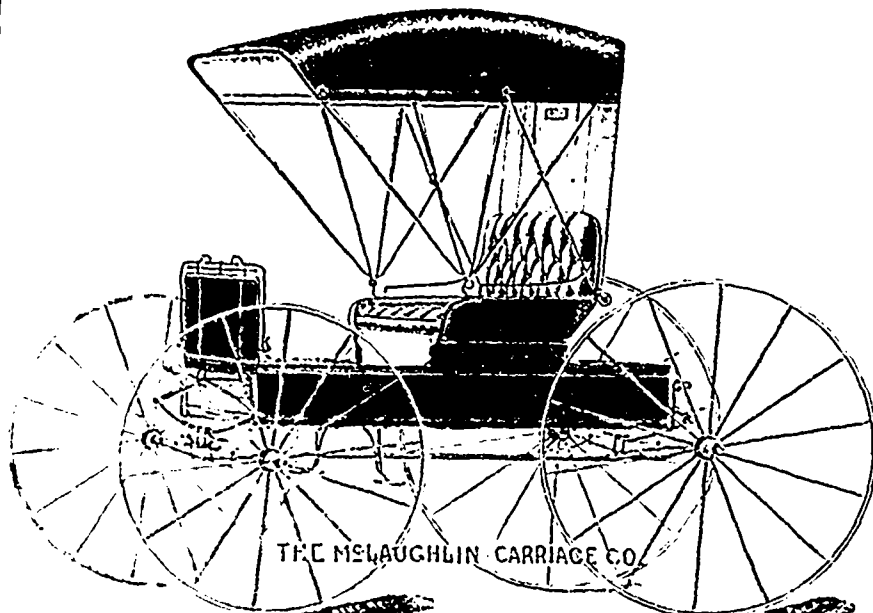
The American Poultry Association is to hold its next annual meeting in Toronto on January 10th to 14th next. These are the dates on which the Ontario Poultry Association will hold its 25th annual exhibition in this city, when it is expected that the largest show of fine poultry and pet stock ever held in Canada will take place. This will be the first occasion on which the American Poultry Association has ever met in Canada and a large exhibit of birds from the other side of the line is expected. Already a number of members of the American Association who will attend the meeting here have signified their intention of bringing some of their best birds with them.

In preparing for this coming event it is to be hoped that the committees in charge will make adequate provision in the way of accommodation for the many exhibits expected. Last winter we attended the Toronto Poultry Association show in the basement of Massey Hall, and tried to listen to the opening address by the Minister of Agriculture as he endeavored to make his voice heard above the crowing of the rooster and the cackling of the hen. But it was a hopeless task. Special pains should be taken this year to make the exhibit one of the best of its kind.

#### PET STOCK.

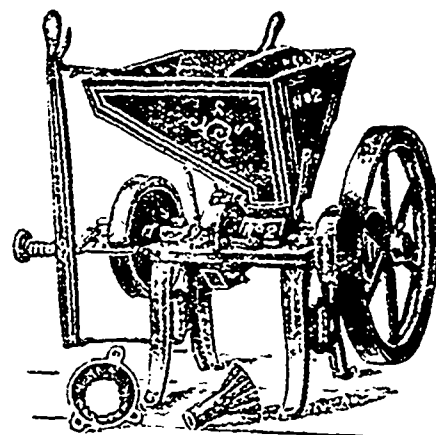
Do farmers ever consider the advantages they possess for the breeding of fancy stock of various kinds? This is an industry which has proved profitable to people living in cities and towns who do not possess the facilities for the business which most farmers have ready to their hand. An advertisement appeared in a Toronto daily last week asking for a farmer to keep a kennel of young dogs during the summer months. This shows that the breeders of this class of stock appreciate the facilities which the farm affords, if the farmers themselves do not. Some of our readers might very well consider this matter. If they have not the time to devote to the business those who have boys growing up could delegate it to them and thus give them employment

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## The Grinder

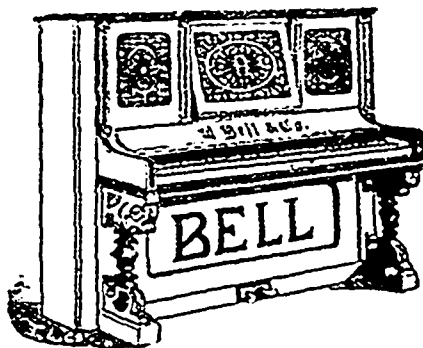


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