

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

#### ALSIKE VS. WHITE CLOVER FOR HONEY.

Whether is alsike or white clover better for honey production? B.

Ans.—Alsike clover is a better honey-yielder than white clover, giving a honey equal in every respect, though slightly different in flavor. It is also a more profitable crop on the farm.

#### FENCE POSTS.

What kind of fence post is the most durable in low land? Is oak timber suitable for such purposes. R. J. P.

Ans.—Cedar is the most suitable timber we have for posts. Oak is used in some districts for this purpose and for railway ties, and is perhaps next to cedar for durability as a post.

#### REGISTERING HORSES.

1. Can a resident of the United States become a member of the Canadian Clydesdale or English Shire Horse-breeders' Association? Can a man be a member of both if he wishes?

2. Must he be a breeder or dealer in the breeds mentioned in order to become a member, and what would it cost to join the association, and how much a year?

3. Is a member entitled to the volumes of the studbook each year without additional cost, and when are the volumes printed?

4. What does it cost a member to get an animal registered, and what does it cost a non-member? SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. Yes.

2. Not necessarily. The annual membership fee is \$2.00 for each society.

3. Members are entitled to the volumes free from the time they become members, and while they remain members. The studbooks are not issued yearly, but at such times as a sufficient number of registrations are on hand to make a fair-sized volume.

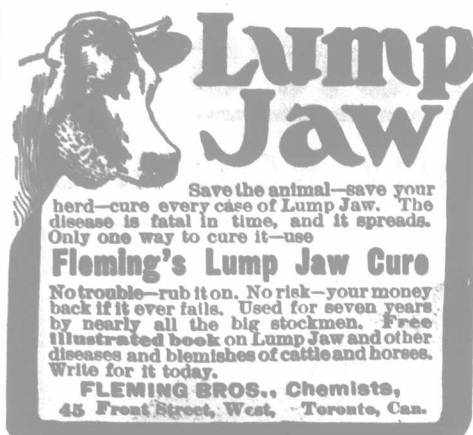
4. The registration fee to members is \$1.00, to non-members \$2.00. Transfer fee is 50 cents. The secretary and editor for both associations is Henry Wade, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, who will supply forms of application for membership and for registry.

#### DISEASED TURKEY.

Last summer our two-year-old gobbler got his leg badly hurt, I thought by flying from a tree. He did not eat much during summer; but in the fall when we were fattening turkeys he always ate with others, either grain or mash. Since Christmas, did not care to eat and head was a very yellowish white; moved him to a warm place, and fed him practically everything. Gave him condition powders, cared for him as well as I could, but he died two days ago. Post-mortem: liver half as large as it should be, and completely mottled with hard yellow spots, and what we supposed to be gall; that green substance which is almost always in the liver was as large as a large duck egg, hard as a rock, and completely covered with those yellow spots. What is this trouble, cause and cure? J. H.

Ans.—I am inclined to believe the trouble with the turkey mentioned is what is commonly known as black head. The liver is mentioned as being covered, or rather mottled, with hard yellowish spots, which is a characteristic of this disease. The disease is contagious to turkeys, principally through the organisms that propagate the disease, being put upon the ground through the bird's droppings. Care should be taken not to feed turkeys on the ground, unless one is perfectly sure that there has not been many turkeys running over it of late, or, in other words, if you feel quite confident that the ground is clean, it would be all right to feed the turkeys grain on it, but if not, you had better feed them from a trough or from your hand. If possible, endeavor to raise the turkeys on new ground. I would be inclined to believe that the turkey had been affected with this disease some time, but not badly enough to kill him. The result of the accident may simply have encouraged the advancement of the disease. I think it is seldom advisable to shut a turkey up in a warm place. My experience with turkeys would lead me to believe that they want to be put in an open shed, and given plenty of fresh air, and that close housing is almost sure to encourage disease. W. R. GRAHAM.

O. A. C. Guelph



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#### NARRAGANSETT TURKEYS.

Can you give me the names of any breeders of Narragansett turkeys. If so, you will greatly oblige, as I want to purchase. A. P. McD.

Ans.—Breeders should advertise such birds in the "Farmer's Advocate."

#### SEEDING—MUSTARD—CEMENT SILOS.

1. What are the best kinds of grass seed and clover seed, and the proper amount, in pounds, per acre of each to sow when intending to leave for a long period of pasturing?

2. How many years would I need to leave the farm in grass to kill mustard?

3. About how many dollars would it take to build a cement silo 14 feet in diameter and 30 feet high, supposing I draw the gravel myself? S. J.

Ans.—1. See reply to similar query in March 3rd issue.

2. There has never been any thorough investigation of this subject. Fields have been known to lie in grass twenty years, and produce mustard on being broken up. The seed has wonderful vitality. Seeding and breaking frequently would be more likely to kill mustard than a long-continued sod.

3. According to those who have built silos and have favored us with a statement of the cost, a silo 14 feet in diameter and 30 feet high would cost from one hundred to one hundred and fifty dollars.

#### CONCRETE FLOOR AND CISTERN.

1. Would you give me instructions as to laying cement floor in horse stable?

2. About how many barrels of cement would be required to lay a floor fourteen by twenty-four, and what make of cement would be best to use for horses?

3. Would a cistern built with cement have any tendency to harden the water? SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. In building stable floors of all kinds, get grades all properly fixed. Cover the ground, if convenient, with one or more inches of sand or gravel, well rammed, before putting down concrete. Cover this with three inches of rough concrete, gauged six of gravel to one of rock cement, or ten to one of Portland cement. Ram this solid, and put on a finishing coat, one inch in thickness, of two parts clean, coarse, sharp sand, or fine gravel, to one part of cement, which is also firmly rammed while the lower concrete is still soft. The work can best be done by setting a two-by-four scantling on edge, commencing at one end of the building, about three feet from the wall, holding the scantling in place by two iron or wooden pins. Ram the rough concrete approximately level within an inch of the top of scantling. Then spread on fine concrete so that when thoroughly rammed it will be level with the top of scantling. Trowel the surface true to grade. Now move along the scantling another three feet, and repeat the process until the floors are finished. It might be well to check this coat to prevent slipping. Concrete for floors should not be mixed too wet, but should be only sufficiently moist to ram well and to work up to a good finish. Some prefer to finish with a wooden trowel as it does not have so slippery surface.

2. It would take about 5 barrels of Portland, or between 7 and 8 of rock; either kind is good. It is simply a matter of convenience in buying. Intending builders should write the cement companies advertising in this paper for their catalogues, from which can be calculated the amount of cement and gravel to be used for different kinds of work.

3. Soft water gradually becomes hard on being exposed to the air, but no quicker in a cement tank than in any other.

#### HOMESTEAD DUTIES.

What are the necessary duties to be performed in order to secure one of the quarter sections in the West advertised in the Christmas number of the "Farmer's Advocate?" R. T.

Ans.—Ten dollars entrance fee is paid on registering a claim; after which the claimant must reside six months of the year upon the farm for three years and have under cultivation thirty acres of land; or, in the ranching country, substitute therefor twenty head of stock, with suitable buildings for their accommodation, and have eighty acres fenced. The authorities are very considerate of a person's circumstances, making every allowance for unfavorable conditions, and, in cases where a settler shows himself to be progressive, do not compel him to live up to the letter of the regulations.

#### RAPE AS A FODDER CROP.

Is rape a good fodder for stall feeding in summer? Is it a good yielder? Does it suit for feeding horses? Can it be dried up for winter use? Can it be grown in a gravelly sand? Does it last long in a good piece of land?

Ans.—Rape is an annual and is essentially a pasture plant, and is not generally used as a fodder crop to be cut and carried, although in some cases it is handled in that way. It bears a close resemblance to the ruta-baga or Swedish turnip in the early stages of its growth, and even when well grown, so close is this resemblance that an expert can only distinguish the difference by close examination. The difference is that rape has no bulbous root, and the root is of no value as food. It is not suitable for horses, indeed it is doubtful whether they would eat it. It seldom grows higher than two feet, except on very rich ground. It is no more suitable for drying for winter use than are turnip tops. It can be grown in a gravelly or sandy soil, but will not grow so strong in that soil as in clay loam, unless it is well manured. The winter almost invariably kills it completely, but if, from being well covered with snow, some plants live over, they will produce seed the second year, and the seed is difficult to distinguish from turnip seed. Its greatest value is as a pasture for sheep, pigs and young cattle. It is not suitable for milking cows, as it taints the milk.

#### REARRANGING HOUSE.

Two years ago we started to build, but had not sufficient capital to build a whole house, so we only built dining-room and kitchen. The main part is of stone, 20 x 22, with the end to the road. In the original plan we intended to build an L to the east, with a veranda facing the north. To build that now, we think we will have too big a front part, and I don't like to turn the dining-room into the kitchen as some advise. Do you think it would be advisable to pull down the kitchen and build a bigger one (it is well built)? How could we arrange the piece to the east? We would like a parlor and bedroom down stairs (not too big). Also would like a pantry, wash-room and woodshed.

#### ADMIRER OF THE "ADVOCATE."

Ans.—Build the addition as you previously intended; making it about 16 x 28, with the end toward the road. Have a good carpenter put a mansard roof over both old and new parts of the house. The new part will extend eight feet nearer the road than the dining-room. In the roof, a gable can be made above this projection. The front door would be cut in the end of the dining-room. The hall will be in the same room, and the downstairs bedroom at the back end of the new addition, and entered by a door behind the stair from the dining-room. The rest of the new addition will be parlor, but should be accessible from the dining-room and hall by double doors. Have a turn in the stair, so that it can be set well back, and so make more room in the hall. At the back end of the dining-room, arrange pantry and wash-room. We would not advise enlarging the kitchen, for the smaller the kitchen the more likely will the family be to live in the house. Large kitchens mean closed parlors—a most lamentable condition. The woodshed would have to be built conveniently to the kitchen, in such a position that it would be entered on coming from the barn; then pails, etc., would always be left under cover.

#### THE VALUE OF CHARCOAL.

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Nearly everybody knows that charcoal is the safest and most efficient disinfectant and purifier in nature, but few realize its value when taken into the human system for the same cleansing purpose.

Charcoal is a remedy that the more you take of it the better; it is not a drug at all, but simply absorbs the gases and impurities always present in the stomach and intestines and carries them out of the system.

Charcoal sweetens the breath after smoking, drinking, or after eating onions and other odorous vegetables.

Charcoal effectually clears and improves the complexion, it whitens the teeth and further acts as a natural and eminently safe cathartic.

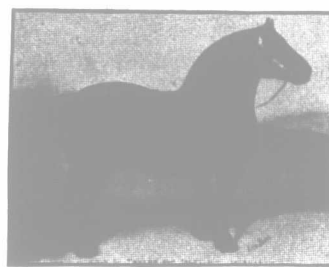
It absorbs the injurious gases which collect in the stomach and bowels; it disinfects the mouth and throat from the poison of catarrh.

All druggists sell charcoal in one form or another, but probably the best charcoal and the most for the money is in Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges; they are composed of the finest powdered Willow charcoal, and other harmless antiseptics in tablet form or rather in the form of large, pleasant-tasting lozenges, the charcoal being mixed with honey.

The daily use of these lozenges will soon tell in a much-improved condition of the general health, better complexion, sweeter breath and purer blood, and the beauty of it is, that no possible harm can result from their continued use, but on the contrary, great benefit.

A Buffalo physician in speaking of the benefits of charcoal, says: "I advise Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges to all patients suffering from gas in stomach and bowels, and to clear the complexion and purify the breath, mouth and throat; I also believe the liver is greatly benefited by the daily use of them; they cost but twenty-five cents a box at drug stores, and although in some sense a patent preparation, yet I believe I get more and better charcoal in Stuart's Absorbent Lozenges than in any of the ordinary charcoal tablets." —om

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