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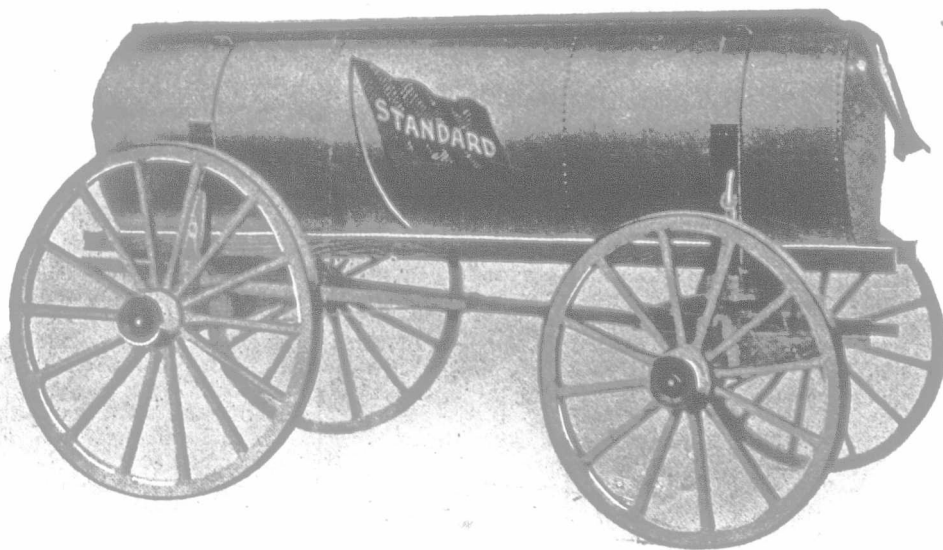
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When Answering Ads. Mention the Advocate

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**GENERAL**

Questions of general interest to farmers are answered through our columns without charge to bona-fide subscribers. Details must be clearly stated as briefly as possible, only one side of the paper being written on. Full name and address of the enquirer must accompany each query as an evidence of good faith but not necessarily for publication. When a reply is required by mail one dollar (\$1.00) must be enclosed.

HOMESTEADER INSANE

Homesteader has become mentally incapable of finishing his duties to get patent. Can his guardians—brother-in-law and sister—finish duties in case homesteader's father is unable to do so owing to ill-health and old age? Said homesteader is now in asylum and had one year and one-half in on his place. In whose name would patent be issued? Could it be transferred to his sister?—J. I. C.

Ans.—The departmental rulings relating to Dominion lands provides that in the event of any person who obtained entry for a homestead becoming insane or mentally incapable, and by reason of such insanity or mental incapacity, unable to complete the requirements necessary for the obtaining of letters patent therefor, the guardian or committee of the said person, or any person who, in the event of his death, would be entitled as his legal representative to do so, shall only be required to fulfil the conditions as to the erection of a habitable house and as to cultivation before the issue of the letters patent, but the letters patent shall not issue until the expiration of three years from the date of entry.

Letters patent in this case would issue to the guardian, presumably the father or the legal representative of the homesteader. It could be made to the sister. Brother-in-law and sister can finish duties.

A HORSE DEAL

Last spring, in April, I bought four horses from a party, three mares and one gelding. The ages given were two of the mares seven years each, one mare between nine and ten, the gelding rising five years. Since then the gelding proves to be weak in the hind legs and unable to do more than two or three hours' work at a time, so I have allowed him out on the pasture most of the summer. I wrote the party from whom I bought this horse, explaining how seriously this trouble was effecting my seeding operations, and asked him to exchange horses or help me over the seeding. In reply he stated there was nothing wrong with the horse and all it needed was a little stock food and to be turned out to grass; this, in spite of the fact that I bought the horses to put me through with the spring operations. I understood that every horse was able to do a day's work. I have been compelled to do with the three mares and I find that the mares' muscles tremble after reaching the end of the field, a distance of 120 rods, with a three-horse seeder, and one of them especially trembles violently even after giving her a rest in the middle of the stretch. I have taken the mares to be covered and the stallion owner refused to allow the horse to do service, on the ground that the mares were too old and that it would be a waste of time to bother with them. This was serious, so I got a qualified veterinarian to examine them. He gives the ages of mares, one of them 15 to 16 years, one 14 years, one 13 to 14 years and the gelding rising seven years. He states that the trembling of the muscles is due to old age. I have no doubt but that the horses were doped, for in spite of good appetites, a gallon and a half of oats each meal and new hay all the time, they are steadily going down in weight. The purchase price was \$975, \$375 cash and a note due November 1st. The ages of the horses are not on the note, and the only person that heard the seller state the ages of the horses was my wife at the time of making out the note, the man then only giving the ages of three of them. What I wish

to know would it be advisable to take action against him at once or wait until the note becomes due. The mares were sold to me as brood mares, and were advertised as such by posters in the barns and business places in town.—G. H. W.

Ans.—From your statements a gross fraud has been perpetrated, and you can either take criminal action against the vendor for obtaining money under false pretences or sue the vendor in the civil courts for damages for breach of warranty. If the vendor of the horses is worth the money we would suggest the latter course as being preferable. In any event we think it would be advisable for you to engage a responsible solicitor, as the amount involved is considerable. If the facts are proved before a court, as stated in your letter, there is no doubt that you would get a substantial judgment in your favor.

BOOKS WANTED

What do you consider the best text books on the following subjects:

1. Plain home and camp cooking and meat and fruit preserving; something suitable for a bachelor establishment where help cannot always be had.
2. Poultry and hog-raising.
3. Buttermaking.
4. Diseases and treatment of farm animals.
5. Irrigation.
6. Alfalfa raising.
7. Truck farming and fruit and berry growing.
8. Beekeeping.
9. Amateur flower gardening and landscape gardening.—G. W. S.

Ans.—1. Boston Cooking School Cook Book (\$2.00), or "Cooking for Two" (\$1.50).

2. Poultry-Raising. Write the departments of agriculture at Victoria, B. C.; Edmonton, Alta.; Toronto, Ont., and Ottawa, and procure such bulletins as they have issued on poultry raising. Aside from these a good text book is Robinson's Poultry Craft (\$1.50). Write the same departments for bulletins on hog raising.

3. Canadian Dairying, by Dean (\$1.00).

4. Farmer's Veterinarian, Burkett, (\$1.50).

5. Irrigation for the Farm Garden and Orchard, Stewart (\$1.00).

6. Coburn's book on Alfalfa.

7. Green's Vegetable Gardening (\$1.00) Success in Market Gardening (\$1.00), Practical Fruit Grower, Maynard (50 cents).

8. Langstroth, on the Honey Bee (\$1.25).

9. Landscape Gardening, Waugh (50 cents). The Beautiful Flower Garden, Matthews (40 cents).

These are some of the best books dealing with the subjects given. Some of them may not discuss their subjects along the line you wish for British Columbia, but they should give an idea of the general principles of the work they refer to. These books may be obtained through this office at the price stated. The bulletins mentioned are free.

TRACTION ENGINEERING

In one of your recent issues I noticed that some institution had sent men out who had been learning traction engine driving, but owing to having mislaid that number would you advise me as to what institution it is, and whether they take in men to learn for a certain period or not. I would like to apply for a course if you could give me information as to how long it takes to learn, and what the cost would be.—F. L.

Ans.—The notice you refer to was probably that of the Manitoba Agricultural College. This institution offers a course in traction engineering each summer. You may obtain all information thereto by applying to the principal, W. J. Black, B.S.A., M. A. C., Winnipeg.

BULLETINS WANTED

Would like to have books or pamphlets relating to the preparing of ground and raising of wheat. Also pamphlets relating to horses.—R. L. S.

Ans.—Write the department of agriculture, Ottawa, for such bulletins as they have published on wheat culture, also the departments of agriculture at Edmonton and Regina. Bulletins will be sent free on request. "The Book of