

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

#### AMOUNT OF CEMENT REQUIRED.

1. I intend putting a cement foundation under my barn this summer, and would like to know how many barrels of Samson brand, Portland cement, will it require to build 60 rods of wall 12 in. thick.

2. It is clay ground, with good natural fall from all sides of wall. Will I require a trench under the wall, and if I do, what width and depth? As small stones are very hard to get, would there be any other way of making it secure without a trench? I intend putting in cement floors in entire building, so there would be no soakage from inside. Barn will have eavestroughing.

D. W.

Ans.—1. We understand "a rod of wall" to mean a portion containing 16½ cubic feet. Sixty rods, then, would be nearly 1,000 feet, which of any good Portland cement would require from thirty to thirty-five barrels. The amount of cement needed could be lessened by imbedding in the concrete stones or old bricks.

2. From what is said about situation of barn, we cannot see that there will be any need of drainage under wall.

T. B.

#### RUNNING A TRACTION ENGINE.

A short time ago we received a letter from P. H. W., inquiring for some firm from whom a certificate to run a traction engine could be secured:

"Would you kindly answer the following questions (I have never run a traction engine): Cost to get a certificate? About what time will it take? Will this certificate be good in the Canadian Northwest?"

Ans.—The letter was forwarded to the Geo. White & Sons Co., Ltd., of London, Ont., who returned it with the subjoined reply: "We do not know of any Board of Examiners who give certificates for traction-engine operating. We give our own customers the privilege of coming into our shops for two or three months, we give them a course in traction-engine operating, and when we think they are competent we give them a certificate that in our opinion they are competent to run and handle traction engines. We do not charge our own customers anything for this tuition. We could not, however, throw it open to the general public, or we would have our shops full. If Mr. W. is a customer of ours, or could get a customer of ours to send him in, we would be pleased to give him the course."

#### HENS AILING.

Kindly tell me what is the matter with my hens. They are mostly White Leghorns, are fine-looking, and in good condition, and their combs begin to dry up and become a pale color; the hens get lame, and dwindle away, and in a month or so die. Upon examination, the liver is found to be full of little white spots. Our fowls are well taken care of, and as far as we know there is nothing lacking that they need. They die in summer as well as winter. There are a number just getting lame now. SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—My impression is that it is simply a case of tuberculosis. If the correspondent will be good enough to send one or two sick ones to the Bacteriological Laboratory here, they will examine it free of charge, he, of course, paying express charges on the birds. They will report whether or not it is a case of tuberculosis, but from the symptoms given in your letter, I am of the opinion that the trouble is as above indicated. If it is a case of tuberculosis, there is no use doctoring. As soon as a chicken is noticed sick, kill it, and burn the carcass. Clean the henhouse out, and use lime and carbolic acid on the dropping-board, or where the droppings fall. Take a bushel of lime and add a pint of crude carbolic acid to it, stir the two together, afterwards sprinkle it freely where the droppings fall. Of course, it would be wise to disinfect the henhouse, but I doubt if this could be done satisfactorily at this season of the year. It would be better to wait until spring, when it should be thoroughly whitewashed, fresh ground put on the floor. At present all that can be done is to keep the henhouse clean, use the lime as above indicated, and kill every bird upon the least indication of disease.

W. R. GRAHAM.

Sadie Mac's height was 15 hands 1 inch.

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