

### What Causes Garget

J. P. Johnston, Oxford Co., Ont.

IN reading the Veterinary Department of Farm and Dairy I notice that garget or mammitis or caked bag comes in for more attention than any other malady of farm animals. I know that in my own neighborhood it is of frequent occurrence. This disease is dealt with in a recent issue of "The Farmer and Stockbreeder," an Old Country paper for which I still subscribe. The writer, Mr. B. Clay, attributes garget to—but why not let him tell his own story? He says:

"All sorts of causes have been assigned, but I have come to the conclusion that most cases of garget are due to the invasion of septic organisms through the teat, the orifice of which when relaxed after milking is as big to a disease germ as a barn door is to a man. Of course, I do not disregard the well-known fact that kicks and blows and chills and over heating and stings and thorns and other forms of injury produce garget, but in the absence of all those causes we meet with many cases of the disease, and where it once gets into a dairy, first one cow and then another will get it; not necessarily next-door neighbors, but the most susceptible to the germs carried on the milker's hands or clothes from the cow that first gets the malady. The irregularity of the attacks and the uncertain intervals have disarmed the farmer's suspicions of infection, and I have found that in herds where I could get a gargeted cow attended to in a separate building by a man who had nothing to do with other cows that I could then arrest its spread.

"Then there are ordinary dirt germs, septic enough, which have opportunity of entering the relaxed teat when the cow is lying down in her dirt. This is a milder form of garget. I will not dwell on the minute varieties of this disease, because in practice I have found it best to treat every case as infectious whether it is or not.

#### TREATMENT

"Separate the cow from the herd. Place her under the charge of a man who has no doings whatever with the milking cows. Do not apply any strong liniments. The most useful one you can use is camphorated oil, for it is a pain allayer, a sedative, and a relaxer of the skin, the tightness of which is the chief cause of pain. The real remedy consists in injecting a disinfectant that will kill septic germs and do no harm to the highly sensitive gland structure of the udder. For this purpose, a dram of chinol. dissolved in a gill of water, and mixed with six drams of glycerine, answers the purpose better than anything else I have tried. I came across a letter the other day in which a farmer said he had never feared garget since he had that prescription, and that one or two injections had always cured his cases if taken early."

I pass these suggestions on for the consideration of other Farm and Dairy readers.

We would again call the attention of Our Folks to the necessity of signing name and address to

a letter asking for information on any subject. Perhaps this note will explain why queries that you have sent us have not yet been answered in these columns.

### Alfalfa Starters

EVERY buttermaker understands the necessity of introducing into the cream for each day's churning the right kind of bacteria to bring about the proper acidity in the cream and flavor and aroma in the butter. The starter is made by introducing the proper bacteria into sterilized sour milk. When introduced into the sour milk, these bacteria develop rapidly and at the proper time the starter is mixed with the cream. No buttermaker would think of relying on the various kinds of bacteria that are in the cream to bring about the proper changes. In order to make a uniformly good product, he must have the conditions under his control. He takes no chances.

Every man who makes a seedling of alfalfa during the spring or summer of 1914 wants the highest success with his crop right from the start. What the essentials for success are has been determined. Is it not wise to make use of the experience of others, rather than going ahead without looking up the matter beforehand? Alfalfa bacteria are absolutely essential to the best success of the alfalfa plant. One or more men in every community should take it upon themselves this spring to make alfalfa starters, so that the proper bacteria may be had in every community during June and July of this year and throughout next year and the years following.

There are two methods of securing the proper

mulch on the surface and are immensely cheaper than cultivating between the rows later on.

The amount of damage that these harrowings will do to the corn stand depends largely on the condition of the soil. Where the soil is nicely worked up very few plants will be torn from the ground. If, however, the soil is lumpy with frequent clods in evidence, these will drag under the harrow and pull out more corn than the harrows would. If there were many clods in a field I would be inclined to omit the harrowing altogether.

I have a slanting tooth harrow with which to perform this operation. For several years, however, I harrowed with an ordinary drag harrow with good results. I would suggest that a light drag would be preferable to a heavy one.

### Mixed Farming Prosperity in Alberta

W. McD. Tait, Cardston, Alta.

WHILE in Southern Alberta recently I took the opportunity of visiting one of the newer mixed farming districts of the country. In conversation with a farmer in a Slav community I was able to get some very convincing figures that dairying is a great help to "mixed farming." This Slav came with his wife and family from the coal mines at Lethbridge with a capital of \$700. He was able to get his land on time payments and put his \$700 into horses, harness, wagon, a few farm implements, and stock such as he could secure in the district. That was nine years ago. To-day this farmer is worth a half section of land, has a comfortable house, and a well stocked "mixed farm." He began right. All his eggs were not put in one basket. He was bailed out last summer, but everything, but he was able to meet all his obligations and build a new house, for which he paid in cold cash nearly \$1,000. I asked this man for an explanation of his success, and he attributed it to his dairy cows.

"I have 35 old cows," he said, "and six two-year-old heifers. My cheque for milk sold to Cardston Creamery last year was \$850. Besides this we made enough butter to supply ourselves and sold enough to keep our household. I sold 19 steer calves for \$475; two veals for \$34; and I have eight heifer calves which I refuse \$250 for now. I sold 10 steers for beef for \$600. I raised these from calves on skim milk from the creamery, and the pasture on my farm. Besides this I sold \$303 worth of hogs to feed, which cost me, besides my skim milk, \$90. This was for grain. My own crop was hauled out."

COWS WORTH \$70 A YEAR

Using the above figures one is able to estimate that this man's cows were worth to him over \$70, and this without counting the beef steers he turned over, and which is about his annual round-up. Of course he had cots, and good ones. His poultry got their trough of skim milk every day and his children all the good sweet milk they could drink.

Very little grain is marketed by any of the farmers in the Slav district referred to. They are all mixed farmers and feed the product of their land. Turnips have been grown with good success and are used with clover and alfalfa for winter feeding. Three turnips on one man's farm weighed 92 pounds. The best cream received at Cardston Creamery comes from the Slav district of Southern Alberta. It is clean and grades high in nearly every case. This district also supplies more cream than any other in the vicinity of the creamery. All the residents are loud in their praise of the creamery, and attribute what success they have had in their farming operations to its help. Every Slav that has a cow is a patron and swears by the creamery as a safeguard from the sheriff and bailiff.



Every Cultivation Adds Dollars to the Value of the Crop

Merchant gardeners, to which class the farmer here illustrated belongs, are constantly cultivating. And witness the results of their wisdom in the great crops they raise. Cultivation improves soil texture, conserves moisture and kills weeds. Careful experiments have shown that potatoes may be profitably cultivated every seven to 10 days. All crops will pay for more cultivation than they usually get. —How the cultivator yet been started?

bacteria for alfalfa inoculation. The older method is to secure soil from old, well established alfalfa fields in which the roots of the plants are well nodulated. The new and better way is to get the laboratory pure culture, such as is distributed from the Ontario Agricultural College for 25 cents, and inoculate the seed before sowing. Inoculation is cheap insurance.

### The Drag on the Corn

M. Lemon, Elgin Co., Ont.

One of the reasons why I always insist on a good seed bed for corn is that with a good seed bed I may use the drag harrows to advantage. I like to harrow the corn field crosswise of the rows a couple of times before the corn appears and once or sometimes twice when the corn first begins to grow. These harrowings keep the weeds from getting a start, maintain a nice

CLOVED

the first a large screw, one sh the last of the it is cut. Tendency, am not familiar method of ver hay, seem let it become before cutting longer after h left uncut any has reached a stage, the morible it become only con d should be pe delay the cutti this point is bad weather.

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Clover cured does not become posed to the sun The stems are s a cock of hay t than when they a in the swath to t

The fact that and succulent fr left longer to c It is surprising in clover hay wh hay come out in experience will agree to which cl