

British Live-stock and Agricultural-products Trade.

The value of living animals imported into Great Britain for food during the five months, ended May 31st, was £1,940,477, as compared with £2,675,333 in 1908. The number of cattle was 111,857, against 155,757; and of sheep, 5,271, against 29,493. The value of meat imported was £17,231,315, against £17,384,961. The quantity of beef was 2,443,907 cwt., against 2,449,267 cwt.; and of mutton, 2,300,680 cwt., against 1,783,473 cwt. The imported butter was valued at £9,470,653, against £10,137,360; and cheese, £1,835,514, against £1,821,377. Grain and flour of the value of £29,236,717 were imported, against £29,999,712 last year.

The number of cattle exported during the five months, ended May 31st, was 1,473, against 1,265 in the corresponding period last year, the value having been £65,201, against £52,138. Of these 316 went to the Argentine Republic, 281 to the United States, and 36 to Uruguay. Of sheep, 1,134 were exported, against 841, the value having been £15,751, against £14,505; and of pigs, 287, against 357, the value having been £2,466, against £3,500.

Newspapers of London, Ont., have it that Isaac Morris, a colored boy, 18 years of age, employed near London, picked 465 boxes of strawberries in one day. This is locally supposed to entitle the lad to be known as the champion berry-picker of Canada. We are not told what the berries looked like when picked, whether any small ones were left on the vines, nor whether the lad confined himself to an eight-hour day. Still, making allowance on all these scores, it is an extraordinary day's work.

Horse Department for the Winter Fair.

At a meeting of the Clydesdale Horse Association of Canada, at the Queen's Hotel, Toronto, last week, a grant of \$1,000 was made to the Clydesdale classes at the Ontario Winter Fair at Guelph. President John Bright, of Myrtle, presided.

Subsequently, the Horse Committee of the Ontario Winter Fair met, with Col. R. McEwen, of Byron, in the chair. The following judges were appointed: Clydesdales—Senator Robt. Beith, of Bowmanville; James Torrance, Markham; J. White, Ashburn. These judges will also act for the Shires, Canadian-breds and draft teams. Hackneys—Messrs. W. H. Gibson, Beaconsfield, Que.; Ben. Rothwell, Ottawa; A. B. Campbell, Berlin. Thoroughbreds—Dr. S. B. Fuller, Woodstock. Standard-breds—Dr. Routledge, Lambeth. Ponies—A. E. Major, Whitevale, and W. S. Spark. The extension of the Winter Fair Building, at Guelph, results in the holding of the Ontario Horse-breeders' Exhibition at Guelph this year, as a department of the Winter Fair.

An outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease has occurred in Paraguay, reported to have been carried into the country by a herd of steers from Brazil, and spread to several districts by a troupe of oxen drawing carts. The English Live-stock Journal thinks it may prolong the embargo against the importation of live stock from Argentina into Britain.

A trial shipment of strawberries, sent from St. Catharines, Ont., on June 26th, arrived in Winnipeg, 11 a. m., July 1st, via Chicago, in excellent condition, the entire car being disposed of.

King's Co., N. B.

The prospects for good crops are encouraging at this date. Though it was quite late before all the seed was got in the ground, the weather has been favorable, and crops have come right along. Hay has been especially discouraging, both short and thin, but recent welcome rains have given grass, along with everything else, a fine start. Potatoes and turnips are doing fine; the berry crop gives good promise, too. Pastures are not quite up to the average on upland, and flies are bad. Butter sells at 22 cents and 23 cents, cheese 12½ cents, and all meats are well, with not much doing, only in a local way; eggs, 16 cents; stock of all kinds high in price. Farm help is scarce, and wages high; \$25 a month, with board, about the average this year.

H. T. HAYES.

Favorable crop reports from the West are marred to a certain extent by the fact that fall wheat in Southern Alberta sustained considerable loss from winter-killing. One estimate places the area killed at 60 per cent. Nevertheless, an enormous immigration is flowing into the Province, penetrating as far north as the Peace River region. A party of thirty-one men, women and children, hailing mostly from Ontario, set out from Edmonton this spring on a 550-mile journey by ox team, their objective being Grand Prairie, in the Peace River region, near the western boundary of the Province.

A correspondent, writing from Victoria Mines, Algoma, on June 29th, says: "The season in this part of Ontario has been as dry as it has been wet in the southern portion. We have had no rain to speak of since the fore part of May, and, as a result, the hay, which is the principal crop, is very light, and unless we get rain at once, spring crops will be a total failure."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

1st.—Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to "The Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free.
2nd.—Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer.
3rd.—In Veterinary questions the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.
4th.—When a reply by mail is required to urgent veterinary or legal enquiries, \$1.00 must be enclosed.

Miscellaneous.

DIARRHEA IN PIGS.

What will cure diarrhea in little pigs? I was feeding the sows on chopped oats and shorts, scalded, and separated milk, and corn besides, before I weaned the pigs. They were two months old, and extra-good pigs. I have been told that to feed the chop dry would prevent this diarrhea. Is that so? Will butter-milk cause it? I did not feed them heavy, not near all they would eat. They run in a clover field. A. W.

Ans.—Scours, or diarrhea, are evidence of indigestion or cold. A sudden change of the weather, or of feed, or from dry to wet bed, or even to get among wet clover, has been known to bring this trouble in young pigs. A feed of very sour buttermilk given to sow has caused scours in her litter, and it is likely would have the same effect when given to pigs themselves. It would be quite safe to feed meal dry, and give for one or two feeds a moderate drink of scalded milk. See that the little pigs have a good, dry bed.

TO TELL THE AGE OF A HORSE.

I am in trouble. A neighbor and I had a discussion on telling the age of a horse. He said he could tell the age of a horse by the teeth, ribs, eyes and tail. Is there any way of telling by the following way; if so, how?

1. We have a horse, bought him for nine years old. He says he's eleven by the ribs, that after he is so many years old his ribs begin to fall. I have never read any such thing in books, and have read some of the best works there are.

2. I would like to take a course of study in horse-flesh, but cannot be spared off the farm very well. Is there any way you know of?

A SUBSCRIBER'S SON.

Ans.—1. It is a wonder that your neighbor could not tell a horse's age according to the tongue, ears, and rump. He is wiser than any veterinarian we know of.

2. None except the reading of books on the subject.

TANNING COW HIDES.

Having two cow hides and a horse hide on hand, will you kindly let me know if it would be advisable for an amateur to undertake the tanning of them by the oak-bark process. I understand the process takes about two years. Could you kindly describe the work to be done, and the cost of and material necessary for tanning the hides for harness purposes.

J. A. J.

Ans.—It would be unwise for an amateur to attempt this process, as he could not make a job of it, and the material would cost more than the hides would be worth. Send the hides to a tannery.

CARE OF HENS.

I wish to have your advice on caring for my hens. I have good-laying strains, Buff Orpingtons, Plymouth Rocks, and White Wyandottes. I feed oats just once per day, with an occasional change to a feed of cracked corn, and of barley. They don't seem to drink much. This is a clay farm, with very little sand or gravel. I sprayed henhouse and have very little vermin, if any. I have about 45 hens, yet I only get about seven or eight eggs per day. Now, can you tell me why they do not lay?

A SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—You do not say whether or not your hens have the run of the place. If they have, there seems to be no reason why they should not lay better. If they are not overfat, nor have laid heavily during winter and are now taking needed rest, nor are a large percentage of them wanting to sit, it is possible that you may not be feeding liberally enough. If confined, that will certainly be the case. You might get some gravel and oyster shell and give to them, and they will soon show whether that has been lacking.

A HOLIDAY—CONTAMINATING A STREAM.

1. Could you refer me to chapter and clause of the law which would prove that a man hired by the year on a farm was entitled to take Easter Monday as a holiday?

2. Running past our back door is a large open ditch, or small creek. Down the stream, six or eight rods, on the side of a hill, back two or three rods from the stream, is a neighbor's well. Could our neighbor claim damages, or stop us from throwing dishwater or washwater into this ditch, claiming that it tainted his well water? Now, no matter where we threw the water on our property, it would very soon be into the ditch.

Ontario.

INQUIRER.

Ans.—1. The Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1897, Chapter 1, Sec. 8, Subsec. 16.

2. We think not.

GRASS IN GRAVEL DRIVEWAY.

I would be obliged if you, or any readers of "The Farmer's Advocate" would inform me how to prevent grass and weeds growing and encroaching upon gravel or other paths, and along the edges of stone roads. On earth roads, it is an easy matter to keep the portion of road from the gutter to the travelled portion clean, but with a stone road it is otherwise. I have used salt, and brine, and, while that does the work, it is rather expensive. I have also used a hoe, and grubbing hoe, but an old man, as well as boys, don't take too kindly to that work, where stones are encountered, so if anyone can inform me how I can manage this encroaching grass with less labor and expense, they will confer a favor upon W. B. R.

Ans.—A solution of 1 part pure carbolic acid to 1,000 parts water, sprinkled on the walk, is said to be a good thing to prevent grass and weeds growing. You might try this, and report results. Possibly some reader has a suggestion to offer, based upon his own experience.

GARGET.

I have a cow which is running out on the grass. Her udder is swollen and feverish on one side. The milk out of those two teats is stringy, and not much of it. The other two teats seem to be all right. Would the milk out of those be fit to use? What will I do for her?

J. W. C.

Ans.—This is probably a case of garget. The milk from affected part should not be used unless it becomes restored to a healthy condition. Give a purgative of 1½ lbs. Epsom salts, and follow up with a teaspoonful of saltpetre in a pint of water as a drench daily, or in feed for a week. Rub the affected side of udder twice daily with goose grease and spirits of turpentine, after bathing with hot water and vinegar. Keep the cow in a well-bedded stall at night until recovered, giving her a feed or two in the stable.

WILD BARLEY—BLADDER CAMPION.

1. What is the weed enclosed? Is it a bad weed to get rid of? I found it growing in a grass field.

2. Will Bladder Campion ripen in hay if cut about the 15th of July? Can a person get rid of it by pulling it, and keeping it from seeding? Will it run out, or, as the root breaks off, will it keep growing from the root the next year? Will summer-fallowing kill it? N. M. Durham Co., Ont.

Ans.—1. The specimen sent is a head of Skunk Grass, or Wild Barley. It is a perennial, growing in bunches, but sending out no rootstocks. It is found from

Lake Superior westward, and is a great nuisance to stockmen, the barbed awns, when eaten, causing irritation and sores. Where land can be plowed, the weed is easily destroyed, but it is troublesome in waste places.

2. Bladder Campion ripens in July. It is a deep-rooted perennial, and hard to eradicate. We fear that it will appear the next year, though pulled. Deep plowing and a short rotation of crops are recommended where it is found. Summer-fallowing should kill it, if thorough. The same may be said for a thoroughly-cultivated hoe crop.

STIFLED COLTS—APHIDS ON PLUMS.

1. Could you give me the cause of stifled colts? Is the sire to be blamed for it, or what is the cause?

2. What solution is used to spray young plum trees affected with curly leaves? A READER.

Ans.—1. This trouble may have various causes, such as a fall in a slippery stall, or a slip when rising, lack of tone in structure, or relaxation of tissues from want of exercise. The sire is not usually to be blamed, though a conformation of limb predisposed to this dislocation may be transmitted.

2. The leaves are probably infested with aphids (plant lice). Kerosene emulsion is the standard solution with which to spray these tiny insects. It destroys them by contact, though, if protected by a curled leaf, they are hard to get at. Spraying calendar published in "The Farmer's Advocate" of April 1st, 1909, gives directions for making this emulsion.

A MISCHIEF—MAKING GROOM.

1. I hired a man to travel a stallion this spring. He has been doing business in a manner I did not authorize him to do. For instance, he promised two men living colts a week old. Am I bound by that promise? He is hired as groom.

2. He went to a man's place when the man was away to the hospital sick, and told his son, or hired man, that the owner had told him he wanted that mare bred to my horse. The mare is a Hackney mare, my horse is a heavy Clydesdale. What penalty is there for that, if any? HORSEMAN.

Ontario.

Ans.—1. It is just possible that you are. But the question depends largely upon circumstances not disclosed in your statement of facts, and we are, accordingly, unable to give any more definite answer.

2. The groom has rendered himself liable to dismissal, and also to an action for damages at suit of the owner of the mare.