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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

A HINT TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

A HINT TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS. To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE: SIR,—We suggest treatment for various troubles which arise in the dairy and always request an answer as to how the remedy succeeds. Seldom, however, do correspondents take the trouble to let us know whether the advice was helpful or not. A correspondent from Leaskdale, Ontario County, wrote about "greasy curds," to whom we advised substantially the same as appeared in the ADVO-CATE of June Ist. He replied as follows: "DEAR SIR,—I followed the treatment you suggested with reference to greasy curds and found it to work quite satisfactorily, and I have been able to entirely overcome the trouble. I have had no bother in that way of late, but got a few of my curds a little open in my efforts to avoid grease.

my curds a little open in my efforts to avoid grease. "I am, yours, W. A. DONALD."

We like to hear whether we have done good or not. How many have tried a remedy and with what success. H. H. DEAN.

QUEEN FERTILIZATION.

A. OWEN PRICE, Annapolis Co., N. S .:-" Will ou kindly inform me whether or not the queen bee is fertilized before she leaves the old hive, as there appears to be no drones in the young swarm at the time of swarming? I notice at the time of swarming the drones are the first to come out of the old hive, which I take it to be the drones belonging to the mother swarm."

[The first swarm of the season is almost invari-ably led off by the old queen. Every new swarm except the first is led off by a young queen, and as she is never impregnated until she has been estab-lished at the head of a separate family, it is im-portant that each should be accompanied by a goodly number of drones. This requires the pro-duction of a large number in the parent hive which, as Mr. Price intimates, belongs to the mother swarm. The drone that impregnates the virgin queen need not necessarily belong to her swarm. In the neighborhood of colonies of bees there are always a large number of drones ready to The first swarm of the season is almost invarithere are always a large number of drones ready to take a bridal tour at the sound of the virgin queen as she enters upon such a journey.]

PLANT LICE ON FRUIT TREES.

T. J. W., P. E. I .:- "I am sending you a sample of an insect that is destroying my fruit trees, both apple and plum. Could you tell me, through the ADVOCATE, what they are, and a remedy for them?"

The insects sent are what are known as plant [The insects sent are what are known as plant lice or aphis, which injure the leaves by sucking out their substance, causing them to turn brown and curl up like the sample our correspondent has enclosed. The standard remedy is the kerosene emulsion thoroughly sprayed, as these pests are difficult to reach. The emulsion is made by dissolv-ing in one gallon of boiling water one-half pound of hard eaft or whale oil each then add two callons hard, soft or whale-oil soap ; then add two gallons kerosene (coal oil), stirring or churning with a force pump or syringe till a creamy mass. When using dilute with nine or ten parts of soft water.]

CORN AS GREEN MANURE.

CHAS. SIMPSON, Huron Co., Ont .:- "Would fodder corn be of any value as a green manure crop to plow down about the 20th August for fall wheat, or would buck wheat be of more value, both sown this month?

We have not known any cases where corn has been used for this purpose, and have not seen it recommended. We should expect better results from buckwheat. Some farmers sow a mixture of oats, peas and buckwheat for green manure with good effects.]



My explanation will have reference to the above diagram. As I understand it, it is desired to carry water from a well at A by means of a pipe, A B C D, to a house and barn at D, 80 rods from A. D is six eet lower than A, but between these points is a hill whose highest point (B) is fifteen feet above the level of A. There are five hydrants somewhere in the line, presumably near D. C is the point where the downward slope from B to D crosses the level. Now, the obvious laws of hydrodynamics will com-Now, the obvious laws of hydrodynamics will com-pel the following conclusions: 1. The flow will not begin until the whole pipe from A to C, and a little beyond, has been completely filled with water to the exclusion of air; this can be done, of course, with a force pump at A. 2. The flow will not con-tinue unless the whole pipe, from A to C is com-pletely air-tight. If air leaks in slowly, then the flow will dimines slowly and finally cease. 3. If flow will diminish slowly, and finally cease. 3. If there are any hydrants between B and C or be-tween A and B—that is, above the level of the well then of course the water will run back into the well at once, since the hydrant, if open, will let the wen at once, since the hydrant, it open, will be also air into the pipe. 4. To sum up, if all the hydrants are between C and D, and if the pipe from A to C is air-tight, then the pipe, after it is once filled, will act as a siphon, and will give a continuous flow so long as it is fed at A. If the pipe cannot be made iong as it is red at A. If the pipe cannot be made airtight an alternative course would be to sink a straight pipe from A to D. The water has then only to run down hill. In case this opinion should not be satisfactory, it would be well for the en-quirer to draw and send in a plan showing relative positions and distances of the well, hill, house, barn, and hydrants. J. B. REYNOLDS. Ontario Agricultural College.]

PRUNING PLUM TREES.

A. OWEN PRICE, Annapolis Co., N. S .: - "Will you please inform me when is the proper time to prune plum trees? I cut off a lot of black knot from one of mine late in the fall, but this spring it has died back on that part of the tree. I also thinned out two large egg plum trees in March when pruning the apple trees. They have evident-ly suffered, as they were late in budding and the leaves look pale and weakly. My neighbor lost two trees in the same way by trimming off lower branches to facilitate ploying "

two trees in the same way by trimming off lower branches to facilitate plowing." [Generally speaking, plum trees require little or no pruning. By careful thinning the first year or two the tree should be so shaped as to need no pruning, except a shortening in of the rampant shoots. After fruiting commences there is little likelihood of a superfluous wood being made. If, however, the removal of some limbs is desirable be-cause of crowding or being too low. I would prune cause of crowding or being too low, I would prune them after the severe winter weather has passed and before growth commences. In all cases make a clean cut, close back to the main trunk or limb, as the case may be, and paint the exposed surface with mineral paint. If black knots are cut out, apply linseed oil or paint. I do not quite see why the trees in question died. Am inclined to think overbearing the previous year or some mechanical injury must have been partially responsible. M. B.]

HAY STACK CAPS.

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agencies of threshing machines and barnyard manure. The only methods to prevent its spread that we can suggest are hand-pulling in wheat or rye and early cutting of hay before the seeds have ripened, or the infested fields may be sum-mer-fallowed and then sown the same season with rape in drills, thus allowing late cultivation, or they may be sown with rye to be pastured and plowed down for green manure, followed by rape in drills to be cultivated.]

CARP BREEDING.

EDWIN GUTHRIE, Perth Co., Ont.:-"Kindly let me know something about "carp" fish, the preparation of a pond, and where the fry can be obtained.

be obtained." [In April 1st ADVOCATE, page 157, we gave a description of a trout pond which would answer in a general way for carp, but a less supply of fresh spring water will do carp as they are more sluggish fish that lie about in the mud. We have made careful enquiries as to the merits and demerits of carp and have not heard much in their favor. They grow to a large size even in a small supply of water, but are soft, of poor flavor, and would only be in demand where no other fish could be had. We have not succeeded in learning where the spawn or fry can be secured, but we consider it not very desirable information because of their inferior quality.]

SHOWS AND SHOWING.



When the Western Fair Board of London, Ont., had erected last year a cattle, sheep and swine building, 735 ft. long by over 50 feet wide, it was not supposed that further additions would soon be needed, but when the exhibition came off it was found that greater capacity was necessary. This addition is now being made, besides a number of improvements in last year's buildings.

The accompanying figure illustrates the new piggery, 156 feet long by 36 wide, with an 8 foot passage through the

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TROUBLE WITH WATER PIPE.

S. PLAIN, Middlesex Co., Ont .:- "I have eighty S. PLAIN, Middlesex Co., Ont.:—"I have eighty rods of iron pipe laid in a trench to carry water from one farm to another. The outlet at the house and barn is six feet lower than the top of the well the pipe starts from, but there is fifteen feet of a raise between the well and the barn. There are five hydrants between the well and the house. There is a fall of eleven feet from the top of the well to the lower end of pipe, but the hydrants run five feet up from main pipe to water boxes in stables. The pipe does not leak. We cannot get the water to run. We have had a force pump attached to both ends, and had the best success when the pump was attached to top end of pipe in well. The trouble was that the water would run back into the well from the top of the hill. To overcome that we put a check valve on the pipe, then filled the pipe, shut off all the hydrants, took off the pump, then opened one hydrant. The water began to run then. We took off the check valve and the water rep four hours. It started a three-quarter water ran four hours. It started a three-quarter inch stream, and gradually lessened until it stopped. The pipe is one inch bore. We began filling the pipe as soon as the plumbers finished their work. We did not give the pipe time to dry the paint in the joints or to rust the joints. I believe water should run over the hill as long as the outlet is lower than the well that feeds the pipe. As you give us so much valuable information through the ADVOCATE, I now beg for instructions for starting the water through this pipe. When we get this job satisfactory I will make a full report for the benefit of the readers of the ADVO report for the benefit of the readers of the ADVO-CATE, as there is no doubt plenty of farmers who draw water when they could get it easier. The previous occupants of this farm have hauled and

E. C. B., King's Co., N. S.-"I intend to Fig. B represents the ground plan. some hay this season to remain three or four center. weeks. Will a good 156

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piece of twilled factory cotton without oiling shed the rain, and what shape would be best? Would like to hear from some of the readers of the ADVOCATE who have had experience in the matter.'

[We have had no experience in this line and shall be pleased to hear from those who have. If

the hay is well stacked and carefully topped, the center being kept full, and a load or two of swail hay or June grass on the top, there will be little danger of damage from rain in the time mentioned.]

WILD FLAX.

W. F., Middlesex Co., Ontario :--"I enclose sample of a weed which has appeared in this district in the last two or three years, appearing only in fall wheat and meadow land. Please inform me what it is, and state whether it is a dangerous weed?'

[The weed is what is commonly called wild flax or false flax. It is an annual with pale yellow flowers which usually appear early in June. Its seeds are numerous and are enclosed in round balls, and being of an oily nature are the more difficult to and being of an oily nature are the more dimcuit to destroy, as they may remain in the ground for a long time, only to germinate when the field is again cultivated. It usually appears only in fall wheat or rye and in meadows. If it appears in pas-ture, sheep will eat it off. It has secured a firm footing in many districts, having, it is supposed, been introduced in timothy or alsike clover seed. It is likely to prove a troublesome weed, since the coade will likely be widely distributed through the



Passage

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4 ft. by 7 ft., 6 ft. x 7 ft., 8 ft. x 7 ft., and 12 ft. x 7 ft., and so situated as to suit the various sizes of individuals and herds of the different breeds. The pens are all floored and comfortable. On the top of the partition, between the two rows of pens there is a three-foot platform, marked P in Fig. B, on which to store feed. The central passage is 8 feet wide. The 6 foot passage leading from the center to the east side is for the convenience of exhibitors in removing their stock to and from the judging ring. It is intended to keep this passage c'osed to the public. Water taps and troughs will be conveniently arranged.

Fig. A represents an end elevation. The partitions and sides of the pens are 3 feet 6 inches high. The pens have convenient gates. The ends of the building above the level of the eaves are clap-boarded. Light and ventilation will be all that could be desired, by reason of the open sides, both beneath and between the lower and upper roof. The building is being given every consideration for the convenience and accommodation of exhibitors and visitors. It stands north and south, and is situated some 40 feet east of south portion of the cattle and sheep building in which the swine were housed last year.