



Notes for Farmers

Some interesting feeding experiments are under way at the Ottawa Experimental Farm. Mr. Grisdale has purchased 52 steers which he will feed on varied rations and under varied circumstances. The chief object is to ascertain whether steers will do better loose or tied. Twenty-seven are fed tied and eighteen loose. These lots are further divided and are fed special rations. There has already been valuable knowledge gained by these feeding tests which has been published in the annual reports. The beef raising industry is an important one and in the opinion of Mr. Grisdale should be well understood by Canadian farmers.

Another feeding experiment is carried on with calves and yearlings. The object is to ascertain whether limited rations or fattening rations is the more profitable. For the month just past the stock fed on fattening rations made 2 pounds a day while the others made 1 1/2 pounds. Results in the past are in favor of feeding the larger ration.

The fattening ration for calves consists of 2 pounds of gluten meal with 15 pounds of roughage—ensilage and roots. The limited ration is nearly all roughage, only one pound of meal being fed with 25 pounds of roots and corn.

In the yearling class the limited ration consists of 40 pounds of roughage and no meal. The fattening ration is 30 pounds of roughage and 4 pounds daily of gluten meal.

It has been found in other tests that calves fed the heavy ration will equal at the yearling stage, two year olds, fed the limited allowance.

Considerable butter is being made. There are 25 milch cows averaging 25 pounds of milk daily testing about 4 per cent. butter fat. Every cow has an account with the dairyman and the profits of the individual cows are carefully estimated.

The stables are now filled for the winter. The number of cattle is slightly less than last year as the quantity of fodder is smaller.

There are 99 pigs and 35 sheep. Feeding to ascertain the best ration for bacon is the chief object of the experiment in the piggery. Last week 25 pigs which had reached the standard were slaughtered at the Geo. Matthews' Co. establishment. The carcasses will be cut up and the bacon inspected to ascertain which method of feeding produced the kind of meat most demanded on the home and foreign markets. There are 36 more pigs which will shortly undergo a similar examination.

The sheep are outside during the day and housed at night. The chief fodder is hay. Some ewes are given half a pound of oats a day as a special feed.

While in Brantford inspecting a shipment of harrows to South Africa for the British Government, Mr. John Fixter made a survey of the great Massey Harris building and gathered facts about the making of harrows that will be of interest to all farmers. Few farmers have any idea of the way in which their commonest implements are made.

Mr. Fixter's account of the process of manufacturing harrows runs as follows:

The steel to be used is unloaded from the cars on trucks and pushed into large machines which cut the cold steel bars into the lengths required. The bars are reloaded and sent to a punching machine. Here holes are made for the harrow teeth. In this operation the bars are slightly bent so that they have to be passed over anvils and straightened. From here they are taken on trucks again and placed away till the teeth are inserted. Each set of bars is cut in different lengths and kept on separate trucks so that there will be no difficulty in placing them together.

The teeth are cut off the proper lengths by machinery turning out over 100 an hour. They are arranged in a furnace for tempering after

which they are taken from the hot furnace or blast and put in a press to be shaped and made the proper length. Then the teeth are passed to a threading machine with mechanism of wonderful rapidity. They are loaded on trucks and taken to the bars which have already been prepared. The nuts are made and threaded with the same rapidity as the teeth. All this material is collected to a set of tables containing holes the exact distance for the teeth. The bars are placed over the teeth and the nuts screwed on. When they are put together they are loaded on trucks and passed to the paint vat. One dip paints a whole harrow. It is then laid on a drainer and the paint drips off. They are then in a slanting table that carries the surplus paint back to the tub.

The wooden double-trees are mostly made of elm and oak. These are cut the regulated length and holes bored for the chains. The trees are passed to a large vat where a coating of oil is given. Then they are painted and the chains attached. This completes the construction of the harrow.

Mr. Fixter's duty was to inspect these harrows and to mark each with a government stamp. Three thousand have been shipped to South Africa. The make is Diamond Steel Tooth Harrow. About 125 are turned out daily, each one containing three sections.

While in Western Ontario Mr. Fixter observed the crops and the general condition of farmers. He finds the farming industry well to the front in that part, the farms being noted chiefly for fine buildings and all the equipment necessary for the duties of the farmer. Mr. Fixter's home was formerly in Western Ontario and he had no difficulty in noticing how the country was improving.

One serious defect Mr. Fixter points out exists in the kind of farming followed in Western Ontario. The people have not yet awakened to the value of the silo as an essential to farming. Silos are not numerous enough here, but in Western Ontario the farmers are much farther behind. Just now the people are husking corn. The crop of corn is very large and there is immense labor in the antiquated method of saving it.

Fortunately the weather is favorable and rapid progress is being made. However it is obvious that farmers would find it to their advantage to build silos and preserve their fodder in the most convenient and economical manner.

A man who has a silo would never go back to the old plan of husking and shocking corn. Mr. Fixter is of opinion that the cutting by hand and shocking costs as much as the labor in loading on wagons and unloading at the silo. If the farmer cuts his corn the work is then done in fine weather and the ensilage may be used any time during summer or winter. Those who shock corn in the field are continually drawing it to the barn. The extra trouble cutting it out of the ice and snow would put it into the silo several times. Owing to the tendency of the corn to heat only small quantities can be housed at a time.

As the cold season approaches inexperienced dairymen find difficulty with churning. They complain that it takes a long time to produce the butter and as the cream is apparently the same as in summer the situation is very often regarded as nothing short of a phenomena. This year some city people who own cows with brought face to face with this perplexing problem and laid their grievances before the "Free Press." A few of them had some peculiar theories as to the causes and they had tried numerous remedies without avail.

It happens that this difficulty in the conversion of butter into cream does not depend on the season. Although the causes are such that they are most likely to arise about this time of year.

Mr. J. H. Grisdale, Dominion agt.

culturist, says that temperature is the important thing to be considered in churning. By far the greater number of persons churning have no to the proper standard of heat it cannot be made into butter. Mr. cream. Unless the cream is kept up warm room in which to keep the Orisdale says that the difficulties of churning when the proper temperature is not maintained is very great. He also suggests some other aids to butter producers who find the cream slow to churn. Salt he says should be fed in abundance. There is generally an abnormal amount of corn fed at this season. Corn is a fodder that has the effect of making cream slow to churn. It is noticed that dairy cattle are eager to eat salt when fed on corn and they should get unstinted allowances.

There is no doubt that if butter makers pay strict attention to the temperature of their milk houses and as far as possible regulate the fodder, the churning process will be simplified. It should not be forgotten that summer heat is most congenial to the ripening and churning of cream. Milkmen who deliver milk in the city on warm summer days know how the heat churns the milk with the slight jolting of the wagon. It is plain therefore that cream if churned in a room at summer heat cannot fail to produce butter.

Household Notes.

There are a few aphorisms which every inexperienced house hunter should bear in mind when starting upon the momentous employment of looking for a healthy house.

First—A damp house is a deadly house.

Second—Live on the sunny side of the street, where the doctor never comes.

Third—The drains are more important than the decorations.

Fourth—We spend at least a third of our lives in our bedrooms, therefore they ought to be chosen as carefully as our drawing rooms, in which we spend much less time.

Fifth—A dark, damp, unclean larder breeds poison.

A healthy house must be dry, sunny and well drained. These are three prime necessities. The amount of illness that comes from damp is as bad as that which comes from bad drainage if not greater. It is not rheumatism and lung troubles only that come from residence in a damp house or a house built on damp soil, but many others which people as a rule do not associate with this cause.

Indigestion, that "mother of miseries," as it has been called, rickets, consumption, scrofula, neuralgia, weak eyes, lowered health, which tends to render the body an easy prey to any illness that may be going, are a few samples of the ills that damp may give rise to in the physical frame.

The inexperienced should know that there may be several causes for a house being damp. It may be built on damp soil, and the "jerry builder" who built it may have taken no precautions in the way of laying a "concrete foundation" or a "damp-proof course" to prevent the house being, when fires are lighted in it, constantly filled with the air and moisture from the ground on which it stands.

Some of the pretty, red brick nests which look so alluring, with their bay windows, tessellated pathways leading up to daintily painted hall doors and tiled hearths, are little better than death traps. Unthinking people imagine that a brick is a brick and mortar is mortar and these things are all you want when you build a wall.

They are wrong, however. There are bricks and bricks—some good and some bad, as in everything else. A house built with bad, cheap bricks will never be healthy.

Total Abstinence And the Insurance

Efforts are being made abroad to organize total abstainers into what is known as a "super-standard" class of life risks. The movement is the result of a careful investigation into the death losses of life companies, with the result that much valuable data has been accumulated to show that persons who do not use alcoholic beverages make altogether the best class of policy-holders for an insurance company to have. The subject has been studied before by actuaries in this country, and although authorities are not in agreement as to the exact effect of such indulgence, the feeling is general

that it adds materially to the ordinary life risk. In cases where policy-holders have been attacked with a serious disease, it has been found that the chances of recovery decidedly favor those who do not use stimulants of any kind.

One foreign expert cautions the companies against making any allowance for even moderate drinking. This, he says, may easily lead to excess. He adds: "The outlook for a man, who should fall ill with pneumonia, typhoid fever, dysentery, nephritis, heart disease, diabetes, and affections of the liver is bad enough under the best circumstances, but if the patient is an intemperate man his hope for recovery is reduced very materially, and the fight for life is desperate, if not hopeless. Every physician who has had much emergency hospital practice, or even private practice, among the intemperate, can assent to these statements. We know that men who follow hazardous occupations are frequently liable to injuries. In case the party injured is temperate, his chances for recovery from the injuries and the surgery incident thereto are far in excess of the man who uses intoxicants."

"Since inheritance plays such a great role in life insurance, and many a risk personally good is rejected on account of bad ancestry, would it not be also well to consider, not only the physical features of a risk who has drunken ancestors, but also the moral features of such a risk in all its bearings? Namely, intemperance is usually frequent among the vicious and those of low habits, who frequent all kinds of resorts, the dive, the brothel, the levee—all places of great risk to health and life. The children of heavy drinkers are personally poorer risks than those whose ancestors led temperate and pure lives. We might multiply instances to show the many correlative combinations in which intemperance is a factor as a great hazard in life insurance."

"Under present conditions, we have but two kinds of risks, the standard and so-called sub-standard. The first embraces all those who can pass a satisfactory examination and get an unmodified policy at the usual rates; the second embraces all those who can pass only a partially successful examination, and can obtain a policy with some modifications and inserted conditions. I wish to make a plea for the establishment of another class of risk than the two already existing, and which for want of another or better name I will call the super-standard class. This class shall possess all the good qualifications of the standard risk, namely, good family history, free from taint of disease, bad habits, longevity, personally good health, and, in addition to all this, they must be teetotalers. There are a sufficiently large number of these who take life insurance to justify the creating of such a class of super-standard risks, to whom policies should be issued at reduced rates. This is no more than just to them, as they should not be compelled to pay for the shortcomings of that large majority, who, aside from what good traits they possess from a life insurance standpoint, are most of them drinkers of intoxicants, who vary all the way from the worst inebriates up to the regular everyday tippler, and the so-called thoroughbred sport."

It is a solemn duty devolving on all to make the utmost possible out of themselves. Men seek the highest development of their flocks and herds and grain and flowers. The result is the improved flora and fauna of these days over those of prior ones. But should this evolution cease with the lower order? Should the body of creation improve, and not the head, which is man?

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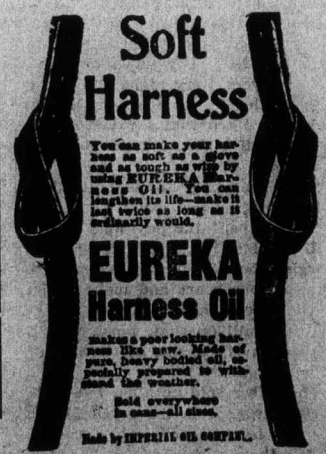
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ST. ANN'S T. A. & B. SOCIETY, established 1863.—Rev. Director, Rev. Father Flynn, President, D. Gallahue, M.P., Sec., J. F. Quinn, 625 St. Dominique street; M. J. Ryan, treasurer, 18 St. Augustin street. Meets on the second Sunday of every month in St. Ann's Hall, corner Young and Ottawa streets, at 8.30 p.m.

A.O.H. LADIES' AUXILIARY, Division No. 5, organized Oct. 10th, 1901. Meetings are held on 1st Sunday of every month, at 4 p.m.; and 3rd Thursday, at 8 p.m. Miss Annie Donovan, president; Mrs. Sarah Allen, vice-president; Miss Nora Kavanaugh, recording secretary, 166 Inspector street; Miss Emma Doyle, financial secretary; Miss Charlotte Sparks, treasurer. Rev. Father McGrath, chaplain.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY.—Established March 6th, 1866, incorporated 1868, revised 1864. Meets in St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander street, first Monday of the month. Committee meets last Wednesday. Officers: Rev. Director, Rev. M. Callaghan, P.P. President, Hon. Mr. Justice C. J. Doherty; 1st Vice, F. E. Devlin, M.D.; 2nd Vice, F. J. Curran, B.C.L.; Treasurer, Frank J. Green, Corresponding Secretary, John Kahala; Recording Secretary, T. P. Tansey.

ST. ANN'S YOUNG MEN'S SOCIETY organized 1885.—Meets in its hall, 157 Ottawa street, on the first Sunday of each month, at 2.30 p.m. Spiritual Adviser, Rev. E. Strubbe, C.S.S.R.; President, M. Casey; Treasurer, Thomas O'Connell; Secretary, W. Whitty.

ST. ANTHONY'S COURT, C. O. F., meets on the second and fourth Friday of every month in their hall, corner Seigneurs and Notre Dame streets. A. T. O'Connell, C. R., T. W. Kane, secretary.

ST. PATRICK'S T. A. & B. SOCIETY.—Meets on the second Sunday of every month in St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander St., immediately after Vespers. Committee of Management meets in same hall the first Tuesday of every month at 8 p.m. Rev. Father McGrath, Rev. President; W. P. Doyle, 1st Vice-President; Jno. P. Gunning, Secretary, 716 St. Antoine street, St. Henri.

C.M.B.A. OF CANADA, BRANCH 26.—(Organized, 18th November, 1873.—Branch 26 meets at St. Patrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexander St., on every Monday of each month. The regular meetings for the transaction of business are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month, at 8 p.m. Spiritual Adviser, Rev. M. Callaghan; Chancellor, F. J. Curran, B.C.L.; President, Fred. J. Green; Recording Secretary, J. J. Costigan; Financial Secretary, Robt. Warren; Treasurer, J. H. Feeley, Jr.; Medical Advisers, Drs. H. J. Harrison, E. J. O'Connell and G. H. Merrill.

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NOTES

OUR SIDEWALKS.—Our readers have sent us a letter requesting us to draw attention to the dangerous condition of the sidewalks, pavement steps at the doors. No churches are approached by snow is shovelled off the rains or thaws the foot ceedingly dangerous—especially the case of Catholic churches which such numbers of go in the darkness of hours to attend the difficult drawing attention to the sufficient to obtain the suit.

VICE-REGAL VISIT.—The past ten days His Excellency the Governor-General and Lady have been visiting the various institutions of this one they have met with befitting the occasion a turn, highly pleased with all they have seen other establishments than the Hotel Dieu and Hospitals, the Nazareth Convent of Villa Marie, the Sacred Heart, Laval and the Montreal College Orphan Asylum were this week, and at each situation Rev. Father Callaghan, Pastor of St. Patrick's, had the honor to deliver an address of welcome more competent than he to tell the story of the and the progress of each establishment, and needed that he did so in a related to evoke the demonstrations of admiration from distinguished visitors. Always on these occasions the of St. Patrick's had the inspired him, and it is noted that he displayed usual tact, but even a degree of eloquence in representatives of our authority the story of fits that the High School phantoms have bestowed Catholic population. The two events will be remembered, both by their Excellency and by all who participated in the Leclaire, the Director of the Orphan Asylum, and the other leading members were present at the reception.

TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—Last Sunday evening a meeting of the different Temperance societies took place at St. Patrick's Church. All the associations, of the different Irish Catholics of the city, were fully represented, and the November each year to rally of this character bring the zealous grand cause of temperance closely in touch with the sermon of the Rev. Father McGrath, of St. Ann's, Father McPhail's first impression of his own upon the vast congregation is one that will outlive the individual.