

# THE Canadian Live Stock and Farm Journal

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## Original Plans, Devices, and Ideas.

Knowing that there are many original plans and devices pent up in the minds of our readers, and feeling that the publication of such would be of immense benefit to all, we have drawn up a scheme through which we hope to stimulate our friends to help us in the good work of lessening the labors and increasing the profits and pleasures of the farmer. We trust that the offers we append will show that any efforts put forth to aid us in this matter will be warmly appreciated. Not only do you who meet our request add materially to your own store of knowledge through the perusal of the books obtained, but there is the more pleasant feature attached to it of helping your brother farmers to increase the returns from their labors and better their condition. To make clear what we want, and what we will give, we have divided our scheme into three parts:

**No. 1.**—This division includes plans and specifications of any of the buildings numbered below:

1. Barns, suitable for general farming in any of the Provinces.
2. Barns, suitable for dairy farming in any of the Provinces.
3. Barns, suitable for the raising of breeding stock in any of the Provinces.
4. Farm houses.
5. Poultry houses.
6. Pig pens.
7. Sheep pens.
8. Ice houses and cold storage rooms.
9. Milk houses and farm dairies.

For an accepted plan of any of the above mentioned buildings we will, as soon as your contribution is published, give you your choice of any of the following books, or any of those mentioned under the second and third divisions:

Dairyman's Manual.....	Stewart	\$2 00
Insects Injurious to Fruit.....	Saunders	2 00
How Crops Grow.....	Johnson	2 00
Cattle and their Diseases.....	Murray	2 50
American Fruit Culturist.....	Thomas	2 00
Practical Poultry Keeper.....	Wright	2 00
Horse Breeding.....	Sanders	2 00
Feeding Animals.....	Stewart	2 00

**No. 2.**—This division includes devices for the saving of labor in performing any work of the farm, or anything that may aid to the comfort and pleasure of farming in its broadest sense. Such, for instance, as devices for saving labor in feeding or caring for any of the domesticated animals, in fencing, in any phase of orchard work, and the many other departments of work on the farm that will at once come to mind.

For any device accepted by us we will, as soon as your contribution is published, give you your choice of any of the following books, or any named in No. 3:

Swine Husbandry.....	Coburn	\$1 75
Shepherd's Manual.....	Stewart	1 00
The Standard of Perfection in Poultry.....		1 00
The Soil of the Farm.....	Scott and Morton	1 00
Farm Drainage.....	French	1 50
The Chemistry of the Farm.....	Warrington	1 00
Practical Forestry.....	Fuller	1 50
Fences, Gates, and Bridges.....		1 00
Silos, Ensilage, and Silage.....		50
Barn Plans and Outbuildings.....		1 50
One Year's Subscription to THE CANADIAN LIVE STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.....		1 00
Farm Conveniences.....		1 50

**No. 3.**—This division includes articles expressing original ideas or experiences in regard to any feature of stock-raising or farming in its many departments; such as, methods of growing the different crops of the farm, especially those used for soiling purposes or as grain food for stock; the breeding, feeding, and management of any of the domesticated animals; the care of the orchard—in fact, anything is a proper topic that comes under the scope of farming and stock-raising in their widest sense. The articles should be short—in fact, the shorter they are the better we shall be pleased.

For any accepted article conforming with the above we will, as soon as your contribution is published, give you your choice of a year's subscription to any of the following publications:

The Canadian Horticulturist.....	\$1 00
The Canadian Poultry Review.....	1 00
The Canadian Pk. Journal.....	1 00
The Poultry Monthly.....	1 25
The Canadian Honey Producer.....	40
The Northwest Farmer.....	1 00
The Maritime Agriculturist.....	1 00

**NOTE.**—Any article, or the reading matter accompanying any plan or device, should not exceed one of our columns in length, and the shorter it is the better. A writer may adopt any *nom de plume*, if he desires that his name be not published. Remember, this is not a competitive scheme; all that is required to give you a choice of any book, as stated above, is that your contribution be published in our JOURNAL. The contributions must bear the stamp of originality. We want to bring to light these plans, devices, and ideas, and if you are fortunate enough to have all the books and papers mentioned above, by all means let us hear from you for the benefit of your fellows. Be brief and clear. We want the kernel and not the shell.

## Take Care of the Young Lambs.

The season is now approaching when young lambs will come to hand. They are very delicate creatures when they first reach the world, and because of this the mortality amongst them is very great, especially when they come early in the season. The remedy for this is *care and closest* attention on the part of the shepherd, where the protection is not of the best and the weather is cold, they must be helped to some of the milk of the dam soon after they appear. When too feeble to help themselves this may be given them with a spoon, the milk having been drawn into a cup from which hot water has just been emptied out. They should get this at intervals not far apart. But when strong enough to help themselves they should not usually be interfered with, if the dam is kind and attentive. Cow's milk should not be given them when so young unless none can be got from the dam as it oftener destroys than saves lives in those early stages, owing to its constipating tendencies. If the lambs are brought safely through the first twelve hours they can then usually fight their own battle safely. The attention required by young lambs that come early should be given ungrudgingly, as the results that hinge upon the nature of the attention are very important.

## Give the Breeding Sows Liberty.

More sows and litters of young pigs are lost through mistaken kindness than through neglect; where the dams are confined in close pens and fed highly it will be strange indeed if both sow and litter are not lost. The sow wants liberty and must have it if she is going to be profitable. There is no way of providing this so easily and naturally as by giving her access to a barn-yard. No other place will answer so well, for when the snow is deep she will not wade through it. In the barn-yard she loves to root in the straw and manure, which is good for the manure and excellent for the sow. The most simple form of enclosure will answer for a sleeping place, providing the other stock may not have access to it and it is warm. A corner of an open shed will do, or some simple structure in the yard. When at

the farm of J. G. Snell & Bro., Edmonton, we noticed that some empty crates had been laid down in the form of a rectangle with one end open. Some rails had been laid upon these and a small stack built on and around them. This was the sleeping place of the famous show sows owned by the more famous showmen of those sows at our leading exhibitions. The feed of the sows should be simple, and should consist of a variety of foods. A large proportion of carbonaceous food such as corn should be avoided.

## Milk Fever.

Milk fever is becoming of increasing frequency amongst the dairy breeds of cattle. Unless taken in the early stages and prompt remedies are applied, it is almost certain to prove fatal. It occurs in winter and summer alike, but is perhaps of more frequent occurrence in summer, when the pastures are abundant. It usually attacks cows of the freest milking qualities, and therefore those of most value. If preventive measures are of more value than remedial ones anywhere, it is here, owing to the very fatal character of the disease. Usually these consist of keeping the cows in a loose box-stall for a week or more prior to parturition, and feeding them dry food, with the object of lessening the quantity of the milk secretion. It is an additional safeguard when the cow is given a pound of Epsom salts within the first day after calving. Milk fever is not common amongst the beefing breeds, and never happens in the case of poor milkers amongst dairy cattle, in which instances the precautions stated above are less necessary. Usually it comes on suddenly, the subject of the attack becoming restless and losing the power of using her limbs, more especially the hind quarters. Soon struggling ceases and the animal lies in a state of stupor until death, which sometimes comes soon, but at other times not for some days. It is one of those diseases incident to an improved condition of the live stock interest, and is likely to increase with the improvement of the milking properties of the various dairy races. It is therefore highly important that preventive measures should be used as a safeguard.

## A Demand for Stallions.

An esteemed correspondent, formerly of Brant County, but now of Dakota, writes us: "You want to encourage your horsemen to keep a few full-blooded mares, and raise stallions for this great west. We could handle one hundred annually and pay from three to five hundred dollars each for them, when from two to three years old. I bought a carload of eighteen from about Toronto last spring." The above contains a suggestion that is worthy of the best thought of our farmers. Undoubtedly, here is a field for the expansion of our draught horse industry which imported stallions cannot fill, owing principally to the smallness of the price. Home-bred horses would, however, satisfy the want that now clearly exists, and at a price that would certainly prove paying, for it would cost but little more to raise them after one was once started and not a whit more than to raise the "general purpose stallion" which are a drag on our horse industry. The carrying out of the idea of our correspondent would demand the purchasing of a couple of roomy and large-framed brood mares as weighty and strong-boned as possible, for it is clear that it is the ever working tendency of our conditions to decrease the substance and increase the quality of the progeny of imported draught horses. This being secured, a well-bred sire of