

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 must be enclosed.

Miscellaneous.

HIRED MAN QUITTING.

A hired out to B last fall for a year at \$125 a year. A was to the city at Easter holidays, and was offered a job as joiner at \$3.50 per day. Cannot A leave B at the end of the month's notice, and also collect his wages? A cannot stand the work that B requires him to do.

Ans.—He is not entitled to do so.

LIFE TENANT AND REMAINDERMEN.

If A gives B a deed of a tract of land, holding a life lease against it, could A, if B died before A, withdraw this deed and dispose of the land otherwise? Or Can B's heirs get possession of the land after A dies?

Ans.—1. No. 2. Yes.

A COW'S PEDIGREE.

I attended an auction sale of farm stock last winter, and purchased two thoroughbred cows. They were advertised as such. After they were knocked down to me, I asked the proprietor for the pedigrees. He gave me the certificate for one, but the other one was not registered. He said he would get it for me, but refuses now to do so. Can I compel him to get the certificate at his expense?

Ans.—Judging from your statement of case alone, we cannot see that you are in a position, legally, to do so.

QUITTING WORK ABRUPTLY.

I was working for a farmer. I agreed to work for him at the rate of \$100 a year. I had been there 5 months last April. The farmer had been seeding all day, and left me the chores to do and work beside. They kept between 50 and 60 head of cattle. And when he came home at night, he said the work I had done, besides the chores, he could have done in an hour himself. Thinking I did not satisfy him, I packed my bag before I got into bed that night, and got up in the morning and went out to town, and when I went back to get my wages, he said I should not receive a cent. I must also mention I was up at 5 o'clock in the morning, and was never finished till between 8 and 9, and a good many times I was never finished till between 9 and 10. Now are those not too long hours for anybody to work? What sleep do they get? What I want to know is am I entitled to my wages?

Ans.—No, at least not to all of same. You could only legally recover such amount as the court might consider reasonable, having regard to all the circumstances.

DITCHING MATTERS.

A few of us farmers are going to meet to arrange about a ditch. I would like to have the ditch, as my land is lower than the rest, and I was thinking about 5 and 7 inches as marked. Have not the parties above a right to help to pay for the ditch, supposing I thought 4 or 5 in. was sufficient for my water? If they would not join in the ditch, are they not supposed to carry the water across you without any disputation? If A claimed that he was pasturing his, and would just as leave the water run over his land, what then? Would we all have to join and carry out water underground to the creek?

Ans.—The parties should arrange the matter between themselves, if possible, and their agreement should cover all points you mention. In the event of their not being able to agree, the engineer of the municipality should be called in. That is the regular, and, indeed, practically the only satisfactory way, by which the matter can be disposed of. There are several points besides those stated that are bound to come up, and we could not venture upon answers to even the questions asked without being upon the ground, as the engineer must necessarily be in order to make an award.

CEDAR HEDGE DYING PLANTING MAPLES —PRUNING ORCHARD.

1. I have a young cedar hedge which seems to be dying, and I have put manure around it this spring, which does not appear to help it.

2. Is it too late to set out young maples from the bush? How should it be done, and what care do they require after?

3. Is it too late to prune apple trees?

Ans.—1. Probably the soil is too dry. Cedars like moist soil. Try a heavy mulch.

2. Yes, it is now too late. Maples may be transplanted by digging them up, leaving as much soil on the roots as possible, and transporting them on a stone boat. Make large holes to set them into, and spread the roots as nearly as possible to their original position. Keep the soil well cultivated around them for a few years. When setting out, prune the top back severely.

3. June is, by many, considered the best time to prune apple trees, especially if they are to be pruned heavily. They will sucker less than if pruned in the dormant season.

GAPES OR ROUP.

I have a lot of chickens that were doing well till they were about a month old; and now have all got the gapes. They sneeze nearly all the time, and act as though they were choking. I feed them bran and barley chop and wheat. I have them in a smoke-house and small coops outside. They are only dumpy a few days before they die. Can you tell me of anything to give them to save them? I always call them in shelter when it rains. Some days they are worse than others.

Ans.—There are two diseases or troubles that may be the cause of the chickens gaping. If the chickens have gape worms in the windpipe, it is easy to make sure of this by killing one chicken and examining the windpipe. There will be found located in the windpipe small reddish-colored worms, varying in length from  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch. Some practical poultry-keepers place the affected chickens in a barrel or box that is comparatively tight and covering the top with a piece of cheesecloth or loose cotton, and dust lime through. It is claimed that the affected chickens breathe the air which is filled, more or less, with the fine lime, and which causes the dislodgment of many of the worms.

Where there are only a few chickens affected, perhaps the most satisfactory treatment is to make a loop with a horse hair. This is introduced into the fowl's throat, and is drawn out in spiral form, with the idea of pulling the worms with it. This method, it is claimed, requires several applications. Others recommend very highly the dipping of a feather in turpentine and inserting this, which will cause the chickens to sneeze and cough up the worms. Personally, I have not had any experience with this trouble, and the treatments given above are those used by the majority of growers in affected districts. A small portion of camphor in the drinking water is also recommended.

There is not, so far as I am aware, any very satisfactory treatment. The only thing that can be done in the way of prevention is to rear the chickens on new ground over which the affected chickens, or chickens of previous years, had not been allowed to run very freely. As long as one is trying to raise birds on affected grounds, so long will the birds have the trouble.

When these worms become very thick, the chickens gasp for breath. The cure is to get rid of the worms. With chickens as old as is mentioned in your letter, I would be more inclined to believe that they had taken cold, and perhaps had a mild form of roup. This trouble is quite common this season with chicks at one month of age, probably due to constant changes in temperatures of the last two or three weeks. Should this be found to be the trouble, the only thing that can be done is to keep the quarters clean and disinfect the drinking water. For such purposes, we use potassium permanganate in the proportion of about as much as will stay on a five-cent piece to one gallon of drinking water. This will make quite a high-colored liquid. Give the birds all of this they wish to drink, and no other drink.

W. R. GRAHAM

PROBABLY GAPES.

What is the trouble with hens that open their mouths and gasp for breath, and, later on, squak and make a great noise and become very thin, at last can scarcely breathe?

Ans.—The symptoms seem to indicate gapes, although this trouble usually makes its appearance in birds from four to eight weeks old. This gives ground for the suspicion that the trouble is some form of roup. See answer to Mrs. J. S. elsewhere in this issue.

RAILWAY AND GAS COMPANY.

1. Have the ——— Railroad Company got a charter from Government to force the railroad through farm property or along the public highway?

2. If the Government granted a charter, is there a set price for the land and damages, and what is the amount?

3. Have they any right to force the farmers to let them lay their gas-pipes on the farms?

Ans.—It will be necessary for you to see the company's charter, or a copy of it, in order to obtain the desired information. A copy may be had on application to the Provincial Secretary at Toronto, and payment of the fee demanded therefor by his department.

TEACHER LEAVING PREMATURELY.

A teacher in a rural school gave notice on April 25th of intention to leave at the end of June. Then about May 15th sent notice that she would close school and leave May 23rd on account of sickness, and requested that her salary be paid up to June 23rd.

1. Can this extra month's salary be claimed, no doctor's certificate having been shown to the trustees, and the agreements calling for two months' notice?

2. The trustees offered her payment in full of May 23rd; but she would not take any money unless paid in full to June 23rd. Could she claim even payment in full to May 23rd after said refusal and lack of due notice?

3. Can teacher return or send substitute to teach from June 23rd to end of June, and then claim salary to end of June, i. e., full salary for the year, which commenced after midsummer vacation, 1905?

Ans.—1. No.

2. We think so.

3. We do not think that she is entitled to do so.

Veterinary.

CONTRACTED HOOF.

What is best treatment for a contracted hoof on a two-year-old colt?

Ans.—Apply a linseed poultice to the feet for two nights in succession, then apply a blister composed of cantharides, 1 dram; biniodide of mercury, 1 dram; lard, 1 ounce, to the coronet, once a month. Turn out to pasture after the first blister. Oil the hoofs with tanner's or train oil. Damp, low-lying pasture is best to prevent hardening of the hoof.

WEAK FETLOCKS, ETC.

Colt is now two weeks old. When two days old it began to knuckle on fore fetlocks, and has puffy swellings on the outside of knees.

Ans.—If the colt goes so far forward on his fetlock joints that the skin comes in contact with the ground, he must be given artificial support. Many devices are used for this purpose. I usually use a piece of thick felt, such as is used by harnessmakers for housings, etc., reaching from the hoof to the knee, and wide enough to overlap a little on the leg. Six straps with buckles are stretched on this, and a piece of green hickory or elm placed the full length between felt, and straps in the front and on each side. Wrap the leg with batting, and then apply the support. This will prevent the joint going either forwards or sideways, and it will soon gain strength. The support should be removed and left off for a few minutes twice daily to allow the limb to cool off. Other devices are used. The points to be observed are to strengthen the limb without scarifying it, or making it sore. It is probable the enlargements at the knees will spontaneously disappear. If not you can blister them in the fall after weaning, but do not interfere with them now.

What Kind of an Animal is Man?

Mr. Bryan has stated, in a recent article, the difference between the Individualist and the Socialist with remarkable clearness. When all the froth of discussion is pushed aside, the fundamental difference between the ordinary well-meaning citizen of to-day, who is generally an Individualist, and the average Socialist comes down to a guess about the real nature of the animal man. The conservative person, who believes that society must develop on pretty much the same lines that exist to-day, thinks that man is a predatory animal who has evolved whatever good characteristics there may be in him through a fierce competitive struggle, and he can see no reason why man should change his nature in any practical reach of time by any change in the social system. Therefore he looks with suspicion on all Utopian plans according to which man would be expected to work without the competitive spur. The Socialist, on the other hand, no matter what fringe of further opinion he may have, thinks that the competitive struggle is responsible for the evil in the world, and looks for an improvement in man, and hence in society, only when competition is eliminated. He thinks better of the nature of man than the Individualist; he believes that the best results may be got out of him without the stern discipline of competition. So the matter rests with psychology—will man relieved from industrial competition lie down and wallow, or will he continue to hustle for all he is worth?

All of us answer that question according to our individual experience of life and our own temperaments. Older men who have had most experience with life, who have observed men of all classes and over a considerable period, are rarely Socialists. They know too well the weakness of human nature, and they know the need there is of the spur to get the average man to exert himself. Young men, who have faith in place of knowledge, who think from theory rather than experience, become Socialists. Strong men, so placed in the struggle that they have a good point of attack, usually enjoy the fight, and ask nothing better than a tolerably fair chance. But men who have been unfavorably placed in the fight, men who are idealists or tender of heart, and who hate the struggle—such are attracted by the visions of the Socialist. And no one can deny that the latter class is gaining rapidly in numbers, and also that many men of the other, more conservative, class now accept without question much of the Socialist's beliefs.

"Now, let's see about this portrait you're to make of my wife," said Nuritch. "Water colors rub out easily, don't they?"

"Oh, yes," replied D'Auber; "It must be in oil—"

"Wait a minute. Just make the head and neck in oil and the dress in water color. Then it'll be easy to bring it up-to-date every time the style changes."

When Bishop Phillips Brooks sailed from America on his last trip to Europe, says the Boston Herald, a friend jokingly remarked that, while abroad, he might discover some new religion to bring home with him. "But be careful of it, Bishop Brooks," remarked a listening friend, "it may be difficult to get your new religion through the custom house." "I guess not," replied the bishop, laughingly; "for we may take it for granted that any new religion popular enough to import will have no duties attached to it."

A churchman tells about a time he was travelling through the country with an evangelist. At a village in Ohio, a meeting was held, at which an announcement was made that the proceeds of a collection to be taken would be turned over to a missionary fund. In the audience was a man who was publicly known to oppose foreign missions, and who was also suspected of being an agnostic of the deepest dye. The churchman in the course of the collection passed this man the box. The other pushed it away with a sneer on his face. A sudden inspiration came to the churchman, and, thrusting the box under the fellow's nose, he said: "Here, take some—it's for the heathen."