

cows tested showed a loss of 129 pounds of butter per year lost in the skim milk and 31 pounds in the butter-milk, a total loss of 160 pounds, or 32 pounds per cow. This, at 20 cents per pound, the price received from private customers, means a loss of \$6.40 per cow per annum. The farmer with twenty cows would at this rate save \$128 per year by using a farm separator, and we believe this estimate is not far from correct.

Syndicating Stallions

This method of securing the services of good horses in a locality is not a new one. It has been tried in the States, but as crooked methods were practised in supplying the members of the syndicate with good horses the system has got into some disrepute. Many of the horses palmed off on syndicates by unscrupulous dealers have been poor affairs and have brought disaster to the horse-breeding interests of the districts. Attempts have been made by Americans to syndicate some of these inferior animals in Canada, but fortunately with very little success.

Though farmers in some parts have been imposed upon in a number of instances, the syndicating of stallions is a very effective means of introducing the best blood in a locality at a comparatively low cost. During the past year or two Graham Bros., Claremont, Ont., have been syndicating a number of horses in different parts of the country with marked success. Their high-class trotting stallion, Vrowsky, by Red Wilkes, was sold by them to a company at Markham and has done a most successful and satisfactory business for his new owners. They have also syndicated several Clydesdale stallions in different parts of the province. There are other Ontario breeders who have been equally successful in this work, and whose horses have given good satisfaction. The plan is a good one and the only caution necessary is that farmers, who contemplate organizing a syndicate, should deal with some responsible and well known breeder from whom the kind of animal they want can be secured.

The Outlook for Clover Seeds

Red clover seed is likely to be very high before spring opens up. The American and Canadian crop is a very poor one. The English crop is of fine quality, but the yield is very disappointing, averaging only $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 cwt. per acre, and it is clear that Great Britain will have to import largely from somewhere. The French crop is short, and Germany and Belgium will be buyers and not sellers. Russia will be able to spare a little, but it will not be much, as the drought last spring injured the clover plant in many districts. It is estimated that Europe will need from 100,000 to 150,000 bags of red clover seed next season, and it is very doubtful if America will be able to supply one-half of this quantity.

While clover seed is a fair crop in most producing countries, but really fine qualities are reported scarce. Alsike is a poor crop all over Europe, but American and Canadian seed of fine quality is evidently plentiful as it is obtainable at low prices.

The Argentine Cattle Trade to be Bonused

It is reported that at the session of the Argentine Congress, now in progress, the Minister of Agriculture will present a bill providing for the payment of bounties on the export of cattle, for special privileges to vessels under the Argentine flag which carry cattle, and for the remission of the dues now exacted from vessels under any flag which carry Argentine cattle to foreign markets. We have frequently drawn attention in these columns to the special

efforts the South Americans are putting forth to develop their export cattle trade, and this is another move along that line which, if it comes into effect, will bring Argentine cattle-dealers nearer the British markets than they are now. By importing largely of pure-bred stock for breeding purposes they have greatly improved the quality of their beef cattle, which even now is almost on a par with the quality of the cattle shipped to England from Canada and the United States. Though we are opposed to bolstering up a trade by a bonus of any kind, yet we believe our Federal Government could help the Canadian cattle trade immensely by securing better freight rates on export cattle. It costs us \$6 more per head to send cattle from Ontario to Liverpool than from the Western States to the same point.

CORRESPONDENCE

Bacon Production

To the Editor of FARMING:

We have read with great interest the articles appearing in FARMING from time to time on the above subject and among others those from the pen of Wm. Davies, C. C. L. Wilson, F. C. Fearman, and others. Mr. Davies speaks in the Exhibition number of the brutal treatment which the hog is subjected to before reaching the slaughter house. We are sorry to say that we, too, have seen the poor brute lying covered with marks, bruised and bleeding, and must before long if living be a mass of scabs and sores. We do not think this necessary with properly constructed pens and also with proper methods of loading and unloading at the shipping stations. The buyers could tax the marks found on the animal and in this way reduce the evil very materially. Mr. Fearman's letter gives very positive information as to breed and feed and a great deal of it is valuable, but like the cow with the "mullen," we must reject some of it. His absolute prohibition, "Do not feed corn" or "avoid corn" in the light of Professor Day's experiments, does not obtain. It does look unreasonable that sweet, well-matured corn with a mixed ration of mangels or sugar beet, barley or oats, etc. (which by the way I would advise instead of turnips because it is more palatable), could possibly make anything but sweet and nutritious bacon, providing the hogs have been kept in thrifty condition.

No doubt Mr. Fearman when advising out-door exercise for the hog was right when the weather is not too inclement, as the animal requires it in order that he may develop muscle or flesh instead of fat. It is also beneficial for health, and without health we cannot have growth or thrift. We do not agree with Mr. J. L. Wright when he says, "To allow hogs to range at will would simply spell ruin to farmers foolish enough to be led astray by such talk." We never had hogs do better than when fed in a clover or lucerne pasture and finished there, and we are convinced that Mr. J. L. W. would find his profits much larger if he adopted the more sensible plan of feeding his hogs and finishing them too while ranging in the clover or lying, stretching and growing in the orchard, for at least six months of the year. We have made a practice of penning only when we must. It must be understood that we do not allow the pigs to run everywhere or anywhere, but confine them to their own plots. It is important that further experiments be conducted at the O.A.C. with regard to result of feeding corn, as we have found a mixture of corn, shorts, and mangels or sugar beet a profitable ration in so far as growth is concerned.

A READER.

NOTE.—The above letter came to us without any signature attached, but as the writer evidently understands what he is talking about, we have pleasure in giving his letter publication. We should be pleased, however, to have his address.—EDITOR.