

opinions and results of experiments were published in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE during the early months of 1897, feeding cattle made decidedly more economical gains when dehorned and running loose than if tied up. We would like to hear from men who have made a trial during the winter just passed. (2) Mammoth clover, like common red clover, lives from year to year. On account of its more luxuriant growth it surpasses red clover as a crop to plow down. (3) Provided sufficient space could be given under gangway to barn, and the house were made frost proof, we do not see any objection to placing the root house in that location. True, it would then not be as handy for feeding, but the plan of stable would govern that feature. (4) It always seems a great waste of valuable space to put a silo inside the barn. It certainly would be handier in the center than in the corner, but under ordinary circumstances the location between the gangways at the back of barn answers the best purpose. The feed-room could then be built beneath one of the gangways or just inside the stable walls, where all the feed could be readily mixed for feeding.]

Is There Compensation for Lump Jaw?

READER, Ontario Co., Ont.:—"Please let me know does the Government allow anything on cattle that have lump jaw, and it being necessary to kill them? Which Government, if any? How much is allowed?"

[Lump jaw (actinomycosis) is one of the ailments coming under the provisions of the Dominion Contagious or Infectious Animal Diseases Act, under which slaughter may be ordered and compensation may be paid by order-in-council, but as a matter of fact no compensation is given for lump jaw. The only cases in which it is done at all is for hog cholera, and what is called the "Pictou Cattle Disease," a small matter peculiar to one locality in Nova Scotia. Lump jaw also comes under the provisions of the Ontario Public Health Act, and officers of local boards of health may take steps to destroy animals so affected if deemed necessary, but there is no provision for compensating the owners of animals so destroyed.]

Pounds of Milk per 100 Pounds Butter.

GEO. PHILIP, Ontario Co., Ont.:—"I find your paper very interesting. Would not like to be without it. In your next or subsequent issue kindly give the following information: The number of pounds whole milk it takes to make 100 pounds of butter, and the number of pounds milk required to make 100 pounds of butter on the basis of butter-fat test. Give the different tests from 2.8 to 6.0."

[Milk containing 2.8 per cent. of fat yields 2.8 pounds of butter-fat per 100 pounds milk. Butter, however, contains approximately 20 per cent. of other substances, viz., curd, water, etc., so that 100 pounds of 2.8 per cent. milk would yield 20 per cent. more butter than butter-fat, or 3.36 pounds of butter, provided the process of skimming, churning, etc., are thoroughly done. The following table, we trust, will answer Mr. Philip's question:

Per Cent. Fat in Milk.	Lbs. Milk to 100 Lbs. Butter-fat.	Lbs. Whole Milk to 100 Lbs. Butter.
2.8	3574.3	2859.4
2.9	3448.2	2754.4
3.0	3333.3	2666.6
3.1	3225.8	2589.6
3.2	3125	2500
4	2500	2000
5	2000	1600
6	1666.6	1332.8

Straw-Cutting Threshing Machine Wanted.

R. S. B., Peterboro Co., Ont.:—"At a late meeting of the East Peterboro Farmers' Institute a resolution was carried to ask manufacturers of threshing machines to try and place on the market a combined threshing and straw-cutting machine, so as to have the straw cut at time of threshing, thereby allowing farmers to keep the straw in the barn, as the cut straw would take a great deal less space than the long, besides the great benefit of having the short straw for bedding and absorbing liquid manure. I think if this question were taken up by the agricultural papers and the different Institutes there would be no difficulty in getting the manufacturers to put such a machine on the market, as there is no doubt that it can be constructed. The advantages to the farmer would be manifold."

Flowers for an Office.

DR. A. D., Quebec:—"I am opening a dental office at Fraserville, and have two rooms of fifteen feet by twelve feet, and I want to know what flowers are best and finest, etc. One room is to be a waiting room (parlor), and the other to be an office (dentist's). I would like to have something choice and fine, but not, of course, too costly. I would like to have a good appearance of both rooms, and also want to know how to take care of them?"

[The following might be mentioned as among the most satisfactory plants for house culture, providing gas is not used in the house; in this case none of the flowering plants will do well: Geraniums, Fuchsias, Chrysanthemums, Callas, Begonias, Primulas, Cyclamens, Cacti, Tradescantias, Farfugiums, Palms, and Ferns. To give full directions as to management would fill a book; a few of the more important points might be briefly noted as follows: Keep the plants in clean, porous pots, and make allowance for good drainage; soil should be rich and contain sand enough to make it friable; water only when necessary, then give a thorough soaking. The hollow sound of the pot

when rapped with the knuckles is an indication that the plant requires water. The atmosphere should be kept moist by means of water evaporating in the room. The foliage should be sprayed frequently, and kept free from dust. All the sunlight possible should be given, and the plants should be turned daily to prevent leaves all turning to the light. Pinching back too vigorous shoots must be attended to in order that plants may grow symmetrically. A vigilant watch must be kept for insects, and prompt measures must be taken for their removal. Plants must not be expected to bloom all the year around, but should be given a rest after a season of bloom by placing them in a cooler temperature and giving only enough water to keep them alive.

H. L. HURT,
Ontario Agricultural College. Horticulturist.]

Rib Grass in Clover Seed.

N. P. J. H., Middlesex Co., Ont.:—"You will find enclosed a number of small seeds which we found among our clover seed. Could you give me the name and description of the weed in your next issue of the ADVOCATE, and oblige?"

[There seems to be no more common medium for the introduction of bad weed seeds than clover and grass seed, for the reason that so many weed seeds are small and inconspicuous. In 1894 the late Prof. Pantou, of the Ontario Agricultural College, secured sixty samples of clover seed from seed merchants and others in various parts of Ontario, and with very few exceptions were they free of weed seeds of some description. The most numerous weed seeds were sorrel, but in nine samples rib grass seed, or plantain, similar to the seeds sent us, was found in varying quantities. The seeds are about the same size as those of red clover, light brown in color, slightly elongated, furrowed on one side, and bearing a darker spot in the center of the groove or furrow. This weed has become quite common in most sections of Ontario. It has been introduced from Europe, where it is sometimes used for sheep pasture, although we would not recommend it for that purpose. It is a simple perennial, living from year to year, but being reproduced from the seed only. Its leaves are long, ribbed, hairy and narrowed at the base. The stems which support its seed-spikes are usually about a foot high, or more in favorable locations. Each plant may bear several spikes, which are usually from one to two inches long, being, however, much shorter than the common plantain frequently seen growing about the doorway.]

Rib grass continues to grow throughout the greater part of the growing period of the year. It comes into flower in June, and continues to produce seed all through the remainder of the season. When it has obtained a foothold in a meadow the field should be broken up and followed by a hoed crop. When a grain field is infested it should receive thorough autumn cultivation, followed the next season by a soiling crop, and this followed by a crop of rape or a hoed crop.]

Weeders—Artificial Manures—Pure-bred or Cross for Bacon.

A. J. BARKER, York Co., Ont.:—"1. Are those 'weeders' referred to by Mr. Rennie, of the Ontario Experimental Farm, of any use in destroying weeds such as mustard in grain crops? 2. Have any of your readers used artificial manure on roots and profited by it? 3. What kind of hog is best, a pure-bred or crossed, for the present market?"

[1. The weeders referred to are illustrated in D. Maxwell & Sons' (St. Mary's) advertisement in this issue of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. The teeth do not dig deep enough to root out plants more than about an inch deep, but such as mustard seldom sprouts if at a greater depth. We would therefore expect considerable mustard to be destroyed by two or three cultivations by this weeder after the grain is a few inches high. 2. Readers are asked to reply. 3. It is simply impossible to reply directly to this question. We have frequently published the opinions of others, which in many cases were contradictory. In a recent conversation with an intelligent pork-raiser we were almost persuaded that the Tamworth-Berkshire cross left all other breeds or crosses in the shade, but it does not require a very long time to do a little careful experimenting in this line, and whatever conclusions are reached there need be no loss of feed, pigs or money.]

MARKETS.

FARM GOSSIP.

East Middlesex, Ont.

As a rule new clover and winter wheat have come through the winter in good condition, though the latter has a light top. Plowing is in progress. Several fine lots of export cattle are fattening in Westminster and Dorchester, but no sales reported yet; 43c. per lb. talked of by exporters. Dairy cows in good demand. First auction sale the other day averaged from \$35 to \$40. The average number of pigs are being fed. Young stockers six weeks to two months old go at about \$3 each. Disappointingly poor maple syrup season; weather not favorable. Price \$1 per gallon. Many cheese factories now running butter plants. New one just started at Dorchester Station. Butter sales 19 cents and over. Cheesemaking will not start till latter part of April or 1st of May.

T. W.

Norfolk County, Ont.

A new organization called the Farmers' Union, formed among farmers supplying a local canning factory, has started in this county, with Mr. L. Colver, of Bloomsburg, President, and S. Kitchen, Secretary. The other officers are a vice-president and three directors. The annual meeting is held in December, and all other meetings are at the call of the President. The main object of the organization is to promote the business interests of the members. Its meetings are open. Fruit-growers, milk producers, factory patrons or farmers in any other lines in a given locality can adopt the same plan of organization to guard their interests.

Grenville County, Ont.

A prominent merchant advertised best seed corn just arrived, fresh and good. I found out that he got it from a roller mill about eight miles east of the town. This corn he gave all the well-known names, as White Flint, Red Cob, Early Dent, etc., when in reality it was common western feed corn totally unfit for seed. I have known cases where such corn was planted three or four times before it would grow, and even when it did grow the crop was light and thin. I believe if a reliable seed house were to put a good man, preferably a farmer's son, on the road, say through Eastern Ontario, appointing sub-agents in every township to thoroughly canvass the farmers, he would not only do good work for the seed house, but would be of great service to enterprising farmers.

C. F. F.

Oxford Co., Ont.

The past winter has been very pleasant, good sleighing much of the time; all necessary teaming got through with. Many farmers have been hauling barnyard manure to the fields as it was made, some in large piles, others in heaps ready to be spread in the spring, and, better still, many spread right from the sleigh. Generally plenty of fodder; cattle wintered fairly well. Feeders who have good export steers are holding on, looking for 43c. to 50c. Second-class cattle are being sold to local butchers, at from 23c. to 34c. No activity in the market. Live hogs, which, perhaps, are the principal meat product, have taken a drop. For a time they brought \$5, then \$4.75 and \$4.60, and still the tendency is downward. Many farmers have sold their wheat and oats, at about 85c. and 32c., respectively. Complaints are loud and long against the grain gamblers and speculators demoralizing the market. Good draft horses bring all the way from \$100 to \$175, and are being bought for export. Good general purpose horses are also sought after, from \$60 to \$100, generally \$70 to \$80. Cows and store cattle are held so high that few care to buy them, and bring more at auction sales than is really warranted by the prices of other stock. Fall wheat looks very well considering the poor start much of it had in the dry weather last fall. That sown on clover sod or clover aftermath, plowed early, looks much the best. The spring opened very early, and we are having remarkably open weather. Farmers who have dry land have been plowing for over a week, and some have got a part of their garden seeds sown. A good farm lately sold for \$6,100; others are held at from \$5,000 to \$6,000. Owing to the great amount of money looking for investment, the rate of interest has taken a drop, and any man can borrow all the money he can give security for at 5 per cent., and farms can be bought and rented to tenants so that the rent will yield 4 to 5 per cent. on the purchase price, and, generally speaking, the prospects for the farmer are better than they have been for years.

D. L.

Kent Co., Ont.

We are having one of the earliest springs on record. Since the 1st of March the weather has been fine and warm, and for the past two weeks we have had warm showers daily, consequently the roads are almost impassable. The trees are budding, and clover, grass and fall wheat never looked better. Hay is plentiful, at from \$4.50 to \$6.50 per ton. Millfeed is dear: Shorts, \$15 per ton; bran, \$13. Cull beans are fed quite extensively by dairymen in conjunction with the above, and are considered cheap feed at 30c. to 35c. per bush. Cattle of all kinds are scarce and dear. At farm sales prices run wild. Buyers are paying 3c. and 34c. for light and heavy stockers, respectively; butchers' cattle, 3c.; and exports stuff for May delivery is worth 4c. per lb. Milch cows sell readily at \$30 to \$50 each. The dressed hog trade is closing at \$5.75 per cwt. Live hogs are moving, at \$4.50, per cwt., with a large number of young pigs in farmers' hands. Horse buyers are numerous. Good sound chunks in best demand, at prices ranging from \$60 to \$85 each. Farmers themselves are beginning to buy, which is a pretty good sign of higher prices. The bad roads and high water has paralyzed trade in grains; holders cannot deliver them. Wheat is still being held for the dollar by a great many. Beans have an upward tendency, at from 50c. to 68c. per bush. We are extremely anxious that the Government impose a duty on beans equal to that imposed by the Americans against us. This would secure us the Klondyke trade, which would put the bean industry on a solid basis once more. During the bad roads butter has run up to 25c. per lb. and eggs 20c. per dozen. Apples are scarce, at 25c. and 30c. per peck, and potatoes 85c. a bag. The duty imposed on tobacco and the consequent high prices realized is directing attention to that industry. As high as \$250 has been made per acre. The soil of Essex and Kent is well adapted to the growth of this plant, and a large acreage will be planted the coming season.

W. A. McG.

London (Ont.) Live Hog Market.

Friday, March 25th.—Paid drovers off cars. Lean, long singers, \$4.80 per cwt.; light, fat and heavy, \$4.40 per cwt. Long, lean, white, half Yorkshire hogs in great demand; short, light and fat hogs, nearly unsalable. Farmers should not deliver hogs under 100 lbs.; every undersized hog takes up room for a real singer in any packing-house.

Ask your neighbor if he reads the "Farmer's Advocate." If he does not, get him to.