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TORONTO, JULY, 1890.

Original Plans, Devices, and Ideas.

If you have an original plan, device, or idea, that you think would be of benefit to your fellow farmers or stockmen, turn to our March number and see how we will pay you for it if you send it to us for publication. Space forbids us printing the whole scheme in full, as usual. We would refer those desiring to know more of this to our January, February, and March numbers, where the premiums are given in full with complete particulars.

INTELLIGENT breeding and skilful feeding are the two rails on the main line over which speeds the progress of the live stock industry

In the official report of the Shire Horse Show of Great Britain, written by Sanders Spencer, the fact that the prize winners of the year were drawn from as many as eighteen counties is instanced to indicate the cosmopolitan nature of the Shire.

SHEEP are effective and active weed destroyers, but it is doing them a grievous wrong to say "they will live and thrive on the wastes of the farm." The outgrowth of such belief is to be seen in the pack of hair and bale of bones that goes shackling along some of our roadways. Meet sheep half way and they will go the rest of the way with you to your profit.

THE London Omnibus Company found that three thousand horses fed on sixteen pounds of *ground* oats, seven and one half pounds of *cut* hay and one half pound of *cut* straw did as much work and kept in as good condition as another three thousand fed on nineteen pounds of *whole* oats and thirteen pounds of *uncut* hay; thus saving by grinding the grain and cutting the feed six pounds of feed per day or a saving in the feeding of six thousand horses amounting to three hundred dollars per day.

WHAT constitutes a Canadian-bred animal? The Clydesdale Association says that a Canadian-bred horse is one that does not trace on the side of the dam to an imported mare. Persons who cannot see the force of debarring the dam from being imported while the sire may be an importation, hold that the term should apply to one mated, foaled, and reared in Canada. The term is of such general use in all departments of live stock that its definition is worthy

of thorough consideration, and while it is within the province of the different associations to interpret the term as they deem proper, yet it would be well for such terms so universally used to have a meaning alike in all cases. While thinking that the latter interpretation is the more literal and perhaps the best, we would yet like to hear an expression of opinion from those who have thought over the matter.

RECORDS are about to be established, the *Aura-Neu Yorker* tells us, for the registration of fast walking horses, similar to the records that have proved so valuable to breeders of trotting stock. Mr. John W. Aiken, of Scipio, New York, wisely comments as follows: "Anything that creates an interest in a record for fast walking horses must do good. I believe fast walking is a matter both of breeding and training. Colts can be trained to walk fast by being led alongside a fast-walking horse or behind a fast-walking team. As soon as old enough for the harness, each should be driven with a fast-walking mare until the habit is firmly established. A very large percentage of draft animals, however, need no particular training in this direction. Medium-sized Percherons are, as a rule, remarkably fast walkers. Fast walking is of peculiar value to most purchasers of draft stock."

EUROTISSIMA, the Jersey that made a record of 945 lbs. 9 oz. of butter in a year, was fed at the beginning, 24 pounds of grain per day, consisting of one-third each of corn meal, ground oats, and wheat middlings. After one month this was reduced to 21 lbs. in same proportions. At the end of four months bran was fed instead of the middlings, with advantage. The grain was usually mixed with cold water and part spread upon hay or silage. In addition to the grain, she was given during the season, about three hours per day of fair pasture and what hay she would readily take. She was given exercise every fair day when put in the stable, and her feed then was cut and steamed hay and silage, generally some of both, and part of her grain ration mixed with it. She was given all the hay she would readily eat, and about half a bushel of silage, and each day a peck of carrots or beets, the former preferred.

Clover Hay for Horses.

It is the universal opinion that nothing can surpass clover hay as a food for cows, but there is a strong feeling against using it for horses which cannot be accounted for otherwise than by calling it a prejudice nursed by the difficulty in curing the clover crop successfully. For years back one of our most successful stockmen has been feeding cut clover hay, and he is very enthusiastic over the practice. He feeds his working horses each, in round numbers, a ration of twenty pounds of cut clover hay and ten pounds of shorts and bran. The curing of clover is one of those operations of the farm which give birth to opinions as various and many as the different physical conditions of our farms. We have given various methods followed, and now add that first given by Mr. Brown, of Ohio, and now followed by many: "Cut when there is no external moisture, preferably, in the afternoon, and let it be in the swath until about 11 o'clock the next day; then the swaths are turned over, leaving them as loose as possible so the wind can blow through them. Two, or at most three hours later the rake is started and followed immediately with the forks loosening the windrows. An hour later it is turned and at once put into small cocks. If

it is good hay weather this clover will feel to the hand perfectly dry, but if put into the barn at this stage it will heat and must. By standing in the cock until near noon the next day, it will feel quite damp and perhaps slightly warm, and if it is opened and dried a second time in the middle of the day, two hours will finish the airing, and give the best quality of bright sweet hay."

Feeding Pigs for Market.

The market asserts in language intelligible to the dullest and heaviest ear, that pork should be made from pigs, not hogs. The fact is equally plain that the greatest profit can be made only by breeding and feeding for early maturity and moderate weights. At the Vermont Experimental Station it was found that pigs of 150 lbs. yielded a profit above food consumed, but that profit ceased as soon as 208 lbs. was reached. To bring the pigs up to 150 lbs. in the shortest time possible is the best paying aim for the farmer to have before him. To have pigs fit for the market when six months old requires that they be kept steadily growing until about four months old, and then for the remaining two months give their whole time to filling out. For pigs either fattening or breeding there is no foods that receive such universal praise as bran and shorts feed in a thick slop with milk. Waldo F. Brown, in whose judgment we have faith, has found that he gets best results from one pound of old process oilmeal mixed with about ten pounds of bran and shorts given in a slop freshly mixed each day, so as to control fermentation, and salted to help the flavor. He says that where oats are as cheap as other foods he would make the mixture five pounds of ground oats, five pounds of bran, and five pounds of shorts or middlings to one pound of oil meal, and if five or ten gallons of milk can be added to the ration for even one hundred pig, it will help the flavor of the swill, or if a half bushel or a bushel of potatoes can be boiled and mashed and mixed with it, it will be a good addition to it. Succulent food, such as clover and pumpkins, will do much to make the pigs thrifty by keeping their system in good order. To make pork economically there is nothing to equal clover, milk, bran and shorts. As the above authority says the small farmer who can combine dairying with pig growing ought to put from 25 to 50 pounds more upon a six months old pig than the farmer with a hundred or two, who has no milk for them.

Fall Litters.

The major advantages of raising two litters of pigs a year, one in the spring and the other in the fall, from the same sow, are very plainly stated by a correspondent in the *Swine Breeders' Journal*, who has followed this course for some time. Among the strongest points urged by him may be noticed the assertion that they are less likely to become barren, and that they make better nurses, and also do better in many ways if two litters are raised. He claims that he has less trouble with his sows, less danger of accidents, such as would occur during the rutting period, and also that they keep in better flesh and condition after they have been served the second time. The strong statement is made that he would rather breed a sow and kill the pigs in the fall, than allow her to run the summer without breeding. It is plain that to breed them twice a year the sows should not be bred until they are between one and two years old, as the two suckling periods would be too great a tax upon their vitality. While it may be granted that it