

one walk up to them, whereas if they are caught around the neck there may be difficulty in catching them.

"After the colt has become familiar with the biting apparatus and has learned to obey such simple commands as 'whoa!' 'get up!' and the like, he may be harnessed. Do not use new harness, smelling of things unfamiliar to the colt, but one that has been in constant use, preferably by a horse that the colt knows. After being driven with the biting apparatus for a time and the colt is rather tired, put him in his stall, bring the collar to him, let him smell of it if he likes, then put it right on as if he were an old horse. Now get the harness, walk up to him and lift it gently over his back. Do not stand off and throw the harness over his back, for the loose straps hitting his back and abdomen will be resented and he may kick. Walk behind him, put the crupper strap on, then step to the side and fasten the bands.

"The harness should be of good quality and in good repair. If a part breaks, there may be trouble and the colt ruined for all time. See to it that it fits perfectly. The collar should receive attention, as it is through this that the horse exerts his power. The colt's shoulders are likely to be tender and easily abraded, and we must see that the collar fits perfectly. The collar must be kept scrupulously clean.

"When the colt is desired for single use, it is often advisable to train him to go single from the first. This may be done after he has become familiar with the bit, harness and use of the lines. When training the colt to go single, a training cart—one with long shafts, substantially constructed, and the seat so arranged that the driver can get off and on quickly—should be employed. Such a cart can easily be constructed from the rear wheels and the axle of a buggy or carriage by fastening two long poles, hickory or any tough, springy wood, to the axle, fastening a cross-bar and whiffletree in front and a board seat in the rear. The shafts should be 12 or 14 feet long, with provision at the ends for the attachment of a strap across from point to point to prevent the colt in rearing from throwing his front leg over the end of the shaft. At first a kick-strap attached to each shaft and passed over the colt's rump should be used; at least until the colt is accustomed to the shafts. When the colt is first hitched, an assistant should hold him until the driver is ready, then he should be allowed to go. As soon as he has become familiar with the vehicle he should be compelled to stand still until he is wanted to start."

## Stock

### Can Baby Beef Be Fed in the West?

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Have eighteen head of heifers to calve in the spring. Do not wish to give away calves, nor sell them, if I can do better. Would like your opinion as to the plan I propose for handling them. Can I wean the calves, feed them whole milk for about five weeks, or, say, until they will eat chopped wheat, give them plenty of pasture, feed them through the winter of 1911 and 1912, and sell them for baby beef on the Winnipeg market and get as much for the grain fed as I would had it been sold on the market. My object is to keep up the fertility of my farm. The quality of grain I have would sell around 66 cents per bushel. Have a good warm barn to feed in. How much grain will an animal consume in fifteen months on good pasture and separated milk?—C. J. CURTIS, Alta.

As we understand this question, you wish to feed the calves on whole milk for five weeks, changing at about that age to separated milk, feed them on chopped wheat, pasture and hay and have them ready to market, say, about June, 1912, at which time the calves would be around fifteen months old. You wish to know if you can do it profitably. If the case is as stated, the answer is you may or you may not. It depends on the calves, the feeder and the feed.

We would not attempt to feed scrub calves for

### WHO'S WHO IN LIVE STOCK



J. E. MARPLES

J. E. Marples was born in Sheffield, England, about 55 years ago. His father was Rev. John Marples, M. D. J. E. seems to have started out young to see the world, being first a sailor and then a soldier. His soldiering experience was gained with the British troops in Burma and East India, serving as a musician in one of the regimental bands. Later he was a bandmaster; afterwards a store clerk, and now, finally, a farmer in Manitoba and breeder of purebred Hereford cattle, Shetland ponies, Berkshire hogs, Buff Orpington fowls and Toy Pomeranian dogs.

Mr. Marples came to Canada in 1879, and to Manitoba in 1881. He bought his first purebred Herefords in 1893, and branched into Shetlands in 1903, breeding, importing and exhibiting in both lines ever since. The Hereford herd numbers around 50, and in the neighborhood of 75 head of Shetlands are usually on hand. Lately a small herd of Holsteins has been added, and it is the intention of the owner to go in more for this well known breed of deep-milking cattle.

Poplar Park Farm, as the home place is called, lies about four miles from Deleau and seven miles from Hartney. It comprises two sections of rolling land, dotted here and there with poplar groves. Six hundred acres are cultivated, the remainder being in pasture and wild hay. It is an ideally-situated farm for stock, grain or mixed farming. The buildings are modern in every respect, one of the most up-to-date set of buildings to be found on a farm in Western Canada. The house is equipped with every convenience—furnace, hot and cold and hard and soft water, an individual sewage system, bath-room, etc. Mr. Marples has just completed installing an electric light and power plant, with twenty-two lights distributed throughout the house, and lights in the barns, both outside and in. Power and light are generated by a gasoline engine stationed in a brick power-house and garage combined, and motors are located at the barns to grind, saw, pump, run machinery and elevate grain. Even the pumping in the pasture fields is done by motor, a wire running from the generator to a motor attached to the pump. The proprietor believes in making use of every labor-saving device possible; owns an automobile, a gasoline traction engine, and a threshing outfit, and, in so far as is practical, substitutes gasoline and electric power for the labor of man and horse.

Mr. Marples came to Manitoba with an "idea" and practically nothing else. What he owns has been accumulated in the past twenty-five years, and what he has been able to do is exemplary of what can be done in these fertile Western provinces by men who have the initiative and determination to set themselves to the doing of it. It is a fact worth noting in connection with the successful farmers of Western Canada that their success has invariably been in proportion to the attention they have given to livestock as a department of their farming operations. The men who take the broad, high ground that permanent success in agriculture depends on stock-raising, and follow that principle for a number of years are the ones who come out right in the end. The subject here is a conspicuous example of men of this stamp. He pinned his faith to stock when prospects were less brilliant than at present, and he "stuck." It is this ability to stick that makes or mars. Probably Mr. Marples learned the soundness of the old truism "that a rolling stone gathers no moss," when he was wandering the world in his youth. If he did the pity is that more of us hadn't done our "wandering" before we settled down.

baby beef. They lack in thrift, and do not mature as early under the forced system of feeding. If you have well graded calves of the beef breeds, the venture would be advisable. If you haven't better leave baby beef-making alone. As to feeds: Chopped wheat is not advisable. The best feeds are whole or chopped oats, bran, corn and a little flaxseed or linseed meal. As to the feeder: He should be willing to specialize to some extent in the work. The most successful baby beef feeders are specialists in this line.

Calves intended for baby beef do better if allowed to suck until about five months of age,

although excellent results may be secured by the method you propose. Start them on grain and hay at as early an age as they will eat, the grain being whole or chopped oats, mixed with a little bran, and as they get older, some of the wheat might be used. When changed from whole to separator milk, it would be well to add boiled flaxseed to the milk to take the place of the butterfat removed. The object is to keep the calves thrifty and make them grow. A youngster that loses his calf flesh will rarely feed into baby beef. At this stage, the calves are on pasture, it should be abundant. In fact, if it is not good the calves are better inside. Some feeders follow the method of keeping them inside in the daytime, and turning them to pasture at night, a scheme that pretty well saves the calves from being pestered to death by flies.

Winter feeding consists in crowding the youngsters forward at as rapid a rate as possible. A variety of feeds is essential. Clover hay and silage are the usual standard fodders where baby beef feeding is followed. Prairie hay, green cut oat sheaves and a few roots to add succulence should be found almost as satisfactory. Ground grains, such as oats, ground barley, some wheat, a little linseed meal and corn, if you can get it, constitute the grain ration. The calves should have all they will eat up clean. The object is to force growth and maturity; but in doing so care should be exercised not to put the animals off feed. As good a way as any to winter feed is in boxes in a warm stable.

So much for baby beef feeding in general. As no experience of this kind of beef-making has been had in this country, it is impossible to more than generalize. Our opinion, however, is that if you can approximate the requirements above noted you should be able to produce baby beef in Alberta as successfully as it is produced in Eastern Canada, or in central United States. You should be able to do it profitably, too, providing you market the youngsters in season and to best advantage. Too many farmers in this country are deterred from giving attention to cattle feeding because they claim there is no market for first-class stock. From an extended observation of the livestock markets at Winnipeg, it is our candid opinion that the reason about seventy-five per cent. of them fail to market to advantage is because the stuff they market isn't worth any more real money than the buyer pays for it. There is demand and fair price for high-class stock. Only a very small percentage of the stock offered for sale is high class, or anywhere near it. Lack of quality in cattle offered for butcher or export purposes is a more serious defect in the livestock business than is the reputed, and, to some extent, existent monopolistic condition on the side of the buyers.

We would not advise you to attempt to raise the calves on chopped wheat. Sell it, even if it is worth no more than 66 cents per bushel, and buy oats, bran and other grains mentioned. Neither would we advise trying to feed poor quality calves. Given good calves and the right kind of grain, you should be able to sell at a price that would leave good profit over cost of production. You will not, however, finish into baby beef one hundred per cent. of the calves your eighteen cows will drop next spring. Better figure on getting forty per cent. or so to that stage.

It is impossible to state definitely what quantity of grain a calf will consume in fifteen months. Four pounds of mixed grain fed in conjunction with good hay is a fair ration for the first winter. You might figure that more than this will be required for forcing growth, say, about six pounds per day, with a lighter ration when on pasture, roughly, in the neighborhood of 1,800 pounds for the time mentioned.

### Stock Farming on Light Lands

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

A friend and myself control 960 acres of sandy soil, and on which we can get water anywhere at 20 to 30 feet. Inspired by your advice and also that of Messrs. J. J. Hill and J. W. Flavelle we are disposed to go largely into raising beef cattle. How could this acreage best be handl