

A \$500,000 FACTORY.

A BIG AMERICAN-CANADIAN ENTERPRISE.

A Scheme to Make Beet Sugar in Canada has Been Started by Two Ottawa Men.

The establishment of a \$500 000 factory for the manufacture of beet root sugar in Canada, it is said, will shortly be undertaken by American capitalists who are working with Messrs. J. E. Askwith and James Fowler of Ottawa in the interests of the enterprise. The factory will be located in Ontario, and will, it is said, be capable of handling daily 500 tons of beets. When the factory is started it will, it is said, be necessary to pay \$250,000 out every season to the farmers to be used for the purpose of feeding the cattle.

The government is to be asked to place a bounty on the production of beet sugar in Canada, and this the promoters of the company claim will ensure the establishment in Canada of a great many other factories for making beet sugar. Mr. O. E. Culbert is solicitor for the promoters.

SEASONABLE NOTES.

Cotton cake and clover hay.

Will you inform me what is considered to be the feeding value of the best under corticated cotton cake as compared with the best clover hay?" Says a correspondent, perhaps little thinking of the difficulty of answering such a question. If the matter is looked at from a chemical point of view alone, the two substances may be readily compared. This is what we see:—

	Uncorticated cotton cake.	Clover hay (very prime).
Water	11.5	16.50 per cent.
Ash	6.3	7.00
Albuminoids	24.6	15.30
Crude fibre	20.8	22.20
Non-nitrogenous soluble	30.6	35.80
Fat	6.2	3.20
	100.0	100.00

According to Wolff the value as food of these two substances, as indicated by the above analyses, are 5.46s per cwt. for the cotton cake and 4.28s per cwt. for very prime clover hay. That is, the cotton cake is worth for food alone about £5 9s. per ton, and the best red clover hay is worth for food alone £4 6s. per ton. The two foods are fairly comparable, and the food values approx-

imate to the market prices usually paid. If clover hay of the best quality can be bought at £4 per ton, it would be about equally profitable with cotton cake bought at £5 per ton. The question is, however, not thus quite settled, as there is reason for thinking that the cotton cake is more valuable in its residual manurial effect. On the other hand, good clover hay may be considered as a more natural food, being capable of being used more freely and for a greater variety of purposes. Clover hay varies much more in quality than good, sound cotton cake, and is, perhaps, subject to more waste. The manurial value of cotton cake is indicated by the large proportion of albuminoids, which are probably in excess of what is needed by the animal. It is also richer in fat, so that looking at the two analyses the cotton cake appears to be a good deal better than the clover hay both for food and for manurial purposes. Supposing that it is intended to purchase either of these foods it would seem much better to spend money on cotton cake than on clover hay for either cows or sheep.

The difficulty of measuring the values of foods by analysis is very great, but on the whole, sound linseed and cotton cakes may be trusted at present prices as profitable foods. For some time past cotton cake has been dear, but just at present the best cottons can be bought at £5 5s. per ton delivered, or about their feeding value, and this leaves a considerable margin for profit in their manurial value.

At one halfpenny a pound the price per gross ton of any food is £4 13s 4d., so that cotton cakes, when cheap, can be bought only fractionally above this price. If half the value remains in the form of manure, it is evident that the cost upon the animal is only a little above one farthing per lb. for cotton cake; but it is more satisfactory to charge the entire cost of the cake against the animal, and if judiciously given I believe that it will easily pay for the extra indulgence. Cake pays three times—first, through the animal consuming it; secondly, in the crop which follows; and thirdly, in succeeding crops.

Sheep pay better for the cake they consume than cattle, because there is less waste on the land than in the foldyard. There is less wasting of manure by rain, and every particle of cake, whether eaten or wasted, finds its way into the soil.—*Ag. Gazette.*