

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Cement Fence Posts

Kindly give some information about cement posts, by what means becoming scarce. Will they stand the winter?—A. S. Enfield.

The only objection to a cement fence post would be that it would break off easily if run against by a wagon or knocked in any way. To overcome this drawback cement people have been bending their energies for some time. A patent was recently applied for for a cement post, which had a barbed wire running along each corner. Parties who examined posts made in this way claimed that they served the purpose well and would stand obstruction. However, more information would be necessary before recommending this post for general use. A cement post would stand the winter all right. Cement walks and cement foundations show what can be done in this respect. Have any of our readers had any experience with cement posts?

A. S. legal question will be answered next issue.

Lump in Cow's Teat

I have a young heifer, she was two years old in January and had a calf when eighteen months old. There has always been in her two forward teats a lump about half-way up. One teat is now filled up and I can't get a drop of milk out of it. What is the cause and what can I do to make a free flow of milk. The lumps are about the size of a large field pea—H. M. G., Shellbrook, C.N.S.

The lumps are probably caused by tumors growing in the teat canal. When they obstruct the milk flow the only remedy is to make an opening through. This can best be done by a veterinary surgeon, who will have the proper instruments to do it with. A farthing needle can be used but it is very risky with a novice, as any injury to the inside of the teat canal might cause inflammation and perhaps permanent injury to that portion of the udder. If the cow is a valuable one and it is desired to keep her for milking purposes it would be better to have the operation performed by a person who understands it. In any case when once opened it would have to be kept open by frequent milking, and, if necessary, another use of the instrument. Sometimes, if the tumor is moveable it can be shoved up into the udder or out of the teat, but this happens rarely. In the present instance if the heifer has not given milk out of one teat for a week or two, it will be useless to try making an opening, as the portion of the udder to which the teat belongs may have lost its function beyond recovery.

In-Breeding

A. B., Nova Scotia, asks for information upon several phases of in-breeding. We have not space in this issue to deal with this, but will do so at length in an early issue.

Pigs Paralyzed

I have a young pig that seems to be dragging its hind legs. Is there any remedy for pigs so affected?—J. K. B.

This form of paralysis is common in many places, especially when too much corn is fed to sows carrying pigs, and to the pigs afterwards. More protein foods should be given. Both the sow and pigs

should be given plenty of exercise. The remedy is to physic the pigs. First give one-half ounce each of castor oil and glycerine. After this physic the pig give two drops of fluid extract of nux vomica, ten drops of oil of Gaultheria, and a dessertspoonful of cod liver oil at a dose, twice a day. This may prove a help. But preventive measures are better.

Testing Ripened Cream

What is the best way to tell when cream is properly ripened?—R. A. C. The most up-to-date and reliable test for this purpose is the alkali test used by many expert buttermakers. This test is made by taking a certain quantity of cream, adding to it a few drops of coloring matter, and then slowly adding an alkali. The acidity of the cream is measured by the amount of alkaline preparation required to neutralize the acid in the cream, and the coloring solution is used to indicate when the acid in the cream has been neutralized. Where much cream is handled it would pay to get one of these tests. They are not costly and are not difficult to operate.

Value of Millet

I have a piece of ground I would like to put in millet this year. Is it a valuable crop to grow? Some say it is not good for horses.—J. K. F.

Millet is not as valuable a crop as some others that might be grown. For instance, it is not as good a food as corn fodder. Its great value lies in that it can be sown late on land that cannot be put in corn or other grain. If cut when in the milk stage before the seed is allowed to become ripe, and properly cured, it makes an excellent feed. When allowed to become ripe it is not considered a safe feed for horse, nor is it the best for dairy cows. In some of the Western States, notably in South Dakota, where it is grown largely for feeding horses, what is called the "millet disease" in horses has developed, due, it is claimed, to feeding over-ripe millet. Millet, however, is a good crop for cleaning a bit of dirty land, and if cut at the proper time makes a very good feed for all kinds of farm stock.

ABOUT RURAL LAW

In this column will be answered for any paid-up subscriber, free of charge, questions of law. Make your questions brief and to the point. This column is in charge of a competent lawyer, who will, from time to time, publish herein notes on current legal matters of interest to farmers. Address your communications to "Legal Column," The Farming World, Toronto.

Lease of Farm

A rented his farm to B for a term of five years. There was a written lease. A was to have the privilege of building a house on the farm and occupying same but nothing was said in the lease as to how much land A was to have around the house. B now says he is going to plow up to the house. The lease provides that all ditches are to be kept open and in order, and that all weeds and burdocks are to be kept cut. It also provides that the crops are to be rotated.

(1) How much ground can A fence in around the house? Can he fence in an ordinary lawn, as the house is close to the road?

(2) As this is the second year the tenant has worked the farm and as he has done nothing towards keeping

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the main ditches open, can A have this work done and charge B with the expense of the same?

(3) Can A cut the burdocks and other weeds and make B pay for so doing?

(4) Can B be prevented from putting oats in the same fields for three successive years? The last year A worked the farm he put in oats. B did so last year and says he intends doing so this year.—C. J. T.

Ans.—(1) The lease should have stated how much ground A was to have the privilege of enclosing with the house. As it did not, A is entitled to only so much land as will permit him to enjoy the use of the house for the purpose of living in it. He would be entitled to a way for coming in and going out from the house and for bringing in such supplies as are necessary for living purposes. A lawn is hardly a necessity in connection with the house and in the absence of any argument by which he was to have the right to enclose one he is not entitled to do so.

(2) A's proper remedy against B where he fails to fulfil his covenants is by an action against B for damages or breach of same. A lease drawn in accordance with and in pursuance of the "Act Respecting Short Forms of Leases" (R.S.O. 1897, Chapter 125) contains a proviso (unless struck out by the parties) that the lessor may re-enter on non-performance of covenants by the lessee. Possibly the present lease contains such a proviso.

(3) The answer to question No. 2 covers this also.

(4) If B has broken his covenants in regard to the proper rotation of crops, A's remedy is by an action for damages as in the answer to question No. 2. In considering this, however, it would not be proper to take into consideration what crops A had grown on the farm during the last year that he worked it, since B's covenants are, we presume, in respect of his own acts only, subsequent to the commencement of his term of leasing, and are in reference only to the crops to be grown by him on the farm during his term as tenant.

Mrs. Miggins—She's always talking about how large her children are for their age." Mrs. Miggins—"Yes! until an impertinent conductor asks full fare for them."—Philadelphia Record.