

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

#### MARKING CATTLE.

What is the best way you know of marking cattle so that each individual can be known, so that their weight can be kept?

H. B.

Halton Co., Ont.

Ans.—We know of no better way than by using metal ear labels, such as are used for sheep, but of larger size. These, together with a punch to suit, are supplied by C. H. Dana, West Lebanon, New Hampshire. Price for punch \$1.50; labels \$3 per 100. The Worthington Drug Co., Guelph, we believe, are making arrangements to handle these goods.

#### WEAK PIGS.

Sow has a litter of pigs two weeks old. When ten days old, one was unable to walk, seemed to lose power of fore legs; next day two more affected the same way; are unable to suckle, because cannot stand up; are extra fine pigs, very fat.

SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—The sow is in too high condition and lacks exercise. If possible give her more room, feed lighter, on roots and mill feeds. Give about a half teacup of salts in her feed, once a day for a few days; give charcoal and salt.

#### MANGE AND THUMPS.

1. Mare, eight years old, with foal, has sore hind legs. They itch, and she rubs them and makes them sore in places. I think it is itch or mange.

2. Pigs, four weeks old, ailing, lost two. They breathe hard, almost like a horse that has heaves.

W. F.

Ans.—1. See prescription for mange in this and former issues in answer to questions.

2. Lack of exercise and of variety of food is probably the cause. Give half a pint of raw linseed oil, and feed laxative foods to keep bowels regular.

#### USING WASTE CLOVER.

I have half a stack of clover which the threshers had to quit after threshing some part on account of the ice. It is in such place that it is almost impossible to haul it to the manure pile because of the high snow-drift. How would it do if I haul the clover to the fall-plowed field where I intend to sow red clover and lucerne in spring?

FARMER.

Ans.—We have very much doubt if the clover could be worked into the soil, so that it would not interfere with the drill or harrows. If you have a manure spreader that will distribute it thinly, or if you sow the grain by hand broadcast and use a disk harrow to cover it, the plan might work out all right. As a certain amount of bedding is required for stock during summer, it might be just as well to use the clover for this purpose.

#### SYRUP TRIER—CALF PROBLEMS.

1. Can you tell me what instrument is used for telling when maple syrup is thick enough? Also how to use it and where could I get it, and price?

2. Could a weaned calf, a month old, be taught to suck a ccw, and would a cow that calved last March allow a calf to suck her?

SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. We have never seen such an instrument. One generally judges by the thickness of the syrup when it is sufficiently boiled.

2. It should be possible in either case, although much depends upon the disposition of both calf and cow, and the patience of the man behind them. If the cow is unwilling, buckle a strap around her just in front of the udder, and give her some meal. Let an attendant hold the calf from backing, while you milk into its mouth, and then place the teat in its mouth.

#### WATER IN CELLAR.

The water comes into my house cellar in the spring. There is a small creek running within three rods of the house. Would it be possible to keep out the water by plastering the cellar with cement, and how thick should it be put on, or is there any other way?

W. H. S.

Ans.—The first thing to do would be to secure the best possible drainage, then lay a concrete floor, say two inches thick, and extend the same up the walls of the cellar. Then give the whole a waterproof coat of concrete. The first coat should be one to five to eight, depending on the quality of the material. The second coat one to three to five.

## Do You Like Music and Song?

Do you often wish you had some way of entertaining friends and neighbors when they come to see you?

Do the children often tire out their mother when they don't know what to do to amuse themselves?

Do the young folks have to do without a dance once in a while for want of a musician?

Do you want the girls to learn all they can from master musicians on all instruments and from the voices of greatest singers?

Do you want to know more about the musical instrument that fills all these wants—entertains young and old alike?

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F. A. O.

Name.....

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#### ITCHY SKIN—PINWORMS.

1. Mare has small dry scabs on body, along back and half way down ribs. Legs are itchy, as she rubs one with the other.

2. Year-old colt passes pinworms. What should I give it?

SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. Prepare the mare for purgation by feeding nothing but bran mash for twenty-four hours, then give in a ball: Aloes, seven drams; ginger, two drams. Afterwards feed nutritious food, and keep in comfortable, clean quarters. Bathe the affected parts with castile soap and soft water, dry well, and apply one of the antiseptic dips advertised in these columns.

2. See answer to this question in February 11th issue.

#### BEEF-RING SHARES.

Please explain how to divide the pieces of meat to the members of a twenty-share beef-ring, according to the chart in your January 14th issue.

A.D.C.

Ans.—According to the chart referred to beef weighing 450 lbs. cut up most evenly. Allot the following numbers to each member:

Nos.  
1 and 18.....boil and roast  
2 and 16....." "  
3 and 12....." "  
4 and 13....." "  
5 and 17....." "  
6 and 20....." "  
7 and 11....." "  
8 and 15....." "  
9 and 14....." "  
10 and 19....." "

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Via the Chicago-Union Pacific & North-Western Line from Chicago daily during March and April, to San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, Vancouver and other Pacific Coast points. Very low rates to Helena, Butte, Spokane, Ogden and Salt Lake City. Corresponding low rates from all points. Daily and personally-conducted excursions in Pullman tourist sleeping cars to San Francisco, Los Angeles and Portland, through without change; double berth only \$7.00. Choice of routes. For particulars address B. H. Bennett, 2 East King St., Toronto, Ont.

#### GOSSIP.

At the annual public sale of Berkshire hogs from the Biltmore Farms herd, Biltmore, N. C., on Feb. 9th, an average of \$177.69 was realized for the 67 head sold.

The death is announced of Mr. B. B. Lord, of Chautauqua Co., N. Y., an early importer, from Holland, of Holstein-Friesian cattle, his first importation having been made in 1880, since which time he has made seven and his son nine trips to Europe for the purchase of stock.

Messrs. David Milne & Son, Ethel, Ont., breeders of Shorthorn cattle, write: "The bulls we are offering are a good lot, of the choicest breeding. Included in the lot is a grand red-roan Mysie from imported sire and dam. He is 15 months old, and a big, smooth, sappy fellow. Also a very pretty red Matchless, got by Red Duke (imp.). Our stock is doing well. We never had as good a lot of young calves as we are getting now from our Imp. Claret bull, Scotland's Fame."

If one wants to have success with an incubator he should see before purchasing one that it is carefully constructed, that it has good insulation, which implies that the walls, bottom and ceiling of the chamber must have several thicknesses of non-conducting material, that the doors are close fitting and that it has a good regulator. Some machines are made with the object of giving an incubator at a low cash outlay. To accomplish this the insulation is invariably neglected. Because a buyer cannot see the interior of the walls of the chamber, he is led to believe that a cheap machine is just as good as the higher-priced article. The list of disappointed prospective poultrymen, owing to purchasing inferior machines, is by no means small, and bears testimony to the importance of selecting a machine with the above mentioned requisites. Such an incubator is the Daniels, manufactured in Toronto, and with a reputation that is unquestionable. Write for their illustrated catalogue. They have some new but tested appliances that will interest poultrykeepers.

The Hereford cow, Rose Blossom, once sold for \$5,000, died Dec. 31 from effects of fall on the ice on S. M. Nabee's farm near Wabash, Ind. She was 15 years old, and the dam of the noted bull, Dale.

Attention is called to the advertisement of the auction sale of Shorthorns on March 2nd from the herds of N. Sinclair & Son, Coldstream, and T. Douglas & Sons, Strathroy, Ont., to take place at the Sinclair farm, six miles from Komoka, G. T. R. and C. P. R. A half-dozen good young bulls are included in this sale, sired by high-class Scotch-bred sires, and from good-feeding and good-milking families of cows. It is a clearing sale of the Messrs. Sinclair's herd, and a selection from that of Messrs. Douglas, and will doubtless afford an opportunity for good bargains.

One of the most prominent winners at the great Eastern horse shows last fall and winter was got by the famous sire, Perfection, the old French Coach premier, which stood so long at the head of the French Coach stud at Oaklawn Farm, Wayne, Ill. This prizewinning saddle horse was got by Perfection, out of a mare by Mambrino King, and much is expected of him this coming season. Another colt begotten by Perfection, from a Mambrino King mare, was sold at a long price to the Mikado of Japan, and is now doing service in the Imperial Stud in the Island Empire, where he was placed to do his share toward improving the horse stock of the islands. Messrs. Dunham, Fletcher & Coleman have, at Oaklawn Farm, Wayne, Ill., just at the present a line of imported and home-bred French Coach stallions that cannot fail to do much toward increasing the supply of the elegant carriage horses, so eagerly sought for, yet so hard to obtain. The get of Perfection, champion of two continents, and his matchless son, Paladin, and of many of the foremost sires of France, are offered for sale. Percherons, too, of course of highest class, and Belgians, of colossal scale, are in offer by this firm, a group of which are portrayed on another page. Write for their catalogue.

In answering the advertisement on this page, kindly mention the FARMER'S ADVOCATE.