

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

RAILWAY BLASTING.

A railway company has settled for a right of way across our farm, and the contractors are now working in a field of barley; are blasting in a hill. If they blow stones, or do other damage outside the right of way, to whom shall we apply for compensation—the railway company or the contractors?

Ontario.

T. W.

Ans.—It would probably be advisable to apply to both.

REPAIRS.

1. We wish to know where to get repairs for threshing machine manufactured by the _____ Company, Brantford, Ont.; manufactured twenty years ago, or a little longer.

2. We also wish to know where to get repairs for the _____ engine manufactured in Toronto over twenty years ago.

K. B.

Ans.—1 and 2. We have no knowledge as to where these repairs may be purchased. Inquiry of some of the present-day manufacturers might aid in locating them.

ALFALFA SEED.

Would the 10th of July be too late to let a field start growth for a field of alfalfa seed, and what is the best way to harvest it and take care of it, and what kind of a machine is it threshed by, a grain separator or clover huller? This is the crop to grow for all kinds of stock. It will pay to grow for pasture if one has to seed a field each year for this purpose. It will grow if the seed is treated, and do well sown the same as other seeds, and will grow where red clover will grow.

A. J. M.

Ans.—This should not be too late a date. Of course, a great deal depends upon the location and the season, but in Kansas many growers save the third cutting for seed, so commencing growth in Middlesex Co., Ont., at the date stated, should not be too late under average conditions. Most growers harvest with the mower. Some have special table attachments, and bundle the crop. Others cut it down and rake it up like hay, only rake it when it is damp. In some parts of Kansas it is cut with the self-binder, bound into sheaves, and allowed to dry in the stook for about ten days. The clover huller is the most satisfactory machine to use for threshing the crop, although it may be quite successfully done by using a grain machine with a special clover attachment.

PEONIES NOT FLOWERING.

Peony which I set out three years ago has never blossomed. Last year, and this year also, small buds formed, but seemed dried up and never got any larger. The ground is quite rich. Other plants are growing near it. One, called "Pride of the Meadow," is about a foot or a foot and a half away from it. Did not know whether that would affect the peony or not. Would removing peony to another part of the garden be of any benefit? The peony seems thrifty, and has grown nicely, but will not blossom.

G. L. G.

Ans.—It is difficult to give the reason for peonies not flowering. I have known peony growers to dig out and discard roots that showed this failing. It is usually thought insufficient fertilizing has a great deal to do with it. In sandy soil this failing is also often observed. My plan with peonies is to mulch late in the fall with an inch or two in depth of fairly well rotted barnyard manure. This is forked in around the roots in early spring, with the addition oftentimes of a good sprinkling of bone meal. If the soil the peonies mentioned are in is very sandy, I would advise digging in some soil of a clay loam around them. We have about one hundred varieties of peonies testing here. None of them have so far developed the non-flowering habit. Peonies do not like to be crowded with other plants. If the plants are removed, it should be done in early fall, end of September, or early in October. Spring-planted peonies are often very unsatisfactory.

WM. HUNT.

REMOVING LANDMARK.

1. What is the penalty for a person removing and taking away a corner-stone, and a landmark, between two farms, the same having been put down by a Government Surveyor, and been there for fifty years? It has always been recognized as the dividing line between the two farms.

2. What course of procedure would I have to take against such person?

3. Providing such person were to replace said stone and refuse to recognize it as the boundary line, could I take proceedings against such person for lifting stone?

SUBSCRIBER.

Ontario.

Ans.—1. Five years' imprisonment.

2. Make a complaint, or lay an information in writing, and under oath, before a justice of the peace, under section 532 of The Criminal Code.

3. Yes.

RAPE AFTER WHEAT—CARELESSNESS—METAL SHINGLES.

1. Would you advise sowing rape on land after taking fall wheat off? Would it make enough growth for lambs in the fall?

2. If a hired man, through carelessness, allows a horse to run away and break a buggy, can he be held responsible?

3. Do you think metal shingles are much warmer to work under than wooden ones, on a barn?

E. J.

Ans.—1. Rape, sown on a fall-wheat stubble immediately plowed and worked, should produce quite a crop of fall feed for sheep, but why did you miss a chance of seeding down with wheat?

2. If you can prove the accident was caused by carelessness. That may not be easy.

3. Somewhat.

COW STIFFENED—SOWING ORCHARD GRASS.

1. We had two cows last winter that stiffened up. They were fed what silage they would lick up clean. They also got a few mangels and barley and oat chop, with what straw they cared to eat. They are watered in the stable, but were let out every fine day. They were standing on a well-bedded cement floor.

2. We plowed a field of sod in June and intend sowing fall wheat. Would it do to sow orchard grass with the wheat, or when could I sow it?

R. T.

Ans.—1. This was probably indigestion or rheumatism. Was the silage fed frozen? If rheumatism was the cause, it would be well to lay over the cement where these two cows stand, removable false floors of plank. However, in a less severe winter they would probably be all right with good bedding, a little more exercise, and care to avoid feeding frozen silage or roots.

2. Without any definite experience to judge by, we should prefer to take chances on spring sowing of orchard grass. Sow with the clover.

FARM CROSSING—BUYING AT AUCTION.

1. The railroad crosses my farm, and it is the custom for the sectionmen to remove the plank crossing in the fall, leaving nothing but ballast for the sleigh to catch on all winter, letting the runners scrape on the steel rails, making it almost impossible to draw a heavy load over without danger of getting stuck. Can I make them leave plank in at least the center of track and outside? What is the lawful height for the plank to be on the rail—a little above or below the top of the rail? Is there any difference in height of plank between a farm crossing and public crossing?

2. A buys an article at public auction. After buying it he inspects it and considers it is not worth what he bid for it, and refuses to take it. Can owner compel him to take it, and pay what he bid for it?

D. F.

Ontario.

Ans.—1. We would refer you to sections 83 and 86 of The Ontario Railway Act (Ontario Statutes, 1906, chap. 30), and sections 252, 253 and 258, of the Railway Act (Revised Statutes of Canada, 1906, chap. 37), for information upon these questions.

2. Yes.

SPRAY FOR OX-EYE DAISY.

1. Would you please state in your paper if there is any spray that could be used to kill ox-eye and crow-foot daisies?

2. Myself and a neighbor were at the Turner Ayrshire sale, and understood the price paid for the record heifer to be \$2,000, but it was reported by "The Farmer's Advocate" to be \$1,700. Were we mistaken, or did some other bidder get her?

W. B. C.

Ans.—1. There is no spray that is satisfactory for killing these weeds.

2. "The Farmer's Advocate" report was \$1,750, and we believe is correct, as it was written by our own agent, who was present at the sale.

AN ACCIDENT.

A hired a horse and buggy from B, a liveryman. A asked for a quiet horse; B said anyone could drive it. After starting out the horse took fright and jumped the ditch, throwing A out, and breaking his leg, and breaking the buggy. Can B collect damages for buggy? If not, can A collect damages?

Ontario.

F. E. S.

Ans.—It does not appear from the foregoing statement of facts, alone, that it is a case for damages from either party. It is possible, of course, that one of them may have a good cause of action against the other; but far more would be required to support it than is disclosed by the statement.

GRAVEL FROM HIGHWAY.

If A is taking gravel off the roadway adjoining B's property, how near can A go to B's fence, on a bank of about six feet? If A goes so close to the fence that it falls the following spring, is A liable to any damage?

W. J. H.

Ontario.

Ans.—A may go all the way, provided he does it under proper authority from the municipal council, and assuming that the gravel is being taken for the purpose of keeping in repair some road or highway within the municipality; but if in doing so he should cause B's bank to fall as suggested, or occasion him other damage, B's proper course would be to apply to the council for compensation.

Veterinary.

INJURY TO HOCK.

Horse received an injury on inside of the hock. The wound discharged a watery fluid, but healed up under my treatment. Now there is a puffy swelling in front, and one on the outside of the joint below and in front of the point of the hock.

F. H. D.

Ans.—There is now a bog spavin and thoroughpin. These may have been caused by the injury. They are very hard to remove, and are not likely to cause lameness. Repeated blistering will probably reduce them, but they will be liable to recur. Get a blister made of 2 drams each of biniodide of mercury and cantharides, mixed with 2 ounces vaseline. Clip the hair off the parts. Tie him so that he cannot bite them. Rub the enlargements well once daily for two days with the blister. On the third day apply sweet oil and turn him in a box stall or on grass. Oil every day until the scale comes off. Repeat the blistering once every month as long as necessary.

V.

GOSSIP.

SALE OF IMPORTED CLYDE MARES.

Attention is called to the advertisement on another page of the auction sale, in London, Ont., on August 14th, of fourteen imported Clydesdale fillies, twelve two-year-olds, all stunted to high-class sires in Scotland, and two yearlings, all personally selected by the importer, who is a well-known breeder of Clydes in Scotland, and knows the type of horses required in Canada, having himself had experience in both the Eastern and Western Provinces. We are assured that this offering is full of first-class breeding and quality, combined with good size and character, and will be sold without reserve. For information, apply to Capt. T. E. Robson, Auctioneer, London, Ont.

TRADE TOPIC.

THE C. P. R. AND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE SPECIAL, AND THE WORK IT ACCOMPLISHED.

On Saturday evening, June 29th, the Agricultural College Special, run by the Canadian Pacific Railway, completed its very successful tour of Manitoba. The train was on the road for 32 days, and in that time covered all the Province tributary to the Canadian Pacific Railway. Eighty-seven different points were visited, 1,305 addresses given to 22,900 people, which included 9,851 men, 7,426 women, and 5,623 of the senior classes of the schools.

The live stock carried consisted of three pure-bred Holstein cows, one pure-bred Hereford steer, and four types of the best quality work horses and brood mares. Professors Peters and Jones discussed the horse problems, including types to raise, emphasizing draft, foal diseases, etc. Milk cows formed the subject of the second lecture, and the Holstein was advocated for Manitoba. Practical demonstration was shown in the cows exhibited, one being a 2,000-lb. weed, and another an 18,000-lb. prizewinner. The Hereford steer was used to illustrate the difference between dairy and beef types.

A short talk was also given on hog production and the raising of sheep.

After the stock-judging, Principal Hales, of the Brandon Normal School, gave the men a short address on agricultural education in the public schools, and advocated strongly more thorough training of our teachers in agriculture, and they in their turn taking up more of the time in teaching that subject in the rural districts, and also in small plots for agricultural purposes being attached to each school. The question of consolidated schools was also gone into by Mr. Hales, and strongly recommended for most districts.

Professor Lee also gave an interesting lecture on the identification and eradication of weeds. Farmers who were at the meetings last year came in, bringing with them weeds which they had found in their fields and which they were unable to identify, asked their names, and the best way of destroying them. Mr. Lee dealt particularly with the destruction of the sow thistle, the Canada thistle, mustard, wild oats, and French weed.

The subject of fodder crops was covered by Mr. Harrison. Principal Black gave a strong, practical talk on working a Manitoba farm. Poultry-raising was covered by Prof. M. C. Herner, and dairying was discussed by Profs. Mitchell and Crowe. Mrs. Salisbury gave useful instruction to the ladies on home nursing, sanitation, ventilation, etc.

The senior classes of the schools at almost every point came over to the train in a body, and were addressed by either Principal Hales, Professor Lee, or J. J. Golden, on the birds of Manitoba; of the great good birds did in killing insects which were harmful to all vegetation, the need of getting sufficient trees around the farm so that the birds would stay in the district, and also how to identify the different kinds of birds.

All the meetings were opened with a short address, explaining to the farmers why the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the Agricultural College staff thought it necessary to run the train, the interest the Canadian Pacific Railway took in the farmers who were living along their line, and the desire for better farming, and for having prosperous farmers living along the company's lines. The farmers were also invited when they came to Winnipeg to call on the officials of the company, who were always glad to have them come in and discuss matters of mutual interest.

Altogether the meetings were a great success. Many kind remarks were heard on all sides as to the generosity of the C. P. R. in furnishing the train free of charge. The announcement made in regard to the company starting demonstration farms for the benefit of the farmers in the vicinity in which they were located was always greeted with much appreciation, and many farmers expressed the hope that the C. P. R. would locate a farm of this description in their district, as it would have a very beneficial effect in keeping before them all the time the best methods of farming.