

from our countries for many years to come, as all the wool we grow does not amount to more than 60 per cent. of the home consumption. The total amount of wool produced in the United States during 1896 was 272,474,708 pounds, while the amount imported in 1897 was 350,852,026 pounds. During the past ten years our production of wool has steadily decreased from 302,000,000 to 272,000,000 pounds, while our imports have increased from 113,000,000 to 350,000,000 pounds in 1897. The same ratio will apply to Canada in proportion to the population. The chief reason why so much wool is imported is that the manufacturers demand a certain quality commonly known as "Capes," and our countries grow but a small portion of this kind, so that a large percentage of what we do grow brings a lower price.

The value of sheep in this country was highest in 1893, and has decreased each year since until 1897, when it has reached the minimum in thirty years. It is not speculative, therefore, for us to say that we are on the threshold of an unprecedented boom in sheep husbandry. Let us be prepared to meet it not blindly, wildly, or recklessly; let us rid our farms of scrubs and indifferent sheep; have fewer but better ones; determine to send to market only sheep of the best quality of wool and mutton.—*Address by Mortimer Levering, Secretary American Shropshire Association.*

FOR CONTRACTED FEET.

In a state of nature a horse's feet are thoroughly soaked with water and thoroughly dried out almost every day, and I think I have demonstrated by actual experience that it is possible to keep a horse's feet in a sound and healthy condition throughout life, even when he is used every day on city pavements, by following nature's scheme of thoroughly soaking them with water every night, and then allowing them to dry out every day. This can be best accomplished by saturating a woollen or felt swab with water, and strapping it right around the hoof, and leaving it there for five or six hours at a time. Washing the feet with a sponge once a day is not enough. The feet then have too much time to dry out. When a horse goes lame in a tendon I believe that the breakdown can be traced directly to contracted feet in a majority of cases. The feet first contract right around the top of the wall without altering the shape of the ground surface of the foot, and thousands of horses suffer from such contraction long before the owner or trainer ever suspects it. The surest indication of such contraction is undue prominence of the cartilage around the coronet. In a natural state this cartilage lies just inside of the top hoof wall, and as soon as this wall begins to contract the cartilage is forced up, and sooner or later forms a prominent ridge right around the coronet that eventually becomes ossified. When you bruise one of your finger nails, how often the fever and soreness works up among the cords and muscles of your forearm. It is just so with the horse. After his feet become contracted the fever settles along the tendons of his legs, and after a time this fever causes the sheath of

a tendon to become diseased, and then rupture and a break down generally follow. Such trouble can always be prevented by the treatment I have outlined, but the time to apply the preventive is before the contraction shows up, although I have had on several occasions remarkable success in treating cases that were pretty far advanced. I once bought a mare for \$40 that was a cripple because of quarter-cracks due to badly contracted feet. After softening her feet by poulticing and soaking in hot water for two or three days I notched out the cracks in the usual manner, shod her with a bar shoe and a pad and put on a wet swab. These swabs were kept on her four or five hours every day while I owned her, and she worked in a livery stable during that time. She never once took a lame or a sore step afterward, and when I got through with her I sold her for \$400. I know of one stable of road horses in Chicago that have had their feet cared for in this manner for years, and, although they have seen the hardest sort of usage, not one of them has ever been sore or lame. *Cor. Horse Review.*

CARE OF THE BROOD SOW.

The care of the brood sow during gestation and thereafter until the pigs are weaned is a question freighted with great responsibility. It determines the success as a breeder or producer. The question of care may be divided into several parts and each specially enlarged upon, involving the entire fall and spring work in herd. A writer in an exchange, writing on this subject, presents two very important features of this system of care in the following: "The importance of exercise to the brood sow cannot fail to have attracted the attention of practical men. In fact, so important is it that every reasonable facility and encouragement should be given her to enable her to take abundant exercise and suitable food, and at the time of parturition there will seldom be trouble. Even though she should steal away her young she is likely to do well, as are also the young, whereas, though she should be placed in quarters ever so suitable and be given every attention under the opposite conditions, there would probably be trouble.

The opinion is too frequently indulged in that a brood sow should not be in really good condition as to flesh at the time of parturition. Such a view is short sighted. While she should not be fat in the sense in which an animal that is fitted for the block she should be vigorous and plump in body, that is to say her muscle should be well rounded out by a sufficiency of fat to indicate a good condition of thrift. There is thus laid up in the system a residuum of reserve power which prevents great emaciation when the suckling period is ushered in. If a brood sow is lean at the time of parturition she is likely to become leaner, for the reason that the energies of the system are then largely concerned in the production of milk. If she becomes lean beyond a certain degree the digestion is weakened, the milk supply is lessened, and when the milk supply is lessened the young pigs suffer. And, if the attempt is made to build up the system of the sow by feed-

ing carbonaceous foods, the pigs still further suffer, for carbonaceous foods are not so well calculated to produce an abundant flow of milk.

Condition and exercise, both are of the greatest importance to the success of the breeder. Also under no conditions should the brood be permitted to become thin during gestation nor ever after. Nor should she be permitted to grow too fat. Exercise should be afforded her that would prevent her getting fat and judicious feeding to prevent her becoming thin under the tax made upon her system by a lusty lot of pigs.—*Swine Breeders' Journal.*

TO CAN PEAS AND BEANS.

The following, says an American exchange, is the method of canning peas and beans:

All cans are tin, and the sealing is made with solder, but doubtless resin could be used successfully. The vegetables are cooked in salted water in a large vat till considered tender enough, then packed in the tin cans and set side by side in another vat of boiling water to keep the vegetables at boiling point; then a thin syrup of sugar and water is poured over the top, and a piece of tin dropped in directly under where a little hole will come in the top of can. A drop of solder is then dropped over this hole, and the canning is finished. The cans are then left till cool, or for twenty-four hours, and if they show any leaks they are again set in a vat of boiling water, brought to the boiling point, and more solder added to the defective place.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

COWS WITH SORE EYES.

Editor of FARMING:

I have a valuable heifer that has lost sight of both eyes. She came up from the pasture Monday night, July 4th, and one eye was running yellow matter. The eye was swollen, and the white part was a pink color. Since then the other eye has gone the same way, and both have now turned white and are running water. The cow keeps her eyes closed most of the time; she eats and drinks well, and is in good order. Another cow is running at the eyes.

Please state what the trouble is, and if there is any remedy to prevent the others from taking it; also how to treat those already affected.

S. S. A. KLEY,

July 9th, 1898. Box 338, Essex, Ont.

This is evidently a case of ophthalmia or inflammation of the eye. There is an epidemic form of ophthalmia that is apt to go through whole herds and even whole localities. Those who have had experience with it consider this disease contagious, though some authorities deny its contagious character. However, it is better to separate the affected animals from the unaffected ones.

The line of treatment for simple ophthalmia is as follows. A saline laxative or purgative. The local treatment of the eye would consist of warm fomentations, or bathing with warm water and the application of a mild eye water. A mild eye water would consist of one drachm sulphate of zinc, one pint of laudanum, and one pint of water, applied twice a day, after well fomenting with tepid water. Also suspend from the horns over the eyes cotton cloths saturated with a mild non-irritative antiseptic such as a weak solution of boracic acid.

The disease often terminates in complete blindness or serious injury to the organisms of the eye.

In addition to the above we would advise a careful examination of the pasture, as it might be possible that the cows have come across some poisonous weeds. At any rate it would be advisable to call in a veterinary surgeon if there is one in the locality.

THE EARLY GENESSEE GIANT WHEAT.

Editor of FARMING:

Will you please answer in your valuable journal these questions:

(1) Is the variety of wheat known as "Little Genessee Giant" more liable to rust than other varieties?

(2) What soil is best suited to this variety, heavy or light?

(3) What is the average yield per acre on fairly good soil? Yours, etc.,

CONSTANT READER.

The variety of wheat referred to in the enclosed letter as "Little Genessee Giant" is, I presume, the same as that commonly and properly known as *Early Genessee Giant*. We know of no variety under the name of "Little Genessee Giant." Assuming that the *Early Genessee Giant* is the variety in question, I would answer as follows:

(1) Among several leading varieties which we have distributed to farmers throughout the province in connection with our co-operative experimental work, and which have been reported upon by them, the *Early Genessee Giant* has proven to be one of those most subject to injury by rust.

Among upwards of ninety varieties which are being tested in our experimental grounds, a great many of which have been grown for several years in succession, the *Early Genessee Giant* stands a little below the average in rust-resisting properties.

(2) The *Early Genessee Giant* wheat is evidently well suited to a variety of soils, as it has proven to be one of the heaviest yielders, both on heavy and light land, in the co-operative experiments.

(3) On this farm last year a field of eight acres, in fair condition, gave a yield of forty bushels per acre of this variety. This year a field of eleven acres, now nearly ripe, gives evidence of a still heavier yield.

J. BUCHANAN,

Assistant Experimentalist,
O.A.C., Guelph.

NOTE.—The above query is answered by Mr. Buchanan in the absence of Mr. C. A. Zavitz, experimentalist. In addition to the above one might add that the reports received from a number of fall wheat growers in Ontario, published in *FARMING* for August, 1897, show the *Genessee Giant* wheat to be one of our best varieties. It stands the winter very well, and will give a good yield if the conditions for growth are favorable.—*Ed.*

CANADA'S GREAT EXPOSITION.

The Toronto Industrial Exhibition will be held this year from August 29th to September 10th, and will be better than ever. The inducements offered to attract visitors will include a great number of striking novelties superior to anything of the kind exhibited here before. The low railway fares now prevailing, and the improvement in the financial position of the people consequent upon a good harvest and better prices, will enable thousands to attend who have never been able to do so in previous years. The entries in all departments will undoubtedly reach an unprecedented figure, and the whole event will unquestionably be the most satisfactory in the history of the Toronto Industrial Exposition, which is saying a good deal. Among the various new attractions will be realistic representations of the recent Cuban-American War, the blockade, bombardment and battles of Santiago or Havana, firing and explosion of shells, explosion of submarine mines and blowing up of vessels on the lake in front of the Exhibition grounds, exhibitions by Maxim and Gatling machine guns, etc., all of a specially interesting nature at the present time. The exhibits will include many from Great Britain, France and the United States, whilst almost every section of the Dominion will be represented. All entries must be made by August 6th.

BOOKS AND BULLETINS RECEIVED.

The Southdown Flock Book, Vol. VII. Published by the Southdown Sheep Society of London, Eng. W. J. Wilkison, secretary, 12 Hanover Square, London W.

The Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England. Third series, volume the ninth. This journal is published quarterly, and contains a fund of practical information on topics of interest to farmers besides the regular proceedings of the society.