

Do not allow the potato vines to lie around after the crop is dug. They should be burned off, and the fungus spores will be destroyed that would give trouble next year.

Put your harvesting machinery under shelter. Any machine that is worth buying is worth taking care of. It is a needless waste to allow it to stand out in the weather, when a little cheap lumber will cover it.

This is a good time to look after the farm fences. They probably have had little attention since spring work began. It is much less trouble to make fences which will turn your stock, if you do so before they have once gone through them.

Farmers, and especially the younger members, who are not already able to detect the age of a horse by his mouth, should study carefully our series of articles by Dr. Mole, M.R.C.V.S., Toronto, on dentition, which commenced in the September 1st issue.

That was a very high compliment indeed paid to Mr. Arthur Johnson, of Greenwood, Ont., in being unanimously chosen by the Shorthorn men to award the \$1,000 premium or purse, put up by the breeders, for the best ten animals of the beefing breeds at the World's Fair bred and owned by the exhibitor.

Keep your harness in good repair. It is well to have a supply of rivets and buckles of assorted sizes, and some leather constantly on hand, ready for use at a moment's notice. A few dollars thus invested will save much time, money and annoyance from having to go several miles to the shop for trifling repairs.

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of New England are making strenuous efforts to suppress the practice of dehorning cows, on the grounds of inhumanity. Would it not be well for them to study the report of the commission appointed by the Ontario Government, and to take warning by the mistakes of the sister society in this province?

The Scottish Farmer, in giving an account of a recent bulletin issued in America, pays this compliment: "When our agricultural experiment stations succeed in turning out work like this they will have fully justified their existence, and there is no reason why the United States and Canada should lead the Old Country in the application of science to agricultural practice."

According to official reports of the world's wheat supply, this year's estimated production is about 1,000,000 bushels less than the average for the last ten years. This seems very little when the whole world's production is considered. Nearly all European countries have a large deficit, which is made up in other parts of the world. The estimated quantity of wheat required to be transported is 370,000,000 bushels, which should certainly cause a somewhat brisk competition and rise in price.

It seems like needless repetition to remind people that the season for PRAIRIE FIRES is again on, but we fully expect to see accounts of many a homestead being burned down on account of there being no preparations made in time. See Invicta's warning in this issue, and if not already done, go right to work and make things secure, and don't be one of those unfortunates who "did not know it was loaded!"

It is a fact that sheep pasturing on the sea coast enjoy comparative immunity from parasites. This is due, no doubt, to the regular taking of salt along with the food, conveyed to the herbage by the ocean spray. By it parasites are repelled and never get a foothold. But if sheep get salt once or even twice a week, between the saltings the stomach will be filled several times with feed in which there is not a remote trace of this useful insecticide. Keep salt within easy access at all times, and thereby assist the sheep in keeping clear of the deadly parasites.

It is impossible to lay down any infallible rules as to the age at which young stock should be bred, size and a good thrifty condition being more important than age. So that the animals owned by a progressive farmer will often be fit to breed at an earlier age than those of a neighbor who does not give them the same care, but in all cases it is best to await the period of reasonably mature development before breeding, if the best results are to be secured. Breeding at too young an age is such a drain upon the vitality that in many cases the animal never fully recovers from the effect. Generally the dam suffers from too early breeding more than the sire.

Clonmore, Record 2:21.

The magnificent standard-bred stallion Clonmore, No. 5288, record 2:21, whose cut appears on our front page, stands at the head of the stud of standard bred trotters owned by G. K. Foster, Esq., Rock Farm, Danville, P. Q.

Mr. Foster, who devotes his whole time and energy to promoting the breeding of standard-bred horses, is noted in his neighborhood for doing anything he undertakes well, and he certainly showed wonderfully sound judgment when he placed Clonmore at the head of his stud, for, recognizing the need of something else besides mere pedigree, he secured in Clonmore a horse who combines with the most fashionable breeding grand individuality, while his record of 2:21, made during a hotly-contested race, proves him to be a stout and game performer; his sire, Connaught, 2:24, a son of the famous Wedgewood, 2:19, having several other sons in the .20 list, while his dam, Hopeless, is by the famous Hermes, 2:27½, sire of so many fast and game performers. In appearance Clonmore is a rich mahogany bay, standing almost sixteen hands and weighing 1,100 pounds, showing a beautifully proportioned body, supported by such a set of legs as one does not meet with every day, and set off by a graceful yet muscular neck, set well into a pair of grand sloping shoulders, and surmounted by an exquisitely moulded head, with an expressive countenance. In short, in our opinion Mr. Foster has secured in Clonmore a horse who, while his superb breeding and fast record proclaim him an aristocrat among trotters, will draw the attention and command the admiration of all horsemen by his graceful carriage and exquisite proportions.

Besides Clonmore, Mr. Foster also owns the bay stallion Petruccio 17427, a very handsome three-year-old, by Patron, 2:14½, and out of a daughter of Shelby Chief. This colt is very speedy, and is expected next year to enter the .20 list.

The mares at Rock Farm are eight in number, all standard and registered, and while it would take too long to describe them separately, we may do so succinctly by giving Mr. Foster's motto, which is: First, Individuality; Second, Breeding; Third, More individuality. The wisdom of this motto is shown by the success of the youngsters from Rock Farm at the Vermont Breeders' Meeting at Newport, Vt., where two of Clonmore's colts, a yearling and a two-year-old, carried off all the awards in their classes, repeating their triumph a few days later at Stanstead, P. Q., where they also took first money on the track in their classes.

The demand for Clonmore's colts has been so great lately that Mr. Foster finds it almost impossible to keep them till they mature. His stock at present consists of eleven head of foals, yearlings and two-year-olds. And to one and any who are interested in light horses, we would say: Be sure to pay a visit to Mr. Foster's establishment, which is easy of access, being within the limits of Danville village, and barely ten minutes walk from the G. T. R. station, and where the proprietor is only too glad to receive visitors and show them his favorites.

To Clean a Churn.

If the churn is first scalded with hot water and then rinsed with cold water, the cream will not pack into the corners or crevices nor adhere to the sides. Then after the churning and the withdrawal of butter and the butter milk, reverse this process—that is, first thoroughly rinse with cold water and then scald with hot water, and the operation is complete. Keep brushes and cloths and soap of every description out of the churn. A little sal-soda in the last scalding water may be occasionally used with good results.

The farmers who are feeding steers for the British market will do well to note the following advice given by the Scottish Farmer to its readers: "Big bullocks do not now pay the farmer. This is the doctrine believed in by the judges of fat stock at Brechin, and they have good grounds for the faith that is in them. Two of the heaviest and biggest bullocks we ever remember having seen were placed second to a pair of compact, closely coupled, well-fleshed crosses, and there is no doubt that the fashion is wholly in favor of this class. No gentleman now desires to see the same old roast doing the honors of his table for several days. The farmer who feeds big bullocks loses on both sides. They consume more food than the smaller ones, and in the second place they are far more difficult to dispose of to the butcher. What pays the farmer is the medium-sized, richly-fleshed animal."

Timely Notes for September—No. 2.

FIRE GUARDS.

Every prudent man will make some provision against loss from prairie fires, and this season, on account of the extremely long grass in most sections, the fires will be very dangerous. Plow the furrows *outwards* all around your farm if possible, and also an inner guard a short distance away from your stacks and buildings. Two plowed strips are better than one, and the space between should be burnt on a calm evening. Another good plan, if not the best that can be devised, is to have a potato patch on the other side of your buildings, which should be kept free from weeds and regularly cropped with potatoes and vegetables. Again, even with fire guards kept in good order, it is advisable to insure your buildings and stock just as soon as they become valuable enough to insure. Where only a simple fire guard is plowed, be sure to turn the furrows *outwards* on both strips, not less than ten furrows on each. Even with the advent of spring the danger from prairie fires is not over, for some of the most disastrous fires come from the old dry grass that has been well bleached by the winter's snow and cold, and then is set on fire some windy day in early spring, to clear the way for the breaking plow.

LIFE INSURANCE.

As we become better fixed financially, and we feel age and responsibilities creeping upon us, it behooves us before it is too late to insure our lives, so that those dependent on us be not left unprovided for in case of accident or sudden death. In the Foresters, Oddfellows, Masons, etc., we find good and safe systems of Life Insurance. The Tontine systems are also good—giving a man a return during his own life. The plan I fancy most is the one common amongst military men of insuring the lives of child and wife, and thus when the breadwinner is taken away suddenly the bereaved ones are provided for by a regular annual income.

"ENVY, HATRED, MALICE AND ALL UNCHARITABLENESS."

Sorry am I to see so much ill-will and spite between neighboring farmers, and for the life of me I cannot understand why it should exist. Can any of my readers give any solution? Go and live in the city and take any line of business—though the competition may be stiff between its members, still you never hear them vilify and run each other down in the way that most farmers will their neighbors. The better your neighbors get along, the more chance there is for you; if your neighbors are particularly successful, the more reason why you should praise them—not belittle their work. Let us have more "*esprit de corps*"—stand up for your own calling and its votaries; help your neighbors, and by doing so you will help yourself and the section of country in which you live.

GENERAL.

See to it that the threshers do not waste your grain; make them thresh clean, and also have the money ready for them when they are done.

Clean up well around the straw stacks before allowing cattle to get at it. Also fence off the chaff, throwing over a little every day—thus saving a lot of valuable food, which is usually trampled under foot and wasted.

Fence off your oat straw and keep it for the colder weather, when it will save the hay. Start the plow for your next year's crop.

"INVICTA."

Hints on Horse Feeding.

The manner of feeding horses is a very important matter, but one which is often sadly neglected. If a horse is required to do more work than usual on a given day, it is a common custom to give him more food. This is a great mistake. Owing to the fatigue consequent to the increased exertion, the animal is less able to digest a large feed, and therefore should be fed less rather than more. Again, it is decidedly improper to give a horse a large feed just before undergoing any severe strain; for, if a large feed be given immediately before active exercise, the blood which is required by the digestive organs in order to carry on their proper functions goes to the muscular system, digestion is impaired, and colic is the probable result. If a large feed be given immediately after active or prolonged exercise, the animal is weak and the blood is drawn upon largely for the rebuilding of the muscular waste, and the digestive organs suffer accordingly. A change of food should be made with caution. If a change should be made, a smaller quantity of the new food should be given for several days, and the amount gradually increased. In no case should a change of food and work be made at the same time. A good rule is: Never give a horse a full feed on a change of work, nor full work on a change of food. With regard to watering, the consensus of practical experience is in favor of giving the horse drink before the feed of grain.