Live Stock.

Relieving Choked Cattle.

CATTLE frequently become choked by attempting to swallow a whole potato, turnip or apple, and unless discovered in time, death often ensues, and the attempt to remove the obstruction is often a failure. If the obstruction

INSTRUMENT FOR RELIEVING CHOKED CATTLE.

can be felt part way down the throat, one man should grasp the gullet and windpipe firmly below where the article is lodged. Another person should run a fork or rake handle, having the end blunt-pointed like a four-sided pyramid, down the animal's throat and gently strike the obstruction, each time giving the stick a quarter turn that the obstruction may be broken. After a dozen strokes, press hard on the obstruction, gently turning the stick around in both directions, remove it and if you find small pieces in a hole bored near the point of the stick, proceed as before. It will take but a moment to make a hole through even a hard apple. When this is done, the choking is greatly relieved. The obstruction can be crushed by heavy outward pressure on the windpipe, or by giving a dose of melted lard, or cotton-seed oil. Should the obstruction be far down toward the stomach, it is best to break it up or make a hole through it before trying to force into the stomach, as the latter often takes a heavy pressure to do this, and pressing so hard may cause internal injury, It will be observed that the form of the end of the stick prevents any injury to the windpipe.—*American Agriculturist*

THE ration that each animal can use to the best advantage will vary greatly.

GOOD feeding is by no means excessive feeding. It is the food that is digested and assimilated that benefits the animal.

ON the feeding question there is more for investigation that, when carried out, will be of material benefit in making the farm pay better.

DIFFERENT rations are needed for growth than for fattening. Milk cows, or, in fact, all animals that are suckling young, need a different ration from what is best when fattening or working. The problem of feeding to the best advantage is gradually becoming a more important one. Farmers want to know which is the cheapest, at what price corn is cheaper proportionately than oats, wheat or barley, and at what price bran, oil meal and middlings can be purchased and fed to the best advantage.

IF a horse has a chronic lameness in either foot, the jockey can inject into the foot a solution of cocaine, which for the time being will render the horse sound; that is, it will dull the sensibility to pain for from half an hour to an hour and a half, and the horse will act as if he was sound. Another method in a case like this is to sever the nerves of the foot, there being two nerves, one on each side of the foot. This deprives the lower part of the limb of all sensation, and the horse will go sound for perhaps a year, when the nerves will form together again.

TRIAL and test for the past ten years, and the patient investigations of our dairy teachers and breeders as well, seem conclusive that the good qualities of a breed are transmitable, and that "good luck," when analyzed, is only the mating of two excellencies. A cow of great excellency, when mated with a sire that has noted dairy qualities behind him, will be far more apt to bring a heifer of great promise than the mating of inferior qualities. Where the sire and dam are of high producing families of milkers, with large fat percentages, there is far more likelihood of a 14-pound butter cow than if neither had any family records. The fact is that there is an old dairy idol that has been "felled from its perch" in the last year, never to be again set up, and that is that feeding will improve the quality of the milk a cow was born to, and if improvement is made in this it must be from the mating of high qualities, and the quality must come of breeding, not feeding; the quantity can be the only influence of the food. So it is that one is now beginning to hear that in the special breeds there are families noted for this or that, the result of the owners mating for special traits and peculiarities. This is the result, that desirable traits are secured in cows, the same as in breeds of horses for speed, strength, or fancy movement before the coach. The day is at hand when men will tell of buying anything for a cow and "by tucking the feed to her" fashion her into the desired performance. The man who wants milk for a special line of trade may possibly yet find it as well to buy cows under certain limitations, but if it is quality that is wanted, then it must be bred for under the dairyman's own best judgment. The day of artificial or forced improvement of cows has passed. Cow, for excellence of milk and bettered quality, will be the result of breeding in the future. It has always been so, but except to the few, it has not been a recognized law of heredity.

The Poultry Yard.

Shelter for Fowls.

THE necessity for separate shelter for farm fowls arises in many ways. First, if they are not so provided they will take up their quarters on the spars and rafters of barns, polluting the feed and causing no end of annoyance. Next, fowls cannot be reared at a profit unless properly cared for. They are of much importance and value if run on a paying basis, and to this end they must be comfortably housed. Fig. 1 represents the form of a house many readers

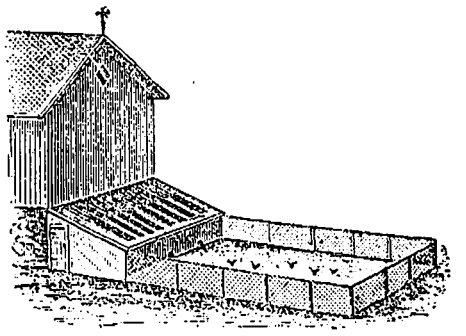

FIG. 1.

may be familiar with. The ground plan, fig. 2, shows that each pen has a number of nesting places where the eggs are laid. There are roosts to each pen also and moveable boxes are provided for the droppings. The length of the house illustrated here is 37 ft., and the breadth 15 ft, but any size according to needs, is as practicable as the size given. Besides the pens, a store-room is put in at the entrance of the

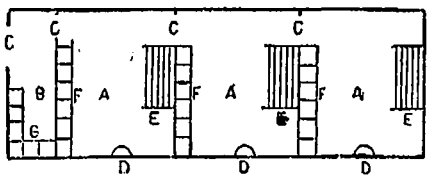

Fig. 2.—A, A, A, *Pens*; B, *Store-Room*; C, C, C, C, *Doors*; D, D, D, *Outlets*; E, E, E, *Roosts*; F, F, F, *Nests*; G, *Bins and Bench*.

building, 5 by 15, admitting space for feed-bins and carpenter's bench, both of which you will find convenient about a well-kept poultry building. The pens have each a door entering from the other. The doors, as well as partitions of each pen, are made of wire-netting fastened to wooden frames, and so made in sections that they can be unhooked from one another and the entire building thrown into one, at the pleasure of the breeder—a convenience well worth trying to see its real value. When breeding several varieties, it is desirable to keep them pure and free from crossing, it can be done by having the outside runs partitioned off as the pens are within, keeping each pen separate from the other.

IT does not suffice to give the hens corn, corn, corn, day after day. Bird and beast demand frequent changes of food as truly as man himself.

THE man who puts fifteen eggs under a hen, instead of eleven or thirteen, so as to make sure of a good lot of chicks, wants more than he will get.

IF the "shut in" hens are given a chance at cabbage, they will enjoy a treat and be benefited. It will not take two minutes to set out a head or two in the yard. They will do the rest.

GEESE begin to lay early in March and will lay fourteen to eighteen eggs; these should nearly always be set under hens, as it is often the case that the mother will not become broody until late.

DO not wait till the combs and toes are frozen before you put the hen house in order for the winter. The extra lining and banking and that extra window can be seen to just as well in September as December.

DUCKS, if provided with comfortable quarters where they can rest at night and are reasonably well fed, will often commence laying the latter part of January or the first of February and lay very regularly until warm weather.

ONE can in general say that few eggs are obtained from a hen that walks listlessly along, with little desire to scratch, but only willing to eat when the food is spread for it. Such hens get up late, retire early, have large heads, thick legs and a generally clumsy form,

MR. MCKEE, of Toronto, contemplating the Largest Exhibit in the Annex.—*St. Louis Farm Machinery.*