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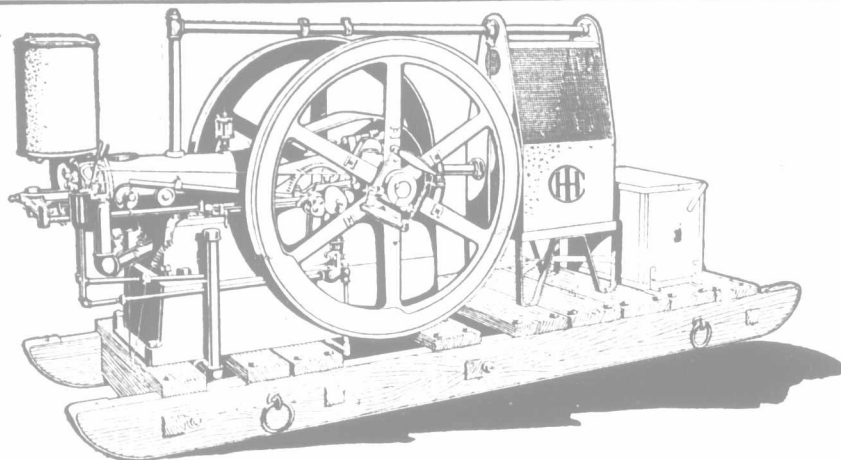
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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

CEMENT BASE POSTS.

We have a shed standing on 14 posts. I wish to put cement under these.

1. Would a cement block under each post answer?
2. Should it be larger than the post, 10 x 10 inches?
3. How deep should cement be put in ground?
4. What proportion would be best adapted?
5. I wish to use the slop cement, so will need boxes. Would it be all right to leave boxes right as they are used?
6. About how many loads of gravel would be required for 14 posts, average height out of ground 2½ feet? S. M.

Ans.—1. Yes. Properly constructed cement should answer this purpose very well.

2. A little larger would do no harm. It might be better to build the cement larger at the base than where the post rests on it.

3. Two or three feet, or down to solid earth.

4. One to eight or ten should be strong enough.

5. They would do no particular harm. Would look better removed.

6. Three or four loads should be plenty, provided a yard is drawn at each load. If the bases of the cement work are made larger, five loads might be required.

FEEDING COWS AND PIGS.

1. With plenty of clover hay, corn stover, and oats, how much of the following foods should be fed to cows giving 40 to 45 lbs. of milk per day, to make the most economical balanced ration: Malt sprouts, \$15 per ton; bran, \$25; oil cake, \$40; oats, 45c per bushel?

2. Have there been any experiments conducted to find out which has been the most profitable way to feed pigs over 100 lbs. in weight, two or three times per day, and what has been the result? X. Y. Z.

Ans.—1. Malt sprouts are not relished by cows, and seldom should over two pounds be fed daily. They should be fed in limited quantity in conjunction with other concentrates. They contain nearly 20 per cent. of digestible crude protein, and if relished by stock should be a profitable feed at current prices. Oats, 6 to 7 lbs.; oil cake, 2 lbs.; bran, 2 lbs., and malt sprouts, 1 lb. (if used at all), would make a good daily grain ration, in conjunction with good roughage. Bran, at \$25 per ton, is more expensive than oil cake at \$40 per ton.

2. Work carried on by J. H. Grisdale at the Central Experimental Farm, indicated that for best results nothing less than three feeds per day should be given in fattening pigs.

GRAIN MIXTURE.

Could you tell me the best mixture of grain to sow. I would like to sow a mixture of peas, barley, wheat and oats, and would like to know the proportion and variety of same that would blend the best for chop for milch cows? H. M. R.

Ans.—Experiments carried on at the Ontario Agricultural College over a number of years have shown a mixture of 1 bushel (34 lbs.) of oats and 1 bushel (48 lbs.) of barley, to give the largest yield of grain per acre of all the various mixtures tried. A very early variety of oats, like Alaska or Daubeney, is best to use with Mandsheim or No. 21 barley. Mixing the four kinds of grain mentioned is rendered more difficult because of the fact that it is not easy to get varieties all of which will ripen any where near the same time. The barley has a very marked influence in determining the yield of the mixture. Field peas, although a good crop to sow with oats for green fodder, do not do well when sown with barley and oats for silage. Wild Goose wheat is the best yielding spring wheat for a mixture, but it is late in ripening. For a mixture of the grains suggested in the question, would not advise using a very large percentage of peas or wheat, and early varieties of these would be necessary. We do not grow the oats and barley in a mixture, and the silage and peas separately, to be used for silage and feed?

COLT SCOURS.

I have a heavy colt one year old this spring which looks and apparently feels well, but is subject to scours and colic. At other times her manure is quite dry. She is fed liberally on mixed clover and timothy hay, and some straw, also 1½ quarts of crushed oats three times a day. She has a very ravenous appetite.

O. L. L.

Ans.—The colt is likely suffering from worms. Take 4 drams each of sulphate of copper, sulphate of iron, tartar emetic and calomel. Mix and make into 24 powders. Give a powder every night and morning, and after the last has been taken, give 6 to 8 ounces of raw linseed oil.

HOOP SILO.

Can you give me any information with regard to the hoop silo? H. L.

Ans.—1. Several discussions have been carried on through these columns with regard to the relative merits and demerits of the various kinds of silos. We presume a stave silo is what is referred to. The kind of lumber usually used is 2 inch and a half stuff, six inches wide, and 14 or 16 feet long. It should be run through a planer, so as to be of even thickness and smooth inside. Build it on a cement foundation at least two feet in the ground. Hemlock, pine and spruce, are recommended as material. The bottom hoop should be within from four to five inches of the bottom, and the second one about eighteen inches above the bottom one, the third one two feet from the second, and the fourth three feet from the third, the next two about four feet apart, and the remainder about four and a half feet apart. Three-quarter inch iron should prove heavy enough for hoops. Doors in the side of the silo, at intervals of about four feet are necessary for taking out the silage. For durability, and all matters concerned, would advise building a cement slop wall silo.

TRADE TOPICS.

The live-stock ear-labels manufactured by F. G. James, Bowmanville, Ont., and advertised in these columns, are indispensable with the breeding and registering of pedigreed stock and keeping private records, especially of sheep and swine, and are useful in identifying common or grade cattle or other stock when lost or strayed. They are easily inserted, and last a lifetime. They have been in use for many years, and have given perfect satisfaction. See the advertisement, and write for prices, etc.

The F. Wallis Armstrong Co., of Philadelphia, have published a warning to buyers against a too-prevalent abuse in the form of frauds which is alleged are practiced by infringers upon patent rights, and they cite one instance of this practice of deception that has recently come to their attention: Within the past year there has been placed on the market, we understand, a ready-roofing cleat which is a palpable imitation of the patented "Kant-leak Kleet"—a staple article for several years. It is reported that the imitation cleats are cleverly designed and exploited, so that the buyers are apt to be misled into purchasing them under the impression that they are the original kind. As might naturally be expected, it is also said that the patentee of this article intends to prosecute to the full extent of the law the alleged infringers on his patent rights. Every consumer who desires protection for himself and the square deal in business transactions cannot but wish for a successful outcome to this and all similar efforts by patentees to guard their products from fraudulent imitation.

GOSSIP.

W. B. Annett, Alvinston, Lambton Co., Ont., G. T. R., has a good importation of Clydesdale fillies, two and three years old, which were due to land last week per S. S. Athalia, of the Donaldson line. All are for sale on easy terms.