

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

HOG PASTURE IN ORCHARD.

What is the best crop to sow in an orchard (clay soil) for hog pasture? Rape failed on it last year. It has been in pasture six or eight years. H. T. H.

Ans.—If a proper seed-bed was prepared and the trees do not form too much shade, there is no reason why rape should not thrive in your orchard. Try a mixture of 4 lbs. rape and 8 lbs. red clover, sowing fairly early on a well-prepared, well-manured seed-bed. A small portion of the field might be fenced off and planted to artichokes. Of course it would be better for the trees to cultivate until July without any crop at all and then sow a cover crop, to be plowed down the next year.

LAKE ONTARIO WHITEFISH.

It is believed by many that the quality of Lake Ontario whitefish is deteriorating, and some ascribe this to the spawn being fertilized by inferior fish, like herring. Is this possible? I would like to read, through "The Farmer's Advocate," what the fishery authorities in the Parliament Buildings at Toronto have to say on this subject. PR. EDWARD.

Ans.—No report has reached this Department that the Lake Ontario whitefish is deteriorating in quality, but I might say that the whitefish caught in the vicinity of the Bay of Quinte has never been as good as those caught in the vicinity of Niagara.

E. TINSLEY,
Superintendent Game and Fisheries, Toronto.

DIVIDING AN ESTATE.

A man dies without having made a will, leaving wife and daughter; daughter aged 14.

1. How will the property be divided?
2. What is the usual and legal course to pursue under the circumstances?

Ans.—1. The widow is entitled to take a third of the entire estate, real and personal, remaining after payment of debts and funeral and testamentary expenses, and the remaining two-thirds would belong to the daughter.
2. The widow should take out letters of administration to the estate, and letters of guardianship in respect of the infant daughter and the latter's share of the property. A solicitor should be instructed to prepare papers and make the necessary applications to the Surrogate Court for such letters.

SCHOOL TRUSTEES AND TEACHERS.

A owns land in two school sections of the same township. He lives in No. 12 school section.

1. Can A be a trustee in school section No. 3?
2. Can A vote in No. 3 school section at the annual meeting?
3. Is it necessary to advertise in more than one paper, or any particular paper, for a school teacher?

Ans.—A person must reside in the school section in order to be a trustee. If the person is a public-school ratepayer, however, he may vote on all school questions, without being a resident of the section. It would not be necessary to advertise in more than one paper if the result were satisfactory.

A. H. U. COLQUHOUN,
Deputy Minister of Education.

CROP FOR LOW, BLACK LOAM.

What is a good crop to sow on low, black loam? It has had corn for three years, but was not well drained. Would barley be a success? I dug a new ditch last fall. H. H.

Ans.—These low, black soils are of different natures. If it is sour or acidic, an application of lime would be good practice. See page 2029 of our issue of December 31, for the results of lime applications to muck soils. As a rule, low, black land, is rich in nitrogen, and the cereal crops grow too much straw and do not fill with grain. For this reason it is best to sow some crop that will be harvested for leaf or straw, and not for seed. Rape is very satisfactory. If lime is added, barley might give fair returns since you put in the new drain. However, without knowing more about the nature of the soil, we cannot give specific instructions as to the most advisable crop.

LIABILITY ON NOTE.

1. If A sells a horse to B as aged 13 years old for \$100, and B gives his note for it on A's guarantee as to its age, and afterwards B finds out the horse is 18, and can prove it, can B refuse to pay full amount on note falling due?

2. What are the proper steps to take?

3. What is the value of horse 18 years old, if it is worth \$100 at 13?

Ontario. H. T. H.

Ans.—1 and 2. Practically, yes; assuming that it has remained in A's hands. B is liable on the note for the full amount of it, but if sued for same he could counter-claim for damages for breach of the guaranty.

3. The value of the horse at 18 would depend upon the condition of his teeth and his general vigor and stamina. Some horses are about at the end of their period of effective usefulness. A few are good for six, eight or ten years more work. Ordinarily, we should suppose that a horse at 18 years would not be worth much over forty dollars, if \$100 were a fair valuation at 13.

LUMP ON COW'S JAW.

A lump has formed on the side of my cow's jaw, about the size of a goose-egg. I opened it with a knife and a lot of matter came out, and it has been running ever since, nearly a year ago. It seems hard, and is swollen the size of two fists, but is not attached to the bone.

I have also a calf about 8 months, which has also a small lump in the very same place as the cow, but only about the size of a hen's egg, is not attached to bone, but seems quite hard. What can be done? M. V. M.

Ans.—It is altogether likely that both are cases of actinomycosis, or lump jaw. The best treatment is to have a competent veterinarian cut out the lumps carefully. This can be done readily, since the lumps are not attached to the bone. Then give iodide of potassium treatment, which consists in giving this drug three times a day. Commence with 1-dram doses, and increase the dose by 10 grains daily until the animal refuses food and water or tears run from the eyes or saliva from the mouth. When any of these conditions appear, cease giving the drug. Repeat treatment in two months, if necessary.

BALANCED RATION FOR CATTLE.

As a subscriber to your valuable paper, in which I get many suggestions in "Questions and Answers," through other correspondents, may I ask the following question as to feeding with a view to balanced ration:

I have cornstalks (ensilage corn), good oat and wheat straw, and chaff, oats and barley grains, mangels and turnips. Have cutting-box, grain-crusher, etc.

Now, how can I utilize this roughage and grain to the best advantage for feeding 18 head of steers and heifers for the local market (finish) during the winter?

J. McK. McL.

Ans.—For best results it will be necessary to supplement the feeds mentioned with some purchased concentrates rich in protein. Not knowing the weight of the cattle, we have figured out a ration as follows: Corn fodder, 10 lbs.; straw, 5 lbs.; oat chop, 4 lbs.; barley chop, 2 lbs.; roots, 20 lbs. This would give a ration containing, approximately, .96 lbs. of protein and 10.4 lbs. of carbohydrates and fat (the fat being expressed in terms of carbohydrates). The nutritive ratio of this ration is nearly 1 of protein to 11 of carbohydrates, which is too "wide" for best results. It would be improved considerably by adding about two pounds of bran and half a pound of oil cake per head per day, the oil cake being gradually increased to about a pound per head. Of course, our feeder must use his judgment as to the amount of meal fed per day. If the cattle are yearlings, it would be too much. All that we can do is to indicate proportions. In any event the skilled feeder will commence with a small amount of meal, say one or two pounds of bran and a little oat chop, gradually increasing the quantities and adding the barley meal and oil cake as the feeding period advances. In feeding we would recommend throwing the meal mixture on the chaff in the manger.

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