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### RURAL NOTES.

AN estimate of the world's wheat production places it at a little over two thousand millions of bushels, of which Europe furnishes about one-half, the United States and Canada one-quarter, and India one-eighth.

THE necessity of dealing with the horse disease known as Glanders was urged in the last number of the RURAL, and we are pleased to hear that there is a prospect of something being done during the present session of the Ontario Legislature. It is understood that Mr. Dryden has a Bill on the subject.

FEAR is expressed that the peach buds have been destroyed in the Niagara peninsula by an ice-storm, and that this year's crops will not exceed ten per cent. of an average. The peach orchards of that section of country have been very unfortunate of late, as for each of the last two years they have produced less than half a crop.

A GOOD breeding sow can farrow two litters a year, one in the spring and the other in the fall, and to try to force breeding oftener than this is more likely to result in loss than in profit. Last spring there was great mortality among young pigs, and the assigned cause was that the sows were fed on dry food; a diet of green grass is most valuable to the breeding sow.

It is stated that in Great Britain 461,457 cattle were attacked with the foot and mouth disease last year. In the United States, too, the number of animals attacked with one form or another of contagious disease is very large, but there are no means ascertaining accurately how many. In our own Province, thanks to a healthy climate and to care in preventing the introduction of infectious diseases the loss is not appreciable.

HEN manure is claimed to be worth as much for fertilizing purposes as guano. The Boston Cultivator says a New York farmer reports raising upwards of one hundred bushels of shelled corn to the acre on land which had been two years in clover. Under every hill was placed a handful of hen manure dusted with lime. The farmer's report we think calls for verification. One hundred bushels of corn in the ear per acre is regarded as a first-class crop.

MR. FRANKLAND, of this city, is the pioneer shipper of fat live stock to the English markets, and the success of the enterprise has been fully demonstrated. Mr. Frankland will make large shipments during the coming season, and doubtless this trade will grow with the years. It has certainly done much in the way of giving our cattle feeders better prices for their stock, and of establishing a permanent market besides.

It is stated on good authority that beekeepers in this Province make a practice of scattering about on commons, highways and other convenient places, the seeds of several varieties of noxious weeds that afford a rich pasture for bees. Among these are blue thistles and Spanish needles, and wherever they are introduced they propagate themselves and become a nuisance to the farmer. The practice should be made a crime.

ANALYSIS shows that cabbage is richer in oil and nitrogenous matter than most other kinds of green food, and for this reason it is an excellent vegetable for feeding stock. Maturing late in the fall it may be preserved as green fodder until January, and for milch cows no better diet can be supplied than a mixture of cabbage and hay. Another thing in its favour is that the same area of ground will grow more tons of cabbage than of almost any other green crop.

SOME men have almost too much enterprise for a community, whilst others plod along in the old style, believing that what did for their grandfathers should do for them. Captain Bridgewater lately purchased the pedigree young Durham bull "Red Duke" from Mr. Henry Collins, of north Monaghan, also "Lady Durham," a very fine heifer—paying \$300 for the pair. He intends improving his own stock by these means, and will encourage others to do the same.

THE correspondent of an American exchange holds that much of the unhealthiness of farmer's families is produced by the narrow range of their diet, and especially by the everlasting round of pork on the table. The Jews were a wise people in their generation, and with them the flesh of the hog was ruled out as unclean. We think that at least in a modified form the introduction of the Jewish rule would be a wholesome innovation in the families of our farmers.

It is a peculiar coincidence that the valley of the Ohio has been visited by a devastating flood this year just about the same time as last year. Its effects extended from Pittsburg to the mouth of the river, a distance of about five hundred miles, and there has been great destruction of life and property. Last year's rains, it will be remembered ruined the wheat crop in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky, and great anxiety is felt lest a like ruin has been wrought this year. It was at the same period last year that the greatest injury was done to the winter wheat in Ontario, but there is reason to hope that this year the effects of the Ohio valley storm did not extend to our Province.

THE Bill on the subject of noxious weeds now before the Ontario Legislature has been drawn up pretty closely on the lines indicated by the RURAL. It extends the list of noxious weeds, and provides for the appointment of one inspector for each municipality to carry out its provisions, such an appointment to be mandatory upon the petition of a certain number of ratepayers. It also authorizes a municipal council to add to the list of weeds any that may be considered noxious in the locality. Other clauses of the Bill relate to diseases affecting fruit and fruit trees, and is made the duty of the inspector to enforce these clauses as well as the ones relating to noxious weeds.

THE Horticultural Society of Michigan set on foot an undertaking two or three years ago for the ornamenting of country school grounds. The plan of the society is simply an arrangement with a leading seed company whereby all teachers or schools who apply may get flower seeds at cost. Many schools have availed themselves of this offer, and a marked improvement has already been made in the appearance of their grounds. The work of preparing the ground, planting the seeds, and keeping the plots clean and neat is done by the children under the supervision of the teacher, and there is no doubt now as to its value as an advocating influence, the scholars take a just pride in their work, and the cheerlessness so common in the appearance of school premises has already disappeared to a large extent. The Horticultural Society of Ontario might do worse than follow the example of the Michigan society in this respect. There is great need of some movement to beautify the grounds of country schools.