

ness. If Mr. Weld wants to get prestige by communicating through his journal any information to the patrons of the factories, he may do so; but I hold that it is the right of this Association to disseminate their own information in their own way. There was a committee appointed to select the articles to be published, and I believe they are competent to do so. I believe in the Association keeping up their own prestige and keeping the right to their own property in their own hands, and if Mr. Weld wishes to use the extracts we desire published, he may do so after we have done with them."

We produce these facts that our readers may judge whether or not this Association is making the best use of the money given them by our Government. Had they allowed us to publish the report in our journal we could and would have had it circulated sooner than they could to all to whom they wished it sent, and in just as convenient a shape as they issued it, besides benefiting the few who take an interest in or know of this Association. Thousands of Ontario farmers, who now receive no benefit from their publication, would receive what is due them—we say due them, because their money was given to this Association, from which hundreds now receive no benefit. The Association published 10,000 copies of said annual report, and we now find, one year after publishing, that not quite 2,000 have been distributed, 8,000 being in the possession of the Association. Such would not have been the case had we published it as we desired; but the farmers and dairymen of Canada would have been benefited by the labors and expenses of this Association the month following their meeting. The Association still talk of distributing the said reports, but how many are likely to take an interest or read a report which is a year old. The idea seems, under existing circumstances, extremely foolish, especially as this years report is to be published soon. Another point of importance to all is, had we published the report the Association would have saved a large amount of public money. These are the plain facts, and we leave our readers to judge whether or not the Association has adopted the course best suited to benefit the greatest number or otherwise.

#### The Agricultural and Arts Association and the Ontario Legislature.

##### MOVEMENTS AGAINST TOWNSHIP SHOWS.

The Local Legislature having gone into Committee of Supply on the item of the grant for agriculture, arts, literary and scientific institutions, Mr. Hay raised the question of lessening the number of small agricultural societies. He would abolish the special discrimination in favor of electoral riding shows, but would prefer to see the special grant to county shows maintained.

Dr. Cascaden objected to anything like wiping out the small shows, but would like to see the Provincial Association abolished.

Mr. Dryden was in favor of increasing the strength of small societies and diminishing their number, but would prefer to see the special grant to county shows maintained.

Mr. Deroche could not see that small township shows did enough good to warrant the expenditure upon them. He thought the money might be put to a better use.

Mr. Gibson thought some improvement was necessary, and Mr. Ferry believed the wiping out the small societies would be very unpopular.

The amount voted to agriculture and arts, literary and scientific institutions is \$106,750.

The amount granted this session to the Ontario Agricultural College is \$20,930.

At the last meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, on the 1st instant, it was definitely settled that the foot-and-mouth disease was introduced into England by French cattle arriving at Deptford.

#### Veterinary.

##### Goitre in Lambs.

BY JAMES LAW, F. R. C. V. S.

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The disease in lambs complained of by H. J. G., Melbourne, in last issue, is undoubtedly goitre. It is especially common in the magnesian limestone formations; but may occur elsewhere in connection with any specially debilitating cause affecting the ewes. Also on the limestone formation it may usually be worked off almost entirely by careful attention to the general health, and by the maintenance of vigor, and a strong, robust condition.

The swelling is usually lodged just beneath the throat, and connected with the upper part of the windpipe, but in bad cases it may extend quite to the breast bone. It may be of any size, from a rounded mass, no bigger than a pigeon's egg, and tolerably firm, to an engorgement as large as an infant's head and soft and doughy. It may not interfere much with the breathing, or it may so compress and flatten the cartilages of the windpipe that practically no air can pass through—or it may so compress the nerves of the upper part of the windpipe (larynx) and lungs that suffocation is certain. But in any case the malady is associated with a condition of greatly deteriorated health, and even if breathing is free, it is long before the young animal thrives as it ought.

The swelling will often persist in the older sheep, but in these it rarely does much harm, so that no attention is paid to it. Breeding from animals affected in this way perpetuates a line of weakened constitutions, and serves to keep up the mortality from the affection. A careful examination of the throats of other domestic animals in the affected localities will usually reveal a similar swelling beneath the throat of a certain number, of the horses especially. In this subject, however, it usually appears as two swellings—a right and a left—varying considerably in size, but both round, firm, and smooth. Horses are especially liable to develop these swellings; often some debilitating disease like influenza or strangles, showing that debility and lack of condition are connected with the affection in all animals. As might be expected, unsuitable or insufficient feeding has a similar tendency, and ergoted or musty fodder, or smutty cornstalks, by disordering digestion, and circulation is a frequent predisposing cause. The same may be said of lack of water, as when the springs are frozen up, and, above all, when the sheep are confined to dry feeding.

But of all other predisposing causes of goitre in lambs, none is so injurious as the close confinement of the ewes during pregnancy. We have often noticed that when flocks were kept in confined yards or barns for weeks and months at a time, most of the lambs would perish of goitre, whereas if driven out into the fields every day and a fair amount of exercise compelled, they would come strong and healthy. In a winter like the present, with snow so universal and deep, there is a strong temptation to keep the ewes closely housed or yarded, but on the magnesian (Onondaga) limestone, or in localities with much of the debris of limestone in the soil, or with water strongly impregnated with such land, this can hardly fail to cause a high mortality in the coming crop of lambs. No high feeding nor special care can obviate this danger. The natural and best prevention is to give, and even compel, a reasonable amount of daily exercise—half a mile to a mile—at a walking or slow pace. The sheep is a native of the higher lands, and a certain amount of climbing and walking is essential to its well-being, but much more so to that of its progeny. The attempt to replace this and to bolster

up the health by high feeding, only tends to the increase of fat, and to a general laxity and want of tone, which defeats the very purpose for which it was adopted.

But while exercise must be put in the fore-front of protective measures, other precautions should not be lost sight of. If soft or rain water can be obtained, it is to be preferred to hard water. Pure air and cleanliness are all-important adjuncts. A dry resting place and a sunny exposure should be secured if possible. Temporary running down in condition, from bad or insufficient food, or from existing disease or parasites, should not be tolerated for a day. Breeding from too young or too old ewes or rams is to be avoided, for their puny progeny will fall easy victims. So with goitrous parents.

When a flock has already suffered in this way it may be well to give during the later period of pregnancy iodide of potassium, to the amount of half a drachm daily, to each ewe.

The treatment of the lambs is rarely satisfactory, as they too often either come dead or die soon after birth. Mild cases may be benefited by the use of iodide of potassium, 10 grains, once or twice a day, and by the free use of tincture of iodine rubbed over the swelling. In other cases the injection of weak solutions of iodine into the swelling is attended by the happiest results. For this purpose one part of compound tincture of iodine may be mixed with four parts of water, and the mixture injected by means of a hypodermic syringe.

##### A SERIOUS BREACH OF THE QUARANTINE REGULATIONS AT MONTREAL.

A serious breach of the quarantine regulations has recently been discovered by the Inspector of Stock, which has not been allowed to go unpunished. Mr. Robert Ness, of the County of Beauharnois, who had recently returned from Scotland, brought with him a calf, which was landed at Boston, and, contrary to quarantine regulations, was carried in bond to Montreal, and by a blunder of the Customs officials was allowed to be taken to his farm at Howick. On being reported to the Department of Agriculture, instructions were at once given to the Customs Collector to seize the animal and either slaughter it or convey it in a private conveyance out of the country. The animal was accordingly slaughtered, and the farm has been put in quarantine for three months. In addition, the law provides for the imposing of a fine of \$200 for each animal so imported.

THE SURPLUS WHEAT CROP OF 1880—CALIFORNIA WHEAT.—The wheat growers of California are seriously embarrassed by the magnitude of their last season's crop, of which a very large proportion now remains unsold upon their hands. At present prices it cannot be shipped to the Atlantic States or to Europe, and return enough over the cost of transportation to enable the farmers to discharge the loans which they have raised on it from the banks. It is claimed by the farmers that the correct course for them to pursue, in case they cannot ship their grain overland, is to hold it until next July; the beginning of the crop year, when it is expected that it can be disposed of at a profit. The shipowners contend that they cannot afford to make any lower figures for freights. The farmers cannot sell grain at the present low prices without loss, and the banks cannot foreclose their loans without creating a panic.

TO PRESERVE MEAT FROM FLIES.—When meat has been salted and dried or smoked, it may be preserved from flies in the following manner: Wrap the meat in gunny-bagging; paper being airtight will cause the meat to mold; the bagging is sown tight about the meat; a second wrapper is then put around it, and this is covered with thick paste of lime. When this is dry the surface is covered with a thick lime-wash mixed with chrome yellow, which is poisonous to any larva of flies that may be deposited upon it. The meat should be well rubbed with ground pepper mixed with one part in ten of cayenne before putting on the first cover. Then, if the meat is hung up in a dark, dry closet, with the door well protected with strips of cloth to prevent access of meat-flies and beetles, there will be no danger of injury by insects.