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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

BREEDS OF GESE.

To settle a dispute, will you please give a description of the three breeds of geese, Toulouse, Embden and African. Is there such a breed as gray Embden, or white African?

SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—Poultry Craft, in describing the breeds of geese, says: Toulouse geese attain the greatest size. In color they are gray, upper surfaces dark gray, shading to lighter gray on the breast, body and thighs, with white on the belly; bill and legs are reddish-orange. Embden geese are white, with bill and legs orange-yellow. African geese are gray in color, upper surfaces dark gray, under surfaces lighter; neck, light gray, with longitudinal dark stripe on back; bill black, with large knot at the base of the upper mandible; prominent dewlap under the throat on exhibition birds, inconspicuous or absent in many specimens; legs dark orange. Standard of Perfection says that feathers other than pure white disqualify Embden geese. We have not heard of gray Embdens, or white Africans. They are not recognized among the pure breeds.

CROP FOR MUCK LAND.

I have 10 acres of black muck, burned over three years ago, the fire burning about 10 inches off all over it; there is about two inches of black muck yet, with clay at the bottom. I cleaned it off last summer. It is very loose, with quite a lot of rotten wood mixed with the muck. It is fairly well drained. I intend sowing oats and flax, with rape for after feed. Would you advise this mixture? If so, what proportions; or, if this is not a suitable crop, what would you recommend? Would millet do well on black muck?

R. S.

Huron Co., Ont.

Ans.—Reply to this question must necessarily partake of the nature of speculation. Probably the three most suitable crops would be rape for fall pasture, millet and corn. The proposed mixture of oats and flax, with rape sown in among the grain for fall pasture, might do all right, but we should anticipate trouble from the oats lodging, and this, together with a quite probable deficiency of phosphorus in the soil, may result in the heads not filling properly. If the flax and oats are sown, sow seven or eight pecks of an early-ripening variety of oats, together with four quarts of flaxseed per acre, and about two pounds of rape sown after the flax and oats have obtained a start. It is likely that barley and flax would give better results than oats and flax.

GOSSIP.

A meeting of the directors of the Canadian Hackney Horse Society was held at the Rossin House, Toronto, last week. In the absence of the President, W. C. Renfrew, on account of illness, Robt. Miller took the chair. J. W. Allison, of Morrisburg, who is also a director of the American Horse Society, gave a very glowing account of Hackney interests in the United States. Senator Beith, too, had an optimistic view of the future for this breed, and the general consensus of opinion was, that there was no reason why this country should not secure a portion of the trade from foreign countries. John W. Brant, Accountant National Live-stock Records, Ottawa, rendered very valuable assistance in getting the amended constitution finally passed. A vote of thanks to the American Hackney Horse Society, for their generosity in giving medals to shows and fairs in this country, was adopted. H. M. Robinson, Secretary.

Sandy and his lass had been sitting together about half an hour in silence. "Maggie," he said, at length, "wasn't I here on the Sawbath night?" "Aye, Sandy, I daur say you were." "An' wasn't I here on Monday night?" "Aye, so ye were." "An' I was here on Tuesday night, an' Wednesday night, an' Thursday night, an' Friday night?" "Aye, I'm thinkin' that's so." "An' this is Saturday night, an' I'm here again?" "Weel, what for, no? I'm sure ye're very welcome." Sandy (desperately)—"Maggie, woman! De'e no begin to smell a rat!"

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