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JULY 13, 1911

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

1175

A Hot Time.

A blistering drouth has prevailed throughout large sections of North America, and particularly in West?rn Ontario, for a variable period, some sections having had scarcely any rain to speak of since April, while others have been favored with light showers at infrequent intervals. Hay and fall wheat are poor in many localities, while parched pastures have latterly been reflected in a sadly diminishing milk flow. The strawberry harvest was short, while raspberries and currants were next to a failure. The June drop of apples has been heavy in uncultivated orchards, continuing even into July. Spring grain endured the dry weather better than might have been expected, but the yield of oats cannot be large, while barley is bound to be rather light, though there are some very fine crops. Temperatures of 101, 101½ and 103 in the shade, recorded from official city thermometers, taken in conjunction with the drouth, spell disaster to new-seeded clover, which, unless copious rains come soon, can scarcely be other than a failure. This is probably the most serious loss of all, though less talked about than the effect on grain and hay. Thanks to inter-tillage, corn has grown considerably during the drouth, thus demonstrating its value as a reliance of the general farmer.

MAPLE SHADE REFLECTIONS.

The Western Ontario haying programme this

season has been to cut before dinner, and haul in during the afternoon. A fair crop and a good sample, is the general report.

Getting oneself into "a stew" about the heat will not make the weather any cooler.

It does not follow that everything in the country is burned up because the market reporters of the city papers say so.

Fall-wheat cutting has been general during the past week throughout Western Ontario. So far as "The Farmer's Advocate" has seen, the sample of grain is excellent.

In Middlesex County, dry weather has more directly and seriously affected the pastures than any field crop.

Apples will again be worth almost their weight in gold this season.

It used to be said that lightning never strikes twice in the same place. This month, a good many places are reporting that rain does not strike even once.

A Westminster Township man who prayed for rain last Sabbath, at the same time pinned this notice to his pump: "Dinna waste a drop, it's precious." There's nothing reckless about the sons of Scotland.

The drouth must be getting desperate in Toronto. As a variation from his daily roast for the Lord's Day Alliance, the editor of The World on Monday printed a first-page prayer for rain, and backed it up with an editorial. W. F. Mc.

Leon, M. P., is farming now, and begins to realize the worth of water.

A man's opinion of the weather appears to be governed very largely by the appearance of his out field.

People are fast losing what little faith they ever had in the daily paper "Probs," which have been announcing "local showers" for over a week.

If we can't get rain any other way, Whitney might try appointing a Royal Commission.

Death of Robert Hamilton.

The death is announced of Robert Hamilton, of the firm of Hamilton & Son, at Norfolk County, Ont., the widely-known importers of Percheron horses, and formerly of the firm of Hamilton & Hawthorn. He was also a large stock-holder in the Lea Pickling and Preserving Company, in Simcoe. Mr. Hamilton had been preparing for a trip to France for a new importation when he was stricken with the illness which caused his death, on the morning of July 4th. Mr. Hamilton was one of the oldest importers of Percheron and German Coach horses in Canada, and previous to coming to this country handled a number of stallions in the Western States. His death will delay the sailing of other members of the firm for a short time, but it is, we are informed, the intention to carry on the business as before.

GOSSIP.

It is reported to have been so hot near Rochester, N. Y., that people were able to pick roasted apples off the trees. The reporter omitted to add that the potatoes were fried in the hills.

The Western Fair, Western Ontario's greatest and most popular event of its kind, slated this year for the dates September 8th to 16th, promises to exceed all former records in exhibits and attractions, the prize list having been considerably increased and the grounds and buildings improved. London is one of Canada's most beautiful cities, and as there will be reduced rates for the fair week on all railways, a favorable opportunity will be available for visiting the Forest City. For entry forms and space, write the Secretary, A. M. Hunt, London, Ont.

SOME COMING SHOWS.

Highland and Agricultural, at Inverness, Scotland, July 25 to 28.
Dominion Exhibition, Regina, July 31 to August 12.
Cobourg Horse Show, August 15 to 18.
Edmonton Exhibition, August 15 to 19.
Canadian National, Toronto, August 28 to September 13.
Central Canada Exhibition, at Ottawa, September 8 to 16.
Vancouver Exhibition, August 28 to September 4.
Quebec Provincial, at Quebec City, August 28 to September 5.
Western Fair, London, September 8 to 16.
Miramichi Agricultural Exhibition, Chatham, N. B., September 11 to 15.
Victoria Provincial Exhibition, Victoria, B. C., September 26 to October 1.
Provincial Exhibition, New Westminster, B. C., October 3 to 7.
New York State Fair, Syracuse, N. Y., September 11 to 16.

TRADE TOPIC.

TWENTY THOUSAND LIGHTS.—Between fifteen and twenty thousand electric lights are what the Hydro-Electric people are using to make the Canadian National Exhibition Park a blaze of light during the coming Exhibition at Toronto. This is exclusive of the Tungsten lamps used for lighting the various buildings.

B. F. Yoakum, chairman of the executive board of the 'Prisco system of railroads, on one occasion took to task a young man in his employ who had announced his intention of marrying. The youth in question was drawing a small salary, and Yoakum remonstrated with him on the ground that he could not afford to marry, and that his wife would have to suffer great privations. "Oh," said the young man, "I guess I've got as much right to starve a woman to death as any other man has."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Veterinary.

LUMP JAW.

Five-year-old grade cow has been affected for about six months with a lump on the upper jaw, about three inches below the eye. It swells up to about the size of an orange and then breaks. It breaks about once every two months, discharging matter. It then heals over again. The cow is in perfect health otherwise. Is this lump jaw? And is there any remedy for this case? The cow has gone back considerably in her milking, but I do not know whether this is the reason.

T. F.

Ans.—Your cow has lump jaw. Give her once a day for 14 days, 1½ drams of iodide of potassium, dissolved in ½ pint of water. If during the treatment she should get off her food and show a tendency to run at the eyes and dribble from the mouth, reduce the dose to one dram. Sometimes it is necessary to withhold the medicine altogether for a few days, and then start again. If the bones are diseased, a cure will be more difficult.

ENLARGED THYROID GLANDS.

Colt, one year old, was foaled with the glands on one side of the neck badly swollen. It continued that way for a while and then grew worse. We sent for a veterinarian and he left some medicine to give it, and also some to rub on the lump. It appeared to get better, then in the winter it grew worse and was swollen very badly. I thought it had distemper, as there was a discharge from the nose. It appeared to have fluid in the lump, as, when I would touch it, it would rattle as if water were in it. Then I lanced it, and nothing but clear blood came from it, and I had to stop the bleeding or it would have bled to death, and it did not reduce the lump. It grew worse, and I had the veterinarian again and he lanced it, and nothing but blood came from it, which had to be stopped. And now it is worse, as the swelling is on both sides, and it does not eat as well as it has done. When it drinks, it coughs, and the grass and water comes out of its nose. The vet. says he thinks there is a growth inside, but he never saw such a case. The colt is in good health every other way.

W. S.

Ans.—Your colt appears to be suffering from a very bad case of goitre, or enlarged thyroid glands. I am afraid that little can be done for such a severe case. The ordinary treatment is to administer dram doses of iodide of potassium dissolved in a little water and given as a drench, and apply to the enlargement the ordinary iodine ointment once daily. The glands are sometimes successfully cut out, but it is a very serious operation. No doubt your vet. has done all that can be done.

Miscellaneous.

RYE BUCKWHEAT.

Could you let me know where I could get four bushels of Rye buckwheat, and the price per bushel? A. B. H.

Ans.—Write seedsmen; also Prof. C. A. Zavitz, O. A. C., Guelph.

SHIPMENT OF DOGS.

I see an advertisement in your paper subscribed by Robert McEwen, Byron, to the effect that he has collies for sale that are good for working. Some time ago I made a trade with a man at Highland Creek for a dog for working cattle. But he had to return my money. He said he could not get dogs shipped through, a muzzle law being in force that prevented him from shipping dogs west of Toronto this way.

W. McK.

Ans.—The restrictions on the movement of dogs out of the area in Western Ontario quarantined on account of the existence of rabies, were removed on December 7th, 1910.

STRAWBERRIES.

Can you tell me the best time to fill up gaps in the strawberry patch? I put down several thousand plants in May, but have lost about one-third, owing, I suppose, to the hot spell we had. What is the best time, this year, to replace the lost plants with the runners that are forming on the good plants? G. W.

Norfolk Co., Ont.

Ans.—Spring is practically the only time to plant strawberries in most sections of Canada. Train the runners along the rows so that they may fill the vacant spaces. Where there is too large a space, filling in might be done some time in August. If you plant in August, be sure to do it in damp weather.

CABBAGE INSECTS.

I have a fine lot of cabbage, green and red, also cauliflower, and they have been attacked with a small, black insect, like a flea, and about same size. They are spoiling all the plants. They seem as if they poison the plant and they rust, and growth and development is retarded. It is just a question whether they will not die in time.

R. W.

Ans.—The description given indicates that the insect is a species of cabbage flea beetle, which is often found on cabbage, cauliflower, turnips, radishes, etc. They are very injurious to young plants. Some of them lay their eggs near the roots of the host plants where the larvae do some damage. The chief damage, however, is done by the adults. These are biting insects, which can be readily killed by Paris green, hellebore, or any of the arsenicals in the usual proportions. Air-slaked lime or plaster dusted on the plants will serve as a measure of protection, but a little poison added would be more effective. If the insect should be a species of cabbage louse or aphid, kerosene emulsion, tobacco water or pyrethrum powder, would destroy them. Aphids have sucking mouth parts, hence contact remedies must be used. Keep the plants well cultivated to stimulate growth.

BUTTER FROM CREAM.

How many pounds of butter should be made from 351 pounds of cream, testing 28 per cent.?

SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—Nobody knows. The amount will depend upon the overrun, which is a variable quantity. Assuming an average overrun of one-sixth, the yield of butter would be 114.6 pounds from the above quantity of 28-per-cent. cream.

ICE HOUSE.

I built an ice house last fall, and when the ice season came it was filled with ice in the one end and the cold air was intended to keep the dairy cool. I put sawdust on the ice on top, and 60 and 61 degrees is as cold as it will get. Now, please tell me, through your valuable paper, what is wrong with it? It is built of stone and cement, 18-inch wall, and the ice chamber is studded and lined so the ice will not touch the cement wall, the ice keeping well, but will not keep the dairy cool.

R. V.

Ans.—If the ice is keeping all right, the cause of the dairy being warm might be that there is a poor circulation of air from the dairy over the ice and back again. From the drawing, there seems to be no space under the ice for air to pass around the ice. It is necessary to have free air circulation in order that the cold air, fresh from the ice, may pass through the dairy room. The ice should not have been covered with sawdust. What you need is a well-insulated ice chamber and a well-insulated dairy. Insulation implies that not only the walls, but the ceilings and floors must be as well protected as possible from the heat of the outside air and of the ground beneath. The circulation should carry the warm air from the ceiling of the dairy into the top of the ice chamber, over, behind, and back under the ice into the dairy again through the opening near the floor, these openings to be controlled by slides. From your drawings, the construction of your refrigerator compartment is not clear, but from this reply you will doubtless be able to discern wherein it is chiefly at fault.

A BOY'S IDEA OF A DUCK.

A schoolboy who was assigned to prepare an essay on ducks, submitted the following: "The duck is a low, heavy-set bird, composed mostly of meat and feathers. He is a mighty poor singer, having a hoarse voice, caused by getting so many frogs in his throat. He likes the water, and carries a toy balloon in his stomach to keep him from sinking. The duck has only two legs, and they are set so far back on his running gear by nature that they came pretty near missing his body. Some ducks when they get big have curls on their tails and are called drakes. Drakes don't have to set and hatch, but just loaf and go in swimming and eat everything in sight. If I was to be a duck, I would rather be a drake."—Spare Moments.