

Breaking the Switching Habit.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Having seen in a recent issue, the enquiry J. H., re switchers and kickers: I am going to tell you how we cured a mare that was very troublesome because of these vices. We put a collar on her and, then braided her tail down and tied it up over her back to the collar quite tight; she was left in that condition for about forty-eight hours, when we let it down and from that time on, she gave no trouble as a switcher and seldom attempted to kick, unless there was a good cause for it. As a rule, horses with this habit are very high strung, and have a bad temperament, and must be handled very gently.

Simcoe Co., Ont.

"Mac."

LIVE STOCK.

With the New Comers in the Stock Barn.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

As the season for young lambs and young pigs is here, I would like to send a timely suggestion to your paper. When we find young lambs wet, cold and chilled, we immediately put them into a large pan of hot water, as hot as the hand will bear, being careful to keep their heads above the water. As the water cools they are removed, and the temperature is raised by adding boiling water. The lamb at first shivers and shakes. When it feels naturally warm it is wrapped in hot cloths and placed in a box in the oven (not too hot) with the door open; or if too hot, at the oven door. In a short time it is dry and lively. Cow's milk is warmed and given a little at a time, using a rubber nipple on a bottle. The warm milk strengthens the lamb, and the hot water supplies warmth, and it dries naturally. The warm milk is very essential. We had a ewe with triplets, two of which were very weak, and were cold and wet when found. They were brought to the house, and after a time in their warm bath they could jump out of the box.

I have also treated young pigs in this manner with equal success. If sows do not eat and are not doing well after farrowing, it is sometimes due to indigestion. Some baking soda in sweet milk will often right matters. It can often be prevented by judicious feeding, as for instance, light feeding the day before farrowing and very light for four days after. Just a little water and shorts very sloppy until she begins to ask for more. Then only what she can eat up clean in a few minutes.

We commence to feed the young pigs at about two weeks old. Just a little middlings in some warm milk. New milk is best. They certainly pay for it. From the first few days we have an opening for the little pigs to run out of the pen anywhere through the piggery on the earth in alleys. Their trough of feed is kept in the alley. We put wood ashes, salt and earth on floor of pen. The pigs both young and old enjoy it. This treatment of young pigs is very satisfactory. Exercise and fresh air for all pigs is essential, but not roughing it and exposure.

Cows about to freshen are much less liable to trouble if kept in a thriving condition. By that is meant, not over-fat by any means, but thrifty and gaining.

I would like to call the attention of every stockman to the treatment pigs and cattle receive before putting on the cars in shipping. They are taken from a warm pen or stable, and left standing in open yards at stations without even a roof over them, no matter how hard it is storming. This must mean great suffering, and is also a loss to the drovers. The cars are not always there in time, and one shipment of ours remained all day and until two or three a.m. next day in intensely cold weather. I wish someone of the societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals would investigate and see if it is not possible to lessen the suffering by providing suitable shelter. The loss must finally come out of the farmer, so I consider it to his advantage to help on any movement made in that direction.

FARMER'S WIFE.

Northumberland Co., Ont.

Ministerial orders have been passed prohibiting the importation into Canada of any hay, straw, fodder, feed stuffs or litter accompanying horses from Great Britain for six months from March 21st, and prohibiting the shipment into Canada of cattle, sheep, other ruminants and swine from Great Britain, Ireland and the Channel Islands on steamers carrying horses from Continental Europe for six months from April 2nd.

Raising Calves on Whey.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In the vicinity of our cheese and butter factory we often hear the remark, "I would send my milk to the cheese factory only I cannot raise the calves if I do", but this is the way we have done it on our farm for the past four years.

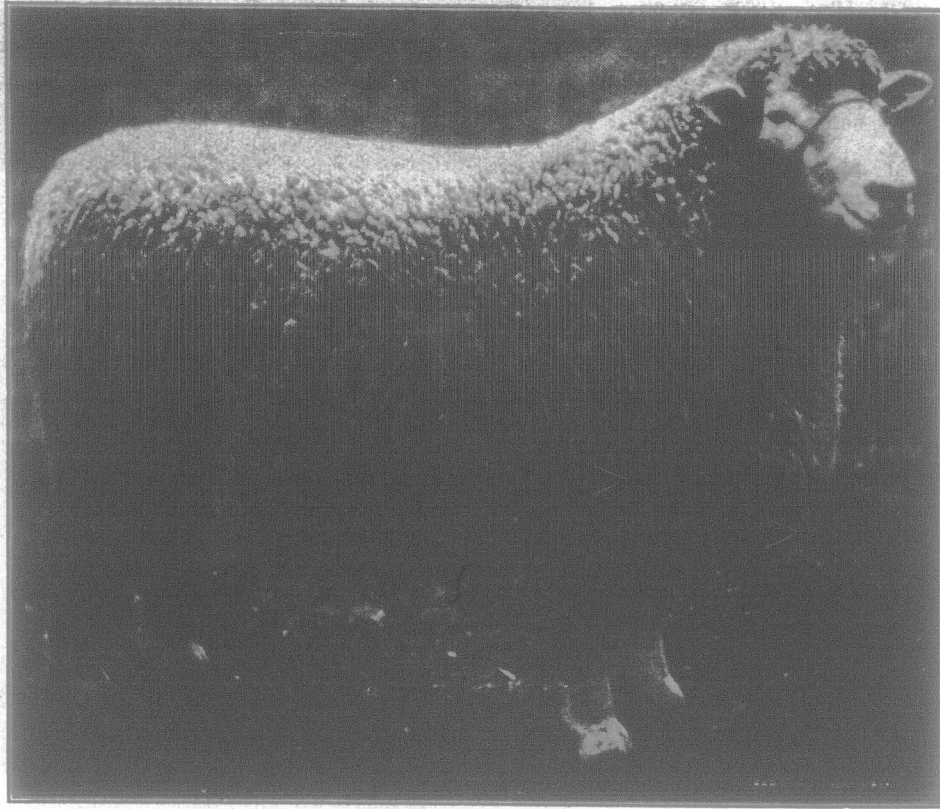
We have started calves drinking whey at three weeks old, and have not had a case of scours in the past three summers. We start a calf three weeks old on four pounds whole milk and five pounds sweet pasteurized whey, gradually increasing the whey and lessening the milk. We add a tablespoonful of calfmeal made into a porridge, gradually increasing the porridge to a teacupful twice a day with ten pounds whey until the calves are six or eight weeks old, when we drop the meal and use finely ground oats. The ground oats are not cooked, just stirred in the whey. We feed six or eight ounces twice a day, and increase to sixteen or eighteen ounces at four months old or as long as the whey keeps coming.

We try to get the calves outside in the fresh air and sunshine as soon as possible in the spring. With plenty of good grass, free access to shelter and water in hot weather, they will grow like weeds.

We have tried feeding the whey clear and giving whole oats instead of ground oats, and we had far better success in feeding oats ground, as each calf gets its proper share. We have no trouble at all in getting them to drink the whey. They are always eager to get it. We raise just as good calves as any raised on separator milk, and better than many we have seen. Last fall we sold three steer calves, at an average age of nine months, for \$100. Watch the feed, watch time, and watch calves grow into gold dollars.

Lambton Co., Ont.

ROBT. SHARP.



A Romney Marsh.

Sold at a long price, to be used in the Argentine.

Feeding Out Silage.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

We are enclosing a few notes on the silo, a short description of which was sent you last October and which we erected at a total cost of one hundred and twenty dollars, including work, foundation, roof and all. It is built of 2 x 6 inch lumber, tongued and grooved, and we may say that it has given excellent satisfaction, not having any spoiled silage after the seal was taken off. The silo is built on the west side of barn and has no protection from the north, and the silage froze around the sides of the silo to some extent, but by taking advantage of mild days and keeping the silage low around the outside edges, we were not inconvenienced to any great extent. As we used the silage we threw any frozen stuff down into the stable, say in the morning, and it was generally thawed out by next feeding time, so that the cows ate all of it and none was wasted. Our silo is 12 feet in diameter and 30 feet high, and we have about six feet left in the bottom, and we expect that to last us till grass grows. On moving onto the farm, which we just purchased one year ago, our first care was to build a silo, and we could not think of trying to farm without one. We built a stave silo fifteen years ago of hemlock staves, and the staves to-day are as sound as ever, and the silo was not painted nor treated with wood preservative in any way, and we are beginning to think that the silage is a very good wood preservative itself. We have painted the outside and

edges of the staves of our new silo, and we believe that it will last indefinitely. We believe that the stave silo is the poor man's friend, and as for the relative value of the stave and the cement silo the difference lies in the first cost, and lasting qualities, and each man's circumstances must be his guide in making the decision as to which he shall build, because either silo properly built will save silage in first-class condition.

A. B. ARMSTRONG.

Northumberland Co., Ont.

Raising Winter Farrowed Pigs.

Stock raisers are well aware that it is a difficult proposition to raise a litter of fall farrowed pigs. They may get unthrifty or crippled, or actually die from unexplainable causes, when the owner is doing everything in his knowledge to make their environments and rations conducive to health. They are sometimes killed with kindness, many young litters succumb to over-feeding when they are housed-up and liberally fed. The young things become too fat and their internal organs become congested and sluggish in their movements.

First and foremost, the pen should be large enough to allow of a little exercise, but some outside runs should be provided in the barnyard, or manure heap, but pigs should not be allowed to nestle in the warm horse manure. It may give rise to rheumatic troubles and unhealthy swine. Ventilate the building and provide a sleeping place that will be dry and elevated slightly above the damp floor. The quarters must be such that the pigs are not obliged to loaf around in damp, dull stagnant atmosphere.

The sow should not be too fat at farrowing time, but is necessary to have her in a healthy, thriving condition. After farrowing, feed lightly at first, on bran or middlings, and slop before bringing her to full feed in a week or ten days. Feed her a little sulphur in the rations and allow her access to charcoal and bone-meal, that she may not be in a craving, physical condition and turn cannibalistic towards her young. Don't think that you cannot have the young pigs too fat. This is a fatal and common mistake, and should be avoided. After weaning, skim-milk and middlings make an excellent ration, but if it is desirable to feed ground oats, the hulls should be sifted out. Sometimes the middlings may be fine and floury and cause digestive troubles,

which are evidenced in diarrhoea or constipation. In such trouble, scalding the meal is effective, and it is also wise to mix with it a little bran or ground oats. It is desirable while the pigs are young, to develop frame and organs that will be necessary at a later date if they are to be fattened or kept for breeding purposes. Exercise is a prime requisite and they should be allowed to run and be forced to use it. Brushing them around with a broom or switch, may seem like childish amusement, but it is a wise expedient to prevent future trouble.

Lice and worms frequently visit the litter, and it is unprofitable indeed, to waste good fodder on such unproductive pests. For lice, erect a scratching post in the pen, and around it, wrap old rags or bags. Then saturate the rags with crude oil, and the swine will soon realize the convenience of the post upon which to rub. The oil will be conveyed to the parts attacked by the lice and exterminate them. If worms are troubling the pigs, procure some finely ground iron sulphate at the druggist's and mix it at the rate of one dram per hundred pounds live weight of the hogs in their morning slop. This is more effective when consumed on an empty stomach. Repeat this treatment every other morning for a week, and if time does not show results, repeat the doses. Experienced swine raisers find it advisable to keep a mixture of charcoal, wood ashes, lime, salt and iron sulphate constantly before the pigs. They eat what they wish, and by doing so