

better to go upstairs. By putting the patient in the little room off the kitchen the disease would have the very best chance of killing the farmer. The house is often too small. There are sometimes two or three in the same room, and frequently in the same bed. People that live in the city or town, although they have rent to pay, never think of crowding.

Farmers should have some sort of enjoyment to change the routine of life, and break the monotony. Monotony was one of the conditions under which even healthy people did not thrive well. There should be enjoyment on the farm in the evening. Especially those who have been at the college where they have seen things as they should be, should look into the sanitary conditions of their own homes very carefully. We know how to tile-drain our land and how to ventilate our buildings properly. The outer buildings should be a good distance from the house. Some farmers in the Southern States are going to the trouble of putting up a covered roof from the barn to the house before they will put up with the unhealthy condition of the farmhouse by its being situated close to the stable.

It will be a surprise to many to learn that the farmer is very low on the list of those who are considered to be the best risks for life insurance. This condition of things is largely due to themselves. They have, in many instances, completely ignored the laws relating to sanitary conditions, with the result that to day the farmer, instead of being classed among the best life insurance risks, is down low in the scale. This is something that every farmer should consider, not because it is necessary to secure a better position among insurance risks, but because he owes it to himself and to his family to provide such conditions, on the farm as will be conducive to good health and freedom from disease.

Hired Help on the Farm.

Editor of FARMING:

Re your comments on my article on "Hired Help on the Farm," I grant you a farmer would be more likely to keep a married man longer than a single one, which would be a great advantage, as he would soon get into the farmer's ways, and things would naturally run smoother than when one is always chopping and changing, as is the case where single men are hired. But your argument in reference to the wages goes to support my claim that a married man is too expensive a luxury for the majority of farmers at present. For, if it costs a farmer \$10 a month for a man's board and washing, it would cost a married man more. Therefore my estimate of \$250 is far too low, as it would cost him more than that to board himself and wife, without reckoning on such trifles as children, clothing, etc. Then there is another cash outlay in my favor, that of the cost of erecting a cottage, which would mean \$300 or \$400 more on to the mortgage.

Then, sir, I hardly think you refute my argument of poverty by referring to the same class in England, for amongst them it is dreadful, and they seldom see meat more than once a week, if that. One young fellow who has come to this country tells me he used to consider himself lucky if he got a "slice of bread and a carrot for his breakfast." Now, I am sure we do not want that state of things with us. So until farmers go in for more intensive farming, I am sure they will find single men more in keeping with their incomes than the more luxurious article, a married man.

W. T. HARRISON.

Ivan, Ont., March 14th, 1898.

Editor of FARMING:

Having noticed that quite a bit is said about hired help on the farm, and that the single man is being badly trampled upon, I thought I would say a word in his behalf. In regard to morals, I cannot see why, if a man is married, he is going to be any better in that way. I think that there are just as bad married men as there are single men; and, as to a single man demoralizing the family, I cannot see that he can do such a great deal more harm than a married man. The farmers' boys are with the hired man through the day, when he is working in the fields, and I think that is the time when he uses most of his bad language. Another thing—what are we going to do with our single men who are too young to get married, if we are all going to hire married men? I think that this married hired man cry is another blow that will help to drive our young men off the farm, and which we are all trying to prevent.

R. B. MARTIN.

March 14th, 1898.

We are pleased that this hired man question is exciting some interest. It is gratifying also to know that Mr. Harrison agrees with us in regard to the farmer being able to keep a married man for a much longer time than a single man. Then, his remarks in reference to intensive farming are quite in keeping with our contention. The only difference being that he is looking forward to a time when a more intensive system of farming will

be practised, while we believe that a more intensive system of farming should be begun by our farmers at once. If it is the right line of farming to adopt, why put off practising it till the indefinite future? Our remarks in regard to wages were made entirely from the farmer's point of view. Nevertheless, we believe there are many married men in our towns and cities who would be glad to work on a farm for \$250 a year and a free house.

In regard to the statement of Mr. Martin that "this married hired man cry" will drive our young men off the farm, we are inclined to the very opposite view. We might ask, what becomes of the young single men who are now employed on our farms? Do they remain single all their days and stay on the farm? We venture to state that not one per cent. of them do. After knocking about for a few years with several farmers, they very often drift, no one knows where, and if they were traced through the later years of their lives, may probably be found located in some poor house on some back street in our large cities, trying to eke out a precarious existence for themselves and their families on whatever odd jobs can be had. Of course, there is the exception in the young hired man who is the son of a farmer, perhaps in the locality in which he is working. He has special advantages over the young man who has to depend entirely upon himself for a living and whether he works on the farm or not, must rely upon his own resources. We repeat, that it would be better for this young man, for the country, and for the farmer who employs him, if after working a few years his position were made more permanent by being given an opportunity to settle down for life if he wished. We are sure that it would be a decided gain to the farmer to have a steady man with him year after year whom he could trust and who understood all about the work on the farm. We have known of several instances of married men who have worked several years with farmers, becoming farmers themselves after having saved sufficient to help them get a start in the way of stock, etc., on a rented farm, and moreover these have invariably turned out to be some of our very best farmers.

Canadian Butter at the Top.

The St. Mary's Creamery Co. recently made a shipment of butter direct to England, which sold for one-half to one shilling per cwt. (112 lbs.) higher than the Danish butter was selling for at the same time. The St. Mary's butter brought 108 shillings, and the Danish from 106 to 107 shillings. This result is very gratifying indeed, and shows what the possibilities are in the development of our export butter trade. We have as good facilities in Canada for making first class butter as the Danes have, and we have only to make the good qualities of our butter known in order to obtain the highest price.

The St. Mary's creamery is to be commended in the efforts it is making to establish a trade with Great Britain. If every creamery would adopt the same plans, and ship all the butter made direct, it would not be long before we had created a large export demand for Canadian butter. The shipment referred to above netted 20¾ cents at the factory, and the company were able to pay the patrons 19½ cents per lb. for butter fat. They have averaged 13,000 lbs. of butter per month during the winter, and expect to make 15,000 lbs. during March. There are now six skimming stations in addition to the central creamery at St. Mary's. The business is growing very rapidly, and the manager, Mr. J. Stonehouse, expects to be turning out about 12,000 lbs. per week in the middle of the summer. The firm has direct connection with British commission houses, where the butter is sold on its merits.

You will make a garden that will be both profitable and attractive by utilizing the packets of garden and flower seeds which we give for new subscriptions. These seeds are the very best obtainable and selected especially with a view to the requirements of our subscribers.

Fresh Pastures for Horses.

According to the best authorities, horses will thrive best on new pastures, or, in other words, if horses during their growing period are confined to small pastures, and have not sufficient run, they will not be so full of life and spirit as horses having almost unlimited scope for exercise. The highest types of horses to be found to-day, especially in the racing classes, are those reared in a comparatively wild state, where fresh pastures are abundant and where the animals are allowed considerable liberty and freedom. In Australia it is claimed by old inhabitants that in the early days of settlement of that country the horses were superior to the horses of the present day because they were reared on unenclosed runs, where they could wander far and wide for the pastures they liked best. This free exercise in the wide range of country in the old days produced an animal that was accustomed to travel long distances without trouble, while the young horse, raised in a small enclosure, is naturally more slovenly and less energetic, with less endurance. The same reasoning would, perhaps, apply to other countries. We all know that many of the horses reared in a comparatively wild state on the American plains are models of energy and speed. Then, some of the finest horses the world produces to-day are to be found in the wilds of Arabia, where they have fresh pastures and large runs galore.

All this goes to show that as a rule the finest types of horses are those reared under conditions as much like the natural as possible. Though our breeders of horses may not be able to supply these conditions as nature supplied them, it will pay to go as far as possible and supply young horses especially with as much fresh pasture as can be had conveniently. Not only will this plan be advantageous to the growing animal, but it will be beneficial to the pasture as well. Horses are harder on pastures than either cattle or sheep. As a rule, fields that have been kept as permanent pastures for horses for a number of years will become full of weeds and coarse grasses, owing to the fact that the best plants have been eaten out. It will, therefore, pay farmers to provide their horses frequently with fresh pastures, and to allow their young animals as much of a run as possible.

NOTES AND IDEAS.

The total killings of hogs in the west show a considerable increase over those of one year ago. The first two weeks of March show a total approximating 790,000 as against 720,000 a year ago. Most of the offerings are of fairly good quality but there is less uniformity, the receipts including considerable of immature stock.

CANADA'S DAIRYMEN.

J. C. Chapais, LL.B., St. Denis, Que.

Mr. J. C. Chapais, Assistant Dairy Commissioner for Canada, whose photo appears in this week's FARMING, is well known to Canadian dairymen in all parts of the Dominion, and especially in his native Province of Quebec. In the March and June numbers of FARMING of last year we gave short sketches of Mr. Chapais and his work, and therefore will not need to enlarge very much on these lines just now. He was born at St. Denis, Quebec, and is the son of the late Hon. J. C. Chapais, Senator. He received the advantages of a good education, which he applied later on to acquiring an intimate knowledge of practical farming, his special lines being the cultivation of the soil and fruit growing. He is an ardent believer in up-to-date dairy farming, and thinks that the Quebec farmer should adopt it. His efforts in inducing the Quebec farmer to go into dairying seem to be meeting with good results, as no province in the Dominion is making the progress that Quebec is doing along practical dairy lines.

For a number of years Mr. Chapais was assistant editor of *Le Journal d'Agriculture Officiel*, published by the Department of Agriculture of Quebec. His editorial work induced a close study and a research into many agricultural problems, which have been beneficial to him in his special work on the Dairy Commissioner's staff. His work in this department is chiefly in the French-speaking districts of Quebec, where his services are in great demand as a speaker at agricultural gatherings. FARMING has been favored frequently with articles from the pen of Mr. Chapais, and we hope to be favored again.