

plowed immediately and, in the course of a week or so, was green again with a fine growth of mustard thistles and many other weeds. When these were well started, he disked the land thoroughly and let stand for a couple of weeks.

The next growth of weeds was plowed under. He followed this up with alternate disking and plowing as long as the weeds continued to grow. By following this method combined with a rotation which contained a large amount of corn and roots, he has his farm practically clear of weeds.

Nor was the freeing of the farm from weeds the only benefit derived from this system of cultivation. The land was put in splendid shape for next year's crop. The large amount of cultivation and aeration made available a large supply of plant food. The large amount of vegetable matter in the form of weeds turned under, greatly increased the supply of humus in the soil with all its attendant benefits. Farmers who are carrying on what seems like a hopeless struggle with weeds, would do well to follow the example of our English neighbor and do more full cultivation combined with a large acreage of low crops.

### Handling the Potato Crop

R. F. Eaton, Colechester Co., N. S.

Digging of late potatoes, which in most cases is the greater part of the crop, should not commence until the vines have been dead for some time. By allowing the potatoes to lie in the ground for a short time in this way, any disease which may be on the tubers will be given a chance to develop. All the diseased potatoes can be sorted out in picking the first time and only the clean potatoes stored. With early potatoes the case is different. The potatoes are dug when the vines are green and marketed immediately, potato rot having no time to develop between digging and marketing.

In digging our potato crop, we first run an ordinary plow under the ridge of potatoes, throwing them out on to one side. A potato fork is then used to loosen out these furrows and throw the tubers out on the surface. By using the plow to supplement the hand digging, the potatoes can be harvested with half the time and less than half the expense.

#### SORTING AND MARKETING

The first sorting of the potatoes is made as they are picked off the ground. The marketable tubers are kept by themselves. The others, including small ones and those partly rotted, are collected and fed immediately to the cows and pigs. The marketable tubers, not shipped immediately, are stored in the basement of the house where there is no danger of freezing and sorted and bagged for shipment later in the winter when there is more time.

This is a large potato growing section. Most of our potatoes are shipped by the carload to commission merchants in Halifax. Very few farmers are able to ship a carload at a time, so we combine forces to load a car for one commission man. Shipping potatoes through the winter when there is lots of time for picking over and properly grading them is less expensive than shipping them as soon as dug when so many other farm operations are pressing.

In order to ship cooperatively as we do to reduce freight rates, it is necessary for every farmer in the section to grow the same variety of potato. We all grow the Delaware which is a nice medium sized, smooth potato and is not excellent for table use.

When picking over the potatoes in the cellar nice, smooth, medium sized potatoes are selected for seed next spring. By selecting ideal table tubers for seed each year, change of seed is not necessary. In fact, the quality and yield of the potatoes will improve instead of deteriorate as so many claim they do.

### The Management of the Calf

R. S. Hoodswoth, Durham Co., Ont.

Never in the history of this country was the supply of cattle as depleted as it is to-day. It is therefore of the utmost importance that in the raising of calves every effort should be made to make them as valuable as possible at maturity. It is not going too far to say that in no one branch of agriculture is less judgment shown by the ordinary farmer than in the care of his young calves. It does not matter whether the calf is for beef, or for the dairy, it must have care, constant care, or it will never be either a credit or a profit to its owner.

There is an idea in the minds of some farmers that to allow a calf to suck a day or two is utter ruin to a cow. After over 40 years of experience, I have no hesitation in saying that there is no foundation for such an idea. If the cow be nervous she can be much more easily handled when the calf is with her than by adding to her excitement by taking it away and then trying to overcome her. Furthermore, a calf gets a start when fed in nature's own way that it will never lose if it gets proper care afterwards. All milk not

them in a light dry place and feed them with good sweet hay and grass, giving them only what they will eat up clean. Keep your pails clean. Scald them every time you use them. The dirty pail is the calf's worst foe. Never under any circumstances give a calf of any age, cold drinks. Always have drink lukewarm and you will have no calves dropping over dead after feeding.

### Paying for Milk by Test

"My opinion is that the government should enact legislation that would require all cheese factories to pay for milk by the test and not by weight, and furthermore, that the samples should be tested by officials appointed, as the dairy instructors are, to test for a number of factories in a section." The foregoing statement was made by Mr. G. G. Publow, of Kingston, Chief Dairy Instructor and Sanitary Inspector, for Eastern Ontario, at a meeting of the executive committee of the directors of the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association held in the Walker House, Toronto, during the Canadian National Exhibition.

"Our work at the Kingston Dairy School, for



The Six Winners Out of a Large and Splendid Class at the Toronto Exhibition

Holsteins were never better represented at a Canadian show than at the Canadian National Exhibition this year. The classes throughout were large and of excellent quality.—Photo by an Editor of Farm and Dairy.

used by the calf should be milked out twice a day. When the milk becomes fit for use, remove the calf in sight of the cow so that she will know where it is. Be sure that the calf pen is dry and clean and keep it so always; not sometimes.

#### TEACHING THE CALF TO DRINK

In teaching the calf to drink, do not jab its head in the pail and hold it there. You will likely lose the milk and also your temper. Give the calf your finger and when it begins to suck pour a little milk on the end of its nose with your other hand. Then bring your hand down to the pail and give it two fingers apart a little and it will learn in a minute or two to suck up the milk between them.

Feed new milk only for a few days. If at all possible, keep a little of the milk in a cool place until noon and then warm to new milk heat and feed your calf. Do this twice a day for the first week. Five quarts is enough for each feed for two or three weeks. Then begin to gradually change to skim milk and as you change add a teaspoonful—no more—of ground flax put in a cup with boiling water and allowed to stand a short time. At the end of a month add a handful of sugar or half a handful of low grade flour, and in six or seven weeks add a small handful of chop. Barley, peas and oats mixed are the very best, but corn and oats are good.

If you can have a small field with plenty of grass and shelter from storms, such is all right for the calves. If you have not such a field, keep

a period of years, shows that the only fair way to pay for milk is by the test. Year by year it is taking more and more milk to make a pound of cheese and the poorer the milk the poorer the quality of the cheese. At the dairy school, Kingston, we are paying for milk by the straight test, which we believe to be the best system and our patrons are well satisfied. In the United States the dairy authorities are pronouncing more and more in favor of the straight test."

Mr. J. H. Singleton, of Smiths Falls, the proprietor of a number of factories, felt that unless some such method was adopted it might be dangerous to have the question of paying by test discussed at factory meetings especially as there is a difference of opinion among patrons as to which of two systems of paying for milk by the test is the most accurate. Then also, it will be a number of years before many makers will be competent to make the tests. Mr. Singleton said that if Mr. Publow's suggestion would be adopted it would place all the factories on the same basis and overcome the difficulty that will exist as long as the makers are expected to make the tests. Efforts will be made by the Dairymen's Association to show patrons at dairy meetings in Eastern Ontario this fall that paying for milk by the test is the only fair way.

Corn made into silage is much more palatable and has a higher feeding value than when fed in the dry form.—Hy. Glendinning, Ontario Co.