

of the difference, but which I do not believe, and I hope Prof. Craig will furnish a better one. Wishing the FARMER'S ADVOCATE and also Prof. Craig success in all undertakings.
P. E. Island.

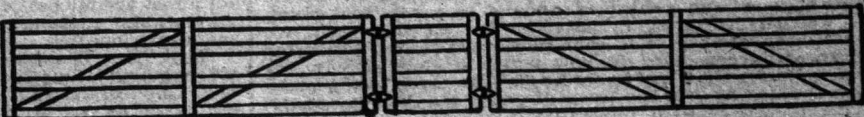
THE HELPING HAND.

How to Tramp Hay in a Mow.

At this age of hay loaders and horse forks the mow hands, especially in shallow lofts, find it difficult and often impossible to give the hay sufficient tramping to get as much in as the loft should hold. We recently learned, while in conversation with one of our best farmers, that astonishing results in compressing hay can be accomplished by the entire force of the farm going up at noons and in the mornings, and all moving forward together, shoulder to shoulder, keeping in step and springing down at every short step. By going over a mow a few times in this manner on several occasions during the filling of the loft, the hay will be pressed so tightly that it will settle very little after the mow is filled.

Hurdles for Guiding Hogs.

At this season of the year there is more or less necessity for catching hogs or driving brood sows quietly from place to place on the farm. A hog is not the easiest animal in the world to drive. We have always used sheep hurdles for this purpose, but recently have noticed a device like the illustration herewith shown. It is composed of two long, light hurdles hinged to a short gate. This permits turning it at any angle, and when in the hands of two persons it enables them to do wonders in driving the most obstinate hog.—*Homestead.*



HURDLES FOR GUIDING HOGS.

offspring are heifers, the male calves not being counted, how many will the herd number at the end of ten years, provided none have died in the meantime; and if the male calves also are counted, what would the number be?

[Will some one or more having time and the disposition to work out a complex problem please answer this question, which is not so easy and the result probably not so surprising as that of the question, "If half a cent is charged for driving the first of the 32 nails in a horse's shoes, and the price is doubled in the case of each nail driven, what will it cost to shoe a horse?"]

Harvesting Lucerne Clover Seed.

J. A. L., Peel Co., Ont.:—"I have some lucerne clover which I intend cutting for seed. Could you tell me something about saving it for seed; whether I take the first crop, or, as with red clover, take the second crop?"

[When alfalfa is grown for seed, the second crop is the one usually saved. The yield from this is usually heavy, and ripens uniformly. The first crop does not often seed well, probably because the insects which aid in fertilization of the flowers are not present in sufficient numbers in May or early June when the flowers first open. The crop should be cut for seed when the pods are dark brown. Rake at once into heaps and allow it to cure there. If the crop is put together damp it is very liable to mold. In Kansas, Nebraska, and Colorado considerable success has been had in cutting the crop for seed with a binder, and threshing directly from the field or from the stack. Alfalfa can be threshed with any of the ordinary machines when provided with sets of screens of small mesh, such as are used in hulling clover.]

Goslings with Staggers.

J. F. H., Simcoe Co., Ont.:—"Can any of the readers of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE tell me what they think is wrong with my goslings and what to do with them? They are kept in the orchard and have plenty of good grass and water, but in the middle of the day some of them got so weak they were unable to walk, and if taken into the house for a while they would seem to get strong, and when taken out again would appear all right, but afterwards would take staggers and die. I gave them sulphur in their feed, which consists of shorts and bread, but it did not seem to help them."

Eradication of Burdock.

R. O'DONOGHUE, Wellington Co., Ont.:—"Will you kindly inform me of the best method to get rid of burdock?"

[The burdock belongs to the class of plants known as biennials, producing seed the second year, which is the last year of its life. If growing where they can be left until the flowers have formed, they may then be cut off near the ground and destroyed, and the root will give no further trouble. If it is desired to dig them up the first year, or during the early part of the second year, they should be cut off well below the crown, when the roots will die. If cut above the surface of the soil during the first year, or early part of the second year, the roots will throw up fresh shoots and propagate themselves afresh. Our method is to go carefully round the farm, especially along line fences, immediately after harvest and gather all the plants in flower and burn them. We thus prevent seed ripening and falling into the ground.]

Hardwood for Posts and Floors.

"LLEWELLYN":—"1. Do hardwood posts last as long as soft wood when cut in summer, allowing leaves to draw sap out? 2. When would be the best time to cut the trees down, July or August? 3. Which of the three would you recommend, maple, birch, or beech? 4. Would hardwood make suitable flooring for a dwelling in rooms to be

carpeted? Would it be hard to draw carpets? If so, could a strip of soft wood be put in all around edge of room?"

[1. Under no circumstances will hardwood, except perhaps oak, last as long as posts as cedar or tamarack. 2. The best time to cut timber to secure the best and most lasting quality of wood is when the tree contains the minimum of moisture, and that is in the autumn just after the leaves have fallen. We would suggest that the trees be cut at that time, allowed to season, and given a thorough painting with hot oil. 3. We think there would be very little difference in the lasting qualities of the three woods mentioned, except perhaps red beech, which is claimed to remain solid longer than the others. 4. Maple is frequently used for flooring with the pine strip inserted around the edge of the room to tack the carpet to.]

Wool Balls in Lambs.

J. W. H., Peterboro Co., Ont.:—"I had four lambs die since going on the grass, and when I opened them I found a ball of clotted stuff in the stomachs like as if they had chewed up some wool or binding cord. The clots were as large as an egg, and some larger, and so hard and matted one could hardly pull it apart with a stick. I had several die last spring, and the ones I opened were the same. The lambs were on the grass two or three weeks when they died. Was that the cause of their death; if so, what caused it to gather?"

[The wool balls were, no doubt, the cause of death, and had probably been formed before the lambs went to grass from wool taken in while eating clover leaves from the backs of the ewes, or, possibly, while biting at ticks that were worrying them. Sometimes the ball is composed partly, or wholly, of the fiber of overripe lucerne or other clover or grasses. It is hardly possible to break up such a combination with medicine, but a liberal dose of castor oil will do no harm, and in some cases may be effectual in removing the trouble.]

Origin of the German Coach Horse.

W. Y., Lanark Co., Ont.:—"Can you give any information as to the breeds of horses from which the German coach horse of the present day originated?"

[Mr. A. B. Holbert, President of the German Coach Horse Association of America, writes us that they originated from the Arabian horses and that during the last century there has been an influx of the blood of a few English thoroughbreds. In Schlesing, Holstein, the stud book carries many of the horses back to Kuhlerlan-el-Ajus 30, a stallion imported into that country just 50 years ago, and this horse is said to be a direct descendant of the great horse that carried the Prophet Mohammed from Mecca to Medina A. D. 622. Stud books have been kept by the Government in the different provinces, showing a record of all breeding stallions, subject to the "Koerung" Examining Committee, all through the 19th century, and some records run back as far as the 17th century, the first appearing about 1620; and in 1660 the Duke of Newcastle speaks with much favor of the German horse—his excellence, and uniformity of style, etc. The present style of recording horses in Germany is different from the old as kept by the Government, but all pedigrees and books are faced and backed by the old Government records as compiled by the "Koerung" of the different provinces. Hence we may say that the stud book dates back through authentic records from one to two and a half centuries in different parts of the empire.]

MARKETS.

FARM GOSSIP.

Prince Edward Island.

The crop is all in here now, except the turnips. Vegetation is well advanced for this time of the year. Grain has come up finely and is growing well. Most of the cheese factories opened about the first of the month. The supply of milk is fair, but there is not the hopeful feeling in regard to dairy markets that there was last year. There will be more butter made than formerly at the factories. The hog crop this season will likely double that of last. Two litters are being raised where there used to be only one. Pasture is the best for years and the hay crop promises to be exceptionally heavy. One altered feature of our farming is more roots, peas and corn grown for cow feed, and less oats for shipment. Prices still keep up for grain and potatoes. Wheat is worth \$1.10; oats, 40c. Considerable quantities of potatoes have been bought for shipment at 45c. per bushel. Best fat cattle are worth 43c. live weight. Hogs, of which there are very few available for packing-house, sell at 5c. for best and 43c. for heavy fats. More mares are being bred this year than for many years past on account of the better prices obtainable for good horses. The failure of the Government to give grants for exhibitions will put a damper on the breeding of pedigree stock. Much dissatisfaction is expressed at the strangling of our Provincial exhibition. We have a Government inspector, a qualified veterinary, employed on the Island with the object of discovering and stamping out tuberculosis. He has not found many cases of it yet.
June 7th.

Prof. F. M. Webster, of the Ohio Experiment Station, after four or five years' study, believes he has definitely located Japan as the original home of the San José scale. A few weeks ago he found flowering cherries, imported by a U. S. nursery firm from Japan, badly infested with the pest.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[In order to make this department as useful as possible, parties enclosing stamped envelopes will receive answers by mail, in cases where early replies appear to us advisable; all enquiries, when of general interest, will be published in next succeeding issue, if received at this office in sufficient time. Enquiries must in all cases attach their name and address in full, though not necessarily for publication.]

Legal.

Landlord and Tenant.

READER:—"A, the tenant, leases from B, the landlord, a farm for three years; the lease is in writing, but there is nothing in it expressly requiring A to sow any grass seed, either clover or timothy, nor is there any express clause providing against sowing successive crops of wheat, etc. Is A bound to sow any grass seed, and could he if he choose take off three successive crops of wheat from the same land?"

[Unless the lease provides for the same, B cannot compel A to sow any grass seed, nor can he prevent him from taking off three successive crops of wheat; but the ordinary forms of farm leases usually contain a clause requiring the tenant to crop and cultivate the land in a proper, good, husbandlike manner, and by a regular rotation of crops, so as not to injure or impoverish the land, and if the lease contains such a clause, then, of course, it must be observed in a reasonable way, and the question would be whether under all the circumstances, considering the quality and nature of the soil and the custom of the locality, such proposed seeding and cropping is a reasonable observance of the agreement.]

Veterinary.

Lame Mare.

W. B., Haldimand Co., Ont.:—"I write to ask, 1st, What is the matter with one of my mares? One of her hind legs swelled up and broke out from the pastern joint, and yellow, watery matter runs out. It is very painful. She holds her foot up when standing, but lies down a good deal, and is losing flesh fast. She has been in Alsike clover. Do you think that the clover would be the cause of her trouble? I gave her a quart of oil and one ounce of sweet nitre. I also gave twice a day half-