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Notes, Queries and Answers

Drainage Along Roadside

I have on my farm three swamps, the natural drainage of which is along the roadside. Some years ago, I dug a ditch there which drained them perfectly. With the advent of the road machine, however, this ditch has been neglected, with the result that the swamps are in as bad condition as ever. Can I compel the township to reopen the ditch? If so, what is the proper proceedings to take in the matter in order to get the land drained?—J. S. B., Lincoln Co., Ont.

Unless the ditch dug along the public road was constructed under either the Ditches and Watercourses Act or the Municipal Drainage Act, you have no claim whatever against the municipality to compel them to reopen the ditch. In constructing a ditch on the public highway, you are in the same position as if you had constructed the ditch on your neighbor's property without consent. The public highway must be considered as private property, which means that you would have to approach the reeve of the municipality and any other owners who might be interested in the ditch under the Ditches and Watercourses Act, asking for an agreement regarding the construction of the ditch, and if no agreement were arrived at, you would then file with the clerk of the municipality a requisition requesting that the municipal engineer take the matter in hand. All procedure following this will be in the hands of the municipal engineer, and the ditch would be constructed according to the Ditches and Watercourses Act.

Non-Freezing Mixtures

Is there anything I can put in the water in the radiator of my car that will prevent it from freezing?—J. A. B., Essex Co., Ont.

In freezing weather with all water cooled engines, this is one of the big troubles. If the water is not drained from the radiator, it will freeze and break or crack some part of it. Most automobile supply companies furnish what is known as a non-freezing solution. This solution is usually composed of alcohol and water in varying quantities, according to the coldness of the weather in which it is used. The following rule should be followed in making a mixture: A solution containing 20 per cent. of alcohol will freeze at 10 degrees above zero. A 30 per cent. solution will freeze at five below, a 40 per cent. mixture at 20 below and 50 per cent. mixture at 35 below.

Breeding After Docking

"How soon after having tails cut off would young ewes be liable to breed?"

Docking has no effect upon the appearance of vestrum, but it would probably be wise to have the docking done so as to allow the wounds to heal before the ewes are to be bred, say three weeks.

Cows With Cough

"SINCE the dry time started, some of my cattle have had a cough. They will try seven or eight times before they really cough. It seems to be in their throat. Please let me know what can be done for it."—"A Reader."

The dry weather did not cause the cough. The symptoms indicate tuberculosis, for which nothing can be done. The only means of definite diagnosis is the tuberculin test by a veterinarian. If not tubercular, the cough will probably disappear, and at least will do no harm.

Impotency

"I HAVE a pure-bred Holstein bull, two years old. Since the middle of April he has not got one of my cows in calf. Up to that time he was very sure. He is still very active. He got too well. April, May and June, he only got hay, and, on account of the scarcity of pigs, three pails of skim milk a day. He is now getting corn and oat sheaves, and is not too fat. He appears to be in perfect health. The only thing that I can see wrong with him is that he keeps the testicles drawn up very close to the body all the time. Please let me know the cause. Is it the want of exercise, or could the milk do him any harm?"—H. W., Sask.

It is highly probable that the cause of impotency is want of exercise. The milk could not cause it. It is a recognized fact amongst all stock breeders that, in order to get good results, the males must have regular exercise. Some give the exercise in a paddock, others with the herd in the field, others on a treadmill, but they must get it in some way. It is of course possible that there may be some disease of the genital organs, but it is highly probable that if you see that he gets plenty of daily exercise for a few months and keep him in moderate condition, that he will again prove potent.

Leeds County Plowing Match

THE fourth annual Leeds county plowing match was held on the farm of Walter M. Percival, Plum Hollow, on Tuesday, October 31st, and proved to be the most successful match yet held by the association. Nineteen contestants took part and a fairly large number of farmers were present. Among those from a distance were Messrs. A. C. Hardy, and Jas. McGlade, of Brockville, and John R. Dargavel, M.P.P., of Elgin. Mr. John McKendry, of Osgoode, officiated as judge in a satisfactory manner.

There was a marked improvement in the plowing over that of previous years. It is worthy to note as a means of encouraging the younger plowmen of the county to participate in the match, that the winner in the "Class under 16 years" had plowing that was pronounced by the judge superior to all the plowing done, with the exception of that of the winner in the "Free For-All." Each year a larger number of younger men are participating, which is a very encouraging feature in connection with the match.

The prize winners in each class are as follows:

Class 1—Free for all—1. Wallace Johnston, Soperton, also winning Special for best opening and Special for best finishing; 2. Joe. Chant, Plum Hollow.

Class 2—Open to all except previous 1st prize winners—1. Robt. Shaw, Athens, also winner of Special for best opening and Special for best finishing; 2. Wm. Green, Oakleaf; 3. Reggie Brown, Athens; 4. Mackie Henderson, Athens.

Class 3—Contestants to be under 20 years of age—1. Nelson Cross, Athens, also winner of Special for best opening and Special for best finishing; 2. Chas. Patterson, Athens; 3. Wm. Hutchings, Athens; 4. Jasper Parish, Athens.

Class 4—Open to boys under 16 years of age—1. Elton Shaw, Athens, also winner of Special for best opening and Special for best finishing; 2. Warren Henderson, Athens; 3. Paul Heffernan, Charleston.

Class 5—Open, two-furrow plow, riding or walking—1. Frank Tackaberry, Plum Hollow, also winner of Special for best opening and Special for best finishing; 2. Fred Hollingsworth, Athens; 3. Clifford Crummy, Athens.

Best outfit—1. Mackie Henderson, Athens; 2. Nelson Cross, Athens; 3. Warren Henderson, Athens.

"Killed—Aged 19"

It's good to die in a comfy bed
With the pillows propped just so,
Holding the hand of the girl you've wed
—And a kiss before you go.

It's good to have reached the three score ten,
And feel that your work is done,
Glad to have lived your life—and then
Pass out with the set of sun.

But it's cruel to die like this, and say
It's the glorious way and best,
'Tis a war-time lie for those who pay
The price of a Devil's jest.

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