

masters' accounts are—the shortage in Australian flocks and the growing popularity of mutton over beef. The reason for this second feature is difficult to divine. It is one of those subtle influences which cannot be traced, but the effects are self-evident. In addition to this there is the absence of any large importations of mutton. Even although there be a considerable volume of sheep imports, they do not amount to much when compared with beef imports. But is there not another lesson here? To what extent may the lessened demand for mutton be due to the fact that the large imports of beef have destroyed the taste for the best beef, and connoisseurs, and those who like good meat, are eating mutton? While doubtless there are many good beves among the foreign colonial imports, it is useless to claim that that meat can, on the average, be equaled by the home-fed Scots. With much home-fed mutton on the market the consumer gets something he likes, and comes again.

Another factor in enhancing the value of mutton is, of course, the home clearances. Many landlords must now be repenting their shortsighted policy in clearing off sheep to make way for deer. The patron of the deer forests is a rare individual; the sheep farmer is everywhere. Farms can be more readily let than forests, and their stock is far more valuable in the market. Perhaps some of the cleared land may again be covered with flocks, but the process of putting the new herself down may be very costly. After all, a sheep farm at a small rent is a reproductive holding; a deer forest adds nothing to the capital of the nation. Let the sheep farmer take heart of grace—he is doing very well—Scottish Farmer.

"Black Teeth" in Pigs

A short time ago, peculiar beliefs used to be quite common regarding black teeth in young pigs. They were looked upon with a sort of mysterious superstition, as a disease that would of itself soon finish young pigs if the teeth were not removed. There is still some misconception of the true cause of the trouble in many places, and it is still quite common to pull or break out the teeth of young piglets, when the same is the cause of inconvenience to the mother.

This is starting at the wrong end of the trouble, as young pigs in common with many other varieties of mammalia, are born with teeth ready to commence chawing. The natural inclination of the young pig in sucking is not to use its teeth, but to suck with its tongue and the upper part of its mouth. When, however, they take to biting instead there is always some other cause to be found. If the sow does not yield milk, or if through improper feeding, the milk is of such a character as to disagree with the pig, it will often commence to bite the mother in its restlessness or distress, and when the young pig does this it will nearly always be found to be owing either to hunger or to indigestion. A damp, badly-lighted pen, improper feeding of the sow, or any cause which will lead to irregularity in the supply or character of the milk supply, may readily cause the young pig to bite and chew the teat instead of sucking, and it is always the indigestion which causes the black teeth in the young pig.

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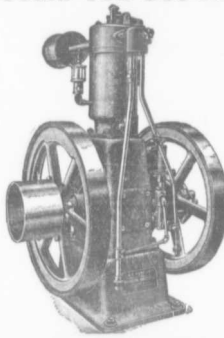
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Toronto Township Plowmen

The Toronto Township Plowboard Association held its annual plowing match on November 6, on the farm of Mr. David McCaugherty, near Streetsville. The day was an ideal one for the plowmen. More than a hundred interested farmers were present to watch the competitions, which were not as closely contested as usual, owing, no doubt, to the busy season and to an important auction sale being held in the neighborhood. Work did not begin very promptly, and as a result none of the classes succeeded in finishing within the time limit. The first four classes were in sod, the fifth and sixth in stubble, the last for boys. The results were as follows:—

Class I.—J. W. Hostrower, Woodhill; 2, G. McLaughlin, Grahamsville; 3, R. Bayes, Woodhill; 4, S. McClure, Edgemoor. Best Crown, W. Hostrower.

Class II.—J. J. Thompson, Stewarttown; 2, Ed. Smith, Stanley Mills; crown, J. J. Thompson.

Class III.—F. Bagges, Edgemoor.

Class IV.—D. McCaugherty, Streetsville.

Class V.—A. Petherick, Elmhurst.

Class VI.—J. E. Tomlinson, Elmhurst; 2, W. Nix, Grahamsville; crown, W. Nix; finish, E. Tomlinson.

Special—Best turn out in sod—S. McClure; in stubble, W. Nix.

The judges were James Eastwood, Etobicoke, and Wm. Walkington, King.

Ed. Walker is president, and W. E. McBride, secretary-treasurer, of the association.

Winter Protection for Evergreens

All evergreens suffer in winter from warm weather and drying winds, which cause their leaves to evaporate moisture faster than it can be supplied by the roots, which may be in frozen ground. The yellow color of evergreens in winter is usually a sign of distress, and bronzing is a sign of imperfect hardness or of willingness to drop the leaves for a while in order to withstand the winter. The best way to protect rare and costly evergreens is to plant them behind a windbreak or among a group of other trees. The prevailing winter wind is usually from the northwest. All conifers, whether hardy or not, are glad to be mulched with eight or ten inches of leaves or coarse manure—N. R. Graves, in November Garden Magazine.

Protecting Roses from Frost

Empty flour barrels and boxes are often used for covering shrubs. If you have these materials, first bank up the shrub well with good, dry leaves, and, after placing the box or barrel, bank this also outside with manure to keep out the frost. If the barrel is in an exposed position anchor it with stakes and wires. Old grain sacks are sometimes used, being put over the shrubs, tied in place, and then banked up with leaves or manure.

Eulalia and other ornamental grasses are often used in place of straw, to wrap rose and other bushes if they are where the sun will strike them or in positions exposed to cold, bleak winds—N. R. Graves, in November Garden Magazine.

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