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Table of Contents

NOTES BY THE WAY :

Linseed-cake	279
Mangels	279
Mushrooms	279
Farm-pupils in England	279
Manurial value of foods	279
Sheep-scab	279
Points that tell against a horse	279
Ag. statistics	279
Calves scouring	279
Ropy milk	279
Liquid manure	279
Dressed rams	279
Food and milk	280
Arson	280
England's wheat crop '95	280
Frosty bits	280
Why Canadian farmers prosper	280
Carbohydrates	280
Comparison of foods	280
Hellers cow, calves	280
Clover sickness	280
Preserving a good road	280
Potatoes as cattle-food	280
Vetches or tare	281
Tile-drain-outlets	281
Nitrogen	281
Colostrum or bet-tyn	282
Calves-foot	282
Nitrogenous horse-food	282
Horse-beans	282
Comp. of Ag. Manur.	282
Report of the Judges	282
Argent oil farms	282
Farmer's Clubs, of Rouville	282
Fruit	283
Honey	283
Insect-destroyers	283
Potatoes, &c.	283
Report of M.M. Oigault and Leclair	283
Conclusion	283

THE DAIRY :

Artificial colouring	285
Ventilation for cowhouses	286
Turnips and butter flavour	286
Fat in milk	286
Stable management of cows	286
M. Bouthillier on crops and scalding	286
Losses in creaming	287
Ontario Dairymen	287
Some points in butter-making	288
Eastern Ontario Dairymen	288

SWINE :

Duroc-Jerseys	288
The best breed of pigs	288
Scotch farmers in England	289
Turnip-taste	289
Farmer's Syndicate of P. Q.	289
"GIVE US OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE"	289

HOUSEHOLD MATTERS :

Comforts in a farm kitchen	289
A new cooking utensil	290
Cracks in the floor	290
"Virgins" improved upon	290
Deep and insomnia	290
Window gardening	290
Hints	290
Optical delusions	290
Taffy	290
Bottle-bells	291

THE HIVE :

Winter care of bees	291
Why farming does not pay	291
"A farmer's song," by Geo. Moore	291
Ginseng culture	291
Hors, by the Editor	291
Mark-Lane prices	293
ROTHAMSTED EXPERIMENTS	293

Notes by the Way.

Linseed-cake.—A propos of a paragraph on "linseed cake" in our last number, we have received a letter from one of the largest dealers in seed, grain, &c., showing that we were utterly in error as to the present price of cake. We stated that, "if it could be had cheaper," than the old price, i. e., \$34.00, "we should be glad to

know of it." Our correspondent quotes prices as follows: "Pure ground linseed-meal, made in Winnipeg, out of the best and cleanest seed, and by the old machinery in use in Montreal 30 years ago, and therefore with a little more oil (fat) in it than cake made by more modern machinery: Retail price \$22.00 a ton; large lots for less, if a car-load is taken \$20.00 a ton, or even less." These prices are low enough in all conscience, and should induce a large consumption of the article in question.

Mangels.—It is really a wonderful thing, if one comes to think of it, that our neighbours in the states will not grow mangels. According to the *Country Gentleman*, they are selling in New Jersey for from \$14 to \$16 a ton! Now, a very moderate crop of mangels may be set at 20 tons an acre, which at the above prices, would be worth, or rather would sell for, from \$280 to \$300! Some seasons, the paper continues, they can be bought for \$10 a ton, but even at that price an acre's yield would fetch \$200: what other farm product would be as profitable?

Mushrooms.—A few years ago, the village of Lachine was full of excellent mushrooms, gathered in the pastures just below the fine maple-groves of the Boyer and Dawes properties. Why not try to grow them in other pastures, where the land is too full of stones to be comfortably ploughed? There are thousands of acres that would grow mushrooms admirably, and would prove a source of profit to the owner without injury to the pasture. The first thing is to get good spawn that will run freely when properly placed in a fitting medium, as thus: break the spawn into pieces about the size of a hen's egg; then, raise the turf, with a spade, and bury a piece of the spawn about 4 inches deep. The turf must be made thoroughly firm again, by treading and beating it down with the back of the spade, otherwise, the spawn will not run freely into the surrounding soil but will probably fail entirely. The proper distance between the inserted lumps of spawn is from 4 to 6 yards each way. The inoculation should be done in the spring, and a dressing of salt will do the crop no harm. Why do mushrooms almost invariably do better in a horse-pasture than where cows or sheep graze?

Farm-pupils in England.—A pleasant life is that of a farm-pupil in the midland counties of England, as the following advertisement in the *Agricultural Gazette* will show:

A LINCOLNSHIRE FARMER, who holds a certificate of the Royal Agricultural Society for farming, has VACANCIES for TWO PUPILS; resides within easy distance of the Belvoir and the Cottles more Hounds.—Address, W. E. WADSLAY, White House, Dunsby, Bourne, Lincs.

Two packs of foxhounds within easy reach! How many hunters is the pupil expected to keep. If he only hunts three days a week, he will require at least 2 hunters and a hack. Probably, the advertiser is at this present moment clamoring for a duty on foreign grain, &c., to enable him and his pupils to keep up such a style of living.

Manurial value of foods.—A vast difference exists in England between the theoretical and the practical values of foods given to stock as regards

the manurial properties left on the land. Theoretically, cotton-seed cake is held to leave behind $\frac{1}{2}$ of its cost, but, practically, no land-agent would, or valuing an outgoing tenant's inventory allow more than $\frac{1}{4}$, and many a good judge considers $\frac{1}{4}$ as quite sufficient when the cake, &c., are consumed on pastures.

Sheep-scab.—This disease; which has caused a good deal of excitement lately on account of the order for the slaughter of all United-States' and Canadian sheep at the port of entry in England; this disease is always serious and sometimes fatal. It is caused by a tiny but awfully prolific beast called an *acarus*. So prolific is it that a pair of acari may have produced at the end of a fortnight a family of 15, and at the end of three months their progeny will number a million and a half. Worth while guarding against it is it not? To this end all rubbing places, such as gate-posts, trees, broken fences, &c., should be thoroughly disinfected, and all locks of wool found where diseased sheep have been should be collected and burnt. When dipping is resorted to, great care should be taken that the liquid reaches all the scabby parts, saturating them thoroughly. After dipping, all the diseased sheep should be kept by themselves, carefully examine, and doubtful cases dressed with mercurial ointment.

Points that tell against a horse.—The following is from the advice given to those to whom the selection of horses for the British cavalry is entrusted:

Reject a horse whose forelegs are not straight; it will not stand wear. Stand behind the horse as it walks away from you, and you will be able to notice there defects if they exist. Reject a horse that is light below the knee, especially if immediately below the knee; the conformation is essentially weak; or a horse with long or short or upright pasterns—long pasterns are subject to sprains; short or upright pasterns make a horse unpleasant to ride, and, on account of extra concussions, are apt to cause ossific deposits; or a horse with toes turned in (1) or out. The twist generally occurs at the fetlock. Toes turned out are more objectionable than toes turned in. When toes turn out the fetlocks are generally turned in, and animals so formed are apt to cut or brush. Both, however, are very weak formations.

Reject a horse whose hind legs are too far behind; good propelling power will be wanting, and disease as a result may be expected in the hocks. And a horse which goes either very wide or very close behind, and one with very straight or very bent hocks; the former cause undue concussion; the latter are apt to give way.

Reject a horse that is "split up"—that is, shows much daylight from between the thighs; propelling power comes from behind, and must be deficient in horses without due muscular development between the thighs.

Reject a horse with flat or overly large feet, or with very small feet; medium sized are best; also a horse with one foot smaller than the other.

The preliminary Agricultural Produce Statistics issued by the Board of Agriculture, giving the estimated pro-

(1) The most perfect hunter we ever had turned his toes in. Along the road he was constantly stumbling, but in the field he never made a mistake.—Ed.

duce of wheat, barley, and oats in Great Britain for 1895, have been published. The averages for the whole of Great Britain are 26 23 bushels of wheat, as compared with 30.69 for last year, and 29.32 as the ten years' average; 31.69 bushels of barley, against 34.50 and 33.02; and 37.06 bushels of oats, against 4.64 and 38.21. The yield of wheat is not quite so low as it was estimated during harvest; but only once before during the preceding ten years—namely, in the first of the two recent years of drought, 1893—has it been so low as it is put for the present year.

CALVES SCOURING.—I have a few young calves in the scour, if you could let me know what would be a good cure, through the *Agricultural Gazette*, I should be very much obliged.—J. B. W. (When a number of calves commence scouring the first step towards checking it should be an endeavour to find the cause of the mischief, and in about nine cases out of ten the evil may be discovered either in the food they are having or the manner in which it is supplied. J. B. W. does not say how his calves are being fed, but if he will forward particulars in this respect I may offer him useful advice. If the calves are being hand fed with milk, it will be well to give them each a dose of linseed oil, and add lime water each time to their milk. Should the diarrhoea continue after this, give them a few doses of the following:—Prepared chalk 8 oz., catechu (powdered) 1 oz., powdered opium 2 drachms, powdered ginger 4 drachms, powdered aniseed 2 oz.; mix thoroughly, and give each calf that requires it one or two tablespoonful (according to age) in a little cold flour gruel two or three times each day as long as necessary, discontinuing the medicine immediately the scouring ceases. A dessertspoonful of brandy may with advantage be given with the above medicine if the patients are chilly or weak.—A.) (1)

COWS GIVING ROPY MILK.—This condition of the milk is caused by slight systemic derangement, the liver generally being the organ chiefly affected, but often in only such a comparatively mild degree that the animals give no visible signs of ill-health. Give a fair dose of Epsom salts ($\frac{3}{4}$ lb.) to each cow, and follow this with a dose each alternate day of the following: Bicarbonate of soda 1 ounce, extract of taraxacum 4 drachms, extract of gentian 4 drachms, water 3 quart. Dissolve the taraxacum and the gentian with $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of the water (hot), and the bicarbonate of soda in the remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ pint, mix the whole, and give when sufficiently cool. There is usually some general cause such as the existence in the food or water of some deleterious material, which is the primary cause of this trouble. Allow your cows always to have access to lumps of rock salt.—A.

LIQUID MANURE.—On a dairy farm the liquid manure of a some twenty cows and runnags from yards are collected in a tank fitted with a chain pump. I shall be obliged if you will say what you consider to be the best method of utilising the same, the quantity to apply, and the best time of application. The land is light, gravelly loam, and the farm is half arable and half temporary pasture.

(1) We have often heard, in England, that vetches given to cows will cause ropiness in milk.—Ed.