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Notes, Queries and Answers

Payment of Wages

IF A hires with B for six months at so much a month, and A gives B a month's notice that he is going home, will B have to say to the farmer "Can B come on A for damages if A quits?"—Subscriber, Simcoe Co., Ont.

If it be an established fact that A hired for six months without any condition regarding the termination of the contract, then he has no right to terminate the contract by giving notice, and if the leaves before the period of six months has expired, he is liable to pay damages to B for loss B sustains. A will be entitled to recover B's wages for the number of complete months that he worked and the wages and damages can be set off one against the other, the balance being payable by the person by whom the larger amount is found owing.

Mortgage and the War

IHAVE a mortgage on a farm made April 1st, 1913, which will be due April 1st, 1918. If the mortgage is still on, does it close this mortgage and get my money, if I can not close the mortgage, will the law allow me to raise my interest to a higher per cent? The man who owns the farm sold it to me, I subject to my mortgage and he takes a second mortgage for his money. If the man comes to me who bought the farm and wants me to renew my mortgage, will he do it and still have wages come in ahead of mine? Will wages come in ahead of mine?—E. P. York Co., Ont.

Under your mortgage dated 1st April, 1913, you cannot, without consent of the court, take steps to foreclose the mortgage until April 1st, 1918. If the mortgage is in arrears with his interest or fails to pay his insurance. There is nothing to prevent you making

Coming Events

- Experimental Union, Guelph, Jan. 8-9, 1918.
- Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association Convention, Perth, Jan. 10-11.
- Western Ontario Dairymen's Association Convention, Stratford, Jan. 15-17.
- Annual Meetings of Live Stock Breeders' Associations, Toronto, Feb. 5-8.
- British Columbia Dairymen's Association Convention, Chilliwack, Feb. 6-7.
- Provincial Dairy Convention, Edmonton, Alta., Feb. 29-31.

ing a bargain with the mortgagee to increase the rate of interest. This mortgage can be extended for a further period without losing your priority over the second mortgage, but you had better consult your solicitor when the time comes for doing this.

Can Son be Drafted?

IF I am not a naturalized citizen and have no vote in the coming election, how have the tribunals any right to take my son away for military service?—H. H. Perry, Sound District, Ont.

In order to answer the question which you ask would necessitate having a great deal more information about yourself and your son than have been given. As this is an important matter you are recommended to see a solicitor in your own district.

Hard to Milk

IHAVE a cow that freshened in February and about a month afterwards, her stall stools stopped on one leg by itself. Since then it has been tough to milk. What would be best treatment?—A. H. Gloucester Co., Ont.

It is probable that the milk duct has become constricted as a result of the injury. This is hard to correct. Little progress for inserting into the teat between milkings, can be procured from dealers in veterinary instruments, or

one can be made out of a piece of dry hardwood. They have a bulb on each end and are constructed in the centre. Must be perfectly smooth and must be thoroughly disinfected by immersing in boiling water each time before inserting. This treatment in many cases succeeds in dilating the vent. Do not try cutting.

Farm Management

Save the Liquid Manure

INVESTIGATION by experiment shows have shown that the urine voided by animals contains over half of the fertilizing value of the excreta—about three-fourths of the total nitrate and four-fifths of the total phosphate. Practically all the phosphorus is found in the solid manure. It has been shown also that the nitrogen and phosphorus in the urine are more readily available to plants than that in the solid excrement. The mixing of solid and liquid manure, therefore, increases not only the fertilizer but a better balanced fertilizer.

The waste of liquid manure may be largely prevented by the use of sufficient bedding, or in case of stabled cattle, by the construction of manure closets which should be provided with special diaphragm pumps for removing the liquid manure to the field sprayer or distributor now manufactured for this purpose. The mixing of the liquid with the solid manure and bedding and hauling directly to the field is doubtless the plan which is best suited to the average farmer, or the liquid manure may be run into the pit with the solid manure and thus preserve both, since the liquid prevents the fermentation and string of the solid manure.

Corn Cultivation

EDITOR, Farm and Dairy—Some months ago I read an article in your paper on corn cultivation. This article stated that, at the Illinois Experiment Station, big yields of corn had been secured from plots where the weeds were kept scraped off the surface with the hoe, as were secured from other plots kept free from weeds and cultivated regularly. A few weeks later, Mr. W. C. Good stated his belief that excessive cultivation was of little if any advantage in corn growing, and still later Mr. G. A. Brethen came back and stated his belief that when we stopped cultivating the corn stops growing. Although now the corn is in the silks, I will not add my opinion. At least I will be in good time for next spring.

Now, Mr. Editor, I believe in very shallow cultivation for corn, and if we cultivate shallow it would be all right. The hand hoe is the only implement I know of, however, with which we can cultivate corn so shallow that we will not injure roots. Years ago, the regular way in our district was to cultivate the corn twice and hoe twice. We had good corn and plentiful crops and acreage was small. We would cultivate the first time when the corn was nicely up, and then just before haying, when corn is a foot high. The first hoeing was between the two cultivations, and the last hoeing after the last cultivation. I have seen cases where the last cultivation was done in just that way, but the field and the other part not covered at all. The first and cultivated half would yield badly, while the second half would crop on growing and produce more than the first. The corn was cultivated a little late in the season, too deeply, and perhaps with the hillers on.

As help became scarce, we invested in a two-row corn cultivator. We kept this machine going from the time the corn was too big to harrow until haying time, when the corn became

too tall to straddle the rows. Then we generally stopped cultivating. At first we thought that perhaps we should have kept right on and cultivated. My father, however, always thought that it was better to quit when we were through with the two-row machine. I started to investigate. While the corn was too tall to straddle the rows, I would go back between the rows and dig down into the soil to find the corn roots. I found that they made roots that went over the whole width of the field, and that they came very, very near the surface. It then did not take me long to conclude that we could not cultivate in the way that we were doing.

My conclusion is that, in a pliable soil, the drying out of the soil will form a mulch, and that in any case the roots form a sufficiently compact mat under the surface to absorb practically all moisture that might seek to escape by evaporation.

The whole question hinges upon whether the lack of late cultivation or the inevitable injury to the roots by practicing it is of the greater consideration. I would not care to follow any plan that would injure these roots.—C. G. M., Glenarry Co., Ont.

Tractor Queries

IPREFER two front wheels and two back wheels. The majority of the weight should be upon the two back wheels. The road roller type prevents the tractor from being very maneuverable of cultivating, and so curtails the usefulness of the tractor. When operating upon soft ground, extensions may have to be added to one or to both of the back wheels, also different or more extended lugs might have to be used. More attention will have to be paid to the width of the rim of the back wheel as regards the size or capacity of the lugs attached thereto. Farm tractors supplied with caterpillar traction can operate upon very soft ground. These machines should be made more costly as to first cost, and much more costly to operate, the repairs required by the caterpillar attachments being very considerable.

Certainly Tractors should be made so that they will turn in as short a distance as possible, and the implements behind the tractor should also be operated as closely as possible to the tractor, and the tractor driver should be as near the implements as possible.—Louis Simpson.

The Less Known Clovers

A FORTY-ACRE plot of sweet clover at Macdonald College was cut across diagonally the first mow after seeding, half of being mowed after the other half was cut. Early in June this year, shortly before cutting, the half of the plot which had not been disturbed the previous fall, was cut higher than the other half, which had been cut in the fall. Fall cutting, however, had not killed any of the plants. Does this indicate that it is inadvisable to pasture sweet clover the first fall?

A similar plot of black medick, which is also of the clover family, was treated in exactly the same way, but was exactly the opposite. The stem of medick was killed by not cutting in the fall. This would seem to be an argument for close pasturing of medick.

Crimson clover has been experimented with at Macdonald College, but under Canadian conditions, it is only an annual. It has been killed out every winter.

Some of the other clovers, is a perennial and a good plant when the ground is not fertile enough for alfalfa. It is very popular in Europe as the dry forage is a richer feed than alfalfa, but it does not yield as heavily, however, as alfalfa. At Macdonald College it is grown in a small way, usually yielding one crop a year, but two crops in good seasons.—F. E. E.