

THE MAGAZINE GUARDIAN

For Parents, Pupils, Teachers, Farmers, Dairymen, Horsemen

TO THE FARMER

Farmers and others interested are invited to contribute to The Farm, The Dairy, The Turf, and Good Roads departments of the Guardian either by question, correspondence or otherwise. Answers will be given by experts to all questions of general interest and space will be given to any articles that will in any way help to advance Prince Edward Island interests.

Contributors are asked to have their articles at this office early each week, as only a short emergency item can be handled as late as one p.m. Wednesday. All received after that hour cannot appear until the following week.

THE SCHOOL AND THE HOME

Contributions for this department should be addressed to President Teachers' Association, Guardian's School and Home, P. O. Box 138, Charlottetown.

SAVING THE STEPS.

Outside the farm house there are many new and improved devices for saving unnecessary labor. The inventors of the entire country are turning their attention to simplifying the planting and reaping of crops but the inventors of the country have not devoted more than a fraction of their time towards helping the housewife to perform the work, so much of which is actual manual labor, in the house. Outside the farm house conditions change from day to day; the farmer is in constant communication with his neighbors and is engaged in the various work about the farm. He is rarely inside the house except to eat and to sleep, therefore inside working conditions are of very little importance to him.

THE FARM

THE ORNAMENTAL HOP.

The annual hop (*Humulus Japonicus*) is one of the best rapid growing screen vines in cultivation. It makes a dense growth of attractive foliage. The leaves are finely cut, and in one variety variegated with white. This variegated sort is a fine vine for a porch or front screen, always attracting attention to its markings. When once established, it will seed itself and start as soon as the soil becomes warm.

DOES IT PAY TO RAISE BEEF?

(By J. H. M. Parker, Willowdale Farm, Lennoxville, Que.)

Does it pay to raise beef? If so does it pay to raise steers from Holstein, Ayrshire, or Jersey blood? I will give you a concrete example from my experience with steers of the different breeds that I have been experimenting with.

In November, 1912, I purchased four Holsteins, four Short-horns, one Ayrshire, and one Jersey, all grades, and good thrifty calves. I only took one each of the Jersey and Ayrshire as I felt from the first that they would be "star" boards.

These cattle have all been fed and cared for alike. Last winter their ration consisted of one-half bushel of turnips once daily, with a moderate grain ration once daily, plenty of good mixed hay. Last summer they had first class pasture.

They have cost me each today \$35. Weights today are as follows:

Holsteins average 760 lbs., at 5c., \$38, gain \$3.
Short-horns average 885 lbs., at 5c., \$44.25, gain \$9.25.
Ayrshire average 610 lbs., at 5c., \$30.50, loss \$4.50.
Jersey average 480 lbs., at 5c., \$24, loss \$11.

These cattle were weighed Saturday and although I have quoted all at 5c., the Short-horns are so much superior in quality that they would easily bring 6c.

POULTRY

Egg production depends on four things and if any of these four be absent, maximum egg production need not be expected, says a new bulletin from Purdue University Agricultural Experiment Station.

1. The hen must be bred to lay, that is she must have that invisible inheritance that gives her capacity and ability to lay. Some people call this "an inborn tendency to lay." This means that the breeding will have more influence than the breed. Breeding surely tells.

2. The hen must be physically strong enough to withstand the drain of heavy egg production, and the chances of disease. She must be able to withstand the abuse that man generally gives her by making her environments unnatural, be able to lay a large number of eggs when prices are high, and produce hatchable germs when the incubation season arrives. Constitutional vigor is of first importance, and though the hen be well-bred and every environment exactly right, if she has some physical weakness that is either hid-

den or apparent, the results will be unsatisfactory.

3. The hen must have suitable environmental conditions, such as housing, yarding, condition of range, etc. The house is the home of the hen, and as such should be comfortable. Dampness, draft and poor ventilation, all retard egg production. A small yard or bare range is not conducive to success.

4. The hen makes eggs out of the food given. She depends upon it and must have it in large enough quantities to induce rapid growth and large production. A hen cannot lay well on just any food that may be given. This has been demonstrated too many times on the farm and at experiment stations.

Egg production is one of the chief aims of the poultry raiser, and this for this reason that these four things are mentioned. They are given in the order of their importance. The bird itself must be the first consideration.

From answers to questions sent out over the State of Indiana it was seen that the market side of the question is the most important phase of farm poultry. A few people find it profitable to sell stock and eggs for fancy purposes, but the commercial side is by far the most popular with the farmer. Poultry is a side issue on the farm and one of diversified farming, but there seems to be a rapidly growing sentiment to make the hen have a more important position than she has had in the past. This is proven by the statement that 101 out of 704 keep poultry as an important means of livelihood.

NECESSARY OR UNNECESSARY

I have often thought of the amount of what I consider unnecessary work in connection with the raising of the young turkeys. After reading a great quantity of articles which have lately appeared in the agricultural journals I will endeavor to show many points that my experience of thirty years plainly shows are unnecessary.

1st.—"Follow out a sod and place under the nest when setting. I can truthfully say with reference to this that my best hatches have been in hay-lofts and strawstacks without any sods or dampness.

2nd.—"Put some grease or grease and sulphur on the top of the head and under the wings of the young poult." Only one season in thirty did I lose a young turkey with lice and never in that time used oil or grease of any kind.

3rd.—"Give pepper and ginger or other 'cure-alls.' I find the less handling and drugging young poulters receive the better.

4th.—"Don't let young turkeys out until the dew is off the grass." All the young turkeys I have raised were let out of coop about 7 o'clock every morning.

5th.—"Don't overfeed as more turkeys are killed by overfeeding than anything else." Overfeeding is generally taken to mean "feeding many times," which is exactly wrong in my opinion. A poult fed often is never "overfed" because it only eats a small quantity and immediately starts around on the jump looking for flies, etc., then when fed they will certainly "overfeed" with a vengeance and more in the sun in misery.

6th.—"Don't feed sloppy food." I have fed all the turkeys I raised with foods which contained all the skim-milk they would hold without showing signs of the milk until pressed. Any "sloppier" than this I don't think they would eat.

7th.—"Animal food should be fed in some form, either beef scrap or boiled meat." The majority of turkeys never taste either but one or the other is largely used in England. I consider skim milk much better and give my turkeys all they will take all through the growing season.

8th.—"For the first few days feed hard-boiled eggs." I consider quite unnecessary and probably often the cause of indigestion.

Now the above are some of the instructions I have not followed and can raise young turkeys as easily as Leghorns which are considered the hardest chicks. I venture to say that outside of accidents I have not lost 25 poulters under a month old in thirty years, but there are points which I consider necessary, viz:

Healthy, vigorous breeding stock, properly fed.

Proper care of the eggs while gathering.

Dusting the nest with insect powder when setting hen.

Dusting the broody hen with insect powder upon the 25th day.

Keeping the broody hen in coop for 4 weeks to provide a safe refuge for poulters in rainstorms, etc.

Moving the coop every day.

Having a dust bath near coop.

Making no sudden entire changes of food or drink.

Keeping them away from other fowl.

Never feeding or allowing them to get sour, fermented food.

Keeping drinking utensils clean at all times.

FACTS ABOUT DRESSING POULTRY.

In a recent issue of an exchange we find the following:

"Birds, after they are killed, keep longer in their feathers than when they are plucked, because the feathers prevent the air or dampness from getting to the bird to produce fermentation or decay."

About fifteen years ago we received a letter from a correspondent which read as follows:

"During the past year I have been supplying a local firm, which caters to a very select trade with broilers. All went well until after going into the store a short while after the last lot had been delivered I was informed by one of the firm that out of that lot they had been obliged to

throw away all but two carcasses, on account of greenness, around the vent, slightly on the back and on the hinder portion of the breast. He admitted that they were perfectly fresh and was puzzled to account for it. He

admitted that it was noticeable about an hour or two after delivery. He ordered more and refused to let me make good his losses, which however, I insisted upon.

"The next lot I killed at 8 o'clock p. m., had them plucked by 12 o'clock p. m., and delivered at 7 a. m. the next morning. Consequence: The same unfortunate event all, with the exception of one, being discolored."

"That man did just what the above allowed the teachers to remain on the carcass after killing the bird. No good poultry raiser would kill his birds, at night, and allow them to have their feathers until the next morning."

"Our plan has always been to take care that, in stabbing the bird in the mouth, we did not cut too much for fear of the bird dying before the feathers were removed. While the life blood is still in the chicken, the rapid work of feather-pulling is retarded, all broken skin carefully sewed up; and the birds are put in cold water, to which is added a little salt. After remaining in this water for some time, the clotted blood in the mouth of the chickens is removed with the finger, and the carcass is placed in another tub of clean cold water."

In response to inquiries, what method was used after the bird was killed our foresaid correspondent replied:

"The chickens after being plucked were placed upon a clean, fresh napkin, and covered with the same, on which I sell is considered first-class. I have every reason to believe that the carcasses would be placed in a clean place, there."

The fact of the whole matter was that the carcass after being killed was then not properly cooled. The animal heat was not out of them. As he did not pluck the feathers when he killed the bird, he had to scald them next morning. During the whole night the animal heat could not get out of the carcass of the pre-heated feathers and the additional heat caused by scalding them was sure to show in some way, which it did in the vent and back.

Moral: Pluck the feathers as soon as possible after the bird is killed, and be sure that the animal heat is out of the body before it is sent to market.

CONCERNING THE HEN HOUSE.

To the successful man no detail is too small for consideration. The man who pays too little attention to the little things rarely finds that his profits measure up to his expectations.

Too often on the farm, poultry keeping is considered a side line, to be attended to when there is nothing of more importance to be done. For this reason, perhaps, there is an appreciably larger percentage of people who keep poultry than there is who make poultry keep them.

One of the heaviest sources of loss is the presence of vermin of one kind or another. Once they get a start, it is very difficult to get rid of them, and it is only by eliminating their sleeping and breeding places, when constructing the interior of the poultry house, and they can be properly controlled.

The poultry roosts found in the average hen house, made from a combination of old boards and bark-coated poles. From the standpoint of an incubator for vermin, this arrangement is an ideal one; but it is better to breed poultry than hence. Roosts should never be attached in any way to the walls or to the floor. It is far better to hand them from the ceiling by wire. The proper height from the floor depends entirely upon the fowl, as, while some of the heavier varieties should only a few feet from the ground, the lighter breeds roost safely at a considerably greater height. The idea that a hen can stick on at any height is an erroneous one. Very often they fall while sleeping, or upon first awakening in the morning. Disease is often caused by falling in this manner; and it can be entirely obviated if the birds roost at a proper height.

Many people will tell you that poultry keep warmer in winter by being near the roof. This is quite true, for, as everyone knows, the air rises. But the ill effect of the hot air more than counter-balances the effect of the additional warmth. People who argue in this way overlook the fact that, if a particularly cold snap comes on, the cold penetrates the roof, and chills the immediate air. If poultry are near the roof they will have mighty cold backs all night, and will be fortunate if that is the only way in which they suffer.

The ordinary way of constructing the roof is to lean two poles against the wall at an angle of about forty-five degrees, and then to nail other poles across to form a series of steps upon which the hens are intended to roost. There are several drawbacks to the plan. In the first place, following a natural instinct, all the hens try to get to the top roost, with the result that the top roost is overcrowded, and those nearer the ground have a lot of spare space. There is also the possibility of the hens knocking each other off the roost, and so injuring one another.

The roosts should be made of solid material, put together in such a way that there are no cracks in which vermin may breed.

Another point that is usually neglected, is the necessity for sanitary nests. Metal nests are the best, but

for those who do not wish to go to the expense of providing metal nests, the following arrangement will be found a very satisfactory one: Take three long boards and nail them together in the shape of a box, dividing this into partition fourteen inches wide, and putting on a hinged bottom. This should be wide enough to act as a sort of landing entrance for the poultry, and as a walk to enable them to select a nest. Otherwise, they are apt to jump into one already occupied, and disturb the hen that is sitting there. Another advantage in having the hinged base, is that cleaning is very much facilitated, and if this could be done every week, it would be found to save a lot of work. Each nest should be covered, as hens prefer a dark place to lay in. Better results are usually obtained by keeping as closely as possible to Nature.

The idea of the above device is to eliminate every possible breeding space for vermin. This, with a two-week clean-out, an occasional white washing, and the occasional application of some good insecticide, should rid any hen of vermin; and, as cleanliness is the first step on the road to profit, no time should be lost in getting rid of the old roosts and nests, and adopting the sanitary, but easily constructed, ones described in this article.

THE DAIRY

A GOOD SIRE PAYS.

It is the common experience of all dairymen who have used a really good improved dairy sire that the investment has made them royal returns. The \$150 cost price looks "too big" only to the narrow vision that cannot see the natural improvement of the herd certain to follow.

Many dairymen might have reason to say that he cannot afford to pay a big price for a fine cow, but the same argument does not apply at all to the purchase of an improved bull, because the sire's influence spreads so much farther and faster than that of the cow.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Owing to the continued openness of the weather in the well settled districts of Ontario, the butter make is keeping up remarkably well and receipts at most markets are quite plentiful. The quality is of a good standard, and this coupled with the good healthy business, the creamery prices show quality that is very uniform, but the separator first, which is the farmer's home make, naturally shows rather a wide range in texture andavor, which therefore cause a wider margin in values than is the case in the creameries where all the large portion of the make comes from a common process. Creameries, 30c. to 32c.; farmer's separators, 24c. to 26c.; storage price, 26c. to 27c. per lb. These are the wholesale prices at Toronto houses. Cheese business in Toronto only fair at unchanged quotations. New, large, 14c.; twins, 15c.; old, large, 15c. to 15½c.; old, twins, 15½c. to 15¾c.

At Montreal the demand for butter is fair with choicest creamery 28½c. to 29c., and seconds, 28c. to 28½c. Cheese business is strong with a fair volume of business passing; western, 13½c. to 14c.; eastern, 13c. to 13½c.

In the Liverpool market Canadian "Amesbury" cheese, 66s. 6d., and "Wales," 67s. 6d. Montreal trade laments the fact that receipts are getting smaller in the east every week and are higher at this period than for many years past. This condition is contrary evidence to that in western Ontario, although probably the advent of colder snappy weather may speedily reduce supplies in that district. It is reported that the middle west is said to be taking some of the 17,000 packages of butter now due at Vancouver from New Zealand.

The lot was sold on Saturday last of 100 boxes. June creamery at 28½c. The stocks of cheese that have been carried over from navigation are the smallest in the past twenty years. This state of affairs has come about through shippers believing that much money is lost on cheese carried over into the new year and into the spring. The rapid depletion of our cow herds, which are being sold to the United States, inert a very serious condition into our dairy producer's business. Americans are buying two-year-old heifers along the border and paying \$70 to \$90 per head for them. This, coupled with increased export of milk and cream looks extremely blue for our one most staple industry.

THE MARKETS

EGGS AND POULTRY.

New laid eggs are going down with larger receipts now coming forward; they are quoted at 45c. wholesale at Toronto, selects 33c. to 35c.; country selects 37c. to 38c. The market is glutted with all manner of poultry. All markets in Ontario are overburdened, turkey and a range over Ontario, of from 23c. to 25c. per lb.; but are higher in some few places; chickens 75c. to \$1.00 each; geese 15c. to 18c.; ducks 15c. to 20c.; fowl 13c. to 15c.; chickens 15c. to 18c. Wholesale prices. Live chickens 11c. to 14c.; chickens 12c. to 13c. 8c. to 15c.; turkeys 14c. to 17c.; alive.

Montreal eggs are determined not to drop and are still very firm at 55c. to 60c. for strictly new laid. Fresh eggs 45c. higher. Chicago live fowl 14c. to 15c.; live New York live poultry steady; turkeys 15c.; fowl 15c.

TORONTO COUNTRY PRODUCE

Butter—Creamery pound rolls, 31c. to 34c.; creamery solids, 28c. to 30c.; separator dairy, 27c. to 28c.; store lots, 24c. to 25c.

Cheese—Old, 11c. to 15c.; new, 14c. to 14½c.

Eggs—New-laid, 60c. per dozen, by the case, cold storage, 32c. to 35c. "Hobby"—Extracted, 10c. to 11c. per lb.; bombs per dozen sections, \$2.50 to \$3.

Potatoes—Ontario, 80c. to 90c. per bag, car lots, track, Toronto.

Beans—Imported, hand-picked, \$2.35 per bushel; Canadians, hand-picked, \$2.35; prim's, \$2.

Poultry—Turkey, alive, 18c. to 19c. geese, 10c. to 11c.; ducks, 12c. to 14c.; chickens, 13c. to 14c.; hens, 10c.

MONTREAL MARKETS

Poultry—Poultry was naturally in active demand last week. Prices held firm, and dealers were quoting in a wholesale way as follows: Turkeys, 20c. to 23c. per lb.; ducks, 16c. to 18c.; chickens, 15c. to 20c.; fowl, 12c. to 16c.; geese, 14c. to 19c. Live turkeys changed hands at 19c. to 20c.; live chickens, 12c. to 16c.; live fowl, 13c. to 15c., and live geese, at 14c. to 15c.

Dressed Hogs.—The continuation of mild weather deprived the market of the activity which might otherwise have prevailed. However, there is a good demand for everything available, at 13c. to 13½c. for abattoir dressed, fresh-killed stock, and 12½c. to 13c. for country-dressed, light-weight stock, and 12c. to 12½c. for heavy.

Potatoes.—The weather continued very mild, and primes were, if anything, lower. Green Mountains were quoted at 80c. to 85c. per bag, track, in car lots, while Quebec varieties were 75c. per bag, track. In a jobbing way, prices were 15c. to 20c. higher, ex-store. Bags weigh 90 lbs.

Eggs.—Eggs showed no change, being about as high as they could be. Strictly fresh stock was 55c. to 60c. per dozen. Selected eggs sold at 37c. to 38c., while No. 1 candled sold at 33c. to 34c., and No. 2 candled at 28c. to 32c.

Butter.—There was a good demand for butter and the market was firm. Choice makes were 28½c. to 29c. per lb., wholesale. Fine butter was 28c. to 28½c., while second grades were 27½c. to 27c. Dairy butter was firm, at 23c. to 21c. per lb.

THE TURF

SHOEING ERRORS.

True economy does not consist in refraining from spending money; to withhold repairs at a critical time, for example, may save a labor bill, but it may mean the entire destruction of a building, and that would be very expensive "economy." So it is with the feet of the horse, unless they are kept in a proper healthy condition the horse becomes practically valueless for "no foot, no horse" is an axiom the truth of which is very plain.

Reasonable expense in the care of the feet is, therefore, the truest of economy. One of the extravagances which country people especially are guilty of, is in allowing the shoes to remain on too long.

HEAVY SHOES

With this end in view, they insist on the use of shoes that are unnecessarily heavy,—indeed, many seem to hold the opinion, though they would



is as good as pasture all the year round. Your horses, mules, cows, steers, pigs and sheep will be in the pink of condition in the spring and can be turned on grass without any loss to the fed regularly with MOLASSINE MEAL through the winter.

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nor perhaps admit it, that the best farrier is he whose shoes will wear the longest. It ought not to need saying that if a horse, every time he lifts a foot, has to raise a shoe which is needlessly heavy, a strain is 'put upon him for which there is no return, and to a certain extent his working powers are lessened. A well-known veterinary authority, Sir F. Fitzwygram, says that he has known very large cart horses burdened with shoes which weighed as much as 7 lb. each. This means an enormous weight of iron to lift if the movements in a day's work are calculated, and in so far as it is unnecessary it is not only unduly wearing to the horse but is a loss to the owner. It is not possible to give any exact weight to adopt for the shoe, for it varies greatly, and much depends on the wear in the case of different horses travelling over stone sets, for example, would wear their shoes much more quickly than animals working on the land. Two horses working together may have different requirements as their "action" is different, and it must not be forgotten that the feet themselves vary in character, animals bred in an upland district having generally much stronger feet than those bred in the fen or in the low-lying moist places. But it may be taken as a general rule that no horse should be fitted with a shoe that will last more than a month or five weeks, and that the shoe should be replaced as nearly as possible every month.

Peter the Great, 2.0½, has made the unique record of the season by siring five new 2.10 trotters, no stallion in the history of the harness turf having contributed that many fast performers in a single season. Two of his get that entered the fast list are two-year-olds, Peter Volo, 2.03½, and Lady Wanetka, 2.10; two are four-year-olds, Santos Maid, 2.08½, and Judson Girl, 2.10; and one, Peter McCormack, 2.08½, a five-year-old, which shows that he not only is the greatest sire of fast performers, but a producer of warily and extreme speed.

Aside from this record for the racing season, he is also the best money winning sire, as an even dozen of his sons and daughters won the sum of \$36,990, or nearly \$10,000 more than the progeny of the next best winning stallion, namely, Moxo, six of whose get, including Tenara, won a total of \$25,910.

The winning list of Peter the Great is topped by that wonderful racing mare Judson Girl, that won the Grand Circuit proper a total of \$15,710, and enough at Dallas to bring her winnings close to \$20,000 for the entire year.

Other money winners by Peter the Great are as follows: Peter Volo, \$8,675; Lady Wanetka, \$4,925; Santos Maid, \$3,040; Peter McCormack, \$1,715; Peter Billiken, \$1,000; Silenna,

3350; Peter Thompson, \$330; Great Governor, \$225; Grace and the Guide \$150 each; and Miss Alma Master, \$120. His two grandsons, Peter Johnson and Don Chamaill, added to his winning list, respectively, \$6,158 and \$8,000, making the grand total for his first and second generations, all trotters and all youngsters, \$50,547, or over 18 per cent, of the total amount of stakes and purses hung up in the Grand Circuit.

In regard to the insinuations made by some horsemen about the age of Peter Volo, Mr. Stokes said that the colt is a last March foal of 1911, and one of the biggest foals at birth ever seen at Patchen Wilkes Farm, to which is now due his big size and appearance. Of course, he pays no attention to the talk. The present plans are to leave Peter Volo in the hands of Murphy, who will race him in all of the big futurities next year. Seven stallions have each sired two performers in the year's new 2.10 list, Moko—Tenara, 2.05½, and Brighton, 2.08½; Walnut Hall—O'Neill, 2.07½, and Sweet Spirits, 2.09½; Mobil—Eulabel, 2.09½, and Morine, 2.09½; Admiral Dewey—Lord Dewey, 2.09½, and Gasetta, 2.06½; Todd, 2.08½, and Cresole, 2.04½; Sidney Dillon—Harry Dillon, 2.10, and Bellini, 2.10; Bellini—Marta Bellini, 2.07½, and Parissette, 2.10.

Peter the Great is now the greatest sire of 2.10 trotters, his list having a total of nineteen. Up to this year he was tied with McKinney, each having fourteen in the list. Although no trotter by McKinney entered the list, yet he stands second in that honor list, with Todd a close third, having now thirteen. The average speed record of the nineteen fast trotters by Peter the Great is exactly in 208. Frequently enough, the average speed of McKinney's 2.10 trotters is almost the same, his list being headed by Sweet Marie, 2.02, while the fastest performer by Peter the Great is Peter Volo, 2.04½.

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Use this preparation thoroughly for all and every disease of the horse for which it is recommended. Criticize it closely. Carefully watch, mark and note its effects, and honestly judging it on its merits, you will be compelled to endorse it.

TESTIMONIALS

DEAR SIR—I had a mare which had a very bad cough and leaves for almost six months, and had a very bad cough and was nothing left apparently but skin and bones and I was tempted to shoot her. A friend of mine who had used Dr. J. Woodbury's Horse Liniment, with good success, induced me to try one bottle of it which I did with the best results. I used just one and one half bottles of the Liniment which effected a complete cure. I have worked and driven her ever since.

I strongly recommend Dr. J. Woodbury's Horse Liniment as the best Horse Liniment on the market, and advise all horse owners to try it. Very truly yours, B. B. B. B. B.

DEAR SIR—I have used Dr. J. Woodbury's Horse Liniment for a number of years, and have found it to be the most excellent article for the feet of horses kept in the stable. It prevents dryness and hardness, promotes a smooth and healthy growth and will, used according to directions, soon remedy anything like sore cracks of the hoof.

W. A. C. RANDALL, M.D.

Hillsboro, N. B.

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(Signed) WALTER SLATER, "Cash Livery."

FRASIER THORNTON & CO., Cookshire, Que.

DEAR SIR:—You may put my name on your list as one using your Horse Medicines. I have found them to be the best on the market and am never without your Liniment and Condition Powders in my stable.

(Signed) G. E. ORONKHITE, (Horseman), Hawkesbay, N. B.

March 28th, 191