THE MAGAZINE GUARDIAN

Teachers, Parents, Pupils, Farmers, Dairymen, Horsemen

TO THE FARMER

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.

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 article that will in any way help to advance Prince Edward Island interests.

THE SCHOOL AND THE HOME

Flowering Trees.

Many people who do not care to give the continuous labor necessary to annuls and perennials secure flowers about the home by planting flowering trees and shrubs. Among the best of these are: riorse-chestnut, blooms in May and early June; catalpa, flowers in June; wild cherry, May; shad-bush, May and June; flowering dogwood, May; tulip tree, June; flowering crab, May; black locust, June; shrubs: smoke bush, spireas, syringa, honeysuckle, lilacs, forsythia, deutzia, flowering almond, Japonica.

Frost-Proof Flowers.

In the northern parts of Canada, where frost sets in early, it is well to plant a number of flowers which will resist light frosts and so keep the garden attractive as long as possible in fall. Among these are: bachelor's buttons (cornflowers), cosmos, ten weeks stocks, coreopsis, California poppies, sweet Williams, candy tuft, sweet alyssum, marigolds, hardy shrysanthemums, grass pinks, mignonette, late phlox, zinnia, verbenas and Japanese anemone. The two last named are perhaps the best of all.

For Busy Housewives.

To Clear Water.—To clear smoky or sooty rain-water, beat the white of an egg in a quart cup; fill up with water, stirring thoroughly. Pour this into a tub or boiler of smoky water. The water can soon be skimmed of its dirt.—McCalls.

Equal parts of olive oil and turpentine make an excellent polish for mahogany furniture.

The temperature of a child's sick room should never be under 60 degrees nor above 65.

White paint is best cleaned with a cloth squeezed out in hot water and dipped in a little bran.

If a tablecloth is beyond repair, cut it up into various piecesfi hem them around and they will be found most useful in the kitchen.

Paint new pails and tubs with glycerine to prevent shrinking.

Clean mirrors with methylated spirit and polish with tissue paper.

Clean soiled wallpaper with bread, or a cloth dipped in oatmeal.

Windows may be kept free from ice by applying wood alcohol. Use a sponge for the purpose.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

For Busy Housewives.

Soap Applications.— To prevent the annoyance caused by the deposit of moisture upon eyeglasses, when going from a cold into a warm atmosphere, moisten the tips of the fingers and rub them over a cake of soap. Then rub the lens and polish as usual. One application daily is that is necessary.

Preserving Olive Oil.— To insure olive oil from becoming rancid after the bottle or can has been opened,

put in two lumps (to a quart) of loaf sugar. If the oil comes in a can, empty, as soon as opened, into a bottle or a preserve jar, and put in the sugar. The sugar keeps the oil in perfect condition to the last drop.

Alcohol for White Kid.— Pure alcohol is preferable to gasoline for cleaning white kid gloves or other white kid articles, as it dries quickly and without the unpleasant odor that gasoline always leaves. Five cents worth of alcohol will clean a pair of gloves beautifully.

The following is an inexpensive music stand which can be made at home, in spare moments. Procure two grocery boxes and paint them dark green. Procure two broom handles, cut in half and also paint green. Bore a hole in each corner of the boxs, large enough for the broom handles to pass through—they now form four legs of the music stand; one box being a couple of inches from the ground and the other at the top of the handles, or legs. The boxes can be hed firm by a nail at each corner. A few yards of green sateen or casement cloth, gathered and nailed on each shelf, with brass headed nails, completes an artistic music stand—which costs well under a dollar to make—and looks equal to a ten dollar cabinet.

WINTER SALAD.

Mix together two chopped cabbage, one cup chopped boiled beets, one cup chopped celery, one-half teaspoon dried mustard, two hard-boiled eggs, one tablespoon horse radish one table spoon brown sugar. For the dresing break an egg into a saucepan, add one half a cup of vinegar, and butter the size of a walnut. Stir over the fire till thick, but do not let boil. Pour over the salad, toss lightly, and serve cold.

CREAMED PARSNIPS.

Boil the parsnips, and slice crosswise, heat a tablespoon of butter in a saucepan; put in the parsnips and shake and turn them until all are coated with the butter and very hot. Turn them into a deep dish, and pour over them a sauce made by adding to the butter left in the saucepan a teaspoonful of flour and thinning it with three or four tablespoonfuls of hot cream. Boil up once, and when you have covered the parsnips with it serve.

SQUASH FRITTERS.

With two cups of cooked squash (cold), put two cups of milk, two eggs, a saltspoon of salt, and a half cup of flour in which half a teaspoon of baking powder has been sifted. There should be just enough flour to hold the mixture together. Bake on a griddle as you would cakes, and send to the table hot.

PATTERDALE PUDDING.

Beat quarter of a pound of butter to a cream; beat in three eggs, one by one; add quarter of a pound of sifted sugar and quarter of a pound of flour. Put into cups and bake in a moderately heated oven for twenty minutes.

ECCLES CAKES.

Make a very short paste and roll lightly, always in one direction, never back the forth. Cut into pieces about five inches square. Place on each square currants which have been heated in a syrup of brown sugar, and fold over the sides so as to mhake a square cake with round opening. Put a little syrup in each cake, before baking in a very hot oven.

BAG FOR RUBBERS.

When travelling it is a great convenience to have a bag for holding rubbers, when not in use. One of these may be made with a lining of rubber cloth, made separately, so that the outer cover of tan linen can be removed for washing. The outer cover is made like an envelope and a trifle larger than the inside rubber cloth envelope. The linen can be scalloped around the flap and embroidered or cross-stitched by way of ornament or ing fastered over with metal clasp at either end. The rubber cloth envelope inside can be fastened over with one clasp in the centre only so that the clasps on the inner and outer envelopes will not be one on top of the other to make them difficult to close.

FARM

THE PLAN OF THE FARM

A good rotation of farm crops cannot be satisfactorily carried out without a convenient and economical subdivision of the farm so that labor can be profitably applied. The following are some of the important points to be observed in planning the farm:

1. Fields should be of nearly equal size, so that the amounts of different crops may balance each year.

2. Fields should be as near square as possible, so as to save fencing material.

3. Where soil varies in character try to bring same kind of soil into one field.

4. Farm lanes should be placed so that all fields can be entered direct from the lane.

5. If house and farm buildings are not yet erected they should be placed as near the center of the farm as circumstances will permit.

As many permanently-fenced fields as there are years in the rotation should be sufficient; other divisions should be made as needed by the use of temporary fence. Rough, permanent pasture land and bush should, of course, be permanently fenced to themselves.

If good rails can be obtained in the farm bush use them in building a good, straight rail fence, because nobody can beat such a fence, if the live stock is to be considered. The fact that the animals can see the rails very easily tends to keep them from trying the fence, and if they do try it, they cannot very easily hurt themselves on it, nor can they get out of the field if the fence is strong and high enough.

Where rails are unobtainable or are too expensive use a good brand of woven fence and make preparation for the possible need of pasturing all classes of stock, by having the fence horse-high, bull-strong and hog-tight. This applies to permanent fences; temporary fences can be built to keep the class of stock to be pastured for the time being.

The farm buildings should be massed, and the whole lot fenced in so that a few sheep or goats can be depended on to keep down the grass and weeds on the fenced area that is not covered by the building. This saves the time that would otherwise have to be devoted to hoeing or cutting with the scythe.

The farm-house should be situated in its own grounds and the lawn and garden should receive special and distinct care, but even in the case of the lawn, it can be so arranged that sheep can be used to help keep a nice strip in order once the turf is properly set and solid.

There are no doubt advantages in having the farm-house and buildings near the public road, but where automobiles and trolley cars raise dust all through the Summer there is a distinct point in favor of living further back on the farm, and for the sake of convenience in working, the farm buildings should certainly be set in the center of the tillable land.

GET RID OF SMUT.

Do you remember the number of black smutty heads that appeared in your grain fields last year? Did you ever stop to think of the percentage of your grain that is yearly damaged by smut? Did you ever stop to think of the great reduction smut thus makes in the income losses could be avoided by a little extra inexpensive efforts on your part?

You ask how can I do it? Well, here you are; this is the way other readers of the Maritime Farmers handle the proposition, and why not you. Now is the time to do it before you sow your grain.

The best known and most widely used substance for treating seed grain is formaldehyde. This can be bought in drug stores at a moderate price. One pint is put into forty gallons of water, and the seed grain is then dipped in the mixture in such a way as to wet the outside of every kernel. Or the formaldehyde solution may be sprayed onto the grain, while shovelled over frequently and then covered with old sacks.

A few precautions should always be observed.

(1) Formaldehyde varies in strength and, if there is doubt as to its quality, a sample of it should be sent to the chemist of the Experimental Farm, in order to determine its exact strength.

(2) The sacks in which the grain is treated should first be cleansed by boiling in water, or by washing in a strong solution of formaldehyde.

(3) Everything which the grain touches after having been treated, sacks, seeder, etc., should be very thoroughly cleaned with a strong solution of formaldhyde (1 pint to 10 gallons of water.)

(4) If the seed is kept for some time after treatment; allow for the swelling of the seed, if you sow the grain soon after treatment, by planting per acre.— Maritime Farmers.
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CUTTING FENCE POSTS.

It is not necessary to cut fence posts in the dark of the moon or on the second Thursday in Angust, according to Charles A. Scott, Kansas State Forester. A darkened moon or a precise Tuesday may not always bring the best results if that is the only method followed to obtain properly seasoned posts.

"The proper time can best be judged by the practices of large industrial concerns which use great quantities of such kind of wood," says Mr. Scott. "Railroads, in buying large quantities of ties, specify in the contracts that the trees shall be cut between November 1 and March 1.

"Cutting fence posts in these months is seasonable work. More important, this is the seasonable time of the year for cuttin.; fence posts. The wood will dry more slowly than it will at any other time of the year and this will allow the post to dry in a natural way.

Posts Should Dry Slowly.

"When a post dries properly, the drying is slow enough to allow the moisture to escape through the ends. If a tree for fence posts or any other purpose is cut out of season and dries too rapidly, the result is season checking or cracking.

The reason is that in addition to drying out through the ends, the outer surface of the post also loses moisture, but in much larger quantities and more rapidly than in the case with the interior wood. With the drying it must shrink and the result can only be large cracks in the tissue, reaching sometimes to the heart of the stick, and rendering the product almost worthless."

Fence posts made from heavy bark trees should be peeled before they are set, according to the state forester. The bark fits loosely and allows moisture to collect beneath it. This is a favorable condition for the development of fungus which will soon rot the post.

Don't Peel Bark Off.

It is not necessary to peel the bark from catalpa or hedge posts. It shrinks and sets with the post as it dries, and is not objectionable.

Experiments in post preservative treatment have been carried on by several of the state experiment stations as well as the forest service of the United States Department of Agriculture. It will take years to determine the full value of such treatment, but even now the condition of the treated posts warrants the statement that the presetative treatment is entirely practical. Good results will be obtained in the treatment of the posts of native woods which are ordinarily short-lived and unsatisfactory.

"The ash and the elm that grows along the borders of Kansas streams make posts, when treated, that will last longer than the white cedar posts that are sold at the lumber yards," comments Mr. Scott.

"Beveling the tops of posts aids in increasing the durability of the wood by preventing the excessive absorption of water. Large softwood posts with flat tops will absorb much moisture, and often it is here that the first evidence of decay is found.— Kansas Industrialist.

THE COMMON SCAB.

The common Scab of the potato is unsightly and while it does not cause the damage that is attributed to the Powdery Scab it depreciates the selling value of your potatoes. No one wishes to buy scabby potatoes. If you do not grow scabby potatoes you will have no scabby potatoes for sale. The scab of potatoes is a fungus growth which shows itself in a rough and cankerous appearance on the surface of the others. A great amount of work has been expended on this disease and still no preventive is known if the land is inoculated with the trouble.

Of a large number of methods used for treating the seed potatoes, soaking them in a solution of formalin, one pound to thirty gallons of water for two hours, is the most effective Soak the potatoes before cutting them and if they are not planted at once spread thinly to dry. This treatment will kill the disease on the seed, but scab can live in the soil for many years without a known host. Lime wood ashes and barnyard manure aid the growth of scab, while sulphat of amonia, muriate of potash, acid phosphate and dissolved lime render the soil less favorable to the disease. If you have never treated your seed potatoes for scab do so this year and watch results. You will be delighted with the smoothness of the tubers. If you have used the treatment once we know you will do so again.

THE VACANT LOT GARDEN.

For the intending vacant lot gardener this is a good time to see about securing an allotment and making plans for the arrangement of his crops.. It is still too early to do much on the land except to remove surface obstructions, but as soon as the frost is out digging can be commenced, and this practice will give better returns in crop than will the plowing that most vacant lots get. The first question that will arise is what to do with the turf, or the grass and weeds. Should the surface be anything like decent turf, it could be neatly peeled off and stacked. By the end of the year it will have become a most beautiful form of mould. With rough vegetation, the weeds and grass that many cut down and this waste placed in a heap. We do not suppose that many people will care to attempt that method of double digging, which involves taking out the first and second spits of earth, but, if so, the refuse should certainly be laid upon the third spit. Buried so deeply, both insect and fungoid pests, and seeds, will be suffocated, and the nitrogen of the refuse is retained. In the bonfire the nitrogen is lost. With simple digging and with the method of double digging that means only inverting the second spit in the openings, rough vegetation must be burned, and the ashes (a rich potash manure) employed as a surface dressing, pricking the fertilizer into the upper crust to prevent weather waste. Real turf can be laid upon the second spit. It would be a nuisance with simple digging until the grass and the roots had rotted.

The turf can be peeled off and cut into one-foot squares, and burned. The first essential to a turf bonfire is the grate. Hhis is made with bricks, Everyone knows the materials for a fire—paper, sticks, and coal or logs. Then gather together some stuff that will burn readily. Spread a ring of same about the fire. Follow with a row of turf squares. Next, a circle of dry litter. The pieces of turf should not touch each other by one inch. Continue making the mound, arrang-

INSECT PESTS OF STORED GRAINS AND SEEDS

There are two groups of insects which affect stored products, moths and beetles. In the first case the caterpillar does injury, while in the second case both the grub and the parent beetle may feed. All pests of stored grain are commonly spoken of as grain "weevils."

Beetles—In this state we have more or less trouble with the small, brown "saw-toothed grain beetle," the small, brown snout beetle of "grainary weevils," and the "Cadelle," a large, flat beetle whose grub is milky white and when full-fed nearly an inch long. These beetles may all be found feeding in the same bin.

Besides these there are also the bean and the pea weevils.

The bean and cowpea weevils continue to breed and feed in storage while the garden-pea weevil does not.

Moths—In this state the most important attacking grain are the small grayish "Angoumois" grain moth, and the slightly larger "Indian meal-moth," though in mills the "Mediterranean flour-moth" and the "meal snout-moth" may do much damage. The caterpillar of the first moth bores into the grain while the carterpillar of the second spins some silk and feeds more on the surface, eating out the germ of the seed, especially what. The caterpillars of the last two moths ruin much grain and milling products besides clogging pipes with their silk webs.

Remedies—Fumigation is most effective for all these stored grain and seed pests. Carbon bi-sulphide is to be preferred where it can be placd in shallow vessels on the top of the infested grain so that its fumes, which are heavier than air, may pass down through the grain, reaching and destroying the pests. The eggs may not always be destroyed and a second fumigation may be necessary. From one to five pounds of carbon bi-sulphide are necessary for 1,000 cubic feet of space, depending upon temperature and freedom of the bins from cracks.

Where the granary or mill can be closed tightly hydrocyanic acid gas may be used. This gas is a deadly poison and must be used with care. In some cases heat can be used in mills and elevators in preference to gas. Insects cannot long survive when they are subjected to a temperature of about 120 degrees Fahr.

Be kind to the cattle, it pays.

Clean the separator on the minute and let that minute be the one after rising it each time.

Clean up everything in the barn, except the feed managrs; lt the animals do that.

Put only edible and appetizing food in the mangers to begin with.

It pays to fan the oats intended for hores feed.

MAKING CUTTINGS.

When an easy-rooting cutting is placed in earth, the descent of its sap, being arrested at the cut forms a callous or ring round the surface of the cut which soon swells and shoots down into the soil in the form of roots, forming, as growth proceeds, the new plant or tree. The bright sunshine of March, together with the longer days, is starting home and greenhouse plants into more active growth, and the new wood that is starting is well suited to the making of cuttings. To find out if the new growth is fit for making cuttings, bend the shoot, and if it breaks off, leaving merely a shred of bark connecting the two pieces, then the condition is right. If the shoot is so soft that it bends without breaking it is either too young or too old.

Cuttings of plants such as the geranium should be made two or three inches long and the lower leaves removed.

After being cut and prepared, the cuttings should be set in fairly coarse, clean sand, in the usual flat, or if the flat is larger than is needed a dish or sancer can be used. Place the cuttings prety close together, keep the sand wet and place the flat, or other container in a warm, sunny place. As soon as the new roots are about an inch long, pot the plants in small pots of fairly rich soil and water sparingly.

HORSE BREEDING IN HUNGARY.

Hungary, into the fertile plains of which it appears likely that the Russian troops will soon force an entry, is celebrated for its breed of horses. One of the best known breeding establishments is the State stud farm at Kisber, conducted by the Government where horses are bred for home requirements and for export.

The State studs contribute amongst them to a really gigantic horse-breeding industry, which is one of the greatest resources of agriculture in the country, and the importance of which may be judged from the fact that horses to the value of £1,166,000 sterling, or thereby, are exported every year.

THE FARM FOR CHILDREN.

"The best school of agriculture," says Mr. Martin, of Nebraska, who is called the most successful farmer in the United States by the Department of Agriculture of that country, "is the small farm personally operated, where the boys and girls are raised and taught by their own parents."

Mr. Martin, whose success in farming, is the subject of an article in the American Magazine, is perfectly satisfied with 20 acres of land as a farm, though his system of farming might not appeal to all who wish to engage in this business for profit and pleasure. On so small a tract as 20 acres, intensive methods have to be practiced, and in the account given of Mr. Martin's operations, although the number of live stock is not mentioned, the suitability of some of his crops for feed is pointed out and the use of manure is mentioned, so it may be presumed that some animals are kept—possibly just horses for the working of the farm.

Growing of fruit and succession crops so as to get a large tonnage of good quality needs the attention of a man who is very willing to work and fond of this kind of work in particular, to say nothing of the need of some special knowledge; of course, special knowledge is needed for success in any kind of farming, but if live stock is kept as a business any lover of animals may easily pick up a working knowledge of the game, and the very fact that the animals are there to be cared for is enough to keep the stockman on the job if he has any sporting instinct.

Farming so as to sell crops may suit the man with commercial instinct, and a child may be brought up among the plants so as to acquire a love of them that will satisfy him, but to make farming a "life" animals are needed.

As for the farm being the best school for agriculture with the parents as the teachers, no better idea can be entertained by the parents, and if the children can be induced to see the matter in the same light a good future for agriculture will be assured. The ideal place for children is the farm, but the farm that has become too valuable to allow of a wood lot and some pasture land has lost much of its charm, and we may be thankful that thsi country of ours is big enough to give many farmers a chance to succeed on more than 20 acres.

Setting Out Trees.

When setting out trees remember that the under-soil is usually deficient in plant food. When this seems the case make the holes much larger than necessary and fill in with good, finely pulverized garden loam. Do not cramp the roots; spread them out well and water thoroughly before filling in the last third of the soil. Keep a mulch of leaves or strawy manure on top of the ground, especially during the first season, to conserve the moisture. If the trees or shrubs are in a place where the unsightliness of such a mulch cannot be tolerated, spread a dust-mulch over instead.

Plan the Garden.

Don't throw the garden seeds in hit-or-miss. Plan the whole garden, on paper, and so put everything in the place most advantageous to it. By doing this, time, space, labor and money may be saved.

TURF

LOOK AFTER YOUR HORSES' TEETH AND DODGE COLIC.

There are many different kinds of colic in the horse and impaction colic is one of the most fatal. Impaction colic is caused by improperly masticated food resulting from bad teeth. A horse is said to be as old as his teeth. Occasionally a ten-year-old horse is found with such bad teeth that he is already found to be a hard keeper.

The period of usefulness of a horse —and in many cases of his life—may be prolonged several years by proper attention to his teeth. The food that a horse eats is not cooked for him and his grinders must be in almost perfect condition, otherwise he becomes a hard keeper. The teeth should be given attention as often as once a year. It is poor economy to feed a horse all he will eat and still have him in poor condition and capable of giving only a mediocre service in return.

Be merciful to your horse by not neglecting his teeth. He is doing the best he can for you.—H. S. Eakins.

MARE WITH LAMPAS.

I have a young mare suffering from lampas. Could you tell me the best way to treat her, and cure?—Milkman. Answer: "Lampas," concerning the character of which exists a great deal of misapprehension, and also needless anxiety, is the name given to a swelling which arises from congestion of the blood vessels in the lining membrane of the palate, the enlargement of the bars being mostly seen in young horses during the process of teething. It occurs occasionaly in old horses from irregularities of the teeth, or it may arise in any animal from inflammation set up by bit injuries, but for all practical purposes "lampas" may be regarded as a juvenile trouble, and as the mare in question, said to be suffering from "lampas," is described as young, the probable cause is dental changes. Owing to the inflammation of the gums set up by irritation caused by the eruption of the permanent incisors extending to the palate, it swells and becomes level with or even projects beyond the nippers, and causes feeding to be a somewhat painful business. Colts at grass rarely suffer much, as their food is natural—cooling, tender and easy of digestion—but the animal that has been taken into work, and fed with hard corn and dry hay, finds mastication painful, and often falls away in condition. Generally, an alteration in the diet to crushed oats and wet bran with scalded chaff, tender green meat in season, or carrots, &c., in winter, at the same time easing the work, will suffice to effect the cure, because in a few days the inflammation and soreness pass away, and the colt can feed again in comfort. In persistent cases, or where the congestion is considerable, and the swelling projects beyond the incisors, all that is necessary is to lightly scarify the swollen palate with a lance or sharp penknife. These superficial incisions result in the flow of a little blood, which promptly relieves the local congestion. A few doses of cooling medicine—say 2 oz. of Epsom salts and a little gentian or aniseed—in the soft food once a day soon results in the disappearance of the swelling.—M.R.C.V.S.

GIVE HORSES A CHANCE WHEN THEY ARE YOUNG.

Give the colts a chance! No colt can develop into a large, useful horse if he is stunted in his early growth.

The result of good care and feeding is forcefully shown by the condition of the young work horsss of the animal husbandry department of the Kansas State Agricultural college. These horses were purchased three years ago as weanlings. They were given care and proper feed their first winter and were in good healthy growing cond-tion when turned out to pasture in the spring.

When three years old these colts were worth $250 and $300 each. Colts of the same age and from the same mares, but kept on the farm and given the usual farm treatment, were worth only $125 and $140 each. Thus a difference in value of $125 to $160 was due to no other reason than the care given to the horses as colts.

"The horse is made the first eighteen months of his life," says Dr. C. W. McCampbell, assistant professor of animal husbandry in the Kansas State Agricultural College. "If he is stunted he never veaches his maximum development.

"Too often colts are turned out to rustle for themselves the first winter and all such colts can do is to keep alive. Their growth is stunted and they make a small ordinary type of horse."

SUNSTROKE IN HORSES.

Suntroke is caused by the direct rays of the sun falling upon the skull. A horse so affected may die suddenly as though stricken with apoplexy or he may have a gradual paralysis of respiration. The symptoms which usually present themselves are restlessness, pawing spasms and a marked redness of the mucous membranes lining the cavities of the head. The temperature in sunstroke may not rise above normal during the course of the whole disease.

Another condition very similar to sunstroke is that known as heat stroke or heat exhaustion. This is brought about by over-exertion and insufficient heat elimination. The direct rays of the sun are not responsible for this affection, which very often occurs to an animal on a cloudy, sultry day. Some of the most prominent symptoms of heat stroke are

(Continued on page ten.)