AGRICULTURAL

EARLY SPRING CARE OF SHEEP.

If there is one time more critical than another for sheep, that time is the last of winter and through the early spring months, before getting out to pasture. While in winter quarters, one of the most essential things in successful management is a clean, light, airy and dry place for sheep to lie down in, with room proportionate to number. No animal kept on the farm—if we except poultry—is so susceptible to the effects of foul air caused by poor ventilation, or no ventilation at all, the foulness arising from the accumulations of filth, waste straw and hay heating and decomposing in the housing departments.

Variety of food is an all-important thing to be considered in the management of sheep during the winter. This is necessary to the health of the animals, as well as to the best bodily development, the growth of wool, and the well-being of the progeny. The breeding ewes, in order to produce strong, vigorous lambs, must be kept in a healthy condition during their days of pregnancy. The sheep, more than the horse and cow, is subject to constipation when kept on dry feed. This condition should be guarded against by careful attention to feeding. Constipation is the bane of all pregnant animals, and a cause of the death of more young lambs than any other one disease. The remedy lies in a variety of foods—succulent foods, as supplied in roots and ensilage. Foods abounding in protein elements should take the place of highly carbonaceous foods for sheep at the barn. This is found in clover hay and the mixed grasses, rather than in timothy fed wholly or largely. Corn ensilage—siloed with the ears about mature—abounds in carbonaceous material, but its succulence in feeding it in connection with clover hay, a concentrated ration of cottonseed meal, oat-and-pea meal, linseed meal or bran, or all of the above properly balanced, forms about as good feed for breeding ewes as can be found. Corn meal is too heating and fattening. On the other hand, oats-and-bran carries no danger when fed to the flock from grass to grass again. If to the mixture linseed meal is added to make one-fourth of the whole, and fed at the rate of one pound daily of the mixture for 100 pounds weight of sheep, the flock will keep in fine condition.

A KIND OF FARMING THAT PAYS.

One point needs to be emphasized at this time: Farmers should inquire more closely into the wants of local markets, and try to meet their requirements. It is surprising to what an extent the interior towns depend upon large cities—perhaps 30 or 50 miles away—for products which should be supplied by nearby farmers. In the more thickly populated parts of the country, fresh vegetables, poultry, eggs, meat and dairy products are always in demand, at fairly remunerative prices, yet how little of the money paid for these commodities goes into the pockets of farmers, who should receive it all. In fact, it is no uncommon sight to see farmers buying for their own tables vegetables which by a little forethought might have been raised on the farm and made a source of profit.

We are not advocating the idea that the general farmer should be a market gardener, but a well-provided garden or "truck patch" should be an adjunct to every farm. It should be an unfailing source of good things for the home and a profit to the owner. The farmer engaged in growing staple crops has little time to devote to other matters; but at present low prices, might it not pay better to grow less wheat, corn and potatoes, and give more attention to producing choice vegetables, to improving and increasing the flock of poultry, and to supplanting scrub stock with improved breeds of cattle? Early and late vegetables, fresh eggs, poultry, and choice butter are always in good demand, and farmers should produce these commodities, at least to such an extent as to supply their own families and the demands of neighboring market or mining towns.

HOW THE FARM PAYS.

I have kept a careful account with farm for 15 years, and last season was the worst of all, with its poor prices, drouth, bugs and insects. Yet in spite of this, the farm paid a net profit of a little over six per cent. on the $9,000 invested in its 152 acres and plant. The farm's expenses last year were $388, including farm supplies, repairs, hired help and taxes. We sold from the farm $618 worth of produce, we had as much or more on hand Jan. 1 as a year ago, and have also had our house rent and most of the family's food from the farm to offset our own labor. My accounts for these 15 years show that even in the worst seasons the farm pays its way and yields a net profit above the labor and expenses involved. Now, brother farmers, keep a record for 1896 of all your expenses and receipts. It may seem a great task at first, but will become second nature to you; and take my word for it, you will be surprised at the end of the year at your success, and will bless the man who urged you up to the business point of farming.—W. L. Hoge.

COVER THE OATS WELL.

"Oats need to be well covered. The seed should be at least three inches below the surface. The young plants will be safer with this deep covering, for a hard frost that might be fatal to plants the roots of which are near the surface will not hurt these deeply covered roots," says Henry Stewart. "The crop is also safe against such a dry period of weather as often happens early in the spring.

"It is good farming to take all possible precautions. It is good business in every way and under all circumstances to leave nothing to chances, especially when most of these are against the farmer. The farmer, then, is to study the nature of everything in his work, learn all about it, the risks of it, and the advantages to be gained by this or that precaution. It is unwise to run risks when there is no necessity, and the seed, whatever kind it may be that is deep in the soil up to the proper limit, is safe against all kinds of accidents, dry weather or wet, frost or excessive heat; and when in the ground and safely covered with soil amply filled with plant food, it then becomes the subject of the ancient promise, that seedtime or harvest shall never fail. For it should be very clear that such a promise as this has not the remotest connection with the farmer who does not take every opportunity of making this promise effective, and who avoids whatever may stand in the way of its accomplishment."

BUYING A COW.

Cattle buying, as commonly carried on, says the Ploughman, is too much a game of chance. It is easy for a trader, who knows the tricks of the trade, to impose upon the average buyer, and even farmers of much shrewdness and experience are sometimes fooled by the mis-statements of the dealer and by the skillful manner in which the cows are doctored and manipulated in order to make a showy but delusive appearance. The only fairly safe and reasonable method of purchase is to require a guarantee of a certain yield of milk under certain conditions of care and feeding for a period of several successive days, withholding part of the price until the test is made. This plan can be readily adopted when buyer and seller are neighbors and acquaintances. In buying cattle at one of the large public cattle yards it is best for the unexperienced purchaser to take with him a friend accustomed to the ways of dealers and able also to discover defects or peculiarities of temper, quality and condition in the cows offered for sale.

LEGISLATORS OF BRITAIN.

Tories Are Mostly Young and Liberals Mostly Old.

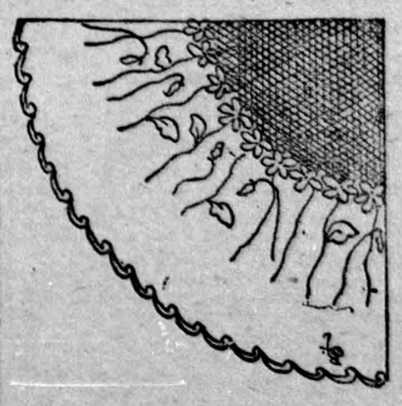
Whenever the Tories have a large majority in parliament, the spectator at Westminster is always amazed at the number of very young men who enjoy seats in the house of commons, writes a London correspondent. Often the scene looked more like some phase of a college commencement than the gathering of the oldest parliament in the world. I have said that this was a peculiarity of large Tory majorities. When the Liberals are in office, and in heavily numerical preponderance, on the commons' benches middle aged and elderly men are the rule.

It is only rarely that a youngster gets in as a Liberal at an English election. Plenty of young men go to the polls as Liberal candidates, but they have almost invariably received the nominations simply because success is hopeless. They are encouraged to spend their money and time on these fruitless battles ,on the tacit understanding that by and by the party whips will recognize their devotion and give them a chance to fight constituencies where there is some prospect of winning. Meanwhile the safe Liberal seats are practically all in possession of the graybeards, and in the large lists of boroughs and county divisions, where parties are tolerably evenly balanced, very few Liberal candidates under 40 years of age can get a nomination.

The most obvious reason for this is, of course, that Liberal candidates have to rely upon a demonstration of personal fitness, of individual acquaintance with governmental problems, and the thousand and one possibilities of reform, retrenchment and so on, which is not insisted upon with others. The sober and thrifty middle classes—the higher artisans, the small shopkeepers, manufacturers and commercial and industrial workers—are the people who elect Liberals when they are elected. And these people are not easily captured by the glamor of a young man's smart manner and glibness of tongue. They want gravity, solidity and the evidence of mature experience and judgment. They desire to vote for a man who has made money in his own business, or an established position for himself in his profession. Here and there an exceptionally brilliant youngster, particularly if he is a journalist or barrister who is doing well for his years, and is a favorite with party leaders, like Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Morley, may be taken on trust by a Liberal local committee.

VIOLET TABLE CENTRE.

This design has an open work centre, with the silk underneath. No shade is more dainty than violet, nor any flower more popular. Their little heads



form a pretty circle bordering the net, and their delicate green stems are pretty radiating from the centre. A very simple white buttonholed edge is best for finishing this center.

BRITISH CONSUMPTION OF WHEAT.

The consumption of wheat in Britain is reckoned at six bushels a head per annum, which, on the basis of an estimated population of 38,900,000, makes a total consumption of 233,400,000 bushels.

A TYPO'S RELEASE

From the Awful Sufferings of Rheumatism.

The Case of E. P. Robbins of Welland—A Sufferer for Seventeen Years—His Case Resisted the Treatment of the Best Hospitals and He Had Become a Physical Wreck—His Wonderful Release.

From the Welland Telegraph.

The world to-day is both commercially and scientifically inclined towards system, and news like everything else is gathered systematically. Every newspaper has its staff of reporters to observe and collect the news of its particular locality or district. For some time past a reporter of the Welland Telegraph has been watching the development of a treatment for a serious case of rheumatism on one of the employees of that institution. About eighteen years ago, Mr. E. P. Robbins, while at work in the Telegraph printing office, was suddenly seized with sharp pains all over the body, accompanied by extreme swellings. He reached home, but a short distance from the office, with difficulty, and on the doctor being called he pronounced it inflammatory rheumatism. For seven weeks he lay in bed under the care of the best physician, and at the end of that time he was again able to resume his duties. During the next few years he was subject to frequent slight attacks, and finally thought a change of location might be beneficial. With this idea Mr. Robbins visited the different American cities, sometimes in good health and again unable to get out of bed, until in 1888 he finally settled in New York. Here, for about two years, he followed his occupation with comparatively little sickness, he suffered a severe attack which left him until a few months ago, a martyr to that kaleidoscopic disease. Mr. Robbins recovered somewhat after weeks of idelness and went back to the types, but again and again he was laid up, working only about six days a month. Gradually he grew worse, and almost discouraged entered the Sisters hospital. After spending many weary months within its walls he was discharged with the awful verdict "incurable." More from a sense of duty than

with hope he tried other hospitals in the city, but with the same result, and resigned to his fate, he left for the old home, where he arrived in February 1893, a crippled resemblance of his former self, and was passed unrecognized by his former friends. Here in the house of his father, James W. Robbins, he was bed-ridden until the summer, and then during the warm days was able to walk about with the aid of a spiked cane for a few minutes at a time. When the cold weather approached, however, he was again confined to the house. Pink Pills were frequently recommended to Mr. Robbins, and in December last he started to take them. The first box was unnoticeable but the second produced a slight change for the better. More were then taken and the improvement was daily hailed with joy by his friends. The rheumatism slowly but surely left and has not since returned. In March last Mr. Robbins was once more at work and has not lost a day since; the cane has long since been discarded and "Ed" is one of the happiest, jolliest employees in the office. Mr. Robbins is well known in the county and indeed throughout the whole district, and although, as he says, he has not got the strength of Hercules, yet Pink Pills have given him for a trifling cost the relief he spent hundreds of dollars in vain trying to secure. He considers the disease completely out of his system and can eat and sleep well, two essential points to good health. Mr. Robbins strongly recommends this wonderful medicine to other sufferers.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills strike at the root of the disease, driving it from the system and restoring the patient to health and strength. In cases of paralysis, spinal troubles, locomotor ataxia, sciatica, rheumatism, erysipelas, scrofulous troubles, etc., these are superior to all other treatment. They are also a specific for the troubles which make the lives of so many women a burden, and speedily restore the rich glow of health to sallow cheeks. Men broken down by overwork, worry or excess, will find in Pink Pills a certain cure.

Sold by all dealers or sent by mail, post paid, at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for $2.50, by addressing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., or Schenectady, N.Y. Beware of imitations and substitutes alleged to be "just as good."

386,000 KINDS OF ANIMALS.

People unacquainted with natural history have no idea of what a student of even a branch of it must know. A man who makes a specialty of bats runs up against a marvellous array of animals—likewise the students of the squirrels and mice, birds, fish, and any of the rest. Friedlander & Sons, German publishers, are about to get out a work enumerating the described species of the animal kingdom. About 100 volumes of, say 750 pages each will be required. This will allow five animals to the page. There are about 386,000 animals known. Any one who would like to know what this means should sit down and with a pencil write down the names of all the diffferent kinds of animals he or she can think of—mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, beetles, butterflies, and mollusks. Subtract the result from the 386,000 and the calculator will be astonished at what a lot he doesn't know.

A MILLION DOLLAR TOMB.

The finest tomb in Great Britain is undoubtedly that of the Duke of Hamilton, in the grounds of the duke's seat. It cost over $1,000,000.

STICKY FLY PAPER.

Most of the [illegible]'s Supply Manufactured in Secret in a Michigan Town.

The world's supply of sticky fly paper comes from Grand Rapids, Mich. There are three or four other small factories scattered about the country, but none of them makes enough to cut much of a figure in the market. The great producer is the single factory in Grand Rapids, a big concern employing 400 to 600 hands all the year round, and its product is shipped to every land.

The factory is surrounded by a high board picket fence, and guards are on watch day and night to keep out intruders. The best friends of the proprietors meet with as cold a reception, when the matter of going into the factory is mentioned, as any stranger. The sticky preparation with which it is expected the flies will form entangling alliances is prepared by the proprietors personally, and they alone know the exact formula. The preparation is not patented nor copyrighted, as to gain the protection of the Government it would be necessary to reveal the materials that go into it and thus make the formula known to the world and give trade pirates a chance to operate. The secret it protected by not letting it out, and it has been kept successfully for nearly twenty years. The machinery used in the factory is guarded in the same manner against infringement instead of being patented. Most of the machinery was designed for the special purpose to which it is put, and the four brothers engaged in the business made the designs for it themselves and had different parts of it constructed at different machine shops. The fly paper factory occupies four large two-story brick buildings, and the employees in one department are not allowed under any circumstances to visit any other department. None but trustworthy men are employed, and once engaged they have substantially a life job; but even the most trusted is not allowed to know more than

ONE BRANCH

of the business.

The fly paper is made by spreading certain balsams and gums on a sheet of sized manila paper. The sheet has a narrow border of wax to prevent the sticky stuff from oozing out. The border of wax is put on, the sticky preparation is spread, and the sheet is folded ready for inspection and shipment by one machine, and this machine has a capacity of about 50,000 a day. From the machine the sheets pass to inspectors, who see that the stuff is of the right consistency, and then to the packers to be put in boxes for shipment. The paper goes to Africa, Asia, Europe, Australia, and South America, besides all parts of the United States.

The manufacturers of the sticky paper began business about twenty years ago on a small scale, occupying a lean-to in connection with a suburban drug store which the brothers had established as a branch of their city business. One of the brothers carried on the fly paper manufacturing as a side issue, and at first only enough was manufactured to supply a limited local demand. The demand gradually grew, and the factory is now one of the big institutions of the city, and the four brothers all devote to it their entire time.

Some time ago the brothers had occasion to discharge one of their employees, a man who had been with them several years and had unusual facilities for learning the inside of how everything was done. It was suspected that it was his intention to sell the secrets of the manufacture of fly paper, or such of them as he possessed, to a rival manufacturer doing business on a small scale in another town. The brothers immediately brought suit against him by injunction to restrain him from telling what he knew, and from himself engaging in the business. The suit has not yet been decided. It involves a question of law never yet adjudicated in Michigan, and one that is interesting to manufacturers and attorneys.

HEART FLUTTERING AND SMOTHERING SPELLS.

Quickly and Permanently Banished by Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart.

One does not need to wait, if wise, until heart disease has developed to that degree that one hardly knows from hour to hour when he or she may drop dead. Those heart flutterings that a little excitement brings on, followed by smothering spells that seem as though they would prove fatal, are simply guide posts pointing to the grave, if ready and reliable measures to stem the disease are not taken. A safe remedy is always found in Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart. It gives relief immediately, and even, without much of the medicine being taken, it completely removes disease. It is a heart specific, really wonderful in its results, but it cures heart disease only.

Sold by W. E. Richardson.

WESTERN LIFE.

Mr. Winks—Been West, eh? People out there are full of life and energy, I suppose?

Mr. Minks—Yes, indeed; they have to be.

Always on a rush, eh?

Yes, in cold weather. I just tell you, folks who depend on soft coal to keep warm, where the thermometers go 20 degrees below zero, have to keep on a rush with coal scuttles, or freeze.

PAIN IN THE BACK

A Certain Indication of the Lodgment of Kidney Disease.

It is a mistake to suppose that pain in the back is a result only of a cold, and is more of a rheumatic trouble than anything else. It is evidence that disease has lodged itself in the kidneys, and the warning is plain, if further trouble is not to be taken on, that the pain must be quickly got rid of. There is no remedy we can so completely recommend as South American Kidney Cure. Knowing what it will do, there is nothing extravagant in the statement of Count de Dory, who wrote from Neepawa, Man.: "During my travels I was induced to try South American Kidney Cure, from which remedy I received instant relief. I do not think it has an equal."

Sold by W. E. Richardson.

Nervous Prostration

It is now a well established fact in medical science that nervousness is due to impure blood. Therefore the true way to cure nervousness is by purifying and enriching the blood. The great blood purifier is Hood's Sarsaparilla. Read this letter:

"For the last two years I have been a great sufferer with nervous prostration and palpitation of the heart. I was weak in my limbs and had smothered sensations. At last my physician advised me to try Hood's Sarsaparilla which I did, and I am happy to say that I am now strong and well. I am still using Hood's Sarsaparilla and would not be without it. I recommend it to all who are suffering with nervous prostration and palpitation of the heart." MRS. DALTON, 56 Alice St., Toronto, Ontario. Get Hood's, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the Only

True Blood Purifier

Prominently in the public eye today. It is not what we say but what Hood's Sarsaparilla does that tells the story.

Hood's Pills act harmoniously with Hood's Sarsaparilla. 25c.

FOR TWENTY-SIX YEARS.

DUNN'S BAKING POWDER

THE COOK'S BEST FRIEND

LARGEST SALE IN CANADA.

DANGER IN WANDERING SHOT.

In spite of the utmost care on the part of shooters, there are many fatal or maiming accidents. What happens when no care is exercised is a matter of almost daily report for newspapers. Bullets glance around corners in a way that makes the woods always a place of danger. The eccentric courses of shot from shotguns are seldom known, but certain it is that they sometimes leave the muzzles of the guns to fly almost at right angles to the direction of the aim. An Englishman aimed at a driver pheasant, high in the air. His host was far out of the ordinary range of the gun, as it was then aimed. One of the shot hit him in the neck. The shot had left the gun at an angle that took it five rods to one side of the direction the rest of the charge took. Like accidents have bbeen recorded, while many kills of game are told of that are inexplicable save by the fact of a wandering shot. So it is that many of the knowing sportsmen refuse to shoot unless all persons are directly to the right or left of them, lest a stray puts out an eye.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD'S OLD CONSTITUENCY.

Mr. J. H Metcalfe, M. P. for Kingston, Talks of the Splendid Curative Character of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder.

There is no small amount of talk in all parts of the country of the class of people who are proclaiming the remarkable results accomplished by Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, for leading citizens in all parts of the Dominion are using it. Among others who tell of the effective nature of this medicine for catarrh, hay fever, or cold in the head, is Mr. J. H. Metcalfe, the popular M.P., for Kingston, the constituency represented for so many years by the late Sir John A. Macdonald. Beyond any doubt this remedy is a marvel, the head, is Mr. J. H. Metcalfe, the popuradical in its effects, it is at the same time simple and agreeable to take, which cannot be said of most catarrh medicines.

Sample bottle and blower sent by S. G. DETCHON, 44 Church st., Toronto, on receipt of two three-cent stamps.

Sold by W. E. Richardson.

A WESTERN POST-OFFICE.

Tenderfoot—Where is the post-office?

Resident—Over there.

Where?

D'ye see that man sawing wood? He's the postmaster.

Yes, but I don't see the post-office.

Of course you don't. It's in his hat.

"I Took One-Half Bottle of South American Rheumatic Cure and Obtained Perfect Relief"—This Remedy Gives Relief in a Few Hours, and Usually Cures in One to Three Days.

J. H. Garrett, a prominent politician of Liverpool, N.S., makes, for the benefit of the public, the following statement: "I was greatly troubled with rheumatic pains for a number of years. On several occasions I could not walk, nor even put my feet to the floor. I tried everything, and all local physicians, but my suffering continued. At last I was prevailed upon to try South American Rheumatic Cure. I obtained perfect relief before I had taken half a bottle of the remedy, and today regard it the only radical cure for rheumatism."

Sold by W. E. Richardson