FARMING

In this department each week will be given general information to farmers and stockmen. No attempt will be made to criticize the work already being done by Canadian farmers; but an effort will be made to present to the farmers of the country summarized information contained in government reports, and the actual experiences of men and women who have achieved success in farming by following modern methods. Farmers who have found new "wrinkles" or have made a success in any special line of agriculture are invited to send short letters to this paper giving their experiences, or criticizing any of the information contained in these columns.

BIGGER INCOMES WITH GOOD BULLS

First Step Towards Farmer's Success is in Buying a Pure Bred Sire

Success in every business comes only to those who have a high ideal and keep forever advancing.

On the other hand, failure waits for the man who is content to allow his business to stagnate.

Breeders of livestock are facing problems today that require expert, business-like handling.

The high cost of feed, labor and heavy overhead expenses are matters the average farmer finds confronting him every day.

Successful farmers have always realized the value of good breedings in livestock. Testimonies from these men are easily obtained and should convince the most skeptical that the only way to beat the labor situation, cost of feed, etc., is to keep only those animals that are bred to produce either milk or beef.

The surveys conducted by Pref. Leitch in the different counties all go to prove that where farmers are using pure bred sires, in either beef or dairy herds, they are making greater incomes with practically the same quantity of feed.

When we consider that these figures were obtained from actual farmers, living under average farm conditions, we can hardly discredit them.

Liberal feeding of inferior live stock it was shown, was not as great a factor in increasing the labor income as was the use of pure bred sires.

The pure bred sire has back of him generations of ancestors that were selected and bred with a specific purpose in view; either the production of beef or the production of milk.

These characteristics are highly intensified in his blood so that he transmits them to his offspring, even when only a grade female is used.

The grade sire has back of him generations of ancestors, that like "Topsy" just happened. The result is that you can expect nothing, but are liable to get anything.

Haphazard hit and miss breeding operations are the causes of low labor incomes and financial failures among Ontario farmers today.

The remedy lies in the farmers' hands.

Buy a pure-bred sire of the breed of stock you are interested in and you have made the first step toward success.

However, be sure you get an individual of good type and conformation, as a pedigree without individuality is of little value.

BUY BETTER BULLS.

C. F. MacKenzie,
Fieldman, Ontario Cattle Breeders' Association.

FALL PLOUGHING AND MANURING TOBACCO LAND

The proper preparation of the land for the tobacco crop is an item which is frequently treated with too little care. It is in reality the most important cultivation that the crop ever gets.

Fall plowing is one of the simplest and easiest methods of combating and controlling cutworm, wireworm, and grasshopper pests, either or all of which may cause serious damage to the tobacco crop.

If the land is manured and fall plowed a better distribution of labor is obtained. Soil moisture is conserved much better on fall plowed land. This is a very important point since the tobacco-growing districts are often subject to a drought during the growing season. The tobacco crop has often been observed to suffer seriously during a short drought on spring plowed land, while on adjoining land of the same type, fall plowed, the drought would have no appreciable effect unless very extended.

An experiment has been conducted for the past two years comparing fall plowing and fall manuring with spring plowing and spring manuring on tobacco land of the sandy loam type. The fall plowed and fall manured land has returned a two year average of 50 per acre more than the spring plowed and spring manured land.

From the facts given it can be seen that fall plowing and fall manuring for tobacco is one of the easiest and best methods of controlling insect pests; 2, gives a more even distribution of farm labor; 3, conserves soil moisture better for following crops, and, 4, is highly profitable.—H. A. Freeman, tobacco inspector.

CARE OF A FOAL

Keep the mare on good pasture for three months, and, if possible, do not work her. Allow the mare to nurse her foal for at least four months and five will be better.

Encourage the foal to eat as soon as it shows signs of doing so. This is usually at about five weeks of age. Give it a grain ration of equal parts of bran and oats, and feed it in a box of its own in the stable or in a grain creep in the pasture. Start the foal on a very small amount of grain and gradually increase till it is getting half a gallon.

If it is necessary to work the mare while she is still suckling her foal, allow the foal to follow her, where this practice may be followed with safety; but if this cannot be done, the foal should be kept in a cool, quiet box stall or pen when it is not with the mare. Care should be taken that the foal may have no chance of injuring itself if it should become lonesome or excited while in this stall.

Common-sense care and feeding, plenty of good feed and exercise, and cleanliness are the essentials for the successful raising of foals.

FALL PLOWING KILL INSECTS

Certain insects, such as the sugar beet webworm, wireworm and some kinds of cutworms, prepare winter quarters that are as snug and cosy as can be. The first step is to cement particles of earth and pebbles together to form a water tight oval cell. To provide further comfort and protection this is generally silk lined, and within this snug retreat the insect spends the winter, either in the worm stage or in the inactive pupa stage. If by any chance this earthen cell is broken open, after the insect has completed its preparations for winter, the bug is almost sure to die. Fall plowing disturbs many such winter bug homes, and is of great value in reducing next year's crop of insects.

Many insects—especially the large class of sacking insects, which include the chinch bug, leaf hopper and plant bugs—make no preparation for winter, other than to seek some protected spot where they can to some extent escape the extremes of moisture and temperature. Rubbish, hedgerows, brush piles, weedy ditch banks and fence corners all offer just the protection that this class of bugs is looking for. There are usually times during the winter when the ground is bare. At such times much good can be done by cleaning upsuch places. A little time spent in raking and burning trash and rubbish may result in the killing of thousands of insects that, if left alone, would multiply to tens of thousands the following spring.

Remnants of crops that have been harvested, such as cabbage stumps and melon vines, should be plowed under during the fall or burned during the winter. Such plants are usually covered with eggs of plant lice, and their destruction is one of the most important steps in the control of the cabbage and melon louse.

PLANTING CELERY.

There are more ways than one to produce well-grown and well-bleached celery, so we cannot say of any one method, this is the right and the only way. The important thing is to find the simplest and cheapest way of producing this type of celery, especially in these days of increasing scarcity of labor. Excellent results have been attained by the old system of planting in the trenches, but this method is perhaps the most laborious of all.

Early celery must be planted in hotbeds or in the house early in March, but for the late or main crop the middle or end of April is early enough. The young plants after being shifted once, can be permanently started out the end of June or in July. The amateur would perhaps do as well to buy well grown plants, if they are needed in only small quantities.

Celery responds to the richest soil and calls for considerable moisture—being what is called a "gross feeder." Whether manure or concentrated fertilizers are used, they should be well mixed with soil to, at least, a depth of five or six inches. Thus prepared, the enriched soil will give good results. Nitrate of soda in small quantities may be put around the plant when it has become well established.

The History of Your Name

PICKETT

VARIATIONS—Pigott, Pigot.
SOURCE—Personal characteristic.
RACIAL ORIGIN—French.

It would be hard to pick a more English sounding family name than Pickett. Yet its origin is not English at all, but French.

Those who bear the name of Pickett, however, can be sure of one thing, that the name has spent two or three centuries in England before being brought to this country, for while the origin of the name is not English, its spelling certainly is. This points very strongly to the probability that it was transplanted from France to England at some period before the spelling of names, and indeed of all words, settled down into what we might call a standarized rut.

There's nothing new about "simplified spelling," Most of the complexities of the English language today are the result of periods of "wide open" simplified spelling in past centuries. And the name of Pickett is an example.

It come from the French adjective "picot," meaning pitted, as from smallpox. At the time of the Norman invasion family names had barely begun to develop, and were confined at first to the nobility. By the time such an adjective could have settled down into a family name virtually everybody had ceased speaking French in England. Hence it must have come over later. The pronounciation of "picote," with the final syllable "e" dropped, was very naturally represented by the spelling Pickett. The surnames Pigott and Pigot show every evidence of having developed in France, and of being brought to England; or straight to this country, at a later period.

MAN'S GREATEST FRIEND.

"Of all the animal friends of man, the cow is the greatest. I wish as you sit down to dinner today I might take away all she has contributed thereto. I would take away the cup of milk on the baby's tray; the cream from your coffee, the butter for your bread, the cheese to accompany your pie, the cream biscuit, the custard pie itself, the roast beef, the delicious gravy, and leave you a meal of potatoes, beets, pickles and toothpicks. Every scrap of her, from nose to tail, is used by man. Her horns are used to comb our hair, her skin upon our feet, her hair goes into the plaster on our walls, her hoofs make glue. Her tail makes soup, her blood is used to make our sugar white and her bones are ground to fertilize our soil. She has carried man from Plymouth Rock to the setting sun. Her sons turned the sod in the settler's clearing. Her sons hauled the prairie schooner for the sturdy pioneer while she followed. When the day's march was done she gave the milk to fill the mother's breast, to feed the little children. Indeed, we hail her proudly as the foster-mother of the human race."

(An adaptation of Col. F. M. Wood's "Tribute to the Cow.")

BEE KEEPING.

BY H. B. DUROST, B. S. A.

To make some money out of your bees:

1. Get an outfit of up-to-date supplies.
2. Use only movable frame hives—the 10-frame Langstroth is as good as the best, and is standard.
3. Don't try to produce comb honey only. Get extra-supers and an extractor.
4. Get a smoker, and learn how easily bees may be controlled when handling.
5. Clip your queens to prevent loss of swarms.
6. Get your bees strong for the clover honey flow, by giving the queen plenty of laying space during the breeding season.
7. Feed at this time if it is found necessary.
8. See that there are no openings into the hive, except the regular entrance, and that that is partially closed when there is no honey coming in. Prevent all robbing if possible.
9. Get supers on at the right time—better a little early than too late.
10. Put another super on under the first, when the first is about half filled.
11. Take away all white honey at end of clover bloom. Do not allow it to become mixed with the dark fall honey.
12. During August, remove old queens (2 years or over), and introduce young queens.
13. See that all colonies have an abundance of stores before they are put into winter quarters.
14. If any colony weighs less than 65 or 70 lbs. (10-frame Langstroth) feed them.
15. Feed a syrup made of one part of water to two parts sugar. Stir sugar into boiling water.
16. For feeder use quart sealer or 5 lb. tin honey-pail, with perforated cover.
17. Do not try to winter bees in an upper chamber where the temperature may go below zero.
18. Put your bees in a corner of the cellar where they will be disturbed as little as possible.
19. Put up a partition and make the place dark.
20. Do not fasten the bees in the hive.
21. The hives may be tiered up. Do not put them tight against the wall and at least one foot from floor. Turn entrance away from door.
2. Keep temperature as even as possible. Do not disturb the bees just to see how they are getting on.
23. Don't be in too much haste to get bees out in the spring. They are as well in the cellar, provided they are quiet, until there is something for them to work on outside.
24. Get some books on bees—(Langstroth on the Honey Bee is a classic)—and read. Take notes and keep accounts

Helps for the Housewife

Use sewing silk instead of cotton when basting velvet and there will be no traces left when the stitches are removed.

Clothes that have become yellow should be washed as usual and then soaked overnight in water to which cream of tartar (one teaspoonful to a quart) has been added.

In peeling potatoes do not discard skins, but place in vessel and cover with water. Put in lamp chimneys and set to simmer for three hours on back of stove. They will be as bright as new when taken out and rinsed and dried.

The children's bubble blowing sport can be greatly improved by adding half a teaspoonful of glycerine to each quart of water. This gives tenacity to the bubbles.

One teaspoonful of ammonia in a teacup of water makes a good cleaning fluid for gold or silver jewelry. Apply with a soft cloth and wipe thoroughly dry.

Putting a piece of bread into pea soup prevents the peas from sinking to the bottom of the saucepan and burning.

Take a piece of board large enough to hold your scrub pail, and nail two-inch-wide strips around the edge. Put castors on the under corners, and your trunk is complete. This is a great strength saver.

A little fine salt added to starch greatly improves its quality.

Soak the iron rust spots in fresh lemon juice and hold immediately over the steam from a tea kettle until they disappear.

By holding under running cold water a few moments the stain left by a too hot iron will quickly disappear.

Add a teaspoonful of turpentine to half a pail of warm water. Dip a cloth in this, squeeze dry and rub the rug vigorously. This treatment will make the rug look like new.

VEAL LOAF—A NEW WAY.

Take two pounds chopped beef, one cup fine bread crumbs, one egg, salt pepper and a little onion. Make loaf and bake one hour. Have ready a tomato sauce made as for any Spanish dish, turn loaf on a platter, cover with tomato sauce, slice one or two oranges through skin and all, quarter inch thick; lay around as for garnish. Put a spoonful of rice on each side and serve.

HERMITS

1 egg, 1 cup sugar, ⅓ cup butter or lard, 2 cups of flour, ⅓ cup sweet milk, ½ teaspoon soda, ½ teaspoon (rounded) baking powder, ½ teaspoon each cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice, ½ cup chopped raisins. Cream butter and sugar. Add egg well beaten. Mix soda with flour. If lard is used add a pinch of salt. Add alternately with milk to mixture. Add raisins and spices. Drop from a spoon into greased pan and bake in a moderate oven.

CHOCOLATE BREAD PUDDING

1½ cups stale bread crumbs, 2 cups milk, 1 square chocolate, ⅓ cup sugar, 2 eggs, ½ teaspoon vanilla, ⅛ teaspoon salt. Scald milk, add bread crumbs and let soak for 30 minutes. Melt chocolate over hot water, add half the sugar and enough hot milk from the bread and milk to pour. Add to bread and milk. Save the white of one egg for frosting. Beat eggs and add to mixture with the remaining sugar, salt and vanilla. Pour into a buttered dish and bake an hour in a moderate oven. Beat egg white till stiff and dry. Beat in one-fourth cup sugar. Spread over pudding when the pudding has baked 50 minutes and let brown.

TOMATO BISQUE

If a hot soup is desired to be quickly served, the following is one which can be made in a very few minutes: Prepare two cups of thin, well-seasoned cream sauce. Heat one can of tomato sauce, add a pinch of soda—1-16 teaspoon—and pour it into the hot cream sauce, stirring constantly. Serve at once with crisp crackers.

NORTHERN BAKED HAM

Boil gently a large piece of the thicker end of the ham, allowing about fifteen minutes for each pound. When done remove from kettle and peel off the rind. Press a few cloves into the fatty portion. Make a paste of brown sugar, bread crumbs and a little mustard, moistened with the liquid from the kettle. Spread this paste over the surface of the fat, pressing it in well with a spoon. Place in the oven to brown.

A POOR SPORT.

Melville Davisson Post, who has a stock farm in West Virginia, asked an old negro tenant what sort of man was his neighbor, Judge X.

"Well, Mistah Post," replied the negro, "Judge X is the kin' of man who ain't got neithah morals or Federals."

VOCAL HERITAGE.

"Go on and howl into that," said the distracted father of twin infants, their lungs close up in front of the power is at a premium.
receiving horn of a phonograph, "and then later on you'll know what you owe to your parents."

Newspapers were first printed in England in the year 1622, in the reign of James I.

WASTING OUR WATER POWERS

Inefficient and Obsolete Plants Not Developing Power Available

Canada occupies an outstanding position in regard to water power wealth, not only with respect to the aggregate power at sites already developed and in use, but even more so to that awaiting development. The total of our potential load-water, 24-hour power is estimated at some 19,000,000 horsepower.

Although the greater amount of power is produced in large and efficient plants, there are many inefficient small plants. Each of these plants, however, is valuable as a producer of energy and owing to the number, the aggregate amount of power they represent is considerable; moreover, these smaller plants are usually situated in the more thickly populated areas, where power is at a premium.

It is interesting to note how conditions in some of the small plants can be improved at a relatively low cost, as illustrated by the reconstruction of a small hydro-electric plant of some 400 h.p., operating under a head of 14 feet.

The original plant was destroyed by a washout, and, in the design of the new plant, all modern and efficient practice and methods were utilied. The new plant is showing marked increase inefficiency over the old, due to the increased efficiency of the units and of the method of operation. The plant has carried for the past two years more than twice the load that the old plant normally handled and has not yet experienced the shortage of water which formerly occurred each year in the later summer and winter months. The results at this plant illustrate what reconstruction can accomplish for small plants operating wastefully, either through antiquated equipment, leaky dams or other inefficient works.

WAR COST EUROPE 20,000,000,000 POUNDS

Estimate of Losses Made by English Financier

Crammond Declares America and Japan Were the Only Belligerents That Prospered

The actual cost of the war to European belligerents was in excess of £20,000,000,000, represented by property destroyed, losses in investments abroad, depreciation of properties and by pensions, Edgar Crammond, English financier, told the Bankers' Institute at a recent meeting in London.

He fixed the following as the real losses of the European belligerents: Germany, £8,700,000,000; France, £6,250,000,000; the United Kingdom, £5,200,000,000; Italy £2,100,000,000; Belgium, £550,000,000.

To only two belligerent countries—the United States and Japan—did the war bring prosperity, Mr. Crammond said, but Spain, Holland, Switzerland, Greece and Scandinavia also had grown wealthier. He believed the "liquid capital of the world, now distributed in centres which are unaccustomed to the excercises of their new powers," would eventually again find its chief outlet through London.

"The war has produced an extraordinary change in the economic relations of the United States with Europe," he said. "Whereas in 1914 America owed Europe £2,000,000,000, at present Europe owes America £2,000,000,000."

Increase of United States Wealth.

Assuming that the post-war purchasing power of the dollar was 70 per cent. of its pre-war value, Mr. Crammond said during the past five years there had been an actual increase in the national wealth of the United States of approximately 30 per cent., and he estimated this wealth now in the neighborhood of £70,000,000,000, to £80,000,000,000.

The National wealth of Japan, he estimated, had been doubled by the war.

On the basis of a post-war mark valued at 50 per cent. of its pre-war value, he estimated Germany had lost apart from the indemnity, 26 per cent. of her national wealth, the whole of her mercantile marine, all her colonial possessions and practically the whole of her investments abroad. If the figures suggested at the Hythe conference, £6,250,000,000, were fixed as the German war indemnity, he declared the total losses of the German people arising out of the war would be equivalent to about £15,000,000,000 or one-half her national wealth.

"So far as the world as a whole is concerned, the principal loss is in the fact that Europe is not yet 'a going concern,'" he continued, "but the underlying economic forces which made her the great centre of the world's commercial activities are still at work and will rapidly transform the economic situation in Europe."

He said the dominant characteristic of international trade in the next ten years will be a tremendous world demand for capital, and the internal financial policies of the nations should be framed with due regard to this condition.

EXPORT BUSINESS.

Splendid Opportunities for Those Who Go After It Aggressively.

While the rapid restoration of European industries to their normal production is making Canadian export sales increasingly difficult, Canadian manufacturers ought not to be discouraged with the situation and relax their efforts. There are splendid possibilities of export business for those who will go after it aggressively. The success of the Canadian Woolen Manufacturers' Association in this connection ought to encourage other Canadian industries. The woolen manufacturers are still working on cloth for the Greek Government with business to the amount of some $2,500,000 still to complete. Orders from South America aggregating $500,000 have been booked but work on them has not yet commenced. Mr. F. H. Yapp, Secretary-Treasurer of the Canadian Woolen Manufacturers' Association, is now in Europe negotiating for the financing of a $4,000,000 contract with the Rumanians.

FORTUNATE NELLIE.

Six-year-old Margaret often played with Nellie, a neighbor's little girl. One rainy day the two were just starting across the clean kitchen floor at Margaret's home when the latter's mother, seeing their muddy shoes, headed them off and sent them out to play on the porch. After a moment, Nellie remarked:

"My mother don't care how much I run over the kitchen floor."

There was quite a long interval of silence. Then Margaret said: "I wish I had a nice, dirty mother like you've got, Nellie."

HANDICAPPED.

Little Maida while taking her brother for a walk met small Billy with his dog.

"How old is your bruvver?" asked Billy.

"One year," was the answer.

"Humph!" was the disgusted reply, "my dog is a year old, too, and he can walk twice as far as your bruvver."

"Well he might," was the indignant retort, "for he has twice as many legs."

EQUAL TO THE OCCASION.

Passer-by (to victim of motor-scooter):—And would you know the man again—could you swear to him?

The Victim—Could I? What d'you take me for? Why, of course I did!