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Agricultural Topics
For Whig Readers

Many feeders are given to the
practice of feeding their animals just
whatever feed happens to be cheap-
est. Rather, the feeder ought to
work on the principle of getting the
greatest gains for the cost of feed.
It might be that a ration, though
more expensive in point of cost of
feeds, would give such a greater re-
turn in gain of flesh than a ration
made up of cheap feeds that it would
be more profitable in the outcome.
A trial at the Kansas Station con-
firms the above assertion. Corn meal
and soy bean meal in the proportion
of four parts to one, was fed to a lot
of twelve pigs averaging 173 pounds
at the beginning of the trial; another
lot, of the same number, averaging
158 pounds at the beginning was
fed on corn meal only. The test cov-
ered a period of thirty-seven days.
At the end of the trial the former
lot averaged 296.75 pounds, the latter
194 pounds.
Lot 1 gained 29 percent, more
than lot 2 and consumed 150 pounds
less feed, and the feed consumed for
100 pounds gain in lot 1 was 526.5
pounds, and for lot 2 736.5 pounds.
In this case, the cost of soy beans by
bulk was twice the cost of corn meal,
yet by adding it, a better balance was
made than when corn meal was fed
alone, and enough greater gain to
overbalance the higher cost of feed
consumed.—O. Erl.

Experiments With Corn.
Here is a record of some experi-
ments with corn on twentieth acre
plots.
1. Hen manure, 15 two-horse loads
per acre; yield, per acre, 57 bushels.
2. Acid phosphate, 320 pounds
per acre; yield, per acre, 24 bushels.
3. Nothing; yield per acre, 19 1/2
bushels.
4. Sulphate potash, 160 pounds;
yield, per acre, 28 bushels.
5. Acid phosphate sprinkled on
cow manure; yield, per acre, 47 bush-
els.
6. Bone meal, 700 pounds; yield,
per acre, 29 bushels.
7. Acid phosphate on cow manure
sulphate potash, 160 pounds, yield,
per acre, 45 bushels.
8. Horse manure, 40 two-horse
loads, yield, per acre, 60 bushels.
9. Acid phosphate, 320 pounds,
sulphate potash, 160 pounds, yield,
per acre, 35 bushels.
10. Lima, 500 pounds; yield, per
acre, 38 bushels.
Nitrogenous fertilizer here gave
largely increased yield. A combina-
tion was much better than phosphate
of potash alone. Bone meal was dis-
appointing and lime disagreeably
prizing. In this case did not
help when added to phosphorus and
manure.—"Farm Journal."

A Fodder Test.
Corn stover, while long recognized
as a valuable feed for all kinds of
cattle, has not received the attention
it should as a food for farm horses.
To compare its value with high
quality timothy hay, a part of the
corn crop was cut and dried in the
field, and after being husked the
stover was stored under cover. It
was run through the silage cutter
and fed to form a part of all the
rations in the rations, which were
made up as follows:
Ration A.—Six pounds corn stov-
er, six pounds hay, seven pounds
corn, four pounds oats and three
pounds bran.
Ration B.—Twelve pounds hay,
seven pounds oats and seven pounds
corn.
Ration C.—Twelve pounds corn
stover, seven pounds oats and seven
pounds corn.
Ration D.—Twelve pounds corn
stover, seven pounds bran and seven
pounds corn.
Ration E.—Twelve pounds hay,
seven pounds bran and seven pounds
corn.
In the feeding trials which follow-
ed, corn stover proved of practically
equal value as timothy hay, and was
furnished at but one-third the cost.
Where corn and oats were fed to fur-
nish the grain part of the ration the
advantage was slightly in favor of the
hay. Where corn and bran formed
the grain ration, the stover was quite
equal to the hay. Some of the horses
gained slightly and others lost
slightly on the different rations, prob-
ably due largely to the individual-
ity of the animals.
The conclusion, therefore, which
may be drawn from this experiment
is that corn stover has a feeding val-
ue when fed equal with corn and
oats, or corn and bran, in the propor-
tions which was done here equal
to timothy hay, and also that when
corn stover or timothy hay furnishes
the roughage of a ration, oats and
corn or bran and corn in equal parts
by weight, have, generally speaking,
equivalent feeding value. The five
horses in this experiment ranged
from 1,100 to 1,300 pounds in weight
and were such as are commonly
found upon many New England
farms.

A Cob For The Calf.
It is comparatively easy to train a
young calf to drink if he is taken in
hand within a few days after he is
born, but it is a different matter if
he has been allowed to run with his
mother for a while and has not been
somewhat accustomed to human
handling. The calf that is born in
the pasture and does not soon come
in contact with man is about as
wild as any wild animal imaginable.
A method of teaching such a calf
to drink was hit upon by one who
had labored a week with a particu-
larly obstreperous youngster that had
not been taken from his mother com-
fortable than a month old. It seemed
as if that calf simply could not learn
to drink alone. The old-fashioned
method of giving the calf the fingers
to suck was used until nearly all the
skin had been worn off the knuckles
by contact with the edge of the pail,
while the little fellow's sharp teeth
had badly lacerated the flesh of the
first two fingers. He had been com-
pelled to go without several meals in
succession, in the hope of starving
him into drinking, but it would not
work. An inspiration came to the calf
feeder.

according to figures, prove failures
when put into actual practice by the
feeders.
We must feed according to the
prices of the various feeds. Many
of the best balanced rations are not
strictly prohibited rations. We must
also plan to feed out our home-grown
crops at an advantage to obtain the
most profitable income from our
cows.
The best feeders make as nearly
as possible a balanced ration, but
still do not hesitate if it is not exact-
ly balanced as long as it can be eco-
nomically combined.
Few men realize the value of salt
in the dairy. My best results have
been obtained by feeding each cow
an ounce of salt a day.
Death May Lurk In Silos.
The "Journal of the American Med-
ical Association" calls on papers
with a rural circulation to sound a
warning in regard to the silo, which
is a common structure on the mod-
ern farm. It appears that carbon
dioxide gas, most deadly, forms in
silos, and that fatal accidents are
likely to happen if silos are not care-
fully ventilated before being enter-
ed by humans beings. It appears
that out in Ohio such an accident has
happened, costing the lives of four
workmen, who were employed on the
farm of a state hospital. These men
went up the ladder on the outside of
the silo to an open door about twelve
feet from the top and jumped down
on to the silage, the top of which was
about six feet below the door.
Five minutes later two other work-
men did the same thing and found
the first four unconscious. The bod-
ies were at once taken out and the
doctors in the hospital were immedi-



"Must be a fake, Jimmy. Mother says she's afraid there ain't goin' to be no Santy Klaw's this year."

lately summoned, but were unable
to resuscitate any of the men. It
is supposed that the carbon dioxide gas
and formed during the night, forming
a layer some six feet deep, into
which the men jumped. The medical
journal says the same thing may oc-
cur on any farm with a silo, hence
the necessity for thorough ventila-
tion.—St. Albans (Vt). "Messenger."
The salt of the horse is whatever
it is made in the training. When
breaking or training the youngster is
the time to set his pace, and he is
slow or fast walker accordingly when
grown to service. This is a matter
that should be well considered. The
fast walking horse will do one-half
more farm work than the ordinary
speed of training. One-half reaches
back to the man, or sometimes
several men depending on the walk-
ing speed; and in these days of scarce
and high-priced labor it counts up
rapidly against the farmer. It is
also said that reapers, mowers, and
other farm machinery perform bet-
ter work when drawn by rapid walk-
ing horses. So it is readily seen
that the matter of training colts
and young horses is of no small consid-
eration. Trainers say that it is about
as easy to train the colt to a fast
walk as to a slow pace.

Feeding Dairy Cattle.
Every dairyman who is producing
milk for the city trade finds that it
is necessary to provide the best and
cheapest feed every month in the
year to secure largest profit from his
herd.
Different localities furnish a dif-
ferent variety of feed, and the dairy-
man must work out the feed prob-
lem according to the conditions of
the country in which he is located.
Alfalfa will take the place of both
hay and wheat bran in the ration
and is greatly relished by all kinds
of farm animals. If it is not possi-
ble to grow alfalfa, provide all of
the good red clover hay that is pos-
sible. The more we can raise of this
valuable hay, the better for the cows,
the soil and ourselves. Clover has
done more for American agriculture
than any other crop. The man-
agers should be cleaned and kept neat
and tidy at all times. More cows
are put off their feed by allowing
old feed to sour in the mangers than
from overfeeding.
My best results have been obtain-
ed by feeding the grains and mill
feed wet, but not in the form of a
slop, during the winter months. Every
dairyman will receive much use-
ful information concerning the vari-
ous kinds of feed by keeping in close
touch with his experiment station,
where all these feeds are tested and
analyzed.
Too much has been written about
balanced rations and too little about
palatable rations for dairy cows.
Many of the best balanced rations

cooled is a valuable incentive to
egg-production. It has the effect of
counter-balancing a too starchy diet.
Scraps of meat from the table are
good for fowls, but these are not al-
ways available in a sufficient quan-
tity. Where only a few birds are
kept a little dried meat or meat meal
may be bought to make up for any
deficiency in the home supply.
To readers interested in geese it
may be of advantage to know that
old geese lay more, larger, and more
reliable eggs than young ones, that
there is less risk in using young gar-
deners than old geese for breeding, and
that the proportion of fertile eggs
produced by a goose in the second
year of laying is always greater than
the first. It is also worth noting
that geese which are moved about
from place to place do not lay satis-
factorily.
FINANCIAL MATTERS.
The Dividend Record Is Much Better
Now.
New York, Dec. 18.—The dividend
record of the present month is far
more satisfactory than that of the
preceding three or four months. There
have been dozens of meetings of cor-
poration directors since December 1st
to take action on payments to be
made in the first quarter of 1915. So
far, only a very small number have
been passed or reduced, save in cases
where they were passed or reduced
last meeting time and have been kept
the same as for the last quarter of
1914.
The deferring of dividend payments
by the New York Central and the
Lake Shore and Michigan Southern is
not due to current conditions but it is
result of the near approach of the
consolidation of the two roads. The
general corporation tendency is to pay
dividends if warranted by earnings,
whereas two or three months ago
dividends were being passed wholesale.

Flour Mills Dividend.
Montreal, Dec. 18.—The board of
directors of the St. Lawrence Flour
Mills company declared a dividend of
fourteen per cent, being the accumu-
lated dividends on the preferred shares
up to August 1st, 1914. Of this
amount the shareholders have agreed
to take ten per cent. in preferred
stock, which will add over \$50,000 to
the capital of the company.

Did Not Go Through.
Cobalt, Dec. 18.—It has been offi-
cially announced that the McKinley-
Darragh has turned down the Jupiter
option.
The bonds, amounting to \$50,000,
were due in August, and since the
McKinley-Darragh have not taken
them up, the bondholders may, if they
wish, press for settlement also. The
bonds were issued to pay the debts
of the company.
The mine has but one vein, and
that, while fairly consistent from the
surface down to the 475 feet, is rather
patchy. Diamond drilling shows
that the prospective area is not very
large.
It is understood that a syndicate
of Montreal stockholders is trying to
raise the money for the bonds, so
that the property may be redeemed.
The McKinley-Darragh spent between
\$10,000 and \$50,000 in development
while they were in charge of the mine,
which has now been shut down.

Hudson's Bay Co. Passes Dividend.
London, Dec. 18.—It is confirmed
that owing to a dislocation of all
branches of the Hudson's Bay com-
pany's business during the war, the
governor and committee have decided
not to recommend the payment of
the interim dividend on the ordinary
shares. On this occasion twelve
months ago fifteen per cent. was paid
on them, showing an increase of five
per cent. on the previous year.

November Fire Losses.
Toronto, Dec. 18.—The losses by
fire in the United States and Canada
during the month of November as
compiled by the New York Journal
of Commerce and Commercial Bulle-
tin, aggregated \$21,372,750, as com-
pared with \$15,207,600 charged
against November last year, an in-
crease of over six million dollars for
the month. The losses for the eleven
months of 1914 already reach a total
of \$212,084,200, as against \$208,-
556,900 for the same months in 1913.
Order \$500,000 Worth of Knapsacks.
St. Louis, Dec. 18.—An order for
\$500,000 worth of knapsacks has
been placed with a large garment fac-
tory here by the British government,
it was learned to-day.

No Bonus This Year.
Ottawa, Dec. 18.—Ottawa Power
announced yesterday the regular
quarterly dividend of two per cent.
but the one per cent. bonus declared
this time a year ago was not includ-
ed in the announcement. As no
bonus was paid in June, the distribu-
tion to shareholders this year will
be eight per cent. against eight plus
two per cent. in 1913.
Financial Notes.
A new trust company, with a
capital of a quarter of a million
dollars, is being organized at Minne-
sota.
Goodyear Tire & Rubber com-
pany's net for fiscal year was \$3,-
391,165; 18.63 per cent., reserve
for depreciation.
Gross earnings of the Kamis-
quois Power for the year ended
October 31st were \$327,109 as
against \$302,741, the year pre-
vious.
A petition to wind up the Canadi-
an Home Investment Company at
Vancouver was presented Saturday
in the supreme court chambers. The
petition is on behalf of the contract
holders.
A meeting of ten 40-year bond-
holders of the Western Canada
Power Company has been called to
consider a modification in the terms
of the company's first mortgage.
The meeting is to be held December
22nd in London, Eng.
Influential financial interests in-
dicated they are preparing for the
re-opening of the London Stock Ex-
change early in the new year.
The Granby Consolidated Mining,
Smelting & Power company has given
orders to resume operations at the
Grand Forks smelter, which
closed down early in August.

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Announcement?
As I have decided to vacate my
present premises in the early spring
of 1915, I am now prepared to make
reductions on any amount of
I have in stock. If it is your
intention of purchasing it would be to
your advantage to buy now.
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