

superphosphate or basic slag? Cousins, in his book "The Chemistry of the Garden," advises heavy dressing of superphosphate, but probably on account of the natural acidity of the peat land another manure might be better.

The Orchards, Gardens, and Apiaries Division replies,—

Dividing the crowns for planting out is not recommended, as the plants, having been allowed to fruit continuously, will have become somewhat exhausted. In order to obtain runners the best plan will be *not* to allow the plants to fruit next season. This will enable them to produce good strong runners.

For raspberry-growing on your land I would advise a dressing of basic slag, applied at the rate of 4 cwt. or 5 cwt. per acre.

"PROUD-FLESH" ON LEG OF MARE.

MR. A. M. FEIST, Otarere, *via* Rotorua :—

I have tried bluestone for months to remove some large lumps of proud-flesh formed on the hind leg of a fine mare. She was lacerated twice in the same place by barbed wire. After bluestone is applied she keeps the wound raw by chafing with her hoof. One of the lumps is now as large as a teacup. Can you furnish me with any remedy?

The Director of the Live-stock and Meat Division replies,—

In place of bluestone, I would suggest that you should have used nitrate of silver in order to check the excessive granulations during the healing processes which constitute the so-called "proud-flesh." I fear that in the case where the granulation tissue has reached the size of a teacup such methods will not succeed in entirely removing the extra growth, and it may be necessary to resort to surgical interference. The operation would be best carried out by a duly qualified veterinary surgeon. A safe and efficient instrument for removing the superabundant tissue would probably be a firing-iron, heated to a dull red, or the surgical instrument known as an "ecraseur" could be used. Such an operation would be attended by a considerable amount of pain, necessitating the use of a local or general anæsthetic, and for this reason, if for no other, professional assistance should be sought.

CRACKED HOOF OF COW.

MR. R. SNODGRASS, Westport :—

I have a cow in milk with the outer half of each fore foot split up and grown longer than usual. She walks slightly on her heels, and used to go lame, but now appears to be only tender on her fore foot. She has been bad for about six months. Will you kindly inform me what steps to take in treating her?

The Director of Live-stock and Meat Division replies,—

Your cow is evidently suffering from cracked hoof. The best remedy, if the crack does not extend up into the region of the hair, is to fire across the top of it with a firing-iron or some such instrument having a blunt edge—an old file or blunt axe-edge would do. The iron should be heated to a dull-red heat, and a horizontal line drawn across immediately above the limit of the crack, about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep. Should the crack extend into the hair, V-shaped lines should be fired on either side of it, the V extending from the top of the hoof to about the middle of the crack. The object of these lines is to limit the extension of the crack. The overgrown hoof should be trimmed down by means of a farmer's knife or hoof-cutter, and great care should be taken to keep the crack cleaned out and free from dirt or grit. Neglect of this precaution frequently gives rise to inflammation of the sensitive structures enclosed within the hoof, followed by acute lameness and further complications.

PIG-FEED.

MR. J. A. CRUICKSHANK, East Chatton, Gore :—

I would be very pleased to know, through the *Journal of Agriculture*, if there is any food at the farmers' command that would take the place of skim-milk or whey for