

# Farm Crop Queries

CONDUCTED BY PROF. HENRY G. BELL

The object of this department is to place at the service of our farm readers the advice of an acknowledged authority on all subjects pertaining to soils and crops. Address all questions to Professor Henry G. Bell, in care of The Wilson Publishing Company, Limited, Toronto, and answers will appear in this column in the order in which they are received. When writing kindly mention this paper. As space is limited it is advisable where immediate reply is necessary that a stamped and addressed envelope be enclosed with the question, when the answer will be mailed direct.

Copyright by Wilson Publishing Co., Limited

**B. H.:** I have a light clover sod which I wish to plant to part early and part late potatoes, and wish to put fertilizer on same. The ground is sandy loam. What kind is best, and what is least amount per acre that should be used? If I waited until the potatoes were planted and put a couple of handfuls on each hill and covered with the cultivator, would the results be as good as if the fertilizer were broadcast? I have no fertilizer drill. How much fertilizer would it take to equal ten tons of manure per acre?

**Answer:** On the sandy loam soil, I would advise you to use from 500 to 750 lbs. per acre of a 4-8-4 fertilizer. I do not believe the top application of fertilizer would give you as good results as you would obtain if you scattered in the bottom of the drill row or hole which was open to receive the potato pieces, then cover it with a light sprinkling of soil and drop the potato pieces, and proceed as usual. A 4-8-4 fertilizer contains about as much nitrogen and potash as about 10 tons of manure and as much phosphoric acid as 20 tons.

**B. S.:** In the past we have been troubled with cut-worms. Would you not give us some method of handling these destructive pests.

**Answer:** One of the best methods of combating cut-worms is to make a soft bran mash and to mix in a liberal application of paris green with it. Set this bait out alongside the field which is attacked with cut-worms. If you mix a little sugar with this mixture it makes it all the more tasty to the cut-worms. They will leave crops to eat this mixture. A good preventative measure to take is to bring the fields into frequent cultivation, by so doing the harbors of these destructive insects are destroyed.

**R. R.:** Can strawberries be grown successfully on swamp muck land that has been well tilled and drained? The soil seems very loose and is easily worked and raises good corn, pumpkins, squash, etc.

**Answer:** Muck soil is weak in phosphoric acid and very weak in potash. These are two constituents of plant-food that strawberries have great need of, hence if you apply from 300 to 500 lbs. per acre of a 10-8 fertilizer on a muck soil where strawberries are growing you should have good results. This fertilizer should be sprinkled between the rows and worked in by careful harrowing or other cultivation.

**G. E. G.:** Is potato blight carried over from one year's crop to another in the seed? My potatoes, while a fair crop, were struck with blight rather late, making quite a lot of small potatoes. Can I safely use these potatoes for seed another year?

**Answer:** There is danger of the potato blight spore being carried over in your potato seed crop. I would certainly advise if the potatoes are small, that you get fresh seed and treat it with formalin: 1 pt. or 1 lb. mixture with a barrel of water gives a fairly strong solution. Dip the potatoes in this mixture. A handy way is to set the bag of potatoes right in the barrel of formalin solution. After it has been there about 20 minutes lift it out. This formalin is a gas dissolved in water which penetrates the lodging places of the spores and kills the spores.

**C. J. S.:** I have a piece of ground, about two acres, that is a little wet in the spring but it dries up later on. I want to sow it to some kind of hog pasture. What would you advise?

**Answer:** As soon as the ground is dry enough to work have it broken up and seed it to rape. Dwarf Essex rape is considered a satisfactory variety. Seed should be sown about the same time as turnips. Sow either with drill or broadcast. This should give you a good pasture mixture for the late summer or early fall.

**S. J.:** Do field peas make good hog



ISSUE No. 18-21.

## Are the Children Well Nourished?

Many mothers announce with pride that their child eats anything. The child has been blessed with good health, consequently the mother overtaxes its digestive tract by giving it foods which are suitable for the adult, but not suitable for the child. That child is likely to suffer in later years for this unintentional failure upon the mother's part. Its digestive tract is immature and delicate, so it should not be expected to assimilate with ease the same foods as the adults.

Another difference which must never be lost sight of is that the child is building a house in which he is going to live, while the adult, in a sense, is merely repairing and heating his completed building.

In order to have a satisfactory house, the child must select material which can be used to make good bones, teeth, blood and tissue. If an infant or young child is given a diet lacking in mineral matter or that is lacking in iron, calcium, phosphorus or potassium, he is in danger of being anemic, underweight and in general below par physically.

### Mineral Foods.

Does your child have some food from each of the following essential mineral groups each day?

**Iron-containing foods:** Lettuce, onions, asparagus, endive, spinach, kohlrabi, pumpkins, artichokes, celery and rhubarb. Figs, pineapples, apples, pears, plums, strawberries and gooseberries. Egg yolks.

**Calcium-containing foods:** Oranges, figs, pears, cherries, pineapples, citron, currants. Savoy cabbage, cauliflower, onions, lettuce, radishes, celery, endives, spinach and turnips. Cheese and milk.

**Phosphorus-containing foods:** Black radishes, artichokes, kohlrabi, cauliflower, asparagus, cabbage, onions, rhubarb, carrots, turnips, spinach. Egg yolk, cheese and milk. Pears, apples, apricots, oranges, figs and plums.

**Potassium-containing foods:** Plums, apricots, figs, pears, cherries, pineapple, oranges and apples. Rhubarb, cabbage, turnips, spinach, beets, celery, tomatoes, lettuce carrots, endives. Egg whites, milk and cheese.

If sections from these four groups of food, rich in mineral matter, are included in the child's menu, the remaining groups rich in sodium, sulphur, chlorine and magnesium will be likely to be present in sufficient quantities.

Not only must the mother plan the child's menu so that it will furnish the mineral matters to make strong bones, teeth and good blood, but she must supply the child with the proteins, fats, starches and sugars that are essential for the complete development of the body.

### Proteins.

There are animal proteins and plant proteins. Some of the days, protein should come from each of these groups.

**Animal proteins:** Milk, fish, cheese, meat, eggs.



### The Pair By the Pool.

At the edge of a pool, where the blue water was crystal clear and slim green rushes grew, a dragon fly and a frog were sunning themselves, one on the end of a water weed and the other on the edge of the bank. The sunshine made gold and purple lights on the dragon fly's wings and burnished the frog's brown back.

Now and then the two glanced at each other with interest. Presently they began to talk to themselves.

The dragon fly slowly opened and shut her beautiful wings. "What a morning!" she said. "How sorry I feel for those poor creatures that do not get above the level of the ground."

The frog raised his head and gazed at the gaudy fly. "How glad I am," he said aloud, "that I don't have to go hurrying about from one place to another without ever knowing the feel of the cool, sweet earth under my feet or of the water over my head."

Just then a light wind began to stir; it swayed the weeds and rippled the face of the pool. The dragon fly spread her wings and sailed away.

"I wonder what kind of creature he was talking about," she thought; "the poor, slow thing. Oh, the beautiful sky!"

The frog made a sudden leap from the bank; there was a splash, and he was gone.

"Creatures that do not get above the level of the ground," he repeated as the ripples closed in over his head. "Of course she meant terrapins and snails. I suppose she stays in the air so much that she is light-headed and does not speak plainly." Then he gurgled with contentment. "Oh, the good brown mud at the bottom of this pool!" he said.

Men, how many hours a day do you work? A U.S. government survey found that 130 housewives out of 645 have no time for daily rest or recreation, while the others average one hour daily for the same, and all average fifteen hours to their working day.

**Plant protein:** Breakfast foods such as oats, wheat, barley, nuts, dried beans.

A child up to nine years of age should use milk and eggs to furnish the major part of his animal protein and cereals to furnish the major part of his vegetable protein.

A pint of milk a day is the minimum quantity for the growing child. A food expert says that a family of five should not spend anything for meat until they have purchased three quarts of milk.

### Fats.

Some of the days, fuel should be supplied by the foods that are rich in fat.

Milk, cream, butter and bacon are the fatty foods most suitable for the child. These furnish the much talked of vitamins that are vital for health and growth.

Too much fat, however, will cause the food to remain overlong in the stomach and as a result there may be serious digestive disturbances. Therefore, give a child very little fried food. Let milk, cream and butter furnish the essential amount.

### Starches.

The starchy foods supply a large portion of our daily fuel. They are comparatively inexpensive heat producers. These are:

Vegetables such as potatoes, macaroni, breads of various kinds, breakfast foods, such as oatmeal, cornmeal, etc. Dried peas, bean and lentils.

The body can use more starch than fat or sugar as fuel without disadvantage to itself.

### Sugars.

Especially care must be taken to avoid highly sweetened food in a child's diet since it destroys the desire for less highly flavored but more necessary food. Sweets should never be given between meals. A pure sweet may be used as a dessert at the end of a meal. Foods containing sugar are:

Sweet fruits, vegetables, honey, molasses and syrups, desserts, sugar.

The infant and pre-school child must be dealt with under a separate heading as their diets are necessarily more restricted than the school child's.

Youth is the time to cultivate a wholesome respect for all natural foods. Disparaging remarks about good food should never be permitted. Most aversions to particular foods are acquired early in life.

A suggestive menu for the school child:

**Breakfast:** Baked apple, oat meal, toast, butter, milk, plain or flavored with cocoa.

**School lunch:** Pea soup (made with milk at school or brought in vacuum bottle), celery-and-nut sandwich, bread and butter, baked custard.

**Supper:** Poached or soft cooked eggs, potatoes or rice, spinach, carrots or similar vegetable, bread and butter, plain cake or a simple pudding.

### Paint Now.

A farm building covered with a good coat of paint is worth more than if it was unpainted. It will last longer, it will look better, it will sell for more. Paint, therefore, is an investment, not an expense. Yet twenty-four per cent. of us use no paint at all.

Paint is used on farm machinery for two reasons: First, to protect it from rust. Second, it makes it sell better (because it looks better). These facts are fairly well recognized, as sixty-seven per cent. of us paint our farm implements and double their life.

What, then, is the cost of painting? And why is it we do not paint oftener? We believe that the labor problem is at the bottom of the question: "To paint or not to paint?" A painting job consists of one-third paint and two-thirds labor. But where shall we get the labor?

A gallon of paint will cover two hundred and fifty to three hundred and fifty square feet—two coats. That is, a double coat of paint ten feet wide and twenty-five to thirty-five feet long.

It costs you \$2.25 or less, perhaps. If you have it done by a professional it will cost about \$4.50 for labor.

Half of us have our own painting done. The other half do it in our spare time. Some of us paint in the spring—about twenty-five per cent., another twenty-five per cent. in the summer, another twenty-five per cent. in the fall. The rest of us paint as we get a chance or not at all.

A banker says the increase loan value on painted buildings is twenty-two per cent. It can also, no doubt, be proven that no part of a building brings a better return for the money invested than does the paint. Some claim, with good reason, that an investment in paint pays four and a half per cent. dividend about the same as a government bond.

Let us use good paint, for the paint is only one-third of the cost. A good paint will last five, seven or even ten or fifteen years, but a poor paint will be gone in three. The better the paint you spread, the farther you spread your labor cost.

There's no place like home to use paint. Paint now—now is always the best time to paint.

Happy are the parents whose son is in love with a good girl.

God never made a gymnasium. He did, however, make a garden.

## The Sunday School Lesson

MAY 8

Rest and Recreation. Lev. 23: 39-43; Deut. 5: 12-15; St. Mark 6: 31, 32. Golden Text—Zech. 8: 5.

**Connecting Links:** The social order which provides labor will also provide for periods of rest, and not only the rest of sleep, but also that of recreation. Not only the love of play, but the necessity for play, lies deep-rooted in our human nature. A well-ordered day for young folk will include work, play, and sleep. Work drains one's energies, play and sleep renew them. Every home to which God has given boys and girls should make provision for healthy recreation. Both in work and play not prohibition of what is good, but wise regulation and control, will be the way of wisdom.

**Lev. 23: 39-43.** The Feast of the Lord. The book of Leviticus contains the highly developed and completed legislation of the Jews, having special reference to religious worship. Much of its provisions have to do with occasions of great solemnity, but the brighter side of life is not overlooked or forgotten. It is in this book that we find enjoined consideration for the poor, the stranger, the hired servant, the deaf and blind, and the aged. We find not only justice, and honesty, and clean living, and right domestic and social relations required, but also kindness and thoughtfulness and reverent piety.

**Chapter 23** contains a calendar of the great feasts or holidays (that is, holy days) of the Jewish year. The seventh month began in September and would include also the first part of October. In this month the people celebrated the end of the fruit harvest, and the end of the summer. (Exod. 23: 16). The feast of tabernacles, or feast of tents (v. 34), was a grand camping out for seven or eight days. Men, women, and children, who had been cooped up in their little villages and towns, trooped out into the country. They made rough shelters of boughs (v. 40), and had a merry, happy time. The older form of the law (vs. 40-42) provided that the first day should be kept as a Sabbath, a day of solemn rest, but a later statute (vs. 36 and 38) appears to have added a second Sabbath on the eighth day. (compare also Deut. 16: 13-15).

These happy days of play and worship were also to remind the people continually of the time when their fathers lived in tents, or in booths, in the wilderness, in the days of Moses, when the Lord brought them out of the land of Egypt. See also Deut. 16: 9-13 for a special feature of the holiday which was to be observed every seventh year. Deut. 5: 12-15. The Sabbath day. The word "Sabbath" is taken by us from the Hebrew language in which it means rest. There is good reason to believe that this law was actually made by Moses, but the custom of observing certain days of every month as holy days may be much older. It seems to have been originally connected with the new moon day, which was likewise kept holy. The lunar month of twenty-nine days might thus have had five holy days, the new moon day, and the seventh, fourteenth, twenty-first, and twenty-eighth days, which we now know were kept sacred in ancient Babylonia. The law of Moses, however, ultimately made the sabbath to be observed every seventh day, irrespective of the days of the month.

This law appears also, with the rest of the ten commandments, in Exod. 20: 8-11, where reference is made to the story of creation, in which God's work in making the world is presented under the figure of the week—six days of progressive labor leading to completion of the work, and a seventh day of rest. This is taken to mean that the Sabbath day of rest is divinely sanctioned.

**St. Mark 6: 31-32.** Come Ye Ye yourselves Apart. Jesus knew and felt the need of rest, both for Himself and for His disciples. His ministry had been, from the beginning, one of strenuous labor. The thronging multitudes throughout the week gave Him no opportunity of rest or leisure, and

on the Sabbath day He was teaching in the synagogues. Now He invites His disciples to cross the lake with Him to a quiet and lonely place on the northern shore.

Such rest and quiet is needed at times by all workers, and especially by those whose work involves great nervous strain. The conditions of toil must be made such as to permit both of the weekly day of rest, and of other periods of resort to God's resting-places by mountain and lake and stream. It is in these quiet places that there is time for thought, that peace steals in upon troubled and weary hearts, and God draws very near.

### Application.

A woman sat with her child near the open window and earnestly toiled at her sewing. Every once in a while she looked through the window to where the stars twinkled above. Noticing these movements, the child at length said, "Mother, why do you look at the sky so often?" "To rest my eyes," said the mother, "and get the larger vision." It is a rest for tired eyes to take a wider view, and it is a very real rest for the soul when we look at things in a comprehensive way. The cares of the world are so many and the calls of the world are so insistent and imperative, that we need time for meditation and prayer. We need to get a true perspective.

No joke is a good one which makes somebody feel bad.

## HIDES-WOOL-FURS

Big money can still be made on these skins. Ship your lot to us and make sure of receiving the right price. Returns sent the same day as shipment is received. WILLIAM STONE SONS LIMITED WOODSTOCK, ONTARIO ESTABLISHED 1870

Made by

THE

Canadian Steel & Wire Co., Limited

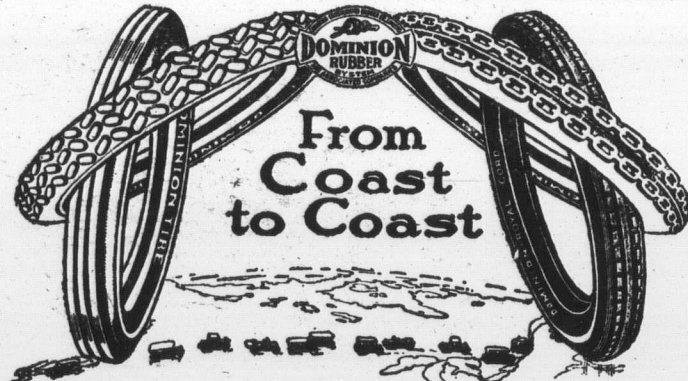
HAMILTON, CANADA

The Post Without a Fault.

"American"

GALVANIZED

Steel Fence Posts



YOU can always tell the experienced motorist. He rides on DOMINION TIRES and always carries a spare DOMINION TIRE in case of emergency. He judges quality by performance. He keeps a record of tire cost. He knows that DOMINION materials and DOMINION workmanship show up in the mileage he gets in DOMINION TIRES.

There are DOMINION TIRES best suited to your car, no matter what the size or what you use it for—and you get DOMINION quality in the 30 x 3 1/2 tires as well as in the big "Royal Cords" and "Nobby" Treads for heavy cars.

From coast to coast, the best dealers in Canada carry Dominion Tires, Dominion INNER TUBES and Dominion TIRE ACCESSORIES. Ask for them.

DOMINION TIRES ARE GOOD TIRES