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Now, just one thought on engaging a permanent force of men. Such men get accustomed to their work, will perform more work in a given time, and make a better job than the ordinary farmer or laborer, simply because they take more interest in their work.

East Middlesex, Ont.

Sandy's Spring Medicine.

Noo that spring is here once mair, and a' o' us wha hae escaped the dangers o' the winter, wi' its hot-air furnaces an' badly-ventilated hooses, an' its overeatin' an' oversleepin, are thankin' Providence for bringin' us through alive, ye an' yer readers will na doot be wantin' a dose o' spring medicine. So gin ye're no' objectin' ower muckle, I'll be gettin' the bottle an' the spoon an' gien' ye a wee bit drappie o' somethin' that I hope will no' do ye any harm, at the warst. I'm no' ony great doctor in the way o' settin' broken bones an' the like, but I can write prescriptions by the yard, an' gin ye do not ask mé to try them on mysel', we'll no' quarrel. An' the kind o' prescription that I was thinkin' o' writin' the noo is not one ye can get filled at the druggist chap's, but ane that ye'll hae to fill an' tak' a' by yersel'.

tak' a' by yersel'.
Na doot ye're sayin' tae yersel' by this time,
" I see Sandy is in for giein' us some mair free
advice aboot somethin' that he kens na mair
aboot that we dae oorselves." Weel, maybe ye're
richt. An' gin ye ken sae muckle, ye'll juist hae
tae tak' this as a reminder that ye should act, as
weel as understand. But what I hae been think-
in' is that we farmers should tak' a day off at
this time o' year to mak' two or three guid res-
olutions, an' think oot a coorse o' action for oor-
selves for the comin' summer. We all want this
year tae be a wee bit o' an improvement over
last, in the way we do oor wark an' the pay we
get for it. Noo, there's a hale lot o' us in the
business o' keepin' coos an' makin' oor livin' oot
o' what they produce. The mair they produce,
the mair money we are likely tae hae, an' the
higher oor standard o' living, as a rule. There
are exceptions tae this, I ken, but it's a fact that
a mon y'oot means canna' avail himsel' o' the
opportunities that may be before him, as he
otherwise could. The mon y'oot anything is
generally a tramp. So I'm sayin' it's up tae us
tae do a bit thinkin' hoo we can improve oor
methods o' handlin' oor stock this comin' sum-

I mind weel, a few years back, the way a guid money o' the cheese factories were rin. The maker wad tak' in maist ony kind o' milk, an' gin it were na' sour eneuch tae guarantee his gettin' through his day's wark by two o'clock, he wad gae oot tae the whey-tank an' get a pail or two o' the whey that had been layin' there, maybe a week or mair, an' dump it intae the milk vat, wi' the result that he got through on time, but the patrons lost mair money than they kenned about by the operation.

Noowadays we hae, as a rule, guid cheesemakers, an' na doot the milk comes tae the factory in better shape, too, but there's a hale lot tae be learned yet by the maist o' us. Some o' us seem tae forget that cheese an' butter are made tae be eaten by some o' oor fellow men, judging by the amount o' attention we gie tae cleanliness an' sae on. I heard tell o' a cheesemaker wha put a lead pencil mark on the inside o' a milk can that was comin' tae his factory, an' it was mair nor twa weeks before it was washed off. An' what like condection dae ye think milk is in that is left uncovered near a coo-stable door on a warm nicht, an' in a can that was not overly clean in the first place? There's nae use talkin', gin we dinna pay mair attention tae keepin' oor coos clean, an' everything else that comes intae contact wi' the milk, as weel, we canna' expect tae get the best price for oor produce, be it cheese, butter, cream, or milk. Gin ye're gaein' tae pit a fancy article on the market, ye've got to hae the raw material kept in guid condection. When ye hae, tae pay war-prices for feed for yer stock, ye canna' vera weel afford to sell yer stuff for the price that ye'll get for a second-class article. It tak's some time an' a wee bit o' effort tae hae things up tae the mark a' the time; but it pays, an' it doesna' pay not to. As I said once before, cleanliness is ahead o' godliness, for gin ye're no clean, ye canna' be godly.

Noo, this is juist the medicine I was talkin' about giein' ye, when I started oot. I'm no' gaein' tae gie ye ony salt or sugar alang wi' it, an' ye can tak' it or leave it; but I'll say this, that, gin we could juist mak' this one improvement in oor farm operations in the year 1912, we wad be daein' mair for oorselvs an' oor country than we may think possible. Frae a financial point o' view, we're bound tae gain, an' frae a moral point o' view we canna' lose. Sae I commend the proposition for yer conseederation.

SANDY FRASER.

"Winter Wheat in Bad Condition" is the general report of the condition of this important cereal throughout the Middle West States. A large percentage of the millions of acres devoted to this crop is reported to be weak and to have been severely injured by adverse wintering conditions. In many places the ground is baking, and still further injury is threatened. Such serious conditions call for immediate action.

The farmer knows that the wheat plant requires heat, air, moisture and available plant food in order to live and make satisfactory growth. The lack of any one of these essentials means death to the crop. As the warm sun of spring beats upon the hardened wheat fields, it causes the evaporation of hundreds of barrels of water per day from a 50-acre field, because the water connection between the surface soil and the water supply below is complete. Now, to stop this great evaporation, and to allow air to enter into the soil spaces, the farmer must act quickly if he is to save his crop.

He should roll his wheat field as soon as it will bear a team upon it, and follow this rolling immediately with a light harrowing. If he has a weeder, he can accomplish a great deal of good by going over the wheat crop with this tool. If he has harrows with adjustable teeth, he should throw these teeth back at an angle of 45 degrees, and harrow the field, going back and forward over the field parallel with the wheat rows. This harrowing will not stir the surface deep enough to injure the wheat roots, but will help the soil conditions greatly by preparing a surface mulch. This surface mulch will break up the water connection in the soil and effectively prevent an injurious amount of evaporation. Always follow rolling with a light harrowing.

If, however, the farmer does not have a roller, or if he does not think it wise to roll the wheat, he can help the weak wheat crop a great deal by a careful harrowing.

The above operations can be carried on even until the wheat is up four inches, without injury to the crop. This practice is common among European wheat-growers.

If grass and clover seed is sown upon the wheat field in early spring, practice of this early sub-cultivation will bury the seed sufficiently deep to