

If I have found it my duty to draw, very earnestly, your attention to the resolution of the Council of Agriculture, it is because I am convinced that, if properly followed out, it will be of great service to farmers in general, and that you yourselves will unite your efforts with those of your fellow citizens who take an interest in the development and progress of agriculture, the basis of our national welfare.

The new regulations of the Council, as to the grants to the proprietors of stallions, etc., and for the purchase of male breeding animals, will be sent to you very shortly.

I have the honour to be
Your faithful servant,
F. G. MIVILLE DECHENE,
Commissioner of Agriculture.

Kirkdale, Que., Feb. 15th., 1901.

To the Editor of the "Journal of Agriculture."

Mr. Editor,

I should like through the columns of your Journal some information in regard to growing rape. I have a flock of 35 ewes which were mated with a pedigree Leicester ram, so I expect a pretty good yield of lambs. They will be along from the first of March until the first of May, and I want to get them, the lambs, off early in August, if possible. I plowed a five acre field of old pasture, which had been in pasture 5 years, 6 inches deep early last fall, and it is adjoining my pasture. It is a nice piece of land, good soil, high and dry, and I have the manure of 20 head of cattle to put on it. Now I want to know if rape would be the best crop for me to grow; also when to sow, quantity of seed, etc., etc. I have a Massey-Harris Hoe-drill so can drill it or broad-cast it.

We are having a genuine storm, but I trust it will soon cease, as our roads are getting almost impassible.

I remain yours respectfully,
HERBERT PYE.

Kirkdale, Que.

Note by the Editor.—We replied to the above enquiries by letter, as we have so often described, in this paper, the proper way of growing and consuming the rape-crop that it would be waste of space to go all over it again here. But we must be allowed to say that we rather grudge giving rape to hogs, as our correspondent M. Mortureux advises. The rape is peculiarly suited to sheep, as it is in perfection, if properly treated, from the 1st July to the end of October, just the time when all other sheep-keep is at its worst.

As to the dung Mr. Pye speaks of, we should rather advise him to employ it on some other crop, as a few bushels of bone-meal,—say, 10 to the acre—would manure land for rape quite sufficiently after the 5 years of pasture. The perfect dressing for rape would be: 8 bushels of bone-meal and 100 lbs. of sulphate of ammonia, or 120 lbs. of nitrate of soda. The bone-meal and sulphate should be broadcasted and harrowed in before sowing.

ALFALFA OR LUCERNE GROWING.

Probably the plant doing most to revolutionize agriculture in the central west is alfalfa, and in his latest publication, "Forage and Fodders," Secretary F. D. Coburn, of the Kansas Department of Agriculture, presents a most complete and comprehensive article on this subject. The author is Prof. Geo. L. Clothier, a most careful student of alfalfa, and for many years identified with the Kansas Agricultural College. He and the general interest in alfalfa have grown up together, and as Kansas has been and is the great alfalfa experiment station of the world, a recital of his observations and experiences should prove of inestimable value to all in any wise interested in this wonderful plant.

Pertinent excerpts from the article are presented herewith:

The preparation of the soil should rightly begin two or three years before the time of seeding alfalfa. If the land is so weedy that it cannot be cleaned by cultivation, it should be fallowed for one season prior