

## A Lunch of Seasonable Suggestions

### An Annual Pasture Mixture

WOULD you recommend thousand headed kale for pasture as my clover is killed? If not, do you recommend some other pasture mixture? S. C. Simcoe Co., Ont.

Thousand-headed kale, while an excellent green food in its place and of particular value for sheep or the pen feeding of hogs, cannot be recommended as annual pasture for cattle. Some experimental work has been done along this line by Prof. Zavitz, of the Ontario Agricultural College, and he has found a mixture of oats, sweet cane and clover to give the best results. The exact mixture that is now used at Guelph per acre is as follows: Oats, 51 lbs.; early amber sugar cane, 80 lbs.; common red clover, 7 lbs.

### Value of a Drainage Survey

C. McMe, B.S.A., Peterboro Co., Ont.

SINCE last March the local Department of Agriculture in Peterboro county have made surveys of 35,000 feet of underdrains. Underdrains in the county have been laid without initial surveys. Last fall I was called to a farm in Douro township where 4,000 feet of tile had been laid. Our department was called upon because the proprietor of that farm could not get an outlet for his system. When we had located an outlet for him we went back to look over the system. I requested the privilege of applying the instrument to the main line of the tile into which the laterals ran. I found that what was supposed to be the head of the system was three inches lower than the point of outlet at the system was therefore useless. I claim that where a man has underdrains to put in he cannot afford to take a chance on them. A proper survey should precede all tile drainage operations. Had this man had his farm surveyed he would not have had to turn up his drains.

### Cultivating a Narrow Field

ALMOST every farmer has found himself at some time or other with a narrow strip of land to cultivate, too narrow to grow crosswise and yet with the land in such a position that a complete job cannot be done by doing all the cultivating lengthwise. Perhaps it is a piece of old, a strip for roots, or perhaps a part of a field that you are in a hurry

to get in shape for sowing before a rain comes. How shall we cultivate? One of Our Folks signing himself "A Reader," suggests the method outlined in the diagram herewith. This method "A Reader" has found to be just as speedy as cultivating all lengthwise. From the starting point you cultivate diagonally to the opposite corner, take a half turn each time as indicated in the diagram and you finish at the two other opposite corners.

### Is Sweet Clover a Weed?

Sweet clover a weed? Many who have land apparently suitable to the growth of sweet clover and capable of giving good returns with no other crop would like to have a definite answer to this question. Many men are emphatic in their endorsement of the plant. Others have a habit of mowing everything they are induced to say on the subject with "but remember that sweet clover is a weed."

This was the answer received by Mr. Samuel Armstrong, of Peterboro Co., Ont., from each of three experts whom he interviewed on the subject.

"I don't believe that sweet clover is a weed," said Mr. Armstrong in the course of a short visit to Farm and Dairy office. "Sweet clover was seeded in our garden when I was just a boy. It is still growing around the garden. Although it has had fully 40 years to get distributed through the fields, it has not gotten there. We find that it will not grow where cattle can get on it. My experience leads me to believe, all experts evidence to the contrary, that sweet clover is not a weed."

Mr. Armstrong is well acquainted with thousands of acres of land that may be put to some useful purpose through the culture of sweet clover. He would like to hear through Farm and Dairy from any who have had actual experience with the plant as a renovator of thin soil. And above all—Is it a weed?

Speaking before the Experimental Farm Superintendents recently assembled in convention, Mr. Geo. H. Clark, Dominion Seed Commissioner, sounded a note which is of special interest at the present crisis in Canadian agriculture. In prefacing his address he said: "Unfortunately farming during the last ten years or more has been less attractive to young men of good ability and to capital than other industries in urban centres. The problem of farm labor has been an exceedingly perplexing one and in consequence farm systems have been modified so as to require the minimum of labor for the maximum yield of net returns. City industries have completely outbid the farm in the matter of labor, and it is probably true that at least one-third of city working men have had experience in farming. I would like to say to those men now that if the opportunities in the city looked brighter during the past ten years, the next ten years, in my judgment, assuredly belong to the farm, and the sooner they realize that the better for themselves and for all concerned."

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