

ITEMS FOR AND ABOUT THE FARMER

Lockie Wilson Advocates the Standardizing of Farm Implements

Says Union Government Presents Opportunity of Securing This Radical Reform, the Carrying Thru of Which Would Save Money and Time for the Farmer, Cheaper the Cost of Manufacture, and Effect Saving in the Cost of Selling Repairs.



J. LOCKIE WILSON.

Standardization in the manufacture of farm implements, particularly the broad, wearable parts thereof, was the subject of an address by J. Lockie Wilson, superintendent of the agricultural and horticultural societies branch of the Ontario Government, delivered at the convention of the Manitoba Agricultural Societies in Winnipeg during the third week of February.

After his return from Winnipeg, Mr. Wilson granted a special interview on this important topic to a reporter for The World, and mentioned that "standardization was an accomplished fact in many important branches of manufacture. The need of the hour was greater and cheaper production of foodstuffs as well as munitions, guns, rifles, motor trucks and airplanes. As food will be the dire necessity of a starving world for years to come, even should peace be declared tomorrow, the production of food is now. Standardizing the manufacture of farm implements will materially aid the farmer and thereby help to feed the world," said Mr. Wilson.

"I speak from the standpoint of years of experience as a practical farmer as well as from many years in public life and in close association with agriculturists and leading farmers' organizations in this country. I see no reason why the parts of farm implements which continually need repairs should not be standardized under government supervision.

Similar Reforms Accomplished. "You ask me why I say this, and I can give you many examples of similar reforms, one example of which is the remodeling of the machinery so as to produce a standard grade of flour.

"My suggestion would be to have the federal government appoint a commission of mechanical experts to examine farm machinery such as binders, mowers, seeders, cultivators, plows, etc., produced by the different manufacturers, and embody the best features of the comparatively few different makes in a standard design. The government might take over the patent rights covering the minor differences and thus uniform implements and repairs would replace the many types of machines of slightly differing design now manufactured, but which entail serious loss of time and money to the tiller of the soil, whose interest at this time we all have at heart.

"Would this interfere with inventive genius?" asked the reporter.

"On the contrary," said Mr. Wilson, "the inventor could submit designs to the government experts, and any improvements of real value would be purchased by the government and the

inventor would receive the proper reward for his genius."

Would Cheaper Repairs. "Would it not make these repairs more expensive?" asked the reporter.

"On the contrary," said Mr. Wilson, "the standardizing of designs would enable the manufacturers to produce more cheaply, and a further saving would result by lessening the cost of selling repairs. Instead of several, one merchant could handle the repairs in a locality for a dozen different manufacturers of standardized machines.

What would happen on the western front at this testing time if this idea of standardization had not been particularly adopted? But it has been, and the munitions for British guns are made to suit those of all our allies."

"Under the present system it is reasonable to say that a plow manufactured by any of the large manufacturers will do good work. The same can be said of binders and many other implements. When a farmer buys a certain make, however, he is placed in the awkward position of being compelled to purchase his repairs from the agent of this same manufacturer for the simple reason that those of other manufacturers will not fit his implement. The needed repair may be only a plow point or a similar small part, but a farmer in outlying districts frequently has to pay exorbitant prices for, and wait days to get delivery of, repairs necessary for the harvesting of his already ripened crop, or have his plowing in a late season seriously delayed."

Liberty Motor Evolution. "With the well-known example of the Liberty motor before them it should be possible for the government to arrange a meeting of manufacturers without delay in the interests of standardizing farm implements. Progress is calling for this reform."

"How did your proposition appeal to the western farmer?" asked the reporter.

"After discussing the matter fully from all the viewpoints the resolution was carried without a dissenting voice."

"Since the farmers' convention in Winnipeg where this proposition was fully discussed, there arrived in New York a delegation from the British Government for the purpose of co-operating with our American allies in standardizing motor trucks, airplanes and other implements with a view to a more successful prosecution of the war."

MONO. Robert McKim has sold the west half of lot five, concession five, East Mono, to Elgin Williams of Caledon for \$6500.

Samuel Shaw, who recently sold his farm in Mono, has bought the south half of lot 13, concession 12, Tecumseth, from Milton Reynolds.

A PICTURE. (Christian Science Monitor)

Straightly drives the shining plowshare wading earth from winter's dream. Straightly plods the faithful plowman crouching low his patient team; Floeek the white-winged gulls around him.

As a snowstorm all about him: Wheeling, soaring, darting, hovering in the sunshine's golden gleam.

Resolution Carried Unanimously By the Big Convention of Agriculturists of Western Canada Held Recently in Winnipeg

That in consideration of the shortage of farm labor and the urgent necessity for increased food production we, the agriculturists of Manitoba in convention assembled, are of the opinion that the time has come when farm machinery should be standardized, particularly the breakable, wearable parts thereof, and that the federal government be asked to take immediate steps to bring together representatives of the farm machinery manufacturers of Canada who, in co-operation with a committee of mechanical experts appointed by the government, would examine the various makes of farm implements with a view to evolving the best possible standard types of labor-saving machines for use on Canadian farms, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Sir Robert Borden, prime minister, and Hon. T. A. Crerar, Dominion minister, of agriculture.

THE EARLY VEGETABLE GARDEN

A subscriber submits the following: This season possibly suggests to the reader that the time mentioned should be placed a month or two later—Editor.

By C. H. P.

It is quite possible for the average person to cultivate a portion of land large enough to supply the family table with vegetables. The effort is indispensable, as much as it also affords a means of wholesome and will recompense exercise.

The amateur gardener often pays an enormous price for some highly prized novelty and becomes disgusted when reaping the crop to find it unsatisfactory. We do not mean to insinuate that all seedmen exaggerate the qualities of their varieties, for the reputable firms only offer their seeds after having been thoroughly tested and found worthy of distribution. For this reason it is advisable to secure your seeds from any of the old and well-known establishments.

In the fall, after several light frosts, all rubbish and vines should be burned, thereby destroying the eggs and larvae of troublesome insects. An application of horse manure, which does not contain too much straw is then made.

This is plowed under and the earth allowed to remain coarse, to be crumpled up by the alternate freezing and thawing of winter.

In February, chicken manure is added, if available, and the hardy vegetables of hardy varieties are planted. If weather conditions remain favorable, these are ready quite early, but if not, they arrive later. May King and Big Boston lettuce are popular favorites, the former being preferable for very early yielding. Both have compact heads and are of splendid quality. The May King, when good for forcing in hotbeds, and its yellow appearance renders it an ideal head lettuce. In setting this variety, place the plants eight inches apart, as they require that amount of space for proper development.

Early Vegetables. "Spinach" will endure considerable cold weather, and this is started at the same time as the lettuce. When sprouted it is covered lightly with straw, and an early crop is the result.

Early in March is the planting time for radishes, such as early scarlet but-ter and white icicle, aloe there are other varieties equally as good for very early production.

These extra early kinds may be used before they reach maturity as they become plucky very quickly. For planting about the middle of March, such varieties as leafless and crim-son giant are preferred. The latter variety, also round, thrives longest and does not become hoarse. This is a sort which is well worth trying.

Varities of Beets. About the middle of March is planted a variety of round beets outdoors. For quality some of the dark red or "blood" varieties are best. The earliest forms are zoned with white, and are small in size. These are of but little commercial value, as they are lacking in flavor. White Milan and Detroit Dark Red beets are favorites. Seeds of some of these are sown every three weeks until May 15. When wanted for winter consumption, Detroit Dark Red is planted in June and July.

Early Maturing Peas. Planting peas in the middle of March is best for early use. If the soil has been prepared early and is dry on the surface, this can be effected with good success. An early maturing round pea is most satisfactory.

We prefer Alaska, as it stands the frosty weather and very seldom fails in producing a crop. Field's Filibasket has larger pods and comes a week later, but it yields far more than most early peas do. Dwarf Champion is a good main crop variety of excellent quality. It is half dwarf. It is advisable to plant them early, as they grow better when the soil is cool. Wrinkled varieties of peas are sweet and of superior quality, but when planted before the soil becomes heated, the seed often chokes.

Cultivate peas frequently, and plant them where they will get plenty of sunshine and in land which is not too rich, but deep.

Hot Bed Crops. Cabbage and tomatoes are the principal hot bed crops, but they should not be sown in the open frame, as cabbage requires a cooler temperature than tomatoes. Early Jersey Wakefield is the first variety to mature, but Large Wakefield yields far more and is only a week later. Head Early

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Condensed Information for Farmers and Their Clubs

News of the Crops and Farms From All Parts of Ontario.

GREY.

The 50-acre farm of John Baier, who lives adjoining, the price being \$2900. This gives Mr. Baier 125 acres now, and will enable him to pursue a wider range of farming. Mr. Baier goes to a farm on the 16th con. of Elma Township.

Archie Hisslop sold the old Hisslop homestead, Lot 2, Con. 16, Grey, containing 100 acres, to Walter R. Broadfoot, 5th line Morris, for the snug sum of \$7000. It is a splendid farm, among the best in the township, with extra good barn, fair house and 23 acres of hardwood bush. It has been in the Hisslop family for over 50 years. Mr. Broadfoot will do well on it as he is a progressive young man. Mr. Hisslop, who lives now on the 14th Con., is still owner of the 80 acres. With the shortage of help he had more than he could attend to with comfort, hence decided to reduce.

A. G. and Mrs. Hodson and son, Richmond, Que., arrived last week to take charge of the 100-acre farm, 5th Con., recently purchased from Jno. W. Morrison, now of Montreal. P. Haste-well is associated with Mr. Hodson in the farm, and is expected shortly with his wife.

RICHMOND HILL.

The regular monthly meeting of the women's institute will be held at the home of Mrs. Mylka on Wednesday, March 13, at 3 o'clock. Patriotic program: "Our Empire." Mrs. Pugsley, Miss Moodie, Miss Halsey, solo, Mrs. Watson; roll call, current events.

The directors of the Horticultural Society met Tuesday night and elected a secretary and a treasurer and made other preparations for the carrying on of the society's work effectively. The officers are now: President, William Pratt; vice-president, R. Endean; second vice-president, W. Pugsley; secretary, Mrs. A. L. Phipps; treasurer, L. E. Hand.

KIMBERLEY.

Saul Fawcett captured a fine specimen of the coon family in an old maple stub in Ward's bush on Friday last.

McKILLOP TOWNSHIP.

A number of our people are touching up their sap pails and kettles in preparation for making syrup. It is to be hoped they will get plenty of sap. Stephen Godkin, who sold his farm recently, intends going to western Canada to reside. We will miss Stephen from the neighborhood.

William Knechtel has sold his farm to Joseph Hackwell. It contains about ninety acres, and the price paid was \$7800. Land is increasing in price out here.

The auction sale of Dickson Bros. was well attended, and prices ruled high.

WHITEVALE.

George Middleton is preparing to receive agricultural duties, having purchased 250 acres from Mustard Bros. of Markham.

RENNIES SEEDS For Better Gardens

"EVERY back yard should be used for the cultivation of fruits and vegetables," says the Food Controller's Bulletin. Market Gardens must be worked to capacity. But all this effort is wasted unless the seeds sown are capable of producing sturdy, vigorous plants. Plant Rennie's War Garden Seeds and insure a full crop!

	pkt.	oz.	1/2 oz.	oz.	1/2 lb.	lb.
Cabbage Danish Summer Roundhead	10	25	1.00	1.85	3.50	10.00
Onion Rennie's Danish Drouth-Resisting	10	25	1.00	1.85	3.50	10.00
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Radish—Cooper's Sparkler	10	25	1.00	1.85	3.50	10.00
Tomato—Market King	10	25	1.00	1.85	3.50	10.00
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Peas—Rennie's XXX Exhibition Mixture	10	25	1.00	1.85	3.50	10.00
Sweet Peas—Rennie's XXX Spencer Mixture	10	25	1.00	1.85	3.50	10.00
Nasturtium—Rennie's XXX Chameleon Mixture	10	25	1.00	1.85	3.50	10.00
Stocks—Rennie's XXX Large Flowering Globe Mixture	10	25	1.00	1.85	3.50	10.00

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- 1st—The reputation of the manufacturer.
- 2nd—The quality of his product.
- 3rd—The value.
- 4th—The length of service.

The higher the manufacturer's reputation the more jealously he guards against anything that would tend to injure it. A manufacturer with a continent-wide reputation for integrity, square dealing and the honest quality of his products, such as has been attained by the Frost Steel and Wire Company, is always eager to maintain his position as the leader in his line. The Frost reputation and leadership insures a safe fence investment to the buyer.

No other fence-maker in Canada or any other country puts more downright quality into his fence than the Frost Steel and Wire Company. Frost Fence is not made of ordinary commercial wire. We buy the raw material and draw it

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Many thousands of Frost Woven Fences have been erected in Canada. If you could see a Frost Woven Fence that has been doing service for several years and note how little it has been affected by the stress of weather and the strains of leaning cattle, you would have conclusive proof of the enduring quality that the name "Frost" stands for. Write and ask us for dealer's name and a copy of our fence catalogue showing styles for every farm fencing purpose, including ornamental fence and gates.

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