

that thousands of them do not know it. If there is any one who will give us full particulars about its use in preserving timber, the quantity to be used, and best means of applying it, we shall be pleased to hear from them, as it may be of great value in saving our fencing posts and building material.

When at Seaforth we noticed one of our subscribers, who owns a farm on the shore of Lake Huron, was loading salt on his wagon to apply on his farm. We thought this strange, as Seaforth is twenty-five miles from the lake, while the Goderich salt works are quite close to the lake, and the Clinton works are only ten miles away.

It is difficult for us to say where the purest salt is obtainable, as Goderich, Clinton and Seaforth all have their advocates. Mr. C. J. Kingstone, of the Ellerton Salt Works, carried off the prize for the best salt, and this without any extra cleansing. The Ellerton Works are south of the before mentioned works. This last month Messrs. J. L. Englehart & Co. have struck a bed of salt 90 feet in thickness; this is at Petrolia, further south than any. What the quality of this salt may be is not yet known to us, as they have no salt works at Petrolia yet.

Salt is very rapidly coming into use by farmers, results having proved it to be a profitable investment; and the immense supply that must underlie this section of country is such that no one need hear of it ever being exhausted. We hope to furnish more information about salt in future numbers.

We returned via Stratford. The fall wheat along the railway promises a most luxuriant harvest.

Ontario Agricultural Commission.

At the last session of the Ontario Parliament a measure was introduced empowering the Government to appoint an Agricultural Commission. The members of this body have been selected by the Government. The following is the list of members at the first meeting: Hon. S. C. Wood, Messrs. A. H. Dymond, Richard Gibson, Edward Stock, William Saunders, William Whitelaw, J. P. Wiser, M. P., John Dryden M. P. P., John McMillan, Eli H. Hilborn, John Watson, Francis Malcolm, J. B. Andrew Wilson, Wm. Brown.

The full powers and objects to be accomplished by this body are as yet to us only partially developed. One meeting has been held, and the following are the subjects put before the members for their attention:—

Resolved—That the topics for consideration be classified as follows: No. 1—The soil, climate, topographical features, cultivatable area and products of the several sections of the Province, and the progress and condition of husbandry in Ontario. No. 2—Grain-growing in its several agricultural and commercial aspects, drainage and manures, and recuperation of worn-out lands. No. 3—Stock raising, dairying, stock laws and fencing. No. 4—Fruit-growing, forestry, insects, and insectivorous birds, and bee-keeping. No. 5—Cultivation of special crops, such as flax, &c. No. 6—Labor and labor saving appliances, ownership of lands as compared with renting, agricultural book-keeping, and agricultural education. No. 7—Agricultural Associations, grants and shows, and functions of the Bureau of Agriculture.

For each class a sub-Committee of the members was appointed. The Chairmen of these sub-Committees were as follows: No. 1—Soil and its tillage, Mr. E. H. Hilborn. No. 2—Grain-growing, &c., Mr. F. Malcolm. No. 3—Stock-raising, Mr. J. Dryden. No. 4—Fruit-growing, Mr. W. Saunders. No. 5—Special crops, Mr. J. McMillan.

No. 6—Labor, agricultural education, &c., Mr. John Watson. No. 7—Agricultural associations, Bureau of Agriculture, &c., Mr. J. B. Aylesworthy.

There are among the members appointed many really good practical farmers, who have a stake in the general prosperity of agriculture; men who have labored and made and improved their farms, and gained their sustenance from them, and really understand the requirements of the leading farmers of Ontario; they also know the struggles and difficulties of the farmers of small farms and limited means. As the majority of the farmers in Ontario are of the last mentioned class, the objects of their deliberations, we trust, will be for the greatest good to the greatest number. The unanimous voice of this body should have great weight. As there are so many really sound and intelligent farmers, we anticipate that much good will be the result of this appointment. The members are not to receive pay for their services; they are, however, allowed travelling expenses. This, of course, cannot be expected to continue long. Every man's time is worth money; and if a man works for the public in a faithful manner he should not be called upon to be an actual loser. Every laborer is worthy of his hire. It is generally better to pay direct than indirect.

The present Board of Agriculture and Arts is composed of about 40 members; they receive \$4 per day and 8 cents per mile, one way, for the full distance travelled. This amounts to a very large sum. Surely these Commissioners will have more power, and it is to be hoped will do more good than the Board of Agriculture and Arts have done during the past ten years; they certainly are entitled to at least as much as the members of this Board are. The present Board of Agriculture and Arts cost so much that they are virtually a bankrupt body, and must either have an additional grant from the Government, or must fall from bad management or its own massive expensive encumbrance. The \$11,000 paid by the late Col. L. Denison has now vanished. It is our opinion that this Board has out-lived its utility, and that something must be done to make it more beneficial and less expensive. The principal work it has done is to manage the Provincial Exhibition. The private exhibitions that cost the Government nothing appear to be doing more good and giving more satisfaction to exhibitors than the Provincial Exhibition has for some years past.

THE CANKER-WORM.—On mild days the canker-worms may make their appearance, and the females, which are wingless and always crawl, must be prevented from ascending the tree and depositing their eggs. The devices for effecting this are numerous; they generally consist in placing some barrier around the trunk which the insects can not pass. Some have gutters of oil, others smooth surfaces which they can not travel. The simplest, and as effective as any, is stout paper smeared with tar or printer's ink. Blowing dust and dead insects will bridge them over in time, and to be effective, they must be looked to every few days, and renewed as needed. The tent caterpillar's eggs are deposited in rings on the small twigs of apple and other trees, near their ends, and can be readily seen on dull days; they should be cut off, taking the end of the twig, and burned, thus saving a much larger amount of work later in the season.—[Cincinnati Bulletin.]

BLACK PEPPER FOR THE CABBAGE WORM.—A correspondent writing in the Farmer, says: "Last year was a very bad one to get cabbage to head, the cabbage worm was so bad. Below I give a remedy that is sure death to them: For every hundred heads of cabbage take a quarter of a pound of black pepper and put it in a box large enough to sift out well. Go into the patch before the dew is off and pepper them well. Two or three times will be sufficient. The worms go through the leaves and die."

Report of the Committee of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario.

At a recent meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, there was much discussion in regard to the system of fencing practiced in Canada, and a committee was selected to investigate the matter and report. Below we give their report, which may have some effect on the Government, especially as this Society is an important one; those adverse to their views should let themselves be heard. Our columns are open to free discussion.

REPORT.

Your committee on fences, having examined into the subject, have the honor to report: 1st. That the existing laws regarding fences are unjust to the land owner and occupier, because if he has no need for a fence around his farm, society should not compel him to build one. 2nd. That if a farmer chooses to "soil" his cattle he should not be compelled to expend on fences a tax estimated at \$2 per acre per annum to keep his neighbors or highway cattle off his property. 3rd. That no law should compel a land occupier to make a road or division fence to protect himself from the public at large; that the public are just as much interested in the welfare of the State as are the individuals of the public; these last therefore should be protected by a public law compelling individuals to enclose their own stock. 4th. That although the public have a right to travel on the roads, they have no right to use said roads for a cattle run or pasture ground. 5th. That every farmer or property owner, either by paying taxes for road construction or repairs, or by the performance of statute labor, has a certain right in the roads surrounding his lands, and this vested right should enable a majority of owners to say whether the public roads should be used for any other purpose than the legitimate travel or driving of stock, when required, along them. 6th. That during winter these roads are fenced in such a way that they harbor snowdrifts, thus blocking to a considerable extent the travel along them. 7th. That the maintenance of fences is an excessive burden on the farmer now that timber is becoming scarce and dear, and it behooves the Legislature to make such provisions by law as will assist in doing away with such an oppressive expense. 8th. That in the early settlement of this country when cultivated lands were scarce, and there were no pasture lands for cattle, it was in the interest of individuals to fence in their crops and allow the cattle to run at large. Now the case is different; the principal part of the country is cultivated, and the pasture and waste places are in the minority; these, therefore, should be fenced and not the larger tract of farm lands. 9th. Therefore your committee, taking into consideration the above facts, respectfully suggest that in counties where a majority of the acreage of the soil is used as arable land, all horned cattle, horses, pigs, sheep, and geese, be prevented by legislative enactment from running at large; that owners of all kinds of stock should be compelled to keep them enclosed or pay all damages that may accrue from their depredations; that it may be the duty of any one finding cattle, etc., straying along the roads, streets, or any unfenced lot, when not accompanied by a suitable attendant, in such county, to drive the same to pound; that for every head of cattle so pounded the individual who owns such stock shall pay to the pound keeper, over and above all other fees or charges, the sum of 50c. per head, to be paid to the individual who put them in pound; that all damage to trees by animals be assessed at the full damage done, having in consideration the age of the said tree and the number of years planted; that such damage be paid by the owner of said stock to the owner of said trees; that suitable attendants be employed when cattle are being driven to market, or from one part of the country to another, so as to keep them from straying off the road; that any one turning off the road into a neighboring field, either on foot, in a vehicle, or on horseback, shall be liable to be apprehended as a common trespasser, and as such be amenable to the law in such cases made and provided.

There is no better way to destroy sorrel than to plow the land in early summer, and in July sow it to buckwheat. If this crop is not sown, then use the two-horse cultivator and harrow so as to throw the sorrel roots upon the surface, and the hot, dry weather of mid-summer will kill them.