

threshers, and in another instance last year in Kansas \$500 was gained by a man, with a team and fanning mill, cleaning up after threshing machine settings, in three weeks' time.

(11) In the western and southwestern plains, grain sorghums should be widely planted. In the northern plains, in the drier districts, flax and, under certain conditions, proso or Russian millet, may be used to a similar advantage.

(12) Suitable catch crops (such as cow peas, soy beans, sorghums, millet, flax and buckwheat) should be grown on all lands on which staple crops can not be seeded at the proper time or on which they have been destroyed.

(13) The increased use of corn, rice, grain, sorghums, proso, barley, rye, beans, cottonseed meal and peanut meal as substitutes for, or in conjunction with, wheat for human food is strongly recommended. Information on this matter can be obtained through the state agricultural colleges and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Seven Million Men Killed.

Arthur Henderson of the British War Council estimates that seven million men have been killed so far in the war.

The war originated in a quarrel over Serbia. But the entire population of Serbia was only two million and a half. France came in to recover Alsace-Lorraine. But the entire population of Alsace-Lorraine was less than two millions. England came in to rescue Belgium. But the entire population of Belgium was only seven million and a half. The number of able-bodied men in all the disputed territory in Europe is less than the number that have already fallen in the struggle for its possession. The total casualties of the war exceed the whole population of Great Britain and Ireland. As many young men have been crippled for life or severely

wounded in Europe as there are of the same age in all the United States.

Mr. Henderson adds that "there is no immediate prospect of a cessation of hostilities." There is still the United States to draw upon.—N. Y. Independent.

A Slack Time.

BY CLAYTON DUFF.

Between roadwork and hayin' there's always a spell
When things is quite slack, so you'll hear farmers tell,
Though the warm sun of June has made everything grow.
The roots isn't up far enough yet to hoe;
The cattle's in pasture, no chores to be done,
So this is the time farmer folks has their fun,
And often and often I've heard farmers sayin'
It's a slack time of year between roadwork and hayin'.

Of course, there's a few little things to be done,
The chimney has got to be mended, for one;
And this is the time many farmers is seen
To be paintin' the house white with trimmin's of green.
A new cement walk must be laid to the gate,
The old kitchen roof has been leakin' of late;
And when I wend my weary way, homeward at last
At close of day, my good wife meets me with this lay:
"The front screen door is on the bum, a million flies
inside have come. The chicken fence has busted out,
the hens have found it isn't stout; they've scratched
the beans and dug the peas; the cherry slugs are in the
trees. Then after supper cut the grass, and find your
wrench, the stove leaks gas; the wash line sags, the
bedstead squeaks, canning time's here, the boiler leaks."
I'd like to read the daily news, I'd like to revel in the
views of sunsets rare and gorgeous hues. It's not for
me, and so I'd be a weary Will and take my fill of doing
nothing but set still.

It's the best time for meetin's, the women have found,
'Cause the men ain't too busy to drive 'em around.
They're willing to come with a wagon and team
To haul chairs and tables and turn the ice cream.
And if there's a bee to put up a new fence
Round the minister's lot so's to save church expense,
The pastor don't need to do much extra prayin',
They're sure to turn out between roadwork and hayin'.

For picnics, lawn socials, the same is the rule,
Or what little doin's they have at the school,

While everyone aims so's to sandwich between
A day cuttin' wood with the sawin' machine.
And now that these motors has come into style,
There's a trip in the car every once-in-a-while
To visit old friends who insist on you stayin'
For times is so slack between roadwork and hayin'.

I'd Like to be a Hobo Gay.

I'd like to be a gay hobo, a reaping things that others
sow; I'd like to eat the bread of life without the work
and fuss and strife. I'd like to sleep beneath the
stars and ride the bumpers on the cars, I'd like to shun
the horrid wars, I hate the sight of blood and scars.
I'd like to go when going's good—I'm sick of chores
and sawing wood. I'd like to leave the snow and cold,
my blood is thin, I'm growing old. I hate to lug in
wood and coal, I'd rather hunt a swimming hole or
with a wabby willow pole find ease and quiet for my
soul. Why must I work the livelong day a plowing
spuds and making hay? The hobo lives and doesn't
work—if I lay off I'm called a shirk. Ten hours a day
my normal stunt, no wonder I am such a runt; don't
have time to eat enough to put fat on my carcass tough.
And when I wend my weary way, homeward at last
at close of day, my good wife meets me with this lay:
"The front screen door is on the bum, a million flies
inside have come. The chicken fence has busted out,
the hens have found it isn't stout; they've scratched
the beans and dug the peas; the cherry slugs are in the
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W. E. VAILON.

Canada's Young Farmers and Future Leaders.

Don't Neglect the Crop Entered in a Competition.

In many counties of Ontario young men who have attended short courses, conducted by their District Representative, have the opportunity of entering competitions in growing cereal crops, potatoes or roots, or in hog feeding and calf raising. These competitions commence in the spring and enthusiasm is likely to run high with most young men. They are in a competition with men of their own age and standing not only in their county but throughout the Province. Preparing the soil, securing the seed and sowing or planting, is interesting work, and the young man knows that the better the seed-bed and the higher the quality of seed the greater the chance of winning out, other things being equal. Having made a good start it should be comparatively easy to keep up the good work throughout the season. However, as summer work increases and outside attractions become numerous there is a likelihood of interest in the special crop lagging. In fact, this is exactly what has taken place in more than one instance. The weeds grow up and are allowed to flourish, blight and bugs invade the potato patch and before long the ideal plot in the spring takes on a dilapidated appearance, all due to the waning interest of the competitor. The same is true with the hogs and calves. No matter how good a start is made, satisfactory results cannot be expected unless attention is given throughout the season. It is regrettable that the interest of so many of the competitors lags before the competitions close. In some counties there have not been sufficient entries in the running at the end of the season to allow of prizes being offered according to the rules and regulations. Did it ever occur to you that in neglecting your plot or dropping out of the competition you might make it so that your chums could not secure a prize? If you start in the competition stay with it, even though the elements are against the best interests of the crop. Do your part by keeping down the weeds and applying material to check bugs and disease. In case of stock, feed to keep the calf or hogs growing, and continue keeping strict account of weights of feed. You may know that you cannot win against your neighbor, but it is your duty to finish the competition.

Even yet a good deal can be done to improve the crop. If it is oats, see that weeds do not have an opportunity to rob the crop of moisture and plant food. Little else can be done to aid this crop, but with corn, potatoes and roots, where cultivation plays an important part, much can be done. There are few crops that respond to cultivation as does corn. Run the cultivator through it every week if possible up to the time it tassels out. Time may also be found to go through it with the hoe and cut out weeds growing in the rows. Cultivation is also essential with the potato crop, but another way of ensuring a good yield is to spray with Bordeaux to which some poison has been added to destroy bugs. Some seasons late blight exacts a heavy toll from the potato patch, amounting to practically the entire crop in some sections. It is possible, in fact

probable, that this disease will be rampant this fall, if the present hot, muggy weather continues. There is a way of preventing this trouble. By coating the leaves with Bordeaux mixture and keeping them coated, the spores of the disease have little opportunity of getting in their deadly work. Where potatoes are grown on a commercial scale a power sprayer is used, but for an acre plot the work could be done with a hand sprayer carried on the back of the operator, or else on a wheelbarrow. It is necessary to obtain a fine spray and to thoroughly coat the leaves above and underneath. It will require three and probably more applications, depending on the weather, but it is worth while even if bluestone is high in price this year. It may mean the difference between a good crop and failure; between winning the prize and coming low in the list. The young men who take every precaution to ensure a crop deserve to win. If you do your best but do not reach the top you should have no regrets.

In the case of live stock considerable work can be done to promote growth and thriftiness without adding too much to the cost of production. In all these competitions the cost of work, etc., as well as the appearance of the crop or stock is taken into consideration and rightly so. If feeding a pen of pigs it is necessary to give them a mixed ration which will furnish carbohydrates, protein and ash in the proper proportion for the rapid development of the hogs. Care should be taken to keep the pen clean at all times and economical gains can be made with the hogs on pasture, which will displace a considerable quantity of grain in the ration. Clover, alfalfa, oats and peas or rape make excellent pasture crops for swine. If you are not in a position to allow the hogs to run in these crops, good results have been obtained by cutting green feed and put-

ting it in the pen. This entails a little more labor, but the pigs do better if they have a little green feed than if they are forced to subsist entirely on grain. Pigs are very fond of lamb's quarters, a weed which is found growing around many buildings. Instead of hoeing this weed and allowing it to wilt in the sun, it might be turned to profitable use if fed to the hogs. Some feeders soak the grain, others feed it dry and have water in a separate trough. Both methods give good results. In case of feeding a calf it is essential that the feed and care be such that growth will be continual. If from lack of proper feed the calf gets a slight setback it is difficult to overcome it. Skim-milk or whole milk is the ideal feed for calves, but if given a large portion of this liquid the cost of raising the calf is fairly high, therefore, certain roughages and concentrates should be added to the ration. Ash and protein are two food constituents which go to produce bone and muscle and feeds which contain large proportions of these should enter largely into the ration. Legumes make the best roughages while rolled oats and a little linseed meal may constitute the concentrates. If the calf is getting a considerable quantity of skim-milk the ration will be more nearly balanced if a little cornmeal is fed. If possible the calf should be given the run of a paddock but supplied with shelter during the heat of the day. A little later, green corn, mangels or turnips could be fed. Teach the calf to lead and have it so that it will not be afraid of you. Use the curry-comb and brush frequently as their use helps to keep the animal thrifty and gives it a good appearance. Your success in these competitions depends a good deal on yourself. Good judgment in selecting the stock to feed or grain to sow is essential, but this will not make up for lack of care during the growing period.



The County Grist Mill.