

### CO-OPERATIVE FARM IMPLEMENT SOCIETIES IN IRELAND.

A few years ago, under the auspices of the Irish Agricultural Organization society, a scheme was devised for the formation of co-operative societies which should be able to place at the disposal of their members practically every kind of farm implement, from a one-horse plough to a high-power agricultural tractor. The scheme is described in an article by Mr. T. Wibberley, which appears in the August number of the Journal of the Board of Agriculture. In illustration of its results in increasing the area under tillage, the writer gives the following figures relating to four societies:

Society	Number of Members	Total area in tillage for each Society			Average increase per Members
		1913	1914	1915	
		Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Meenabeela (Co. Limerick) ...	21	71	104½	158½	4.1
Killeedy, (Co. Limerick) .....	20	122	146	176	2.7
Menlough, (Co. Galway) .....	64	454¾	519	683	3.6
Fourmilehouse, (Co. Roscommon)	32	94	106	153	1.8
Totals .....	137	743½	875½	1,171	
Averages .....	34	186	219	293	3.12

These societies were not specially selected, but all are situated in very poor districts, amongst farmers whose capital is very limited and whose holdings average about thirty acres. Had all Irish farmers increased their cultivated area in the same average proportions as the members of these societies, the result would have been an increase of 1,500,000 acres under the plough.

The societies are formed in the same way as other agricultural co-operative societies. As a rule each member is required to take at least five shares of the nominal value of \$5 and to pay 60 cents per share on allocation. He also signs a form making himself responsible to the committee for the payment of his shares in full, in the event of the society meeting with financial disaster. The working capital is obtained by means of an overdraft from the local branch of a joint stock bank. This is guaranteed by the members of the committee,

#### SPRAY EARLY.

Those who expect to spray this year for cankerworms on maple trees or any other pest should remember that it is very important to spray early. The average man waits until the insects are almost full grown before he decides to act. Perhaps he has then to order his spray pump and spraying materials. By the time he is ready to apply the remedy, the insects have completed their larval growth and have commenced to pupate. The result is that the destruction has all been done to the plants, and the spraying does no harm to the insects.

Be ready beforehand. If it is the cankerworm, put on the spray while he is yet a tiny fellow, just out of the egg. He is then eating voraciously, and in every instance is likely to be poisoned. The trees, too, are not foliated.

It is the same, too, with such pests as elm leaf aphid and many others of the

who are thus directly responsible to the bank for the security of the amount borrowed, but are in turn secured by the un-called share capital.

As a general rule, the implements are hired out in the order in which applications for them are made by the members, but precedence is given to the member who wishes to use the implement for the longest period. The rate at which implements are hired out to members of a society is about half what it would cost to carry out the various operations under the old regime. If, for instance, potato sorting by hand costs \$3.65 per ton, the potato-sorter is hired out at \$1.80 per ton. Again, if the ploughing of stubble by horse labor costs \$2.40 per acre, a double disc harrowing with the

agricultural tractor (which tills the land more effectively) is undertaken at the rate of \$1.20 per acre. In the case of grain threshing the usual rate is 1 cent per stone (14lb.) threshed.

A well managed society can soon earn sufficient to pay for the initial cost of the implements. Many instances are on record where a society commencing with two binders has in one harvest earned sufficient to purchase a potato-digger. The potato-digger has gone out on hire, and in its first season has earned sufficient to earn a corndrill, which in like manner has earned the price of a horse-power sprayer, and so on. A society usually begins operations in a small way, but once the farmers of the district recognize its utility the membership rapidly increases, and the society then becomes in a position to undertake the purchase of the more expensive implements.

aphis class. These, as they grow, cause the leaves to curl up and enclose them, so that sprays cannot touch them. Better to spray early when the trouble is just commencing

#### DISINFECTANTS.

**For Wounds on Trees and For Pruning-Tools Used for Blight.**

Corrosive sublimate, 1 part to 1,000 of water. Best to get the drug-store tablets; use one tablet to a pint of water. Apply with brush or swab.

Corrosive sublimate is highly poisonous if taken internally. It also corrodes metals, and must be used in wooden or glass vessels.

Formalin (Formaldehyde) is useful in the disinfection of seed, e.g. against grain smuts. Particulars of such treatments will be sent on application. Formalin should not be used as a disinfectant in fire-blight work.



## Synopsis of Coal Mining Regulations

Coal mining rights of the Dominion in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Yukon Territory, the North-West Territory and in a portion of the Province of British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of \$1 an acre. Not more than 2,560 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Applications for a lease must be made by the applicant in person to the agent or sub-agent of the district in which the rights applied for are situated.

In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections or legal subdivisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be staked out by the applicant himself.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of \$5, which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available, but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of five cents per ton.

The person operating the mine shall furnish the agent with sworn returns accounting for the full quantity of merchantable coal mined and pay the royalty thereon. If the coal mining rights are not being operated such returns should be furnished at least once a year.

The lease will include the coal mining rights only, but the lessee may be permitted to purchase whatever available surface rights may be considered necessary for the working of the mine at the rate of \$10 an acre.

For full information application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or to any agent or sub-agent of Dominion lands.

W. W. CORY,

Deputy Minister of the Interior.

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