

amount of insurance which a farmer should carry depends upon his financial condition and his necessity for protection. Another great advantage in carrying life insurance is that in the case of death, the money may be paid to the wife or the children and no creditors may touch one cent of it whatever. It is stated that most farmers take out their life insurance during the summer time and if this be true a great many farmers can do a wise act for themselves and their families this summer by taking out a policy according to their means and their needs.

MAKING THE BEST BETTER

Every intelligent farmer in this country has learned in the costly school of experience that it pays to sow or plant only the best of seed. The cost of cultivating, seeding and harvesting is practically the same whether poor seed or good seed is used, and the difference between the cost of poor seed and good seed is comparatively small when compared with the investment made in the above operations. With a good seed bed the returns from low grade seed wheat of doubtful germinating qualities as compared with the returns from the very choicest wheat will often be from ten to fifteen bushels per acre and frequently more. Seager Wheeler has done more to show the benefit of seed selection than probably any other man in this country. For over twenty years he has been selecting the best from his growing crop every year and from the progeny of this carefully selected seed he has again selected the best, with the result that on his test plots he has produced as high as eighty bushels per acre of Marquis wheat. It is not possible to bring every farm up to this high pitch of cultivation and make every farmer a specialist in seed selection or to bring the average yield of wheat up to eighty bushels per acre. But it would seem reasonable to expect that the average might be brought far above seventeen to nineteen bushels per acre, which was the

rule prior to the extraordinary crop of 1915. It should be remembered that the methods adopted by Seager Wheeler which have enabled him to win the world's championship with his Marquis wheat on three different occasions, and which enabled Paul Gerlach of Allen, Sask., to win the world's prize on one occasion, can be followed by any farmer of ordinary intelligence. These men have done no wheat breeding. They have only taken the best they could find and year by year selected the best from the best. Many farmers feel that they cannot afford the time to put in a quarter acre of carefully selected seed and to maintain this quarter acre plot year after year for the production of hand selected seed. But if they were to figure carefully the benefits which might reasonably be derived from 100 to 200 acres of wheat produced from this selected seed, they would find that in dollars and cents the investment would be a good one. Seed selection carried on in this manner for a matter of five years would raise the quality as well as the quantity of wheat produced on every acre of the farm and the increase in cash returns would be a huge dividend on the time and money spent in preparing the quarter acre plot and selecting a half bushel of seed from it each year. The Canadian Seed Growers' Association is doing excellent work in this direction and merits much more widespread support than it receives in this country.

HELPING POLITICAL FRIENDS

During the dying hours of Parliament the supporters of the government were all lined up and under instructions voted \$4,000,000 for the purchase of three little railways in Quebec owned by Rudolph Forget, M.P. The general opinion is that these railroads are not by any means worth the money and also that it will cost the public treasury by the time they are completed not less than \$10,000,000. The only reason that can be ascribed for the purchase of these railways is that the govern-

ment is paying its political debts to Mr. Forget for the very satisfactory manner in which he delivered the goods at the last Dominion election. Governments in Canada have a habit of paying their political debts out of the public treasury by various methods that certainly do not commend themselves to independent minded electors and tax payers.

In connection with the loan of \$15,000,000 to the Canadian Northern Railway and \$8,000,000 to the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway made during the closing days of Parliament, it was announced by the Finance Minister that the government would appoint three directors of each of the companies to protect the interests of the government. The Ottawa Citizen in discussing the matter of railway nationalization points out the difficulties that have occurred between organized labor and railway companies, both under private ownership and public ownership. With the possibility in sight of the railways of Canada being nationalized The Citizen suggests that the government in appointing the three directors to each of these railway companies should select one for each road representing the organized railwaymen with an idea of "bringing about the right relationship between labor and the state under collective ownership of railways in this country." The idea possesses merit, but we are doubtful if the government would go so far as to recognize the rights of labor in the operation of public utilities.

You can't oversubscribe to good papers. They are the choicest kind of investment. The man who reads only his own local paper or political daily is the narrowest and most self satisfied kind. He's a real danger.

Why penalize a man for every improvement he makes? The evolution of human development is progressive, and communities that practice this worn out system cannot be built up as they should.



THE POPULAR JUNE WEDDING