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ative should be on the board, "even if it were found impracticable to attend board meetings the Western men could serve well by giving advice by letter."

In the first place there are several Western representatives on the "Board," at least five, so that I conclude what you mean is that there should be representation from the West on the "Committee." I think this not practicable, for the reasons above. Perhaps you can suggest how it might be worked out. As to "advice by letter" any member of the "Board," or, in fact, any breeder at all can at any time, whether a member of the Board or Committee or not, can at any time write, offering advice, and I have no doubt if the advice is good and sound it will be acted upon.

I cannot see how the advice would be any better coming from a breeder, simply because he happened for the time being to have an office. Pembroke, Ont. PETER WHITE.

Note.—The Record Board seems to be more liberally represented by Western members now than it was in the not distant past. With five live members representing that part of Canada lying west of the Great Lakes there will be few to raise any objection to its constitution, provided cases under consideration in regard to Western breeders are given the same treatment as similar cases relating to breeders in the East.

Perhaps the greatest trouble has resulted from a lack of knowledge of the powers and duties of the Record Board and the Record Committee. Those who know Mr. White, will feel that he knows the details. They will also appreciate his clear statement of the constitution, powers and duties of the Record Board and the Record Committee, and the privileges of breeders in all parts of Canada of laying complaints before these bodies.—Editor.

FARM

Topics for Discussion

In recognition of the fact that valuable hints always are obtained from men engaged in actual farm work THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE has adopted the "Topics for Discussion" column in order that our readers may see an open channel through which they may inform their brother farmers as to practices that are worth adopting and warn them against methods that prove unprofitable. Not only do we wish our readers to discuss the topics announced for the various issues, but also we desire that they suggest practical subjects on which it would be well to have discussion.

This notice appears under the "Farm" department, but the questions dealt with cover all branches of the farming industry. Letters should not exceed 600 words and should reach this office 10 days previous to the date of issue. They are read carefully and a first prize of \$3.00 and a second prize of \$2.00 awarded each week. Other letters used will be paid for at regular rates to contributors.

August 10.—Discuss disk plows, giving advantages and disadvantages for use in soils of different kinds. In what soil would you advocate their use?

August 17.—The raising of fall colts is sometimes recommended in this country. It is said that mares are worked little during the winter months and could better raise a colt than in summer, also that fall colts could be raised with no more trouble than spring colts. What do you think of it? Have you ever tried raising fall colts? Would you consider it advisable in this country to have colts come between October 1 and December 1 and wean some time in March?

August 24.—Discuss the practice of stacking grain in the Canadian West. What are the chief advantages and disadvantages, and what are some of the important features of good stacking?

August 31.—What do you consider the average farmer should have as a library to which to refer from time to time? Give your opinion of agricultural books, bulletins, reports, etc., and other available reading matter.

Cropped Fields After Harvest

Thorough and intelligent attention to stubble land in the fall is becoming more common each year. Not so many years ago it was considered unnecessary to use disks or any other implement on the cropped fields in the fall. But things are changing and this year's dry spell will result in increased attention to this part of farm work. We seldom receive too much moisture, and it is wise therefore to put the surface into such condition that it will receive and hold as much moisture as possible at all seasons. The weed problem does not require discussion here, suffice it to say it is well to cover weed seeds that lie on the surface as soon as possible after the crop is removed. If sufficient moisture comes they germinate before freeze-up and are killed; otherwise they are placed so that they sprout early the following spring.

Awards to contributors are given in the order in which the letters appear.

Advocates Field Work in Fall

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

For the average farmer there is not always a great deal of time to spare at this busy time of the year, and often there is a lot of work to do which sometimes has been unavoidably post-

They are safe winners in the race to maturity against anything we can grow.

The fall disking prepares a nice seed bed for these and the other numerous pests to start up early in the spring, and that is when the bulk of the weed seeds must be destroyed. There is little enough time for stubble disking in the spring. Such time should be occupied with the drags on the last year's summerfallow, inducing what may have been left ungerminated there to sprout and be slaughtered during seeding operations. One may think there is nothing left after the thorough working it had last summer, but you generally find you are mistaken. But, even so, it is not lost time or work, for you will be breaking up the crust formed from the snow pressure and early rains, preserving moisture and warming up the soil for a quick growth and start of grains when seeded.

The mulch made by the disking in fall will surely do its part in conserving moisture, as well as absorbing any that may fall and holding it till freeze-up. A touch of the drags will put this in active shape again the following spring, and then you will get good weed germination. Often our falls allow certain time for fall plowing, but I am not greatly in favor of this on our soil, as it is generally too dry. If I plow it is the cleaner lands for seeding purposes; otherwise it seems to me like burying and preserving weed seeds,



HAY CAPS IN USE ON ALFALFA IN MINNESOTA
They are made by tearing 40 inch common sheeting into squares and attaching four or six ounce weights to the corners. They protect from sun and rain and frequently pay for themselves in one crop.

poned that should have been done before harvest. Again, seasons vary, and after harvesting and threshing there is often but little time left before freeze-up.

However, there are always a few days which can be most profitably employed on the stubble lands. I always make a point of taking the field that has the most weeds in it, or the most dangerous weed, whether they be few or plenty, and give this field or fields the first consideration. This gets a double disking, followed by the drags. Probably most men will design to put such a field aside for fallow or a green fodder crop the following summer; and quite right, too. But because it is not going to take part in the main crops of the preceding spring, don't leave it over. Get right at it the first opportunity after harvest.

As to inducing the germination of weed seeds in the fall, this is a matter over which we have not got full control. The average fall is usually dry in our vicinity, and often there is not sufficient moisture for much growth. However, a percentage of seeds will grow as also some of the shelled grains, which will be cut off by early frost; but some of our worst enemies, such as wild oats, are not to be coaxed or beguiled into germination. They seem to require a rest, and to hibernate, like Bruin, until the warm winds come from the south in the spring; no need for them to hurry.

which come up too late in the spring, or rather when the crop is too much advanced.

I certainly think where winter annuals such as stink weed are showing up badly fall plowing would be a profitable move, but so far I have never had enough of these to bother me, and it is only a supposition.

"DRAG HARROW."

After Crop Cultivation

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The treatment of fields after the crop has been removed requires a division, in my opinion, under the following heads: (a) Whether the land is intended to be cropped the following year; (b) whether intended for summerfallow (bare); (c) if needed for growing green feed.

Under (a) I would suggest that land which cannot be plowed right away should be disked well, and for that purpose the cut-away disk is the best, on account of not being so liable to trouble with a heavy stubble. See that the land is harrowed as soon as plowed, but not packed. If there are any patches of sow thistles or such pests put up stakes to show their location and do not plow these spots, as after the plant has been cut at the root by the plow, the top portion of the weed with part of the root attached is dragged further across the field by the harrows,