



Metal Barn on Farm of J. H. Parker, Sherbrooke Co., Quebec.

Note the proportion of glass to wall space in stable, insuring ample sunlight.

THE FARM.

Buckwheat, Millet or Rape for Late Seeding.

It frequently happens, due to various circumstances which might be mentioned, that a field on the farm suitable for some crop, remains unseeded after the season is too far advanced for planting the staple crops which occur usually in the system of rotation. It is not yet too late to use such fields to very good advantage for they can be seeded to buckwheat, millet or rape, any one of which will prove very useful in some particular line. Every acre should be made to do its bit, and by a distribution of the scanty supply of labor we have, late-seeded crops perhaps may tide us over some difficulty.

Buckwheat is viewed very favorably this year. The restrictions placed on wheat will practically eliminate it from the rations this winter. Some buckwheat will help wonderfully in the mixture of oats and barley for hogs, cattle or hens. Even the flour may be very acceptable in case still further restrictions are placed on the quantity of wheat flour we may use.

A wet spring very often leads to an increased acreage of buckwheat and, while it will thrive on a great variety of soils, it is especially adapted to a cool, moist climate. One thing in favor of buckwheat, it will give a fair yield on soils so lacking in fertility that they will not produce a good crop of other grains. Frequently on rich soil the straw of buckwheat is very abundant, but the yield of grain unsatisfactory. We believe, however, that climatic conditions at blossom or filling time contribute to this lack of grain. Usually the richer the soil and the better the cultivation, the larger the yield.

Buckwheat is not seeded until late in June, so one has an opportunity to cultivate frequently and destroy all weeds. This crop is often used to smother out noxious weeds after the land has been summer-fallowed up until late in June. Buckwheat may be sown broadcast or drilled, but the latter method gives a more uniform stand. Three pecks per acre is a very good seeding of buckwheat, but the quantity will vary, depending on the size of the seed. As much as a bushel or five pecks are sometimes sown, but under ordinary circumstances three pecks to a bushel is the maximum requirement. With favorable weather the crop is ready to harvest about ten weeks after seeding. It can be cut with a binder, but where the crop is heavy and the straw abundant it may be necessary to leave the sheaves unbound.

One bushel of buckwheat will yield in the neighborhood of twenty-five pounds of flour. Middlings, a by-product of the milling process, is suitable for dairy cows or hogs. These contain a fairly high percentage of protein.

The common varieties are Silver Hull and Rye Buckwheat. The flour of the Rye buckwheat, as compared with that of the other varieties, has a yellowish color. The grain itself is not as attractive as that of the Silver Hull variety. The average results in a ten years' experiment at the Ontario Agricultural College showed the Rye buckwheat to lead all other varieties in the yield of grain per acre by about ten bushels, the range in production for the five kinds tried being from 20.31 to 32.88 bushels per acre.

Millet for Hay or Green Feed.

Millet may be sown as late as the middle of July, although from June 10 to 20 is generally considered about the best time. A field is very seldom set aside for the purpose of growing millet. The chief function of this crop is to utilize land that otherwise might remain idle or have to be summer-fallowed. It does not do well on light, hungry or sandy soils. Some have secured a fair crop of millet from fields after red clover had been harvested for hay; others have sown millet earlier and harvested it in time to sow fall wheat on the same land. For early seeding, Japanese Panicle and Japanese Barnyard are found to be suitable varieties. Hungarian grass, which belongs to the same family of plants, is preferred for late seeding. When seeding

early in June the Japanese Panicle would do very well, but it would be safer to use the Hungarian grass if seeding took place late in June or in early July. From 25 to 30 pounds per acre is the usual seeding requirement. Drilling is preferred to broadcasting.

Millet is most useful, perhaps, as a green feed; as hay it is not so nutritious as other grasses and must be fed with considerable care, particularly to horses. It also heats readily in the mow. However, it would pay better to produce a crop of millet for hay than allow a field to remain untilled.

Rape For Live Stock.

Rape is a crop grown extensively by stockmen, and where the pasturage is likely to be short this crop will help a great deal. It is very useful, too, in fitting cattle to go into winter quarters in a sappy, vigorous condition, and for flushing ewes in the fall it holds a high place in the estimation of the most skillful shepherds. It, like the two previously-mentioned crops, permits the land to be thoroughly cultivated before seeding must take place. The last week in June or the first week in July will do very well for sowing rape. It does best on moist, fertile soils which are rich in organic matter, and it is often profitable to manure the field even for this crop; especially is this true when the purpose is to smother out noxious weeds. Rape may be sown broadcast at the rate of 5 to 6 pounds per acre, but if the object is to clean the land as well as produce feed for live stock it is, perhaps, a better method to sow in drills, about 28 inches apart. About 2½ pounds of seed per acre is sufficient when drilled. The latter method of planting permits of two or more cultivations between the rows, after which the luxuriant foliage will smother out all weeds. When sheep or lambs are to be pastured on rape, it is safer to broadcast the seed, as the animals are likely to get on their backs between the rows and die before being rescued.

Out to Finish the Job.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

With an early and favorable spring a large crop is all in and looking good, which is half way to a good

harvest. The one topic of discussion now seems to be help and how to keep the boys on the farm, as if it were impossible to harvest the present crop. My own opinion is we are a long way from being "bushed" yet. When we read of a town of 1,700 people granting a license to a third pool room we believe there are still plenty of men to be had, and we trust our Government will see to it that every man not in a necessary business will be made help harvest our crop. There always have been a number of people in every town who make their existence through bleeding the other man. There will be no harm in their earning an honest living by the sweat of their brow. The one important thing to-day is to win the war, and that means men. Without winning this war what good would this beautiful country be to us? The sooner it is over the better, so let us pull together and send the troops and finish the job, knowing that the harder we're thrown the higher we will bounce. We will be proud of our blackened eye. It is not the fact that we are licked that counts, but how did we fight, and why?

Perth Co., Ontario.

SAM MULHOLLAND.

Conditions in York County.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The past two months have wrought wonderful changes in the crop conditions in this County. When spring opened everything pointed to a good crop of fall wheat and new seeds (clover, alfalfa and timothy) but for some reason or other the tide turned and practically all the fall wheat has been plowed up, and the new seeds are also being plowed up wherever the farmer sees his way clear to get the field sown to roots or grain.

The weather has been dry and cool up to the week ending Saturday, May 25, but during that week and later we have had many good rains. The ground seems to have held plenty of moisture to keep things growing for the grain of all kinds has done extremely well. The clover and alfalfa that is left is about ten inches high already.

The mangels are nearly all sown. Some are up and they are an even catch. The peas have made a good start. Very few turnips are as yet sown, and I think there will be very little corn sown as it is very dear and it takes so much labor before the silo is filled. A real deal of buckwheat is going to be sown.

The fruit trees are covered with blossoms and I think that I might sum up the outlook as exceedingly good, even the backyard gardens in the towns are receiving great attention from the girls and small boys.

The labor situation is very good here; of course there are some farms with too little help, but on one 150-acre farm near here there are six able-bodied men, so I guess the crops will be harvested all right.

York Co., Ontario.

FARMER.

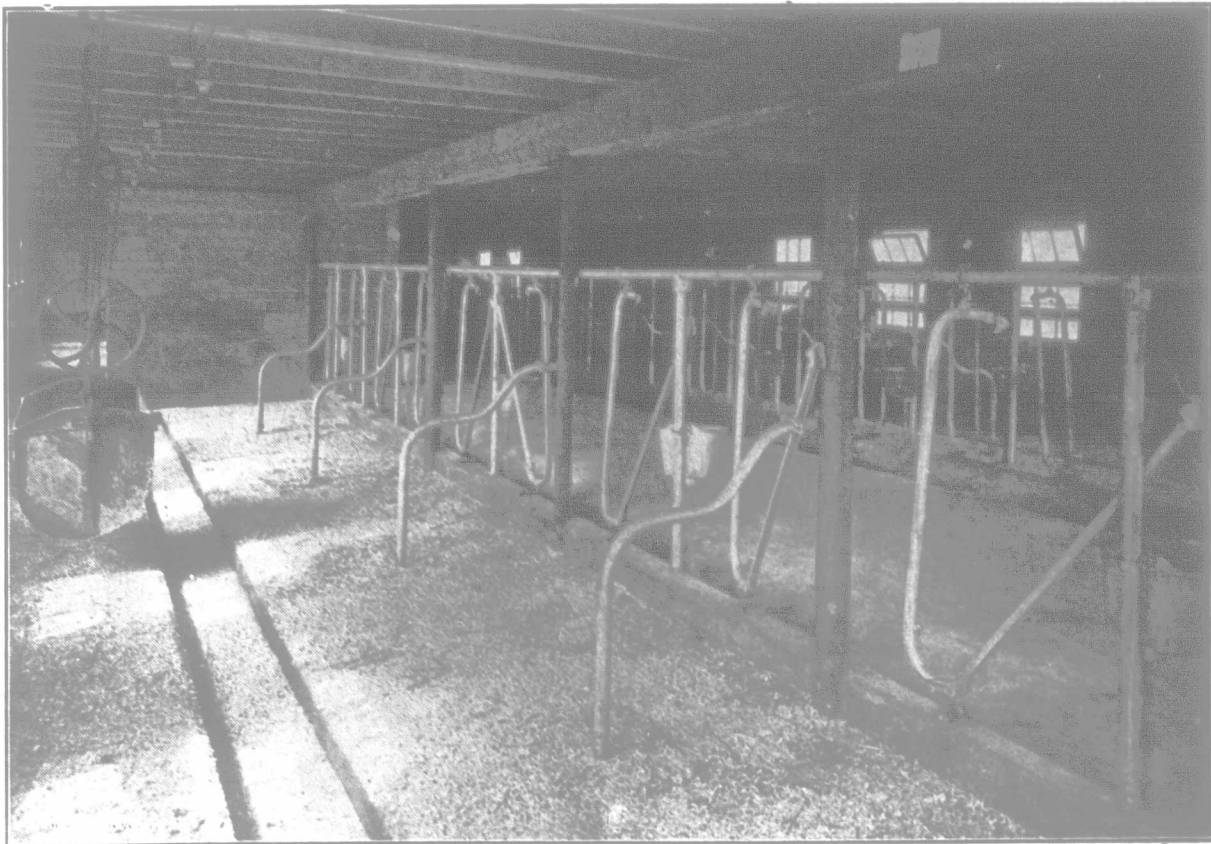
Farm Notes From Halton County.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

At time of writing (late in May) the crop outlook for this County is good, excepting the wheat which is almost a complete failure in most localities. A majority of the farmers around here have cultivated up their wheat. On some farms where the land was partly sheltered there is some wheat, but most farmers have sown barley or oats along with it.

Quite a few farmers in this locality have sown at least a few bushels of spring wheat, but owing to its having been a failure when tried in normal times, few people are willing to risk much, although they are fully alive to the need for greater crops of this grain.

The spring grains, especially oats and barley, are coming nicely and promise, if the weather is favorable, to yield a bumper crop. The spring wheat also is coming



Interior Fittings and Equipment in J. H. Parker's Stable.