

side of the Atlantic, would be a species of folly which only short-sightedness could induce or commend. The most enlightened Canadian opinion is strongly opposed to any step calculated to pave the way for an export trade in Canadian stores. It is much better to fatten them at home, and the sooner this is realized by everybody in Canada, the better.

## THE FARM.

### DISAPPROVES OF THE MANURE SPREADER.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Having noticed a question asked by a subscriber as to whether it would be advisable or not to buy a manure spreader on a one-hundred-acre farm, I will venture to express my opinion regarding this machine.

On the most of well-managed farms, at least in this county, the manure is drawn out to the fields in slack times during winter, when it is almost impossible to handle such a cumbersome rig as a manure spreader. Then on the majority of farms that are in proper condition, it is not necessary to spread the manure over 25 to 30 per cent. of the land each year, where better results would be obtained if a large percentage of it was put on the root ground and the balance plowed in lightly for peas; or kept over until fall for winter wheat. These three crops, particularly the roots and wheat, will stand a very heavy application of manure, and when it is applied quite heavy it requires very little scattering from the sleigh or waggon in order to get it on evenly.

What is the practice followed by owners of manure spreaders? Is it not an attempt to run over most of the grain crops, including oats and barley, leaving too small a share for the root ground. If this practice is followed on a good farm the result will be a considerable amount of lodging in the oats, with a corresponding decrease in yield. Then the cost of these machines is far too great for all the benefit derived from them. Most farm implements must earn a ten-per-cent. dividend each year in order to pay for themselves by the time they are worn out. The interest on a \$125.00 spreader is \$12.50, which will scatter a good deal of manure, and leave the farmer minus the trouble of housing the spreader when not in use.

In conclusion, I would advise all farmers not owning one to use their own good judgment, and pay less attention to "the seductive agent," whom you so nicely described in your editorial a few weeks ago.

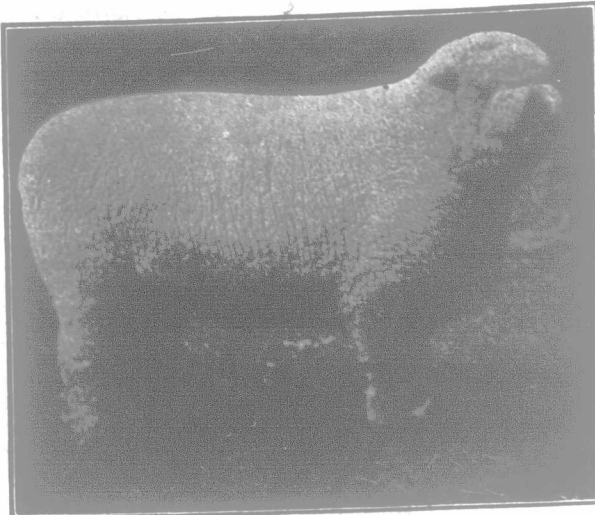
Huron Co., Ont.

W. R. BROADFOOT.

[Note.—The advantages of a manure spreader never appeal to one with their full force until he has tried it. While it is true that the spreader is not always of service in winter, it amply repays cost and interest charges during the season when it can be used, not only in the saving of hard labor, but in the evenness with which it distributes the manure, and the fine state to which it reduces it, thereby rendering it more easy to incorporate thoroughly with the soil. Our correspondent is quite right in urging the application of manure mainly to land intended for hoe crops (including corn) and peas, but the fact of having a spreader is no reason for departing from this policy. For almost any crop, a ton of manure applied with the mechanical spreader is more valuable than one spread carefully by hand, and when one does wish to top dress his pasture or fall-wheat land, he can do it more advantageously with a spreader than by hand. Let us hear from subscribers who have had experience with it.—Editor.]

### WOOD ASHES FOR CLOVER SEEDING.

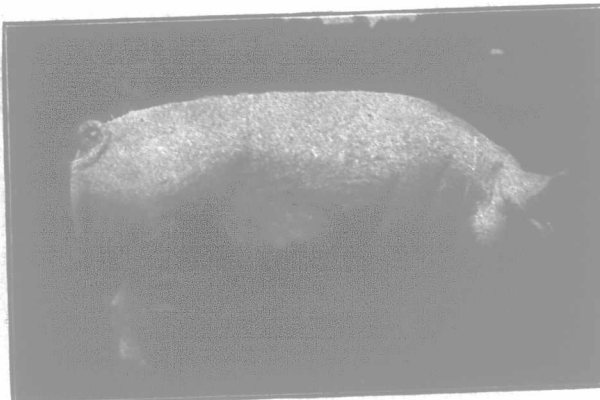
As a result of applying two tons of wood ashes per acre a year ago last August to a field sown to fall wheat, which was then seeded down last spring, a Michigan correspondent reports in the Ohio Farmer an increase of ten bushels per acre in the yield of wheat.



Shropshire Shearling Ram.

First and champion at Shrewsbury and third at Royal Show, 1908.

while the effect on the clover seeding is still more marked, for on the part where the ashes were applied he has a fine uniform stand of clover, while on the remaining portion the catch is almost a failure, and is not expected to furnish one-fourth the hay the other part will. On one strip both manure and ashes were applied, but while this portion stands out plainly from



Marshall Baron Fullwood.

Yorkshire boar. Sold by R. R. Rothwell, Preston, England, for export to Italy.

the part where manure alone was used, it seems little if any ahead of the part where only ashes were applied. He estimates that the ashes were worth four dollars per ton for the wheat crop, and as much more for the stand of clover. The soil is a prairie loam, and was much infested with sorrel, indicating that it was acid. The owner is inclined to attribute the great

benefit of the treatment to its effect in keeping down the sorrel, and while the ashes doubtless had an effect in rendering the conditions less favorable to this weed, there is no doubt that they also had a very positive effect in improving conditions for the clover, by correcting the acidity, as well as supplying potash and a little phosphorus. Legumes revel in potash and do not thrive in an acid soil. Lime and ashes are specific fertilizers for clover and alfalfa. Phosphorus (contained in bone meal and similar fertilizers) is often of great value as well.

### AN ARISTOCRATIC AMERICAN FARM.

After more than a month of unprecedented drouth, that transformed most of the pasture grasses and ordinary forage plants into the "serp" and yellow leaf, how refreshing to the eye, in the hot, early September days, to traverse the dark-green of the alfalfa fields that waved knee-deep on the "White Springs Farm," the Experiment Station land, and other well-conducted farms near Geneva, in New York State. In such seasons as the past, alfalfa, as a soiling crop, and for other feeding purposes, proves itself the salvation of many a stockman and dairy farmer. While corn, of which over 100 acres per year are grown for ensilage and ear production, continues to be the staple stock-food crop on the White Springs Farm, Walter Jauncey, the manager (a native of England), is sagaciously bent upon increasing its alfalfa area. The farm is a large one—575 acres, including 75 acres of bush land—rolling in character, and the soil a rather heavy and rich clay loam, requiring judicious working during wet periods. It takes its name from the magnificent group of springs perpetually flowing into a number of stone-made ponds or basins, for utility and ornament, from which the overflow runs away in rivulets. The appellation "white" is said to have been suggested by the magnesia content of some of the waters, though, for the most part, they possess a remarkably translucent clearness. Nature has indeed lavished her gifts upon this expansive farm, which is owned by Alfred G. Lewis, who directs its operations upon a large and enterprising scale. Mr. Lewis is a member of the Board of Control of the State Experiment Station near by. Passing through the impressive brick-and-iron gateway, and along the macadam drive, the sweep of the fields, the old-fashioned manor-house and grounds, clumps of lofty trees, among which the elm is conspicuous, remind the observer of English rural scenes; while the generous use of artificial as well as natural manures, and the thoroughness of tillage apparent, savor of the methods in vogue in the Old Land, coupled with characteristic American progressiveness much surpassing the general run of farms in many American communities. The photogravure, showing one of the springs, and a panoramic glimpse of the manor-house and grounds, will afford the reader a fair idea of the beauty of the place. The chief revenue-producing feature of the White Springs Farm is doubtless the pure-bred herd of over 200 Guernsey cattle, many of them and their herdsman being direct from the Channel Island; but, apart from stock and milk, Mr. Jauncey reports this season the growth of 2,700 bushels of salable fall wheat, on 80 acres. Among other productions, are some 4,000 bushels of oats, a like quantity of ear corn, 1,300 or 1,400 tons of ensilage, besides hay and other crops. Only about 15 acres of the farm are devoted to ordinary pasturage, soiling being deemed the more reliable system of stock feeding, the crops used for that purpose being chiefly alfalfa, crimson clover, corn, rye, peas and oats.

In addition to that used in the herd by suckling and the pail for calf-rearing, 2,500 quarts of milk per day are disposed of through the White Springs Dairy, at Geneva, at 6c. per quart. On the farm, where scrupulous cleanliness is observed, the milk is simply strained and cooled, and in the town dairy it is re-strained and cooled again before bottling, and a portion is run through the separator for the cream branch of the trade. No pasteurization or sterilization is resorted to, these processes not being found necessary nor advisable on the score of economy, where milk has to be sold as low as 6 cents per quart. A number of cows in the herd are in the Advanced Registry tests, and France VIII., a most distinguished matron, is credited with a record of over 12,500 pounds of milk on grass and roots, tethered, as is the custom on the Island of Guernsey. The stable is of wood, well painted, story and a half high, with smooth cement floors and iron fixtures. Except during summer nights, when they run outside, the cows spend most of their time indoors. Their evident healthfulness, duly attested in other ways, is noteworthy.

Fruit-growing, for which this district is very well adapted, is another feature of the farm, there being orchards of apples, pears, plums, quinces, peaches, and cherries. The Montmorency cherries this season brought a return of \$600 per acre. Crimson clover is used as a cover crop and for plowing down in the orchard.

The great fields of Pride of the North corn, estimated to yield from 20 to 25 tons per acre,



A Typical Irish Hunter.