

crushing numbers of them and exposing others to weather conditions, is useful particularly in years when the grubs are changing to beetles.

Land known to be seriously infested and required for cropping in 1918 may be ploughed in late spring, thoroughly harrowed and planted to a late crop. Such late cultivation will attract to the fields, crows, black-birds, and other birds, which are known to feed readily upon these grubs, particularly during their nesting period. Domestic fowls, such as chickens and turkeys, are also fond of white grubs and should be allowed the run of infested fields when these are being ploughed.

Limited areas may be practically freed of white grubs by turning in hogs, either in spring after the first of May, by which time the grubs will have come near to the surface, or in late summer when the crop has been removed. These animals are very fond of white grubs, and will root them out and devour them. An intestinal worm of hogs, called the giant thorn-headed worm, is known to pass one stage of its life-history within white grubs. The worm is introduced into the hog when the latter devours the white grub. There is little danger of this happening, of course, if the hogs are allowed the run of fields in which no such animals had been pastured within three years, as any worm infested grub in the land during such period will have matured and disappeared.

Representation.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

I notice in your issue of February 28th a letter from Mr. Pierce in reference to the adoption of a better method of representation, and the use of the referendum. Permit me to endorse all he says with one exception: It would not do to give an elector three equal votes in a constituency electing three members. What is necessary in order to secure minority representation is the giving of a single transferable vote to each elector in a constituency in which several members are to be elected. Under our present system of single member districts it is absolutely impossible to secure proportional representation; so that the first step in reforming our present system is the grouping of our small districts into larger ones and the election therein of several members.

Some time I may trespass upon your space to show what kind of representation we do actually get under our present system. Now, however, I venture only to point out the fundamental error in our present methods. We have divided our electors into various portions and have given each portion the privilege of electing a representative. But each portion so happens to be composed of those who live together in the same district, not of those who think together. Hence we cannot get any correct representation of opinion. H. G. Wells says of Proportional Representation that it is "not the substitution of something for something else of the same nature; it is the substitution of right for wrong." And in the same connection Prof. H. A. Overstreet says: "Think of what our 'official' brain centers are now. Districts and precincts! Square miles of space inhabited by heterogeneous crowds of beings having nothing deeply and continuously in common! It is preposterous. The true social brain center is the group that functions in common, that has interests and knowledge in common. Until we tap such centers as these we shall remain as we are now, socially and politically brainless."

Brant Co., Ont.

W. C. GOOD.

Keep the Ball Rolling.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Having seen in your issue of February 7th the suggestion of "Subscriber" with reference to "Wider Sleights", I can say he has given expression to my ideas on this subject, as did the article in your February 28th issue on the same topic. I think this is a subject that should be discussed by farmers, to see if some means could be arrived at by which sleights would have to be wider. New sleights could be built wider without much expense, but to get the sleights we have rebuilt seems to

me to be the greatest difficulty. Yet if a law were passed requiring all sleights on the roads to be the same width as wagons, and manufacturers were not allowed to make undue profits on hub runners (because we would have to buy them), I think the change could be made.

Let us keep the ball rolling till we have wide sleights on our roads.

York Co., Ont.

SUBSCRIBER.

Germination Tests.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Articles which urge the importance of sowing only seed whose vitality has been proved, are very gratifying reading to those whose work is in connection with the seed supply. A small addition could profitably be made to the instructions for testing seed, given in the article on the seed supply in your issue of February 7th. It is some years since the method of home testing by means of moistened blotters between plates was first recommended. Experience has shown that it is unsatisfactory, and that much good seed will be lost if grain is discarded owing to its failure under such a test. At the office of the Seed Branch considerable attention has been given to methods of home testing, and it has been found that even in the laboratory, where more attention is naturally given to the seed than would be possible in the majority of homes, the method gives very unsatisfactory and contradictory results owing to the difficulty of maintaining constantly the proper degree of moisture. After all the recommended methods had been tried out, it was found that the simplest, as well as the only satisfactory way is to plant the seeds in a small box or can of moist earth, which is kept in a warm place until the vital seeds have sprouted. This is especially true of Western oats which share with corn the distinction of being the most deceptive of common farm seeds. The superiority of the method is so evident that in the Seed Laboratory at Calgary oats are always tested so, rather than in the standard germinator, the blotters of which are kept moist automatically. It is important too, that whenever possible a sample of seed which is known to be good be sown at the same time as the sample to be tested. Then if the good sample fails to grow well, one may be sure that proper conditions have not been maintained. If the results of a test are not convincing or if facilities for testing are not at hand, any one may have his seeds tested free at the seed laboratory. The samples should be addressed to the Seed Commissioner, Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, and, if not exceeding twelve ounces in weight, are carried free by the mails.

H. B. SIFTON,

In Charge of Germination Laboratory.

No Carping Criticism.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Enclosed please find postal note of \$1.50 as renewal of my subscription for 1918. We are well pleased with "The Farmer's Advocate." We have been taking it now for a number of years, and think it is improving each and every year. Life nowadays on the farm is so hurried and burdened with work that we have scarcely time to read any paper at all, but we always find time to read the "Advocate," even though we have to curtail our hours of sleep, and think that it is time well spent. It is no flattery to say that your editorials on the various questions affecting the farmer that frequently arise are excellent, calm, fair, appropriate, sensible, timely and to the point. The trouble with some of us too often is that we are inclined to indulge in carping criticism, and it sometimes does more harm than good, and gives us a bad name, for we often hear urban dwellers say that "the farmers will grumble anyway; that they are never satisfied, no matter how much they get for their produce they want more." We cannot deny that there is often some truth in this assertion, and although we get plenty of reason for grumbling it is better not to let it become a habit with us. The conditions that give cause for grumbling are often those of our own making. We grumble at the Government and its officials, and

then when election time comes around we listen to the race cry, religious cry, and every other old cry that is raised by the professional politician, and we vote to give the professional place and power in preference to the farmer who would best serve our interest. It is no wonder that leading men who spend their time and use their talents advocating the cause of the farmer, after a while become discouraged and quit. The representatives of the big interests are always on the alert and when they see a leading man advocating the farmer's cause, they first try to choke him off and if they don't succeed that way they then try coaxing him off, and invite him to a banquet or to speak at a club meeting usually held in the city of Toronto, where they wine him and dine him, and pet him and flatter his vanity, until he concludes a "separate peace," and what is worse, he often joins the enemy and hits back at the defenceless head of the poor unfortunate farmer. Now, this is all our own fault. If we don't stay loyally by our leaders and support them, especially in the hours of adversity, we need not expect them to lead us to the land of promise.

However, the future is looking brighter for the farming class. A few years of war and consequent scarcity of food has taught the urban dwellers and the powers that be that the farmer is at least a factor and of some importance. And the frantic efforts of our leaders to conserve food and fuel and to increase production have, in many cases, only clogged the wheels of progress. But it has taught the farmers that our leaders are not the oracles of wisdom we used to think they were, and we must do our own thinking now as well as our own physical work.

"Others' follies teach us not,
Nor much their wisdom teaches;
And most of sterling worth is what
Our own experience preaches."

Ontario Co., Ont.

JOSEPH FOX.

Gang Threshing Would be a Success.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

I have read your valuable paper for some time, but have never found any articles which have interested me more than those on "Gang Threshing." Where help is so scarce and the fall ploughing a very important matter, if not a vital one, it is practically impossible to get the ploughing done when there are so many threshings to attend and silos to be filled.

Regarding small outfits run by gasoline engines, I may say there are few men who understand gasoline engines and can repair or adjust them when they get out of order, besides they have to be kept dry or the ignition and batteries will not work. True, it would cost more at the time, but think of the great amount of extra time that would be saved in changing bands, etc. Besides there wouldn't be such early and late hours at both ends of the day that are caused by changing hands.

Personally, I might say, that on account of such a large number of threshings which I had to attend and being alone the greater part of last fall, resulted in my not getting half my fall ploughing done. Gangs cannot help but be a grand success and a great time-saver to the over-worked farmer these days. Could many of our prominent farmers not lay this before the Minister of Agriculture and the owners of threshing outfits, and next fall be ready to carry out this valuable scheme?

Northumberland Co., Ont. WARREN A. ATKINSON.

Record Prices For Seed Corn.

In the report of a farm sale recently held near Harrow, Ont., seed corn was said to have sold at from \$30 to \$50 per bushel. The variety was White Cap Yellow Dent, and the seed was guaranteed to germinate 98 per cent.

Canada's Young Farmers and Future Leaders.

What I Like About My Part of Canada.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The backbone of true patriotism is love of home. It is characteristic of Canadians, that the part of this wonderful country in which we dwell, is to us the best part of Canada. Sad, indeed, is the lot of the man who does not like his own part of Canada, for contentment is the keynote to highest efficiency and true happiness. Happy is he who has found his work and lives in congenial surroundings. But I like to think of "our part," not alone in its geographical sense, but rather in its relation to our work, or our place in service to the nation. Perhaps the views of a young farmer may be of interest, in view of the increased attention paid agriculture of late. Formerly the farmer was regarded by most people as a very useful and necessary man, but probably he himself is chiefly to blame for the inferior position in which he was placed. Farmers generally were too indifferent, conservative and unorganized, to be a very dominant force in national affairs. True, they worked hard, and produced much wealth, but as a rule the railways, manufacturers and middlemen got

most of the benefit. However, owing to the world food scarcity the farmer to-day is taking his proper place, and here are a few reasons why farming is one of the best and greatest vocations of the present day.

Wherein lies the chief charm of farming? Is it the easy life, the money, or the pleasure? With chores every day of the year, including Sunday, with long, arduous days in seeding, harvest and threshing the farm offers no inducement to a lazy man. As to money, it is doubtful if the average farmer who pays his honest debts, supports church and other beneficial institutions, improves his home, lives and dresses comfortably, and takes time to enjoy life a little is saving very much hard cash. True, prices are high now, but taxes, machinery and other expenses eat huge holes in the farm receipts, and the city business man would be surprised at the small margin a farmer has to himself. As to pleasure, our urban cousins with their many companions, movies, concerts and theatres might find our country pleasures tame indeed. For sport in ordinary times we have football, hockey, tennis, boating, driving, skating, and snow-shoeing. "In times like these" we should be busy enough not to need very much of these exercises, however. Occasional concerts and entertainments of mostly

home talent help to make country life pleasant, and during the long winter evenings and rainy days, our hobbies, books and magazines, and piano become real friends to us. The city young people pay others to amuse them, we have to depend on our own resources, and I think in the end it is better to learn to be good company for oneself.

As a life-work farming is attractive to me for several reasons. First, it is a man's job every day. The manual labor involved demands fit bodies, and in return we get good health and appetites and sound sleep. Modern agriculture demands trained minds, and the most brainy men will find ample scope for their intellects. Again it demands trained hands, for a farmer has to be a carpenter and machinist and be proficient in many other trades in his work. Lastly, to be a true success a man must be of a high moral make-up, for farming more than any other vocation is a partnership between God and man. Even the most careless about religious matters must take his Partner into account in his work. Though he may say very little, may not even analyze his feelings, yet underlying all his work he must realize his dependence upon God for success. This gives one's successes a better flavor, for the farmer

can feel that he has none before. By animal he rears, increase added to who exchanges so or wage, or the b another's ingenuity increase, cannot i who, in partners from the raw mat

Again, farming The farmer is, in his own farm is co pendent on his fel may keep what ki crops, and is not b and time of doing independence, and wishes, when he li any superior for i mixed blessing per in their own intere subject. This ind appearance of our standing character neighbors. For in



Hor

EDITOR "THE FA Most farm equ of machinery, the g uses. However, on comparison to its pe labor, pulleys, belt chusively for pumpi grindstone, separate venience is lost if th chimes it has power t To set up a hor spare time and less a as the brand-new, ex fore it is desirable. Below several st scribed. They are has proved to his o more designs, but t ideas.

A shows how to c shaft bushings.

Board should be a

1. With compas desired.

2. Saw out with

3. Inside descri a good space from of rim.

4. Mark out two as shown in Fig. A.

5. Cut out inside

Cut out as above, made to give pulley pr

when pulley is assem lugs with grain one gives extra strength.

B shows arms for Select a board a li

face and of suitable t

1. Cut long en enough to move in an

2. Bore a hole i the centre. Two arm

C shows bushing

1. Put arms in p

2. Measure exac side of lugs.

3. Make a bloc as distance between shown.

4. Bore a hole eight of an inch small

5. Saw in half, le as shown.

To A

1. Nail parts of putting lugs in the sar

2. Slip rim over

3. Nail one-half from the ends, being s

4. Put arms in p

5. Put a b-lt of end of arms, and tight