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demands careful selection of seed, for unless you plant the very best seeds you are partially wasting your soil and fertilizer, as well as your time and labor. The safe selection is

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DEPT. 2 TORONTO, ONT.

Sees No Hope in Co-operation.

EDITOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The present appears to be a very opportune time for the discussion of all topics bearing upon national efficiency and economy in production and distribution. And, amongst those questions, co-operation among farmers looms up large on the intellectual horizon of its advocates. But, whilst I commend the wisdom of discussing the question to-day, I cannot share in the enthusiasm of its projectors. The average man is not of a high intellectual order, and must, therefore, seek employment where intense mental concentration is not needed. Farming is an occupation where a man, continually facing difficult problems, requires sound judgment, and an intimate knowledge of agricultural science and economics. But the introduction of co-operation gives the brainy man no advantage over the stupid and inefficient. The benefits, if such there be, are common property, accruing to all who market through the society. And thus, in so far as the organization would benefit the farmer, to that extent it would attract those who reap the reward of other people's energy. The industry might gain for a brief period, but sooner or later old conditions would return. People would go back to the land to join the ranks of food producers until the natural law of supply and demand would bring the farmer to his former financial status.

Much of the enthusiasm for co-operation has arisen from the presentation, by voluble writers, of the aggregate earnings of the societies. But when these are divided up among several hundred farmers, the individual saving is a mere bagatelle. And, besides, in reckoning up those earnings, the society's prices are usually compared with those of the local merchant. But the man, who to-day buys for cash, purchases from the mail order houses in the cities and sells small articles, such as eggs and poultry, direct to the city dealer, saves on these things all he could hope to procure through a farmers' organization. The largest co-operative society on the continent, the Grain Growers' Grain Co. of Winnipeg, has not made its patrons wealthy, and never will. The regeneration of agriculture lies deeper than the marketing of produce. It exists in the individuality of the man. And until the governments and municipalities of this country bring to the farmer the advantages of a higher education, better roads and city conveniences, we shall continue to be fed by the unambitious hewer of wood and drawer of water, in spite of all the farmers' clubs that can be brought into existence. Huron Co., Ont. J. L.

Ensure the Clover Crop by Sowing Plenty of Seed Per Acre.

The Commission of Conservation have a number of farmers, conducting demonstration work under their supervision. They report that out of twenty-three farmers in the eastern Provinces, only two claim that they were sowing their clover seed thick enough to ensure a good catch, before they commenced experimenting. Six pounds was the average amount sown, but they have now found out that it pays to sow 10 pounds per acre. Nine of these farmers have started to grow their own clover seed as a result of the demonstration work. J. M. McLean, of Prince Edward Island, finds that on his farm the second crop of hay is always much thicker and of better quality with the thick seeding than with the thin. When clover seed is grown on the farm more seed is usually sown per acre than if cash has to be paid for it.

Numerous comparisons have been made on the Illustration Farm in the way of trying out home-grown seed along side of that purchased, and it is found that seed grown on the home farm usually gives the best results. Therefore, it would be a good idea for every farmer who has a clean field to plan to grow his own clover seed. The first crop should be cut early so as to give the second, or seed crop, an early start.

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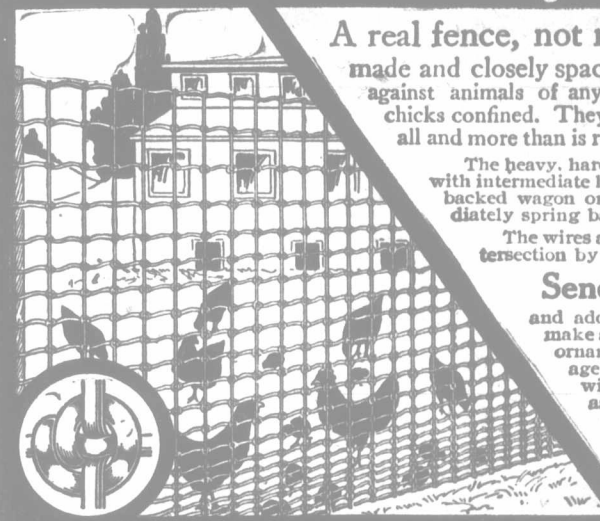
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