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### AGRICULTURE.

#### News of General Interest.

September is the first fall month, and with the advent of this month, comes another periodical season for thought and work, the harvest being either closed or is near to its close.

Broad cast sowing is wasteful of seed, because a large proportion of it is covered either too deeply or not deep enough, and in either case the plants come up weak, and perish through the winter. One bushel of seed sown with a drill is as good as 1½ sown broadcast. The half bushel saved will pay all the cost of the use of the drill, which can generally be hired for 50 cents an acre. The great benefit to the crop is so much clear grain.

The use of lime is very beneficial to the soil, when it is made with judgment. It will not do to use lime alone for the purpose of increasing the crop, because it is a special manure which only fertilizes the soil and draws from it a portion of its reserved fertility. If this is repeated often the soil will be rapidly exhausted. The way to use lime, then, is always with manure of some kind upon which it may act beneficially. A good quantity of manure is plowed in and the surface is well harrowed. The lime well air slacked, is then spread and harrowed in if the drill is used; if not, the seed is sown and both are harrowed in together.

Seeding with grass, is best done by itself. The stubble is plowed next fall as soon as the grain is harvested; the land is thoroughly worked down fine and mellow, and the grass and clover seed are sown. The growth is rapid and strong enough before winter to stand the cold weather, and is quite as forward as if it had been sown with the grain this year. Seeding with grain is going out of fashion, for the good reason that the grain injures the weak grass instead of helping it.

Fall plowing should be done as soon and as much as possible. Except on the lightest soil we would plow every acre that is to be sown or planted in the spring. The ground for oats, barley, or spring wheat should certainly be plowed without delay, even if it is thought advisable to let the sod for potatoes or corn lie until the spring.

Permanent grass should be grown by every farmer who has suitable soil for its growth. Every year grass lands become more valuable, and with clover and other fodder crops will enable the farmer to keep more stock which is the most valuable product for him.

The seed for permanent grass fields should be mixed. We cannot do better than follow the English farmers in selecting the seed for meadows; adding to their choice those varieties, and is enough for one acre: 8 lbs. of perennial rye grass; 4 lbs. of timothy; 4 lbs. of orchard grass; 3 lbs. of meadow fescue; 3 lbs. of tall oat grass, and 4 lbs. of red clover; all well mixed together.

Young stock require the best of care at this season. The feed is now getting hard and dry, and is not sufficiently nutritious for young animals. To let these go back now would be a serious damage, and would keep them back all the winter. They should be kept growing. It would be better to sell some of them and buy food with the money for the rest than half starve the whole, if a farmer has more than he can carry through in the best manner.

Colts are the most valuable of the young stock and should be well cared for not only in the way of feeding, but in their training. An animal should be trained as a plant is. Not "broken in" all at once, but gradually, day by day; one thing taught or one lesson given at a time; and nothing should ever be done or taught that needs to be undone or unlearned. Colts should be regularly fed and a liberal allowance of grain given them for the winter.

Horses should be taken up at night as soon as the weather cools off. They are very sensitive to cold and should not be exposed to it. Pasturing on the aftermath or in the stubbles may cause copious salivation or slobbering which is very weakening. It is caused by acid galls, as pennyroyal, lobelia and others, among the grass. When this is found to occur they should be kept out of the fields. A quart of wheat middlings or corn meal will stop the salivation.

Cattle and cows are sure to suffer if left to pasture among weeds and coarse plants in swamps and wood lots. It is at this season that the various diseases caused in this way prevail. "Red water;" "black leg;" "milk-sick;" "dry murrain," and other fatal disorders are produced by bad feed and bad water at this season. To prevent it see that some good feed is given along with the coarse, hard pasture, and if any animals appear to be ill-

ing, a dose of one quart of raw linsed oil should be given at once. Linseed meal is the best food for cows under these circumstances.

Sheep and lambs require the best of care to bring them into good condition for the winter and for breeding. Separate the lambs from the ewes and ram and put these in a field by themselves. Early lambs may be raised in this way. If lambs are not desired so early keep the rams separately. Breeding ewes and rams require some extra feed. It will be well paid for in the better lambs.

#### Agricultural Notes.

Nearly 5,000 is said to be the number of patents granted in the United States on churns.

A light dusting of salt sown on buckwheat is said to largely increase the productivity of its grain, making it fill even in dry weather.

There is much less second crop after a cutting of timothy than after clover, and what does grow is of more value as protection to the roots, which run near the surface and are often badly injured by deep freezing, though not thrown out as clover roots often are.

If the strawberry bed is to remain for another year's fruiting, and has not been cleaned out, do it at once, and if very weedy scatter straw broadcast lightly and burn it over. If not done, and the bed is cleared of weeds, stir up the soil well, and give a liberal supply of compost.

A young heifer growing up to be a cow and bred to calve sometime next spring, is more sure to pay her keep through the winter than any other kind of horned stock. If not sold when she has her first calf, she will at least pay her way for a year, when she will certainly be worth more.

If a farmer has now a crop of Hungarian grass, millet or fodder corn, he should by all means cut and feed it, rather than plow it under a green manure. It makes a seed bed too light and porous for winter wheat, and most of its fertilizing properties have been wasted before any spring crop can be sown or planted.

Wherever one goes in these late summer days he will find on grain stubble places where the grass or clover failed to catch. In nine cases out of ten these failures are the result of unwise economy in the use of seed. Farmers often sow grain more thickly than is profitable, but the mistake in seeding with grass is always in sowing too little.

Dried peat or muck makes an excellent bedding for cattle in winter, and every stock farmer who has access to a muck bed will find it profitable to dig and throw out a liberal supply to be used for this purpose. It can remain by the side of the trench from which it is taken until dried, but should be drawn to the yards and placed under cover before the fall rains. The drier it becomes the greater its absorptive power and the better it is for bedding.

It is an old saying that a drought scares farmers to death, but too much rain starves them. Excessive moisture, when it does not absolutely injure crops, induces a succulent growth which promises more than it realizes. In a very dry season the grain is shortened in straw, but all the energies of the plant are directed to producing the seed, and the grain is thus usually better than expected.

I have always disliked to mix cut feed for horses and stock. If I used a small box or half barrel tub, in forking over the cut hay, to wet and mix the feed. I had to be careful, or more or less would fall over the sides, and if the box was large, in putting in plenty of water to thoroughly wet the hay, I found the large box cumbersome when I tipped the surplus water out, and considerable feed was wasted by adhering to the inside surface.

So I took a good, large molasses barrel to experiment with (an oak barrel is better), cut it lengthwise through the middle, fitted snugly an extra half head in each end of the two parts, hinged them together again (one half acting as a lid, something like a trunk), with clasp in front. Then I made a revolving churn-dash, with crank and handel outside, rounded out plates in the heads for the axle of the dash to rest in, put on a couple of stays to keep the cover from going back too far, and the barrel was completed. To raise it up and for a support, I made a saw buck of four short boards, rounding out a place for the barrel. I find it quite in advance, in my estimation, of the old method. In mixing the feed, I put in the hay, feed and just as much water as is necessary, and then stir. If it is desired to steam the feed with hot water, the lid keeps it close.

The farmer can be the very best liver in the land, just as easily as not, and he

should be. He has his choice of the world's produce. He holds a first mortgage on the herds and flocks. The crops and fruit of the earth are his to begin with, and he should "fare sumptuously every day." Why not? He will be all the better man, and better farmer for it, and it is his duty as well as his privilege. The only reason that he does not, is that he has permitted himself and his family to get into a rut of beef and cabbage, pork and potatoes, that he finds it difficult to get out of. That is all wrong, from every point of view. Enlarge the boundaries of the garden and enlarge your ideas of gardening at the same time. Plan with liberal views, and plant with a liberal hand. Is the old garden cramped? Turn it over to the women for the herbs and a "posy bed," and go out to the nearest side of the cornfield, and make a garden big enough in which to spread yourself. Make the rows as long as the field is wide, and as far apart as will admit your cultivator or horsehoe, and some to spare, and in them plant something besides onions and cabbage. Take the catalogue of the best seedsman you know, and let the whole list of vegetables be represented by one or two of the best sorts. Give this side of the cornfield a little extra attention during the season. Let it be the first when you begin to "cultivate," the last when you finish up. You will never miss the time, and you will live better than you have ever lived before.—White Plains (N. Y.) Journal.

The chances of success with any kind of farm stock depends largely upon the interest the breeder takes in the class of animals he is raising. The farmer who has a natural fondness for sheep, but cares little for horses, cattle or hogs, will find more profit in raising wool or mutton, even when prices are low, than in growing oxen, bees or dairy stock at prices comparatively higher than wool or mutton command. The same is true of horses. The man who admires a good roadster can scan his points, judging his quality and capacity with almost unerring certainty at a glance, but has an aversion to sheep and sees no beauty in neat stock, will doubtless make money in raising gentlemen's roadsters under conditions where others not inheriting a natural fondness for such animals would fail. In deciding upon what class of stock to raise, the young farmer must, of course, have an eye to the probable demand, also the losses from accidents and other causes that he is likely to encounter with certain kinds of stock, but at the same time his natural attachment to certain classes of animals should have considerable weight in determining whether he should make a specialty of wool growing, dairying, raising steers or horses. It costs much more to stock a farm with the latter, and the risks are greater, than with any other class of farm animals. Those qualified to succeed, however, will doubtless find the profits fair at least, while the satisfaction of raising them, and the pleasure of anticipating that some may prove a second Maud S., will offset many of the disappointments sure to be experienced.

#### NORTHWEST WHEAT.

##### A Successful Experiment with No. 1 Hard in England.

An interesting experiment has just been made in England, which proves beyond a doubt the exceptional strength and quality of the wheat grown in the Canadian Northwest. On February 27th of this year a sample of No. 1 hard Red Fyfe wheat from the Canadian Pacific Railway Dunmore experimental farm, in the Canadian Northwest, was forwarded by Mr. Alexander Begg, representing the Canadian Pacific Railway in Europe, through Mr. Dunham of the "Miller," to a farm near Colchester, Essex, England, and there sown in what was but poor, thin soil. The wheat came up well, and was gathered on August 12th. Threshing showed it to be well developed, very sound, and in every respect an excellent sample. In the London market the quotations for the grain ranged from 34 to 36 shillings per quarter of 480 pounds, while the best red wheat was fetching only 32 to 33 shillings. In other words, the Canadian Northwest sample sown on poor English soil obtained "top prices." The general expression of English millers and dealers was that the wheat was unquestionably a very fine sample, and almost any quantity, well harvested, cleaned and shipped would find a profitable market in Great Britain.

There are no hod carriers in Germany. Bricks are passed by hand. The higher up the brick layers are, the more men are required to toss the bricks. Two men to a story is about the average; with enough more to lead from the front of the building to the places where the brick are needed.