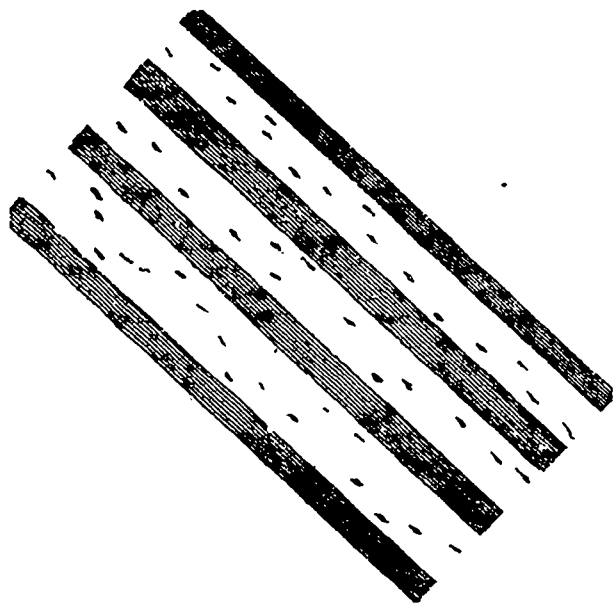


In the spring, plow the ground five inches deep, and, in light soils, lay the furrows flat, if you have a plow that will do it. Then you will have no trouble with grass. If plowed with lap furrows, a disk harrow or an Acome pulverising harrow is necessary, to make a good seed-bed. At any rate, harrow as smooth and level as possible. Before the last harrowing, if a first rate crop is wanted, sow on from 25 to 50 bushels of good unleached wood ashes. This is especially desirable for a light soil, and if the larger quantity is used, the grass on the land in after years will show its presence distinctly up to the line where the ashing ended.

The final harrowing having been given, then comes the planting. Every thing here should be so managed as to save labor. If you intend to use a horse-hoe or cultivator in tilling between the rows, much work may be saved by having the rows perfectly straight and at an equal distance asunder, so that the implement may run close to the corn. The easiest way that I know to secure this is to use a marker of some sort. The most general custom is to plant in hills. Many farmers try to have them in line only one way, but by cross-marking they may be had in line both ways, so as to be cultivated length-wise and cross-wise, and even diagonally, if desired. But unless the ground is very weedy, a larger crop



[Showing how much is left to do by hand, when the rows are crooked and uneven].

can be grown by planting in drills. After trying all ways, I have settled on what may be called a compromise drill, which combines the advantages of both hill and drill planting.

The land is marked off in rows 3 or $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet asunder. To secure these perfectly straight, as well as at equal distances, is not very easy when the common marker drawn by a horse is used. I have taken a lesson from garden-work, and use a light wheelbarrow as a marker, removing the wheel and substituting a plank wheel with bevelled (V shaped) edge. Then I stretch a light line (made of wool twine or marline) where I want to have the first row. I run the wheelbarrow carefully by the side of the line, and the wheel makes a mark as straight as the line, and as deep as you want to plant corn, the depth being regulated by weighting the wheelbarrow. By making the circumference of the wheel a certain number of feet, and cutting out a notch at every foot, your drill will be spaced off so that a child can drop the seed at perfectly even distances and cover it with his foot. Two kernels should be

dropped close beside each of the marks made by the notches in the wheel. This is better than regular drilling, where one kernel is placed every six inches, because it leaves room to hoe between the plants in the row.

Thus the first row is made. To mark the succeeding rows there must be a strip of board, or a round stick, nailed across the wheelbarrow and extending on each side of the centre a little more than the proposed width between the rows. At the desired distance from the centre (which is opposite the wheel), drive in a nail, and hang upon the nail a light chain long enough to drag two feet on the ground. This chain will mark the place for the next row. When you get to the end of the first row return in the mark made by the drain, first shifting the chain to the other end of the stick to mark the next row. The chain must of course be shifted in this way at each turn. A man and two children can thus plant an acre of corn in an hour or two.

The corn should be cultivated and hoed as soon as it is up, and again at intervals no longer than ten days, until it meets in the row. Large weeds that escaped in hoeing should be pulled out by hand, and not be allowed to go to seed among the corn.

When the corn is cut up, a stooking-horse should be used, and the stooks firmly bound with straw near the top. It is not desirable to make large stooks. Taking five rows, and making the stooks in the place of the middle row, from 75 to 100 stalks is enough for a stook. Three weeks is usually long enough to let the corn stand in stooks. It ought to be husked early, so as to be well dried before freezing weather. The best way to preserve the fodder is to stand the stooks, after Lusk, upright on an open floor in a shed loft where the wind can blow up through them. Another way is to hang them across poles laid upon the "great beams" of the barn. In either of these ways they cure perfectly; but laid in piles they mould and become rotten. When large fields of corn are grown, the fodder may be stacked upon a raised platform, a "chimney" being made in the centre of the stack by filling a large sack with straw and drawing it up as the stack is built. There are several other ways of storing corn-fodder known to farmers, but generally enough care is not used in the preservation of this valuable feed. In feeding such forage to cows in milk better results are obtained by cutting it short, packing the pieces in a large box with meal or bran scattered among them, treading it all down hard, and wetting it with boiling water. The box is then covered, and fodder thus prepared at night will be found in the morning still warm and very acceptable to the cows, increasing the yield of milk considerably over the same quantity of feed fed to them in the dry state.

J. HOSKINS.

Dear Sir,—So much has been written in the way of instruction, in the different agricultural papers of Canada and the United States, for the benefit of cheese makers, that it seems almost superfluous to crowd anything more into print on the subject. But when we remember that there is a heavy loss to the country every year, amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars, through faulty management of the milk, we feel justified in calling the attention of cheese makers to some of the causes of failure to produce a prime article.

The general rules of cheese making are supposed to be understood by all cheese makers, and if they were each one to give the formula in writing for making full cream cheese, we should see a striking uniformity in the whole, and we should be still in the dark as to the cause of such a wide difference in the quality of the product, all made from the same material, and by the same rules. A very wise man