

exigencies of the case or is not properly enforced by the municipalities, it should be amended without delay. Why should we have a law upon our statute book if it cannot be made effective in lessening to some extent the evils which it was intended to prevent? It has had a sufficient trial and it is time now for something better, if it is at all possible to have it.

We realize fully the very great difficulty there is in successfully coping with this question. But the extent and serious losses sustained by many farmers through having sheep destroyed by dogs demand that, if at all possible, some effective remedy should be applied that will reduce the nuisance to a minimum. There are many farmers in this province to-day who refuse to keep sheep because of the liability of their being destroyed by dogs, and because of this, are forced to give up what would otherwise be a very profitable branch of business. A good, well-trained dog is a valuable animal to have either in town or country, but so far as the farmer is concerned he is not a money getter like a sheep, and if it comes down to a case of whether the sheep or the dog is to remain, who will say that it should not be the animal of the "golden fleece." But as far as our experience goes it is not the good dog that is responsible for the bulk of the sheep worrying in the country but the sneaking, insignificant cur that is of no value to anyone, excepting to consume food and increase the dog tax treasury.

The time is now opportune for discussing this whole question and considering whether a most important industry in this country is to be seriously hampered because some people have a desire to own a few valueless dogs with a special hankering after sheep; and we should be glad to hear from sheep farmers and others as to the working of the present law and how it can be amended so as to remedy the evil. Any changes in the way of legislation should only be made after the fullest canvass of the whole subject in question.—*Farming*

*Spring* is at hand: that is no news, but it is a piece of information that, common as it is to every one, is not attended to by the farmer-class as much as it ought to be. People are too apt to postpone getting things ready for work; horses are left unshod; plough-irons unfitted; drills, ungreased; and so on; so that every thing has to be done in a hurry when the time comes to go to

work in real earnest, and the consequence is, that the work is too often scamped. Oh! that 'll do, is too often heard when the harrows are at work, and when a couple more times would improve the tilth amazingly. As Stephens says: To keep up work is easy; but to overtake work is a very different thing.

There is no need for us to warn you not to be afraid of early sowing, this year; for to-day, March 22nd, the entire crop of snow is still on the ground, and it does not seem likely that much work will be done on the land in April. All the more reason why you should get everything ready for a start when the time for work really does come.

Look carefully to the lambing ewes; some people do not like twins; nay, we have even heard of a man who always knocked one of the twins on the head when a ewe gave him two at a birth! It would be well to put ewes with twin-lambs by themselves, and to feed them a little better than the rest. Cut the ram-lambs at ten days old, if the weather is not too severe, and dock their tails at the same time. There are two ways of castrating a lamb or calf: 1st, cut off the point of the scrotum, and extract both testicles through the opening; 2nd, cut through the right-hand part of the scrotum and extract one testicle, doing the same thing afterwards to the left-hand one. The latter process makes a smaller wound than the former, but we always followed the former plan and it served us well.

Above all things never omit the castration of the male lambs. Whoever sees the lots of ram-lambs that come into the Montreal market every fall, after having passed the last 2 months of their short lives in worrying themselves, their dams, and their half-sisters with their vain saltatory efforts after aphrodisiacal delights, cannot wonder at the quantity of red-fleshed, meagre, rank-flavoured mutton to which we are treated during the long winter of this town.

It is quite true that some of the best sheep-farmers of England postpone the castration of their lambs till the autumn; but these are sheep-breeders who keep large flocks, and the uncastrated males are kept by themselves, after weaning, far away from their dams and the ewe-lambs.

If much blood flows from the dock of the tail, tie a string round the tail. But this is rarely necessary. If it is done, the string must not be allowed to remain on more than 24 hours, or else