

stituents than other common farm crops, but to the fact that, although it is a somewhat dainty feeder with a small root system, yet it must secure the necessary plant food for its perfect growth in a short growing period of from sixty to one hundred days. The plant food must, therefore, be not only abundant but in a readily available form.

Flax culture makes the heaviest draft on the nitrogen of the soil. This explains why flax succeeds best on virgin soils, because nitrogen is more abundant in them. It is also a strong reason why clover should be included in a crop rotation with flax.

The Minnesota Station also carried on experiments to see why flax could not be grown continuously on the same soils. It was found that the flax straw and roots in their decomposition produce products which destroy the following flax crops. When a period of five to seven years intervene between two flax crops, the old straw and roots are then thoroughly decomposed and will not injure a new flax crop. Flax must, therefore, be grown in rotation with other crops, unless new land is available. The rotation should include a hoed crop in order to keep the soil clear of weeds. Green manuring and the plowing in of clover stubble is the most economical way of keeping up the fertility of the land

DOMINION STUD BOOK.

The twelfth annual meeting of this society was held at Clinton, on December 14th last. The president, Mr. John McMillan, M.P., in his annual address, urged the importance of securing adequate representation for the society at the leading fairs and kindred breeders' associations. He expressed the conviction that the present unsatisfactory condition of the horse trade, and the condition of its registration bodies, pointed to a great change in the near future and a general re-arrangement along permanent lines. He believed the advisability of the Shire and Clyde cross would yet be admitted where now it was denied, and as that was the basis of the society it should keep in a position to justify its existence and claim recognition.

The secretary's report showed that the new registrations for the year are still very light as compared with former years. Financially, the organization was the strongest society of its kind on this continent, the cash balance in the bank being about \$1,000. The secretary was instructed to have the annual report published in the Live Stock Association Book, issued annually by the Ontario Department of Agriculture. He was also instructed to compile the by-laws and regulations, with amendments to date, and have them printed for circulation. A grant of \$10 was made to each of the following fairs: West Huron, South Huron, and North Perth.

All the old officers were re-elected for 1899. The secretary of the society is Mr. James Mitchell, Goderich, Ont.

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