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**FARMS AND FARMING.**

**The Merits of Sweet Clover.**

"If you have a poor field, or have failed with alfalfa and red clover, it will pay you to investigate the merits of sweet clover," says F. C. Nunnick, B.S.A., in "Conservation." In further description of the value of the plant he explains that although sweet clover is frequently looked upon as a weed, it is a valuable soil improver and makes excellent feed. But it must be cut early or it becomes woody; and further, it must be cured without being spoiled by rain. It can also be used as silage, but care must be exercised to tramp it very tightly in the silo and to weight it to prevent excessive spoiling. If a second crop is desired or if seed is required from the second crop, the first crop must be cut with a high stubble, to allow at least a joint or two on the stubble from which the new growth starts.

Sweet clover will often survive the winter that kills red clover.

**Which Farm Activity Pays You Best.**

Farming is a business—a man-sized business. And yet can you tell which branch on your farm pays the best? Is there some department which is being conducted at a loss after the various overhead charges are deducted? Have you ever really stopped to think of these incidental expenses, the interest the money invested and the annual depreciation of buildings and implements? You have? And you say you have proceeded to reduce these overhead charges? Then you must have kept an accurate record of all receipts and expenses.

It is not necessary to keep an elaborate set of books—day book, ledger, journal, etc. Neither is it necessary to have an extensive knowledge of commercial book-keeping. At the beginning of the year an inventory is taken of values of buildings, crops, stock, implements and again at the end of the year. Care must be exercised, however, to increase the land value only when improvements have been made during the year and not in accordance with the rise or fall of land values. This gives the true agricultural value of the land and not the real estate value. During the year, an account is kept of all receipts and expenses for each department, and the totals balanced at its conclusion.

A very simple but comprehensive "Farmer's Account Book" is published by the Commission of Conservation, Ottawa, and distributed free. As the number is limited it is advised that all applications for this booklet be forwarded at once. Ask to see a copy of this booklet at your branch of the Khaki University.

**The Growing of Red Clover for Seed.**

First-class red clover seed costs over \$20 per bushel—which is another way of saying that a farmer may obtain over \$20 per bushel for his clover seed. The average yield is from two to three bushels per acre, although five bushels is frequently obtained. Moreover, when some of this seed is saved for the next year's planting, one is assured that no noxious weeds are being introduced, as frequently happens when strange seed is purchased. In addition to these facts, the clover field has already yielded one bumper crop of hay.

The first crop of clover is never cut for seed as the flowers produce very little seed. This is due to the fact that the bumble

bees, who alone are responsible for the fertilization of the flowers, are not in great numbers at that time of the year. Why? Because in a nest of bumble bees, all the bees, except the queen, die in the autumn leaving the queen alone to reproduce her kind and build up a new colony the following spring.

Cut the first crop early. This gives the second crop an opportunity to blossom and ripen its seed before the early fall frosts come. Pull or cut out the weeds. This gives a cleaner seed. The cleaner the seed the higher the clover will grade, and necessarily, the higher the price.

Cut when nearly all the heads are browned. But better still rub several heads of the clover from different parts of the field, in the palm of the hand. When the seed shells out easily and clean, it is time to cut. If the seed is still soft leave the crop a few days longer. Don't make the mistake of cutting too soon. Use an ordinary mower, or a mower with a table attachment. Or the binder may be used by removing the binding attachment and the two small boards that hold the sheaves in place. This leaves the cut clover in a splendid position to dry out on the stubble. Cut when the dew is on the plants to prevent the shelling of the seed.

**C.P.R. Land Scheme.**

In the course of his speech to the Thorold (Ont.) Board of Trade, Mr. E. W. Beatty, President of the Canadian Pacific Railway, gave a brief outline of their proposed land scheme. A large number of farms will be established, on the community settlement idea, if feasible, in the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan. A start has already been made, and a number of 160-acre farms have been grouped in communities. Any returned soldier requiring a little tuition may commence his farm under expert supervision. Under this plan the settler will be given a four or five-roomed house, a barn large enough for ten head of stock, and a pump. The land will be fenced and made ready for cultivation.

The plan involves an expenditure of \$3,500,000 in building 1,000 houses and a like number of barns, 1,300,000 miles of wire fence, digging 1,000 wells, and getting some 50,000 acres of land under cultivation.

The salvation of agriculture lies in good stock, and the best type of citizen which the country produces is the stock farmer. After the war there will be an inevitable slump in the price of grain, but the depletion which has taken place in the livestock supplies of the world would assure the stockman of continued high prices.—HON. DUNCAN MARSHALL.

Use your gifts faithfully and they shall be enlarged. Practice what you know and you shall attain to higher knowledge.—ARNOLD.

When this war is finished the demand for dairy products will be twofold, fourfold, tenfold, greater than than the supply. Europe will come with outstretched hands—every country in Europe—and say, "We must have milk; give us canned milk; give us dry milk; give us butter; give us cheese; give us dairy cattle; give us animals to build up our dairy herds again."—CARL VROOMAN.

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