

that where good ploughing is done and the furrow slice turned down flat, rather than on edge, that the sod rots better and larger returns are invariably secured.

In addition to turning the furrow slice over flat, it is important that no skips occur. Poorly ploughed breaking does not kill all the grass and the result is that in the second and often in subsequent crops this pest increases and seriously lessens the yield. Grass in stubble fields is one of the chief causes of low yields. Good ploughing, when breaking prairie sod, is as important as any other phase of the breaking operations.

3. *Pack after breaking.*—For the same reason that sod or prairie land should be turned over flat, it should also be pressed firmly against



the subsurface soil. For this purpose the land packer or the planker gives excellent results. In the dry summer of 1914 the only breaking on which the sod was thoroughly rotted was breaking that had been well packed. In a wet season the necessity for packing is not so great.

In low lying soils, the sod of which is composed largely of creeping rooted grasses, it is sometimes advisable to leave the land unpacked for a few days to permit the furrow slice to dry out and thus aid in killing the grass.

4. *Disc deep breaking as soon as possible after it can be done without turning up sods.*—Moisture evaporates rapidly from the surface of a firm soil. As soon as discing can be done without turning up unrotted sod, it should be done. On some soils it can be done very soon after breaking, but on others it often has to be left until the sod is at least partially decayed. The sooner it can be done the more moisture it will conserve.