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titions held in connection with the Winnipeg and Brandon exhibitions, you should have some idea of the merit of the various makes of gaso-line engine, though it has to be admitted that the results of these trials were not altogether conclusive and might require some puzzling over to decide just what the relative standing of the different engines were in the different classes. You should also have some idea of the working qualities of the different engines from what you see of them in your own locality. We would advise that you write the manufacturers, get as much information as you can from them, write some of the farmers who are using each of the different makes and get their views. Get as much information as you can and then choose the engine preferred. You will find the firms advertising in this journal who are selling good lines of gaso-line tractors. Write them.

OWNERSHIP OF LAND

Some time ago I bought a fractional half section of land fronting on a lake, containing, according to Dominion Government survey, 297 acres. Recently I sold this land. After purchaser was in possession some months he began to doubt if it contained the acreage mentioned, and had it resurveyed by a Dominion Government surveyor, and found that it was some six acres short to the high water level of the lake or 4 1/2 acres short to the present shore line. Purchaser paid me for only 291 acres and I gave him a transfer for the half section of land containing 291 acres according to the survey of a certain land surveyor. Can I collect from party from whom I bought for the shortage? If not, do I own the 1 1/2 acres between high water mark and the shore line and if in future the water should recede so that the six acres become uncovered would it belong to me or to present purchaser. The land itself is of very little value, but the shore frontage may some day be quite valuable.

Sask.
Enquirer.
Ans.—As to weather you retain the balance of the land now covered by water would depend a good deal on the way you gave the description in the transfer. If you described the land as a certain half section or as te case may be, containing 290 acres more or less, you would have conveyed the whole of the land. In order to give the correct information we would need to have a copy of the transfer. If, however, you described the land by metes and bounds, according to the survey, the balance of the land should belong to you.

TREATMENT FOR SMUT

In one of the journals devoted to farming, I noticed a letter from a reader referring to treating seed wheat with formalin. This reader stated that he bagged his wheat and then put into each bag about one pint of solution. Do you consider this a safe method, relying on the fumes only; say in the case of wheat in which there are no smut balls and apparently no loose spores?

T. W. D.
Ans.—Needless to say this method of treatment for smut has not been recommended by the Farmer's Advocate. Whether or not the method is safe is of no particular importance. It is, however, not the most approved. There would be too great chance for part of the grain to be saturated, while other parts would escape treatment. Any method that ensures complete wetting by a proper solution of formaldehyde is all right, but the intelligent farmer selects that treatment that facilitates the work and is economical. Special picklers are on the market and have given entire satisfaction.

PURCHASING ENGINE

I purchased a steam engine in December, 1909, and I have since heard that it will be condemned for the province of Alberta because it has a flat crown sheet. What can I do? I did not make a payment yet. I have signed all the notes and they have them in hand. The first payment was to be



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Manufactured by The Berlin Felt Boot Co. Limited, Berlin, Ont.

made February 1, 1910. Should I forward payment or not?

J. S.
Ans.—Having made a settlement for the machine, unless there was a distinct agreement that it should comply with all the provisions of the law in Alberta, you would be required to take it and carry out your part of the contract. Before payment, however, you might write to the company and also to the department of agriculture at Edmonton and get the correct information with regard to the requirements.

BOUNTY ON WOLVES

I see by your issue of Nov. 17 last that the bounty for wolves in Southern Alberta has been raised to \$50 on account of co-operation of the ranchers there. Would you kindly inform me if that price is still paid and give me same particulars if possible.

J. B.
Ans.—For further particulars write to the Department of Agriculture, Edmonton, Alta.

SANDPOINT FOR QUICKSAND

Have a well that has quicksand and would like to know whether or not it would be satisfactory to put a sandpoint into such a well? The water is there in good quantity if I could shut off the quicksand.

Man.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—Your description is not clear enough to warrant one deciding what should be done. If you are dealing with genuine quicksand, the kind that follows water and flows where water flows, attaching a sand point to the bottom of your pump and sinking that into the bed will hardly give the results desired, for the quicksand will pass through the sandpoint as readily as the water will. If you have sunk a well into this quicksand bed and the water has not risen any above the surface of the bed, has not come up in the well to any extent, but is simply on the sand at the bottom of the well, it is doubtful if it would be

worth while doing anything. If, however, the water has risen a few feet up into the well you should be able to pump it out in the ordinary way. If the water has risen only a foot or two above the sand bed the well is not likely to be of much account, but if you had nothing better you might get a sufficient supply of water by digging a large well, say 10 or 15 feet in diameter, thus giving room for a larger quantity of water to gather above the sand.

Quicksand in a well is difficult to deal with. A well can be sunk through a quicksand bed and the sand effectively shut off, but when the quicksand is depended on to furnish the supply of water trouble frequently arises. If you will send further particulars, giving depth of sand bed beneath the surface, height water rises in well above the sand bed, size of the well and state what you have done to get water out of it and what results you got, we could probably suggest wherein the trouble lies and advise what could be done.