

adopted the system are satisfied the above claims are correct. Those who have not, are unable to speak knowingly, and their argument is not based upon facts.

Of the crops to be grown, rye sown in August will be the earliest. It is, however, of poor quality, and soon passes out of the succulent into hard, dry and unpalatable food. Moreover, I think there is no season when mangels are so nutritious, or of such value as the period from 20th April to 20th May, embracing the time when rye can profitably be employed; and by May 20th a far better substitute can be used in orchard grass. This is certainly one of the soiling crops. It should be sown thickly, on good soil, as it is a voracious feeder. It will yield two good cuttings a year, and a dense third for pasture; but don't eat bare. After getting a good plant, no further care is necessary for years, except its annual fall top dressing.

The next on our list, Lucerne, will be ready by the time the orchard grass has been finished. It requires a deep, rich, well-drained or naturally dry soil. It supplies a most nutritious food—I doubt if any better can be grown; it, moreover, can be cut three or four times a season. I once cut it five times, but liquid manure was applied after each cutting. Like orchard grass, one seeding is sufficient for several years; and like it, an annual dose of well-rotted manure must not be omitted.

After lucerne, oats, peas and tares will be ready, and, when at their best, a capital food they are. Unfortunately, they do not long remain in their best condition, quickly ripening. I have often wondered why some of our seedsmen have not imported the winter vetch or tare. They remain so long flowering that they still keep green and succulent. Mr. Hugh Aylmer, the celebrated stock raiser of Norfolk, England, grows some eighty acres yearly, being his main early summer feed for sheep until rape, &c., is ready, and he sows winter tares in the spring, as he once expressed himself to me, "I would not accept the spring seed as a gift, if I could buy the winter at a high figure." After the oats and peas are done, the orchard grass and lucerne will be ready for cutting again until corn is ready, and this, without doubt, must ever be one main crop—it comes in so nicely just at the season when pastures fail; the dry, parching winds and sun, burning up the bare pastures and scorching nearly every green thing, has little effect upon this plant; it seems to fairly revel in intense heat, growing large crops of a rich, succulent food. No dairyman can afford to do without it. After corn comes rape. It is an extra, strong food, more perhaps for the sheep breeder and those keeping thorough-bred stock than for ordinary dairy or farm purposes. I cannot, however, omit it, as for certain purposes it cannot be surpassed. Of millet and Hungarian grass I cannot speak highly, we have better plants for the purpose.

In conclusion, let me urge upon all who keep stock, whether for the dairy or beef, to put in a little "patch" of fodder corn this year. If it is not wanted for summer feeding, it will pay far more than the cost for winter use. You are insuring in a safe company—you don't have to die or have a fire to get the benefit. Should a drouth follow, you are prepared, and you will not have to do as so many had last season—after feeding nearly all their farms produced, almost give their stock away. The time is not far distant when

the successful farmer on the high-priced lands of Ontario, if he wishes to keep pace with his competitors and hold his own in the markets of the world, will be compelled to follow out a programme something like this:—Good cattle, well fed from birth—forced if you please—high pressure feeding; steers never out of barn until ready for the butcher, except evenings in a yard, or midday in winter, and this is even doubtful. Do the successful stock exhibitors let their cattle roam at large? Even the sheep breeders prepare their show sheep under cover. These men do not house them for sake of economy, but because they do better; hence it pays. Now, if they find breeding stock do better when soiled, no one can fail to see that fat and dairy cattle would be benefited to the same extent.

Sheep Washing vs. Clipping in the Grease.

Our valued Scottish exchange, Sheep and Wool, has for some time been ably debating the above question. In a recent number it publishes the following report which was unanimously adopted by the Bradford Chamber of Commerce, which is composed among others of the Mayor and the three members of Parliament for Bradford, Sir Jacob Behrens, and Sir Henry Mitchel, who is President. It includes eight of the largest consumers of wool in England, also seven important merchants of goods manufactured from wool, one yarn merchant and wool exporter, one wool comber and one ex-wool comber, one civil engineer and one banker.

Previous to last year's sheep-shearing season, letters appeared in the public papers and agricultural journals advising farmers to clip their flocks in the grease.

As some letters were dated from Bradford, importance was attached to them as coming from the seat of consumption, and thus the minds of many wool-growers were unsettled.

The effect was that last year's clip was by no means as well washed and got up as usual, and many clips contained more or less unwashed fleeces. This has proved both troublesome to the users and unprofitable to the farmers; consequently the whole subject has been referred to the Bradford Chamber of Commerce for solution, and for some months the Council, through the Wool Supply Committee, have been gathering information.

In order to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with all the facts, a circular was printed and sent to all the principal consumers of our English-grown wool, asking for their opinion as to the practical effect of clipping in the grease. To this appeal a large number of replies have been received, some being of a very exhaustive character.

In these replies the subject has been thoroughly argued, and so far as the wool is concerned the opinion expressed by users is overwhelming in favor of washing. The Council of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce are unanimous in their opinion, that from this point of view it would be both unprofitable and unwise to make any change.

They are guided in this opinion by the following considerations:—

(1) As in most other commodities, the competition in the wool trade is very keen, and the trade is worked upon a very small margin of profit. The shrinkage of washed wool is much easier to estimate than that of unwashed. The grower of wool is therefore much more likely to obtain his exact market value if it is washed than he would be if the valuation were subject to

the uncertainty attending upon the shrinkage of unwashed wool.

(2) The practice of shearing in the grease would increase the liability of slipshod work, and the amount of damage to the trade arising from careless getting-up of wool in the grease would be greater than at present, and would vary greatly between a dry and a wet, dirty spring.

(3) It is admitted by all users that in the large majority of cases English wool shorn in the grease is an inferior color; and this fault is intensified when the wool is stored for any length of time.

(4) The export of English amounts to nearly 24,000,000 lbs., or approaching one-fifth of the production. This trade would be seriously interfered with by any change. The export to the United States alone amounts to over 13,000,000 lbs., and as this pays a duty of 10 cents per lb., washed or unwashed, it is easy to see that if our farmers did not wash their sheep this export trade would come to an end. As a matter of fact, no unwashed English wool is exported to America, with the exception of the Scotch black-faced, a portion of which is shipped in the grease, the reason being that the price is thus kept under 6d. per lb., consequently it can be sent in at the lowest tariff rates, which are not applicable to pure bred wool.

(5) The question of the expense of washing, which although it appears one for the consideration of the farmers, is really of interest to the entire trade. By ceasing to wash the sheep this expense would not be got rid of, but simply transferred, to reappear in the increased cost of transport and other forms.

There are also many other minor points, which need not be specified here, but which have received the earnest attention of the Chamber.

The discontinuance of the practice of sheep washing has never been called for by the vast majority of the trade, and the Chamber have devoted so much time and attention to the subject in order to settle the question exhaustively and finally, and to provide the growers of wool with an authoritative expression of the opinion of the trade, an opinion which for the future cannot be misunderstood. Having, therefore, as the mouthpiece of the consumers, gladly discharged this duty for the benefit of all parties who are interested in wool, the Chamber has no intention of reopening or rediscussing the subject.

Clonmore Farm.

This beautiful property, on the south side of Kempenfield Bay, Lake Simcoe, is the property of Dr. E. Morton, whose residence is in Barrie, where he has a large practice in his profession. A large herd of Shorthorns is kept on the premises, some of which are of great merit. Among which may be mentioned the following:—Lady Clonmore, a red cow slightly marked with white; Provena Rose by Prowler and Lady Wicklow by imported Primrose. A very fine young bull is Primrose, who stands at the head of the herd; bred by Campbell, of Kinnellair Scotland, and imported by Arthur Johnston, Greenwood, Ont. But chief among these fine animals is Clarence Clonmore, a bull calf of eleven months, very dark roan, of very great length and grand substance. This animal will yet make itself a name if it improves the next two years of its life as much as in the brief time it has been in existence on Clonmore Farm. We also noticed a very fine heifer calf from Lady Clonmore, which will be heard from in the future if it meets with no mishap. We very much regret that lack of space forbids a more elaborate description of Clonmore Farm and its stock.