

below as above ground, says a Baltimore daily paper. For this reason the old practice of plowing it under when in bloom is objectionable, for, although the growth of stem and leaf is then at its maximum, the roots have very little more than begun their growth. But by cutting the first crop, a second growth is the sooner induced, which, although much less in amount, secures an enormous increase in the growth of the roots, thereby placing it in the best condition for turning under. The best way, then, to secure the full benefit of clover in the improvement of the soil is to allow it two full seasons of growth before turning under, for, as the plant is properly a triennial, more or less of the roots die out at the end of the second year, thus causing the weeds to spring up and take their place, leaving the after condition of the field as a damaging offset to any good effected by the clovering. But when the first of the second year's crop is taken off, the second starts so soon and makes so strong a growth as to completely smother the weeds. Says Dr. Vorleker, England's most noted agricultural chemist.—“I find that a clover sod is the most valuable as a fertilizer after it has been used for two seasons for hay, as the roots have then attained their full development and are richest in fertilizing elements.” What, therefore, the farmer who wishes to avail himself to the full advantage of this crop had best do, would be to turn the sod under when full of roots, preparatory to putting the land in corn and wheat, or corn, oats and wheat, as the case may be, and then seed down to clover again. Cut the clover two years for hay (or pasture it, which is pretty much the same thing), and then plow under the sod as before, and so on, turning under good clover sod every three or four years until the land is completely renovated, applying at the same time whatever barnyard manure you can spare to help hasten the process.

Farmer's Review.

Heated Hay-mows.

I notice an article on this subject in the *Watchman* which says, “Hay that has been heated in the mow not only parts with quite a portion of its nutritive properties, but becomes unwholesome for stock of any kinds.” I question the accuracy of the first part of this statement, and know the last part is not in accord with fact. Last year I cut a part of my hay quite early and got it in without drying as much as farmers used to dry hay. I thought it was cured enough, and packed it in the bottom of the bay about ten feet deep. I did not put any more on top of it for several days and it heated very much. It smelled pretty strong, and I did not know but it was going to spoil. But I saw an article in the *Rural New-Yorker*, quoted from the *New England Farmer*, which said heating was a curative process, and that heating hay should be trodden down as solidly as possible. So I trod it down several times and awaited the result. In the winter I cut the hay down, feeding one side of the bay, and I never saw fresher, greener looking hay, nor fed hay to cattle that spent better or that cows ate with greater relish. The difference in color between the early-cut hay that heated and the later-cut hay that did not heat could be plainly seen where it was cut down. I suspect that if I had pitched that hay out when it was heating, it would have spoiled. Now if heated hay “parts with quite a portion of its nutritive properties,” chemical analysis ought to show it. But does it? If so, how much and what part of the hay is lost in heating?

J. W. NEWTON.

DOWNTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE RAM-LAMB SALE AND LETTING.—This sale was held on Thursday, the 8th August at the College of Agriculture. The prevalence of harvest operations interfered somewhat with the largeness of the attendance, but there was a good assemblage of buyers, and the prices were satisfactory and considerably in excess of those realised last year. Mr. Rawlence, of Salisbury, officiated at the rostrum, and spoke of the rapid progress of the Downton flock and the excellence of the lambs before him. The sale commenced with the letting of ten exceedingly well grown lambs, many of which were estimated to weigh over 25 lb. per quarter carcase weight, and exhibited splendid style and quality. Lot 1 was let to Mr. C. Cole for 32 gs.; No. 2, for 11 gs., to Mr. C. Waters, No. 3, for 44 gs., to Mr. Ditbin, Nos. 4 and 5, for 12 gs.; No. 8, for 20.; and none realised less than 9 gs. for the season. The lambs sold were knocked down at prices ranging from 5 gs. up to 16 gs. The satisfactory average of £10 a head over all sold and let was realised. Professor Wrightson and his excellent colleague, Mr. Silas Taunton, are to be congratulated on the success of the sale, and the rapid progress of the college flock in public estimation. It is worthy of notice, with regard to the *Hampshire Down* sheep, that it is essentially a tenant farmer's breed. The high prices given at this and other sales are given by farmers, and as yet the breed is not prominent among those selected by foreign buyers. We are, however, convinced that this is a rising breed, and the phrase, “The Coming Sheep,” which was applied to it a few years ago, we believe by Professor Wrightson, is still as forcible as ever.

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