

that, according to the report of the Secretary of the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association, the average in this part of the Province is over 500. Another unfavorable condition is the distance from any organized cheese market, and hence the disadvantage in selling. Cheese being now handled upon a very narrow margin, buyers could not possibly pay as high prices here as are realized where car lots can be had and where it costs very little to inspect and ship it. But that there is pressing need of a change from the present system of making a small amount of butter from the cows, and in most cases of exchanging it for store goods, cannot reasonably be doubted. It is also a very clear fact that the butter trade in Ontario has greatly changed, and instead of creamerymen and farmers being able to manufacture butter during summer and hold it for a high price during the winter, we find that the cheese factories now manufacturing butter during winter are supplying the trade with a very fine, fresh article, which during the past winter has commanded excellent prices.

There are many natural advantages in Parry Sound district for the manufacture of fine butter, such as very rich natural grasses which yield milk testing one per cent. and over higher than in older parts of Ontario; abundance of pure water and a pure atmosphere, with cool nights. I therefore would recommend the introduction of separators and the manufacture of butter upon the co-operative plan, thus securing all the butter-fat in milk and making a more uniform article. One skilled maker can thus turn out a larger quantity of fine butter. This system can be worked at less expense than the establishment of cheese factories, and if the farmers will unite upon this principle, I think they will find it greatly to their advantage to establish separators wherever the milk from 100 cows can be secured within a two-mile draw from each way, and a son or daughter can, by attending the Dairy School at Guelph, easily qualify in a few weeks to take charge of this department. Another advantage of the separator system is that the fresh skim milk can always be had for feeding stock, which should be one of the first considerations in this section of country. Why should not these "Ontario Highlands" become noted for the production of large quantities of fine butter, the same as the southern part for fine cheese. In conclusion, permit a parting word upon my annual experience crossing ice which was this year considered very unsafe. No person would venture taking us across to St. Joseph's, but, nothing daunted, we trudged on foot with our grips upon our backs, and found upon the ice a load of wheat which had been rescued from a sleigh, the horses being doomed to a watery grave. Re-crossing with a light pair of horses, we passed through 1½ to 2 feet of water upon the ice in places, and were not sorry when again upon terra firma. With this experience, our thoughts were not of the most pleasant character as we went forward to 23 miles of ice from Spanish Sta. to Gore Bay, but the trip was accomplished without mishap.

APIARY.

Feeding in Spring.



SIMPLICITY BEE-FEEDER.

It seems to be a fact that no matter how much honey may be in the hive, if feeding honey is placed above the brood nest it will be greedily taken by the bees, and is thus promotive of increased brood-rearing. In fact, feeding even in the midst of plenty is sometimes necessary to save the rapidly-hatching brood from starving, when the stores are not being uncapped fast enough for their support. Last season the Ontario Foul-Brood Inspector, Wm. McEvoy, was called upon some occasions to treat foul-brood when the trouble was starved brood, due to a lack of uncapping full cells. The Simplicity bee-feeder answers a good purpose when placed upon the top of the racks or frames. The bees can walk down to the honey or syrup without danger of getting into it.

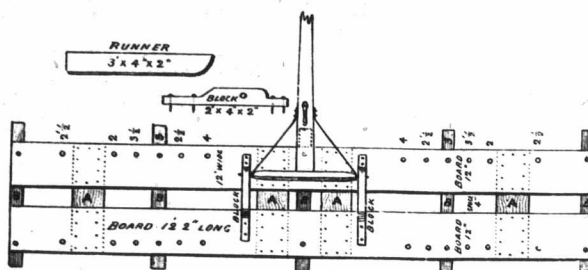
Removing Cellar-Wintered Bees to the Summer Stands.

In removing colonies from the cellar to the yard, a large number should not be taken out at once or mixing up is sure to occur. It is much better to bring out a few at a time and place them as far apart as possible in the bee yard. A very good method is to bring out first the four swarms that stood on the corner stands last year and place them on their old stands, provided they are convenient to the door. After they have quieted down bring out another lot, and follow the same plan as far as possible. It is well before bringing them out to puff in at the entrance a few puffs of smoke and close it until the hive is placed in position. This will cause them to emerge slowly and not in a rush.

The easiest way to physic a horse when alone or otherwise, is to put on bridle with rein on upper side of bit-rings, passed through over a pole in the stable roof. Draw head up high and pour into corner of mouth slowly; if he refuses to swallow, confine the nostrils for a moment with hand, and the medicine will go down.

THE HELPING HAND.

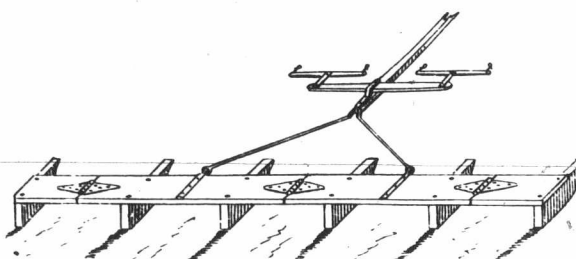
The Adjustable Width Corn Marker.



W. C. HUFF, Prince Edward Co.:—The length depends upon your wish in either case, whether you use a 10 ft. or 12 ft. marker; add 2 in. to length, so as to make the distances equal. Take two pine or basswood boards 12 ft. 2 in. long, and 12 in. wide by 1 in. thick, or a trifle over; nail on four battens, as example A. For the runners, take five pieces of (2 x 4) scantling 3 ft. long, slant one end with an axe, and round up with a drawing knife; fasten each in place with two 7-16 bolts, with washers; let the heads in slightly. Next take two pieces of the scantling, take off enough from top to allow 3½-inch bolts to reach through. These are to hold the tongue. Now, for a tongue use your sleigh tongue, which will answer splendidly. The holes in the top boards numbered 2, 3, 3½, and 4 are for the adjustment of the runners to mark these widths. Other widths can be made at will by boring other holes. The cost:—

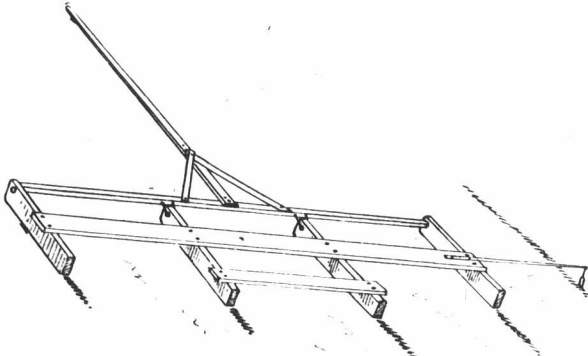
35 ft. lumber @ \$10.00 per thousand	35c.
2 (2 x 4) scantling @ \$10.00 per thousand	16c.
10 (7-16 size) bolts, 35c. doz.	30c.
4 smaller bolts, 25c. doz.	10c.
1 lb. wrought nails, 6c.	6c.
3 cts. for washers	3c.
Cost	\$1.00

A Handy Corn Marker.



J. W. LAMB, Bruce Co., Ont.:—"Take a plank 15 feet long, 10 inches wide, 2 inches thick. Make 6 short runners 18 inches long, sloped enough to run easy. Fasten them to the plank underneath with two 4-inch wood screws. One foot and a half from each end cut your plank in two and put on a good hinge; also cut in two in the center and put on a hinge. Bolt on two iron straps 4½ feet from each end, fasten 2 iron braces to them, and fasten the braces to a tongue, and you have a complete corn marker. Drive the team so that the outside runner will run in the track previously made. You can turn up the two ends to turn. The hinge in the center will make it mark all of the ground, even if it is not very level. Roll your ground before marking, and mark lengthwise and crosswise. Your corn will be three feet apart each way—just the right distance. Work the scuffer both ways. Plant with a corn planter five grains to the hill; by looking at the cut there will be no trouble in making it. It will mark 20 acres a day."

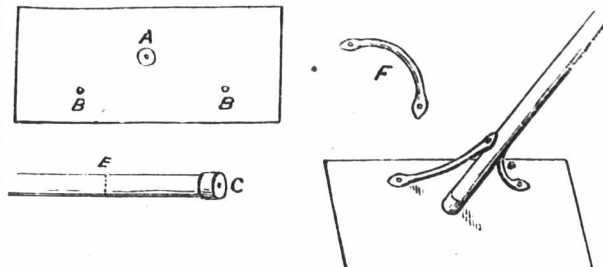
Corn Marker.



S. C. B., Middlesex Co., Ont.:—"I will send you a cut of my marker. An old buggy or light wagon pole will answer for the tongue; if not, see cut how to bolt on a light pole with two braces to the 2 x 4 scantling roller, 12 feet long. For runners take a plank 2 inches thick by 6 or 7 inches wide, cut two of them 2½ feet long, two others 2 feet long; bore a hole with a 2-inch auger in the two longest runners 5 inches from the bottom, 3 inches from the end. Cut the end of the roller to fit with a shoulder in the runners (same as in a sleigh). The cut shows how they are attached. Do not slant end of runners, as that will cause them to rise over a lump or clod, but by having the end square it shoves all rubbish out of the way. They may be rounded a little. Now nail a board, 5 or 6 inches wide, across runners—two small bolts in each runner would be better, but nails will hold them all right; also nail

a short board on end of two center runners (see cut). This comes in handy to catch hold of to lift round at end of field. A man can drive a team much better than one horse. A good teamster can mark four marks at a time by using stakes, or a piece of stick nailed to the top board at the end, to which is tied a weight with a rope one foot long. We generally stand on the marker if there is a furrow or low place to put it down to the ground."

Stable Scraper.



J. GREEN, Leeds Co., Ont.:—"In these days of hard times and scarce cash we have all to learn the lesson of economy, and of making the best use of the small things about the farm in a way to prevent expense and save time and labor. A cheap and useful little implement for scraping stable floors may be made from an old discarded plow landside or piece of old cross-cut saw. First take it to a blacksmith and have three holes bored in it at A, B and B. Then take a stout handle, saw it off square at the end, place a band ring around it, or two or three rounds of black fence wire will do as well; bore a hole in the end at C, place the square end against the hole (A) in landside, and drive in a good strong bolt. Then get a pair of old cutter braces (F), heat them in the fire, and bend in shape that they will bear on landside at B, and on handle at about E. Bore a small hole through the handle at E, drive a small bolt through and you have it complete. If cutter braces cannot be procured, a piece of buggy tire or some such material will do as well. This implement saves the expense of a square-pointed shovel, as the stable floor can be cleaned up with the manure fork, and afterwards scraped with this just as quickly, handily, and cleanly as with the shovel."

GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

How to Have a Garden on the Farm.

BY T. W. LAMB, BRUCE CO., ONT.

Every farmer in Canada should have a garden for growing small fruits and vegetables. The great drawback to gardens on the farm is the time it takes to cultivate and keep them free from weeds. The land is a small item, one quarter of an acre being quite sufficient. Select a piece of ground, 330 ft. long by 33 ft. wide, at least 30 ft. from any large trees; let the long way be north and south, if possible. Give a good coat of manure (five good loads will be none too much) in the fall and plow deep as soon as the manure is spread. As soon as the soil is dry in the spring, plow lightly, about four inches, and harrow thoroughly, enough to make a fine seed-bed; start on the side nearest to the house and plant one row of black raspberries, followed by two rows of red. These should be planted two feet apart in the row; the rows 30 inches apart. Next plant two rows strawberries, one foot apart in the row; these should be planted as early as possible. Let your next two rows be early potatoes, followed by one of early corn, one of beans—plant twice, so as to have a longer season for green beans for table use. Divide the next row in five equal lengths, and sow 66 ft. each of carrots, beets, parsnips, lettuce, and spinach. Your next row should be onions—two varieties—sets for large ones and some small variety for pickles. You have now two rows left; make the two into one, plant watermelons at one end, citrons at the other, and cabbage, tomatoes, and celery between.

As the kind of varieties to plant will make a great deal of difference, be sure you get good plants and good seed. Here is what I grow, and I think they are the best: Black cap raspberries—Souhegan and Gregg, earliest and latest; for red—Cuthbert and Marlboro; one is early, one late. Strawberries—Crescent and Wilson's. For potatoes—Early Six Weeks. Corn—Cory. Beans—Six Weeks for early; Wax for late. Carrots—Short Horn. Beets—Turnip. Parsnips—Hollow Crown. Watermelons—As early a kind as possible. Cabbage—Two kinds, early and late. Celery—Giant Pascal. Tomatoes—Acme.

I always grow my own cabbage, tomatoes, and celery plants, and find they do much the best. Sow the seed in boxes in the house in April; they will be ready for planting as soon as the ground is ready. All your work can be done with the horse-hoe or scuffer. Keep it free from weeds; cultivate often, it increases the moisture in the soil; never let the weeds get the start of you; trust more to the hoe than the watering-can. There are lots of other fruits and vegetables, but try these first; you needn't care how dry the season is if you cultivate enough. Don't plant too early. Put your celery in a trench containing a foot of well-rotted manure well mixed with some of the top soil and keep banking up as it grows. If you want strawberry plants, let one runner grow from each plant; if not, cut them all off. A good garden will repay you well for all your work.