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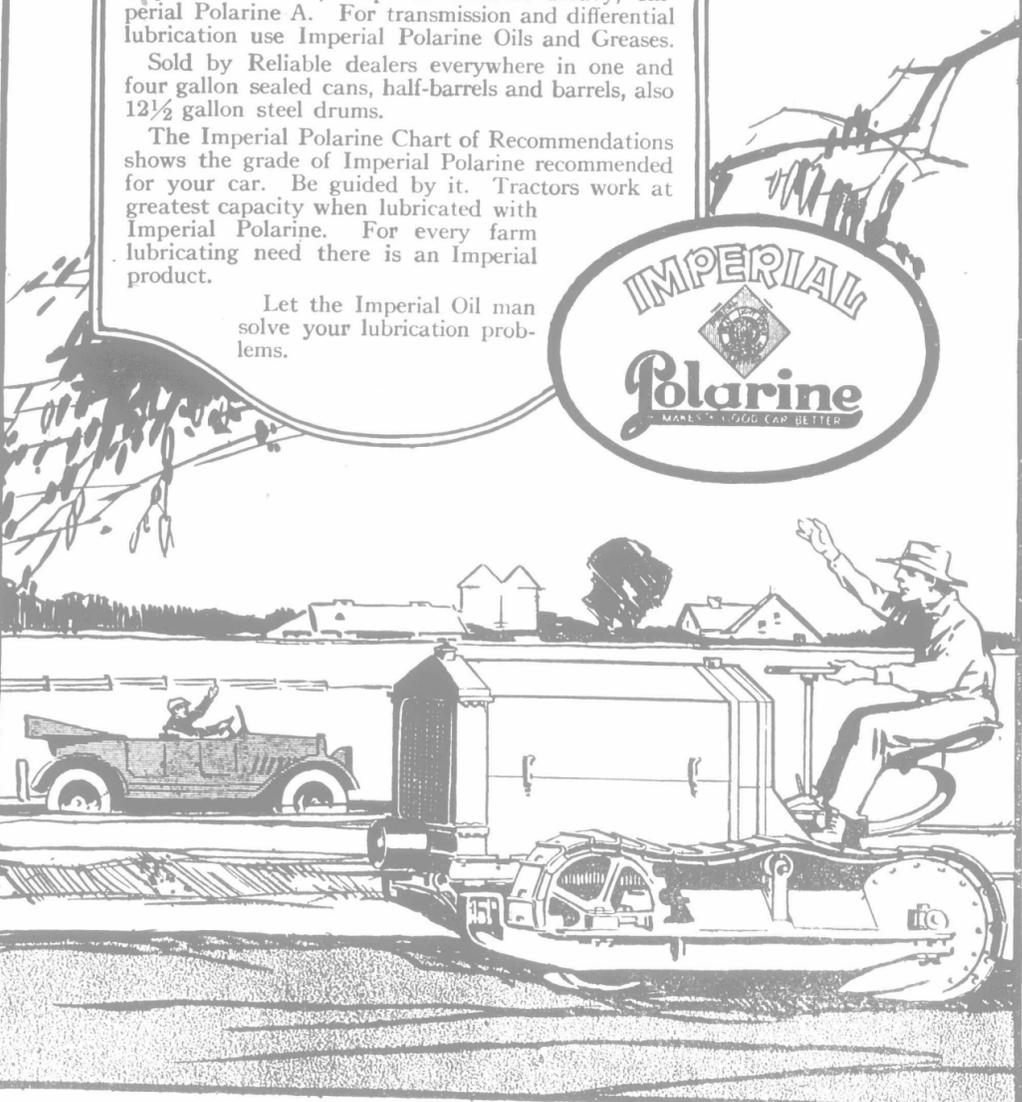
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besides the flints already mentioned, the dent varieties, Wisconsin No. 7, Golden Glow, Bailey and White Cap Yellow dent prove satisfactory. In the Prairie Provinces; Northwestern dent is popular.

Choice seed only should be used, this can be most easily procured by selecting from seed purchased on the cob. Test all seed for germination before planting in order that there will be no chance of too thin planting. Place the seed deep enough to be in moist soil. Following planting stir the soil frequently to mulch the surface, stimulate the germination of weed seeds and to destroy weeds. After the shoots are through the ground begin inter-row cultivation. When the plants are 3 to 4 inches high, and if too thick in the row, use a light drag harrow cross-wise of the drills.

Keep the plants growing by maintaining a loose, mellow surface soil. Cultivate deeply at first and as the secondary root systems develop and spread just under the first three or four inches of surface soil between the rows, cultivate shallower in order that the root systems will not suffer injury through pruning and thus prematurely check the growth of the crop.—W. L. Graham, Assistant, Dominion Field Husbandman.

### Method of Orchard Cultivation.

The method or system of cultivation to be adopted may be varied to some extent to meet local conditions. In reality, however, all systems should be, and in most cases are, a slight modification of the "clean cultivation and cover crop system."

The clean-cultivation method, calls for all the ground under and around the trees to be ploughed and frequently harrowed until around July first.

This system has much to recommend it, viz., (1) maximum conservation of soil moisture; (2) excellent conditions for liberation of plant food, especially nitrogen; (3) sightliness and cleanliness of the orchard, and (4) control of insect pests.

In connection with this, either fall or spring ploughing may be practiced, the former however, only in those localities with a favorable enough winter to so permit. The great secret of success with any system of cultivation designed to conserve moisture and liberate plant food is to get on the land as early in spring as possible, otherwise, if the orchard is not ploughed until late, most of the advantages of cultivation are lost.

Modifications of the above consist of leaving a strip of sod about four feet in width next to the trees. In old orchards where it is difficult to get close to the trees this may be practiced successfully, in which case the grass is cut once or twice during the season and allowed to remain as a mulch.

In both these instances, on the cultivated portion a mulch is maintained until about July first, when a cover crop of some sort should be sowed. If the seed is not too expensive, some leguminous crop like red clover or crimson clover at the rate of about 12 pounds per acre for the former and 10 pounds for the latter, or summer vetch at the rate of 50 pounds per acre is advisable, as these will add a considerable quantity of plant food to the soil.

If too costly, rape may be used as a cover crop, at the rate of 30 pounds per acre.

The sod mulch system, if properly handled may be advisable on moist soils where there is abundance of plant food. This system must not be confused with the sod system, which is not to be recommended. In the former, for the first few years grass or old straw is hauled on to the orchard and placed around the trees to form a mulch. This practice is continued until the cuttings from the sod beneath the trees is sufficient in themselves to form a heavy mulch.—Experimental Farms Note.

Surgeon.—"The operation must be performed immediately."

Sandy (Kirk Elder).—"Weel, send for the minister at juist, then."

Surgeon.—"Oh the operation is not serious enough for such anxiety."

Sandy.—"I'm no partek'larly anxious; but if I'm to be opened I'll be opened wi' prayer."

JUNE 3, 1911

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