When to Sell Farm Product.

That was a good point made by the American *Rural Home*, when he said that the editor who can give advice as to the exact time when it is best to sell farm products had best leave his pen and go into trade, as his knowledge would enable him to accumulate millions in the purchase of these farm products. In other words it is impossible for any man to predict with certainty future prices.

The safest rule for the farmer we believe to be to sell when his farm products are ready for market, especially if he need money with which to pay his debts or make purchases or improvements. Of two farmers, one following this plan, and the other invariably holding for higher prices, we believe the first will be the better off at the end of a score of years. He who sells early saves wastage, shrinkage, storage, risk of total loss from fire or other cause and has the use of his money at an earlier period.

There are cases when the prospect for an improvement in price is so good, that the risk in holding is but slight. But if any farmer feels himself obliged to act on one unchanging rule, we would advise him to make it a rule to sell as soon as the product can be got to market in good condition.

We recommend this extract to the serious consideration of our Canadian farmers

We know of many farmers who futilely endeavored to hold over grain and other produce at all times, and others who will not sell even when prices are fair, in the hope of a still further rise We would seriously impress the rule as one of gold. to sell when prices are fairly remunerative.

Analyses of Fertilizers

The "Irish Farmers' *Gazette*' speaks of the increase of the number of analyses by eminent Chemists as exerting a most beneficial influence in protecting British farmers from imposition. Dr. Voelcker, in 1867, performed three hundred and forty-one analyses for members of the Royal Agricultural Society; in 1868, four hundred and thirty-two; in 1869, four hundred and sixty-five; in 1870, five hundred and eighty two; in 1871, seven hundred and thirty; while other English Chemists are also largely engaged in the same work. Manures and cattle food are the subjects of these researchers In Ireland, there is an "Anti-Adulteration Society," which takes great pains to analyze new patent fertilizers and protect the farming interest.

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Cost of Fences.

How little is really known in this country in respect to agricultural economy is illustrated in the statement concerning fences. It is said that the improved lands in South Carolina are worth $20,000,000, while the fences that encloses them have actually cost $16,000,000. The fences in New York have cost $144,000,000; those of Ohio, $115,000,000, and according to an estimate made by Nicholas Biddle thirty years ago, the fences of Pennsylvania had then cost $11,000,000. The fences of the whole Union are estimated at $1,300,000,000 The time may come—in the next century, it is suggested—when out sides of towns and cities a fence will almost be a curosity. Hedges will take their place, and thereby accomplish an immense saving of money, while lending a rare and exquisite beauty to the rural landscape which it can never have under the present system.—*Ex.*

Hybrid Wheat.

We copy the following on the crossing of wheat from the pen of Mr. Charles Arnold, Paris, Ont., from the "*Country Gentleman.*"

I would give it as my opinion, that fructification in wheat takes place in the closed flower, befor the pistil is exposed to any pollen but that produced by its own stamens. Therefore, if crossed at all, it must be crossed by accident, or artificial means. I think such crosses are necessary after a long period of time, in order to the health, vigor, hardiness and productiveness of the plant And after devoting much time to observing and experimenting in this matter, I am prepared to believe that grain of almost every conceivable size, shape, and color, can be procured by artificial crossings, and that, in the hands of skillful and persevering persons, vast good to the agriculturist must be the result.

That many of the varieties of fruit and grain produced by this method will be worthless there is no doubt, and ninety nine out of every hundred of them will be inferior to some old varieties, is quite probable. But it should be remembered that in many of the new kinds of grain the tendency is to improve for years to come, while in the old varieties it is reversed. And again, perfection in crossing plants must not be looked for in the first generation any more than in the first cross of animals. Much time, labor and expense will be required in crossing, re-crossing and selecting, before we arrive at perfection. And it seems to me that if a portion of the funds of the various agricultural societies were applied to this purpose instead of horse-racing, the world might be the better for it

I am pleased to be able to inform you that Hon. FREDERICK WATTS, Commissioner of Agriculture at Washington, has wisely ordered a quantity of my first crossed wheat, to be distributed, I suppose, over your whole country, and I feel confident that vast good will result therefrom. That it will prove superior to all other wheat in all parts of the country, with such a great variety of soil and climate, is not to be expected, but if it should succeed in any one State better than any other variety of wheat, a benefit has been conferred. As stated above, perfection can not be expected from the first cross, but as a proof of the benefits arising from crossing, re-crossing, and selecting, I enclose a statement of the fact, that from one bushel of seed sown with an ordinary seed drill upon ordinary soil and culture, I have sixty bushels of such grain as that now sent, while my next neighbors upon the same soil and with the same culture every way, will not, I am confident, realize from the old varieties of Diehl and Treadwell one-quarter of that quantity, and I very much question if sixty bushels of wheat from one of seed will be raised on this continent this year from any of the old varieties.

Now to prevent numerous letters of inquiry after this wheat, I beg to say that as this sixty bushels above alluded to is all that is in existence of this variety, it is not my intention to offer it for sale this fall.

English Farming.

Mr. Wall, in an address to the farmers of New Jersey, alluded to the very flourishing state of agriculture in England. He pointed out that in less than a century the production of wheat had risen from 16,000,000, to 100,000,000 of bushels. This enormous increase he attributes to the systematic attention to all the requirements of good farming; in the skill and exactness with which all the operations are preformed; to their careful selections of the best varieties of seed, and to the extensive and prudent use of their barn-yard manure. Nothing is left to casuality or chance No expectations are indulged in that the bounty of Providence, by an unusually favorable season, will atone for their short-comings or neglect. He dilated upon the extraordinary liberality of English farmers, in restoring to the earth, by means of purshased manures, all those elements of fertility which are exhausted by cultivation. It is estimated by chemical analysis that wheat absorbs forty per cent. of nutriment contained in the soil. In 1837, the first year in which bones came into general use as a fertilizer, the foreign bones imported were valued at the custom house at 1,500,000 dollars, since which time it is estimated that the amount paid for imported bones alone, amounted to 150,000,000 dollars. Since 1841, upwards of 500,000 tons of guano have been used. Mr. Wall also believed that there was nothing more perfect of rural economy than the English farmers' rotation of root and grain crops. He considered that the care which had been bestowed on root cultivation had been the salvation of England.

How to make Land Lumpy.

About a dozen years ago, after twenty years' service in civil engineering, I turned farmer; that is to say I bought a farm adjoining the city for a *home* in which to edu-