

TREATMENT OF NEGLECTED FARM.

Would you be kind enough to give me a short outline how to work a 200-acre farm. It has about 40 acres bush. The land has not been worked or looked after the last ten years, and there is quite a lot of wild oats on it.

Waterloo Co.

H. J.

Ans.—In all undertakings—farming no exception—it is well to work according to some definite, agreed-upon plan. Our correspondent says nothing about stock, but we would suggest, first, that stock sufficient to consume most of what is grown be kept. The particular class of stock that should be kept depends upon the inclination of the owner, the suitability of the farm, and the surroundings, such as markets, creameries, cheese factories, etc.

Second—Follow a regular system of crop rotation and have the arable portion of the farm divided into even-sized fields, in number corresponding to the years of rotation. Among the advantages of this method are that each part of the farm is in turn manured, has a cleaning crop, and has a change of crops. In any rotation that may be followed, one of the crops should be clover, another hoe crop—corn and roots. Avoid, in short, rotations especially having two grain crops in succession. We give examples of rotations of different lengths. Three-year rotation—hoe crop, spring grain seeded, clover; four-year—hoe crop, spring grain seeded, clover and timothy; hay or pasture; five-year—the same, with another year's pasture; a six-year—hoe crop, spring grain seeded, hay, pasture, oats or peas or fall wheat. So on up to eight years. Variations of above will suggest themselves; manure before hoe crop. If wild oats are troublesome, drop spring grain, with the exception of barley, as much as possible, and grow fall wheat, hay, etc. The wild oats will thus be cut before they shed their seed. Grind all grain fed, and buy clean seed. Let the hoe crop, whether hand hoed or not, be kept clean. Otherwise it adds to the trouble instead of curing it.

Another totally different plan from what has been given would be to lay the land down to pasture, buy stock in spring and sell in fall, cultivating only a small clean portion of the farm.

MARKETS.

Every reader is invited to write something for this department that other farmers ought to know. Do it while you think of it. Put it on a post card if you haven't time to put it in a letter.

FARM GOSSIP.

Grain for Seed Improvement.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—Another distribution will be made this season of samples of the most productive sorts of grain to Canadian farmers for the improvement of seed. The stock is of the very best and has been secured by the Director of the Experimental Farms from the record-breaking crops recently had in the Canadian Northwest. It will be worth while for farmers generally to renew their seed of oats when varieties which have produced more than 100 bushels per acre can be had. The distribution this spring will consist of samples of oats, spring wheat, barley, field peas, Indian corn, and potatoes. Every farmer may apply, but only one sample can be sent to each applicant, hence if an individual receives a sample of oats he cannot also receive one of wheat, barley or potatoes, and applications for more than one sample for one household cannot be entertained. These samples will be sent free of charge through the mail. Applications should be addressed to the Director of Experimental Farms, Ottawa, and may be sent in any time before the 15th of March, after which the lists will be closed, so that all the samples asked for may be sent out in good time for sowing. Parties writing should mention the sort of variety they would prefer, and should the available stock of the kind asked for be exhausted, some other good sort will be sent in its place.

WM. SAUNDERS,

Director Experimental Farms.

Ottawa, Jan. 15th, 1902.

Cumberland County, N. S.

The farmers in this county should generally be in good spirits. Crops were fair, and prices considerably above the average. Hay, which is our staple crop about these marshes, was above an average crop, and the demand is good. Grain of all kinds was a light crop, and although the price of bran and other mill feed is very high, considerable is being imported. Breeders of pure-bred stock report trade active and prices satisfactory. Fewer cattle are feeding than for some time past, but perhaps more is being done in the dairy line. More roots, especially turnips, are raised than formerly, but vastly more might be profitably raised. Until the first of December we had an exceptionally fine and dry autumn, and have had very little cold yet. The mercury has not yet reached zero.

C. H. B.

Most Valuable.

Sir,—I take pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of copies of the Christmas number of the "Farmer's Advocate" which you kindly sent. I consider your paper most valuable, and in proof of my opinion I have taken the liberty of making many excerpts from it in the report of this Department now being issued, a copy of which will be sent to you in due course.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. R. ANDERSON,

Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

Victoria, B. C.

Macdonald Seed Grain Competition.

The selections of wheat and oats received from competitors in the "Seed Grain Competition" for which Sir William C. Macdonald, of Montreal, donated the sum of \$10,000, to be distributed in prizes, have been examined. The competitions are being conducted on about 800 farms throughout Canada. These prizes are awarded to boys and girls who have performed specified work in connection with the selection of seed grain. A set of prizes was arranged for each province in the Dominion, the Northwest Territories being considered as one province for this purpose.

The selections received for the yearly competition of 1901, each contained 100 selected heads of the variety with which the competitor is operating. Twenty-five points were given for every gram (by weight) of grain of good quality contained in those 100 heads, and one point was given for each and every grain which the 100 heads contained.

The expressions of appreciation which have been received from the parents and teachers of the boys and girls who have undertaken the work of managing a seed-grain plot have been most gratifying. The "nature study" connected with the selecting of seed grain according to the system which competitors are asked to follow will be as helpful as it has been interesting. I am convinced that a system has been continued selection of seed grain from the most vigorous and productive plants in the plots will lead to great improvement in the crops throughout the whole country.

The educational influence of the "Seed Grain Competition" is having a fine effect upon the boys and girls whose school years are nearly ended. These boys and girls may not again have an incentive sufficient to awaken and to develop a liking for careful and educational study of nature and nature's methods.

As is now well known, Macdonald Manual Training Schools have been started in seventeen cities or towns in Canada as object lessons of improvement and progress in educational aims and methods in public schools. The cordial and enthusiastic welcome which they have received from all connected with the schools and school systems of the various provinces have been a source of deep pleasure and satisfaction to Sir William C. Macdonald and myself. It is our desire and hope that the plan now about to be begun for the purpose of assisting in the improvement of education at rural schools by means of school gardens, manual training and household science may bring real and lasting benefits to all in rural communities.

The cheques for the prizes for 1901 have been sent to the boys and girls. Some of these who did not receive a prize in the yearly competition of 1901 may win a prize in the main three-year competition which ends with the season of 1902.

The names of the successful competitors are on the following lists, in the order given, there being ten prizes: \$25, \$20, \$15, \$12, \$10, \$8, \$5, \$5, \$5, \$5.

JAS. W. ROBERTSON.

LIST OF SUCCESSFUL COMPETITORS.

FALL WHEAT (ONTARIO).

Bertie Andrew & Co.	Sheridan
Willie Murray	Ayr
Ernest Cochrane	Ayr
Alfred Mountain	Avonbank
Bessie Brimicombe	Goderich
C. E. Gies	Heidelberg
Claud Blake	Lyons
W. J. Armstrong	Constance
W. J. Dunlop	McDonald's Corners
Adam Stevenson	Avonbank

SPRING WHEAT (ONTARIO).

Pearl Henricks	Headford
Charlotte St. George & Co.	Tramore
Walter H. Farthing	Silver Water
W. J. Ross	Brammar
Marguerite Dellandrea	Golden Valley
John McN. Heslip	McKellar
Edith Fleming	Ivanhoe
David Fleming	Ivanhoe
Ormiston Brown	Morley
R. G. Brown	Chard

OATS (ONTARIO).

Wilbert Prouse	Goderich
John McDonald	Porter Hill
E. & M. Cochrane	Ayr
W. L. Stephens	Ayr
Maggie Marshall	Doe Lake
Edgar Sullivan	Watford
Harvey Lennox	Magnetawan
Alfred Mountain	Avonbank
John F. Cullingham	Palermo
Fred Wright	Glanworth

SPRING WHEAT (QUEBEC).

Calixte Perron	Les Ebolements
Telephore Poudre	Riviere Ouelle
Amanda Courberon	Cacouna
Jos. A. Moore	Huberdeau
Henri Turgon	Normandin
Xavier Fortin	St. Luc de Matane
Chas. Tremblay	Les Ebolements
Almy Champoux	St. Gertrude
Jos. Girard	Les Ebolements
Chas. Jean D'Ascons	Notre Dame de Rimouski

OATS (QUEBEC).

David Belanger	Trois Pistoles
Armand Fortin	St. Luc de Matane
C. & F. Courberon	Cacouna
Jos. Dery	Les Grande Desert
Arzela Cornetier	St. Liboire
R. Anna Levasseur	St. Ulric de Matane
M. & C. Johnson	Foster
Augustin Cantin	Normandin
Emile Desilets	St. Camille
Phillippe Tailleux	Ripon

SPRING WHEAT (P. E. ISLAND).

Samuel B. Waugh	North Bedeque
Flora C. Livingston	Hopfield
Irene S. Wigginton	Bridgetown
Mary L. McNeill	Elmsdale
Daniel J. McLeod	Rose Valley
Malcolm McDonald	Hampton
Clara B. McLean	Point Prim
Willie A. Jenkins	Vernon River Bridge
Malcolm A. McNeill	Little Sands
Maud Halliday	Belfast

OATS (PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND).

Chas. A. McKinnon	Graham's Road
Mary B. McLeod	South Granville
Mabel McLean	Lot 10
Samuel J. McLeod	Rose Valley
John B. Livingston	Hopfield
Geoffride Arsenaux	Urbenville
James Marshbank	New Annan
Samuel Waugh	North Bedeque
Lizzie Kennedy	Southport
Simon J. McLean	Point Prim

SPRING WHEAT (MANITOBA).

Rowland C. Lumb	Cartwright
Gwenydd G. A. Lumb	Cartwright
George and Mary Hampton	Rapid City
Stewart E. Sherris	Rapid City
George Doney	Thornhill
J. Cundy, Jr.	Rapid City
Hugh Thompson	Roden
Andrew Thompson	Roden
Evelyn Cundy	Rapid City
Ernest Borland	Clear Springs

OATS (MANITOBA).

George and Mary E. Hampton	Rapid City
F. & R. Lundgreen	Scandinavia
Andrew Thompson	Roden
George Dow	Gilbert Plains
Earl A. L. McLaughlin	Stockton Station
John Wells	Roland
Thos. McKeand	Medford
Marion Sherris	Rapid City
C. & E. Lundgreen	Scandinavia
John S. McBain	Portage la Prairie

SPRING WHEAT (N.-W. T.).

Edith Fraser	Steep Creek
Marie L. Ripand	Duck Lake
Silas E. Wheeler	Penhold
Peter R. Abrams	Rosthern
S. Kirkham	Saltcoats
Emma Wheeler	Penhold
Martin Hamm	Hague
Steine Einarsson	Logberg
Peter Keith	Fitzmaurice
Arthur Mitchell	Grenfell

OATS (NORTHWEST TERRITORIES).

Talbot E. Steuck	Abernethy
Silas E. Wheeler	Penhold
Melrose Provost	Flett's Spring
S. Kirkham	Saltcoats
Jos. Neumeier	Langenburg
Annie Bourne	Innisfail
Marie Ripaud	Duck Lake
Arthur Mitchell	Grenfell
Florence Whiteside	Star
Clair Hunt	Knee Hill Valley

SPRING WHEAT (NEW BRUNSWICK).

J. B. Cormier	Elm Tree
Jos. A. Lagacy	Green Point
John B. Nichol	Bathurst Village
Jennie Mullin	Peticodiac
Earl H. Dunphy	Moran
Maggie B. Keith	Keats
Basil J. Power	Bathurst Village
Jean Fournier	Green Point
Burton Hill	St. Stephen
Elise Rasmussen	Foley Brook

OATS (NEW BRUNSWICK).

Allan P. Nicol	Bathurst Village
Wilber McDonald	Shippigan Island
Ethel M. Shaw	Tobique River
Carl Rasmussen	Foley Brook
Lorne Colpitts	Peticodiac
Harold P. Sorenson	Foley Brook
Basil J. Power	Bathurst Village
Carrie E. Read	Read's
Chas. H. McNutt	Jeffrey's Corners
Kenneth J. King	Smith's Creek

SPRING WHEAT (NOVA SCOTIA).

Charles Keys	Elmsdale
Geo. Mackay	Millville
Donald Hayman	Westville
Bertha Mackay	Rogers Hill Center
Aubrey Ripley	Nappan
Harold Barrs	Hazel Hill
J. R. Semple	Brule
John W. Sutherland	Waterside
Lawrence R. Treen	Blue Sea Corner
Kenneth Hsley	Berwick

OATS (NOVA SCOTIA).

Bertha McKay	Rogers Hill Center
George Mackay	Millville
C. de Blois Denton	Rosway
Maggie Chisholm	Ashdale
Fern Sommerville	Waterville
Minnie D. Jollymore	Mill Cove
Milton Robinson	Berwick
Harry Brown	Wallace Bay
Christina Mackay	Eureka
Alma Long	Dalhousie East

SPRING WHEAT (BRITISH COLUMBIA).

Wm. A. Middleton	Vernon
V. W. Mounzie	Pender Island
Gilbert Mohr	Enderby
E. & H. Mohr	Enderby
Wm. Petersen	Gabriola Island
D. & D. Graham	Armstrong
Gordon Frederick	Ladner
Percival French	Vernon
Harry B. Biggar	Langley Prairie
Ella J. McLellan	Beaver Point

OATS (BRITISH COLUMBIA).

Morrice Middleton	Vernon
Ella J. McLellan	Beaver Point
D. & D. Graham	Armstrong
Gordon Frederick	Ladner
Harry B. Biggar	Langley Prairie
Gilbert Mohr	Enderby
Henry Petersen	Gabriola Island
Flora Petersen	Gabriola Island
Howard Mohr	Enderby
Malcolm Barr	Mission City

N. B.—In awarding the prizes in the yearly competition with wheat for the Province of British Columbia, Masters Gordon Frederick, Percival French and Harry Biggar were reduced because of failure to select, according to instructions, the required amount of large heads to produce seed for their seed-grain plot for next year.

Worth Ten Times the Cost.

The readers of your paper keep far too silent on the benefits derived from it. It would be far better for all to let their light shine as brightly as possible. No person who reads your paper intelligently can help but be benefited more than ten times its cost. Wishing your staff of writers, and especially the person who writes the Quiet Hour, a happy and prosperous year,

THOMAS A. BOWLES.

Durham Co., Ont.

Hay for Klondyke.

In Mr. R. M. Palmer's recent article on "British Columbia Agriculture in 1901," it was stated that 70,000 tons of hay were required annually for the Klondyke. It should have read 10,000.