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I have lately installed a number of good horses, up-to-date carriages and harness, and can supply the best turnouts in town.

## Charges Reasonable

Hack to any part of the town to and from all regular trails.

O. McGowan.

## WANTED.

A responsible person, in the Northern part of the province, to represent the

Union Mutual Life Company,

and 1848.

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## A PAGE OF INTEREST TO FARMERS.

## CANADA AND THE GOOD SEED PROBLEM.

As in patriarchal days men did not gather grapes off thorns or figs off thistles, so the modern Canadian farmer cannot produce good crops unless he has good seed. This has long been understood by the Minister of Agriculture, but it was much easier to hope for than to secure a remedy for a condition of things which certainly called for reform. The outcome of consideration in this matter led to a collection of Timothy, Alsike and Red Clover seeds from dealers in each province of the Dominion. A Bulletin on the condition of the trade in these seeds has been prepared under the direction of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Dairying by Mr. G. H. Clark, Chief of the Seed Division, and the information which it presents must prove useful to the farmers of Canada.

taken as a tolerably good guarantee that the purchaser is being honestly dealt with and receiving good goods for his money.

From the standpoint of an agriculturist the real worth of grass and clover seeds is most of all affected by the nature and the amount of their impurities. The cost of labor in fighting and eradicating weeds has grown to be a very serious item with the farmer, and much of this has been brought about by uncleaned grass and clover seed. But for the prevalence of noxious weed in Canada the cost of raising agricultural products would be very much decreased. Although there is as yet no exact data to show that changing grass and clover seed from one part of Canada to another has a tendency to influence the resultant crop, general indications point to the fact that these as well as other kinds of seeds are better for having grown in the locality or district where they are required for use.

In a former article very full details were given of the methods adopted for seed testing of which the following are the results:

Timothy (phloem pratense) is the most common grass seed on the market in Canada. Fresh, well-ripened seed has a silvery white appearance which renders the detection of impurities a very easy matter. A lack of lustre is an indication of age, although the seed is very often discolored by wet at time of harvest. Showery weather after the seed is ripe has a tendency to loosen the glumes, and in consequence, timothy that is exposed to wet is apt to produce a large proportion of hullless seed.

Hullless seeds are usually the largest fully ripened seeds which have lost their glumes during the process of threshing. When fresh, they possess a high degree of vitality, but the vital energy of seed with hulls on is retained for a longer period because of the protecting glumes.

Although but few Canadian farmers make a specialty of growing timothy seed in quantity, many farmers in the province of Ontario and of Quebec reserve from one to ten acres of timothy from their hay crop which is allowed to ripen and is cut, tied in sheaves, and the seed like the ordinary grain crops. It is from these small lots that the bulk of the supply of home grown seed is obtained.

The weight per measured bushel of timothy seed varies according to its quality; the legal standard is 48 pounds. This law which provides that each bushel of timothy seed sold in Canada shall consist of 48 pounds is frequently violated by local seed dealers, many of whom supply only 45 pounds per bushel to the farmer, though when getting their supply from the wholesale seed houses they make sure of securing legal weight.

The cost of seeding a field to timothy is small even with the best quality and highest priced seed. One pound contains about 1,350,000 seeds, and if sown at the rate of five pounds a acre, 1,400 seeds are provided for each square yard of land. If even sown on land that is in good condition, and the weather is favorable for rapid growth, a small amount of seed will suffice; but under ordinary conditions in general farm practice a comparatively small percentage of the seed sown produces plants which come to maturity.

The following table will show at a glance the analyses of timothy seed sold by local dealers in this spring (1902). In the province of Ontario about twenty species of weed seeds were found in varying numbers in the samples collected and subjected to examination. Eleven samples contained cinquefoil; ten, sheep sorrel; nine, bayweed; eight, lamb's quarters; seven, peppergrass; five, Canada thistle; and the same number of false flax, shepherd's purse, Cockle and Dock and worm-seed mustard was also found in a few samples. One sample from a Brantford seed merchant, and which was said to have been imported from the United States, contained over 55,000 seeds of false flax per pound, while another sample which had been obtained from Brantford and grown by a farmer in that vicinity contained a large number of this seed. Of twelve samples which were stated to have been obtained from Toronto wholesale houses there was an abundance of weed

| Where obtained | Market price per bushel | Weight of pure seed in 100 lbs | Actual cost of pure living seed per bushel | Number of weed seeds per lb. |
|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Andover        | 3 25                    | 89                             | 3 65                                       | 30,510                       |
| Fredericton    | 3 00                    | 81                             | 3 70                                       | 14,220                       |
| Woodstock      | 4 50                    | 87.9                           | 5 11                                       | 6,010                        |
| Sussex         | 4 10                    | 91.8                           | 4 46                                       | 5,400                        |
| Elm Tree       | 3 85                    | 92.1                           | 4 18                                       | 3,780                        |
| Sussex         | 4 10                    | 82.6                           | 4 96                                       | 3,330                        |
| Bathurst       | 4 80                    | 97.4                           | 5 92                                       | pure                         |
| Fredericton    | 3 75                    | 94.8                           | 4 95                                       | pure                         |
| Southampton    | 4 00                    | 98.8                           | 4 64                                       | pure                         |

In comparison with the samples obtained from other provinces, the quality of timothy offered by seed dealers in the Province of Quebec may be considered fair. The nature of the impurities on the whole were not very different from the Ontario samples, except in a few cases of local grown seed. Out of the fifty-six samples of timothy received from Quebec, only one contained seed of false flax, whereas ox-eye daisy and chicory, which were not present in any of the Ontario samples, were quite frequent impurities in the Quebec seed. Only one sample had been obtained from a wholesale firm west of Montreal; most of the samples were reported to have been obtained from Montreal wholesale firms. Two samples were very low in vitality, but practically all the seeds which were vital germinated during the first five days. This is an evidence that a small proportion of good fresh seed had been mixed with old and dead seed. Five samples were low in both vitality and vital energy, and had been evidently taken from old seed.

About sixty per cent of the samples received from the province of New Brunswick were reported to have been taken from seed that had been obtained by the local dealers from Toronto seed houses. A number had been obtained from Montreal, and a few from United States. Out of the 24 samples analyzed, eight had over 1,000 weed seeds per pound; one sample contained no less than eleven different species of weed seeds; and another sample thirteen. Each of those samples had been obtained from a prominent seed firm, and there is no reason why the greater part of these impurities could not have been taken out by the use of the machinery which is in the possession of that seed firm.

Canada thistle, ox-eye daisy, cockle, dock, Mayweed, chicory and sheep sorrel were the noxious weeds most prevalent in the Nova Scotia timothy. Others quite prevalent but less noxious, are green foxtail, ribgrass, Cinquefoil, lamb's quarters, and d Plantain. The nature of the impurities in general were not dissimilar to those of New Brunswick and Ontario. About fifty per cent of the samples had passed through Toronto seed houses. Many of the others, obtained in either New Brunswick or Nova Scotia, were reported to have been taken from home grown seed. One sample contained over 30,000 seeds of false flax, 1,890 of

peppergrass and 6,390 of Mayweed per pound. Seed of false flax is not, however, so dangerous an impurity in the Atlantic coast provinces as in districts where fall wheat is grown.

Only one sample obtained from the province of Prince Edward Island was reported to have been locally grown. It was found to contain cinquefoil, chickweed, sheep sorrel, and chicory, which were its only noxious impurities, and none of those except chicory are considered dangerous weed pests. In one sample, 1,100 Ergot Sclerotia were found per pound of seed. This sample had been obtained from a Charlottetown seed firm, and it is quite likely that the seed was grown on the island, as this fungus was seldom found in samples from Quebec and Ontario. Most of the seed obtained had passed through the hands of Charlottetown seed firms before reaching the local dealers from whom they were obtained.

The bulk of the timothy seed retained in British Columbia had been obtained from Ontario seed houses. The samples were, on the whole, rather inferior to those obtained from any of the other provinces.

One sample which was practically free from weed seeds had been grown by a farmer in the vicinity of Vernon, while two samples which had been imported contained an alarming number of some of the most dangerous weed seeds, among which were white cockle and perennial sow thistle.

The alsike adulteration record will be dealt with in our next issue, and that of red clover in the following week's number.

These are subjects of the most vital importance to farmers and to the public as well, and legislation along the lines of penalty infliction for adulteration will become necessary unless great amendments are observable in the current year's seeds offered by dealers. As the Department possesses the names and addresses of the dealers from whom all samples have been obtained for testing, these people may be well advised if they refrain from placing themselves in a position in the future to be publicly criticized; because there is nothing to hinder any farmer from having his seeds tested and where they are found to be adulterated to publish the full details of his research.

W. H. COARD,  
Dominion Dept. of Agriculture.

Big Brother—Look here Billy, it's no good you hanging round You stand no chance with Miss Smith in those togs. Anybody can see they're mine cut down for you. Little Brother—My dear fellow it's not clothes, it's brains that tel-

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**Wine of Tar  
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A Lubricant to the Throat.  
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"So Ambitious has achieved fame, has he?" asked the philosopher.  
"He has," replied the cheerful chap.  
"Brilliant things said by other men are now credited to him."

Fresh Daily:  
"And do you understand," asked the Sunday school teacher, "why you pray for your daily bread?"  
"Oh, yes," replied little Elsie. "That's so we'll be sure to have it fresh."

Lose not the glory of the sun by always seeking to count the spots upon it.

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MILLER BROS.

Nov. 19.

In the Probate Court of the County of Northumberland.

To the Sheriff of the County of Northumberland or any Constable within the said County, Greeting.

WHEREAS Margaret A. Miller, Administratrix of all and singular the goods, chattels and credits which were of William Miller, late of Douglastown, in the Parish of Newcastle, in said County, Merchant, deceased, hath filed an account of the administration of the estate of the deceased and hath by her petition represented to me that the personal estate of the said deceased is not sufficient to pay the debts due by the said deceased, and hath prayed that the said account may be passed and allowed and that license to a the real estate of the said deceased for payment of his debts, may be granted to her. You are therefore required to cite the heirs and next of kin of the said deceased, the creditors and all others interested in his real estate to appear before me at a Court of Probate to be held at my office, Newcastle, within and for the County of Northumberland, on MONDAY, THE NINTH DAY OF FEBRUARY NEXT, at Eleven o'clock in the forenoon to show cause (if any they have) why the said account should not be passed and allowed and license granted to sell the Real Estate as prayed.

Given under my hand and the seal of the said Court this third day of January, 1903.

(Sgd) SAM. THOMSON,  
Judge of Probate, North'd.

G. B. FRASER,  
Registrar of P

## No Danger.

Prof. W. Hodgson Ellis, Official Analyst to the Dominion Government, has proved by analysis that "Sunlight Soap is a pure and well-made soap, and has a thorough cleansing power, without danger to the clothing or skin."

Clothing is worn more in the wash than in use where common soaps are used, and the hands are liable to eczema. Try Sunlight Soap—Octagon Bar—next wash day, and you will see Prof. Ellis is right. No one should know better than he.