

animals ready for the bacon market are at present relatively scarce.

Sheep are increasing in popularity in various sections of the Province. There has been a good lamb drop already, and the prospects for developing this long neglected class of farm animals are brightening.

Fodder Supplies.—There has been more than a sufficiency of hay, but there is a danger of too much of it being sold. There has also been an abundance of straw, much of which is now being fed. The corn crop, on the other hand, was the poorest for years, both for husking and silage. Much of what went into the silo was frosted, making inferior feed, and owing to the early cold weather considerable standing corn was caught in the field and had to remain out all winter. The cereals

are so dear that grain is being very sparingly fed. However, there is a good supply of field roots on hand. The bulk of the reports indicate that most farmers have the necessary supplies on hand to make fairly well-balanced rations, but that careful feeding must be the order of the day until pastures are ready.

Increased Production.—A Brant correspondent describes the general farm attitude when he says: "Most farmers would like to increase their acreage for field production if they could depend upon procuring sufficient labor." However, despite the probable lack of help, an endeavor is being made by many farmers to extend the area of spring crops. A considerable number are about to try spring wheat for the first time, or increase their former acreage. More barley will also be sown. With the unusually dry weather so far prevailing, farmers

have been able to get upon the land early, and already a considerable area of spring grains has been put in in the southwestern counties. Complaints are being made as to scarcity of good, well-tested seed corn.

Labor and Wages.—The dearth of experienced farm workers continues, and much of the help this season will have to be more or less untrained. A number of organizations, official and voluntary, are now at work to help to supply the need as fully as possible. Correspondents declare that farmers will have to exchange work more than ever and use more horses and larger implements. Wages for married men run from \$400 to \$500 a year, with free house, garden and cow pasture. By the month good men get from \$35 to \$50, with board, and in York County as high as \$60 is being paid for high-class men.

Canada's Young Farmers and Future Leaders.

Utilizing Summer Evenings.

Whether the clock is advanced an hour or not the summer evenings are long during May, June and July and give an opportunity for a certain amount of outdoor recreation. There are those who think that the farmer and his family should work from before sunrise until after the sun disappears behind the western hills, in order that production might be increased to the utmost. However, there is a limit to a man's strength. He can do so much, and then nature calls a halt. Some folk have great endurance, but it is usually found that if they abuse their health and strength they sooner or later suffer. There are men and women who should be in the prime of life to-day who are physical wrecks because they worked beyond their strength at some time or other. It is but natural for an ambitious boy or girl, man or woman to work hard to get ahead, but it must be remembered that what they secure by overworking themselves avails little if the gain is secured at the expense of health.

Experience has shown that the office manager and clerk cannot keep up their efficiency if they labor over their desks long hours day after day and month after month. While some are able to stand the strain, the majority fall a prey to insomnia, general debility, etc. Consequently, the working hours of the office man have been regulated so that but a small portion of the day is spent at the office, and plenty of time is left for recreation and rest. This system tends to the greatest efficiency. The same is applicable to the farm. The tiller of the soil requires rest and recreation and time to read, study and plan his work. He should know what is doing in his line on other farms and in other countries. If he labors with his hands from sunrise to sunset, he is not in a position to plan as he should. It is scarcely feasible for the farmer to work as short a day as the average office man. If he did we fear that production would fall far short. Even after the day's work in the field is completed the chores must be done, so that the day's labors are lengthened out. However, the old saying, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy", is quite true. The tired body and mind cannot do their

best work. On some farms the chores are counted in the day's work, and while the hour for rising is rather early, the teams leave the field at night in time for the chores to be finished in good time. This leaves a fairly long evening for recreation or rest. The plan has worked well in many cases; the work is kept up, and the hired help and young people of the farm are more contented than if they were called upon to work ten hours in the field, besides doing the chores morning and evening.

There are many ways of spending the evenings. Those who are fortunate enough to have a car may visit friends or attend a show, or go on a pleasure jaunt. Some are football or baseball enthusiasts, and get a good deal of sport out of these games. In many communities there are enough young men to organize a ball team. A group game is excellent training. It trains a person to co-operate with his associates for the good of the group. It is hard for some to make a play, that, while tending to win the game does not bring them much credit, but the true sport does it, and this trait grows and makes him less selfish as a man than if he grew up working entirely for the glorification of himself all the time. A few friendly games may be played during the summer with neighboring teams. This adds to a person's acquaintances, and a little competition tends to increase a boy's loyalty to his home community.

A tennis club might be organized for the benefit of the ladies and the boys not interested in other sports. Some might prefer spending the evenings reading, others find rest and pleasure working in the flower garden, while we know of those who spend many evenings giving the horses and other stock special attention. To some this would be work, to others it is recreation, as according to some, "A change is as good as a rest." Playing ball or currying cattle might be harder work than was being done during the day, but it is a change. A person does not always have to sit with folded arms in order to rest.

Plan to utilize the time to the best advantage, but bear in mind that continual work is not necessarily an indication of thriftiness. While hard work helps a man

get ahead, he must work to good advantage, and this requires planning. There is an easy and a hard way of doing many jobs, and there are those who go at their work in the hardest possible way as a result of not using their heads; consequently, they labor long hours in order to keep up with their work, whereas a couple of hours less work, a half-hour planning, and an hour and a half of recreation would have put the work as far ahead.

There must be someone to organize the ball team or start other forms of amusement. These things won't start themselves; there must be a leader, and many communities are suffering because someone does not start the ball rolling. Don't waste the summer evenings of 1918, but remember that reading, playing ball, tennis, etc., is not waste time.

Cost of Raising Pigs.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

We keep accurate account of every pound of meal that is fed to our hogs and are able to give the exact returns for each litter. We have recently disposed of one load of 6 hogs and during their lifetime they consumed 4,290 pounds of meal, which at \$2.50 per cwt. would come to \$107.00; 200 pounds of shorts were fed which brings the total for feed to \$111.50. I have not charged anything for mangels or skim-milk as it was almost impossible to estimate exactly the amount fed. The meal was oat and wheat mixed; the wheat being the screenings from the marketable product. On March 25, we killed one hog for our own use, which weighed 167 pounds, and when dressed was worth \$32.60. On April 17, the five hogs weighed 225 pounds each and we received \$215.45 for them. Thus the receipts for the six hogs were a little over \$135 above the cost of feed. Allowing a fair consideration for mangels, milk and the young pigs at the time they were weaned, we consider that we received good wages for the time spent looking after the pigs.

Halton Co., Ont.

YOUNG FARMER.

Automobiles, Farm Machinery and Farm Motors.

The Auto Body.

When we went to school the teacher told us that all Gaul was divided into three parts. An automobile is divided into two parts—the body and the chassis. Each body is nothing more nor less than a passenger carrying arrangement. It consists of four fenders, one over each wheel, two running boards connecting the fenders and two skirts, each one of which extends from the top of a running board to the lower part of the main body in which the seats are located. It can also be said that the engine-cover belongs to the body proper. The body is bolted to the frame and can be entirely removed without, in any way, interfering with the power plant. There is no machinery about the body and so all the care it requires comes under the head of cleanliness. It is well, however, to occasionally look to the bolts which hold the body to the frame and make certain that they are not only tight but secure.

When the body becomes covered with dust or dirt or mud make the earliest possible arrangements to have it washed. The longer foreign matter remains upon the body the more difficult it is to remove and the more damage it can accomplish. Dirt that cakes upon the varnish soon kills all the lustre and promotes a dull, dead appearance. The first step in washing a car is the hosing-off process with cold water. Do not use warm water because if you do you will injure the varnish. There is only one way to remove dirt and that is by running water. Should you attempt to rub it off you will force the grit into the finish and seriously scratch it. Of course, the easiest time to take off the mud is before it has had an opportunity to become dry and hard. Having released all the dirt you can now clean up grease spots or streaks by using a soapy solution made from clear water and castile soap. Just a little warm water added will give better action on the soap and provide it with quicker cleansing properties. You should put on this solution very easily with a soft sponge. The cheaper grades of soap which contain a certain amount of alkali should never be thought of for an instant as the alkali has a disastrous effect upon the varnish. When the soaping process is over wash the car again

with clean cold water until every particle of soap has been removed, then rub the body to a fine polish with a chamois skin that is not only clean but soft.

If your leather upholstery is very dirty it is always good policy to remove the top in order that you may more easily clean out the pleats or tufts right up to the very edge of the body. Go over the seats and cushions with a damp cloth but do not exert a great deal of pressure upon the cloth. The motion should be light and continuous rather than strong and jerky. Particles of dirt can be pressed so hard that they will scratch the leather. When the upholstery is perfectly dry again, rub it down with a cloth that has been moistened with sweet oil. The oil has a tendency to make the leather pliable and prevents any splitting or cracking. Nothing detracts more from the appearance of a passenger car than dirty upholstery. On the other hand clean seats and cushions always look inviting to those who are asked to take a ride.

Your top will not require a great deal of attention other than which commonsense would suggest. Wash off the ising-glass window at the back with a damp cloth at frequent intervals and use a whisk-broom to remove dust and dirt from the mohair after each long trip. We think it is advisable to drier with the top up although there is no doubt that this uses up a little more gasoline. If you favor riding with the top down be careful to see that it is folded away carefully in order that it may not become pinched or worn between any of the bow spacers. It is an excellent policy to pull the envelope over it when it is down. Otherwise the recesses in the top will necessarily gather a tremendous amount of dust. Accumulations of dirt have a tendency to harden and it will not be long until the vibration of the motor will shake these hard collection of grit until they wear small holes in the top material.

When the envelope for your top is not in use fold it up very carefully and put it away in one of the top pockets or under the seat or in your garage in order that its clean appearance may be preserved as far as possible. Your car will always look more attractive if the envelope is tidy.

AUTO.

Batteries and Magneto.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

On page 634 of April 11th issue is a letter by W. F. Hodson commenting on an answer to a query which stated as follows: It is not necessary to have both batteries and magneto on an engine, as the latter have been so improved in recent years that the engine will start as readily off magneto as off battery. Mr. Hodson thinks this is not borne out in practice unless the supply of oil and gasoline is watched carefully and neither too much nor too little allowed. I am inclined to think this conclusion was reached from experience with magnetos not of the latest design. The "impulse starter" now used on high tension magnetos does the trick. Even though the engine is turned over very leisurely by hand the impulse starter causes the magneto to give just as good a spark as when running at several hundred revolutions per minute. This is what I had in mind in the answer referred to, and I cannot see why an improper amount of either gasoline or oil should retard ignition with this magneto any more than with the battery.

W. H. D.

Electric Lighting Plant on the Farm.

The small electric lighting plant that every country man can have and can operate is a mighty agent for breaking the shackles of his isolation. Electric lights, electric vacuum cleaners, electric driven washing machines, irons, cream separators, churns, sewing machines, fans and a multitude of other electric household helps are available to the farm home which can afford an electric lighting plant. Since the popular sizes of home lighting plants are designed to furnish 1,000 watts at 32 volts from the 50 light plant; or 2,000 watts, at 32 volts from the 100-light plant, the prospective purchaser, who has reached a decision as to the approximate number of electrical appliances he will want to operate, will not find it difficult to closely