

PUBLISHER'S DESK

A Splendid Journal

I think THE FARMING WORLD is a splendid journal for farmers and as it is within reach of all it should be patronized by all.—Fred. Cheeseman, Glengary Co., Ont.

Cure of Thoroughpin and is Good for all Bunches

Thamesford, Ont., Jan. 12, 1905.
The Lawrence-Williams Co., Cleveland, O.:

We have a bottle of GOMBAULT'S CAUSTIC BALSAM. We used it on a mare for thoroughpin and it disappeared entirely. We have a horse with a lump on his breast, and we would like to try the Balsam on it. We have lost the directions for using it. Would you please send us a copy of the directions?

FRANK PETTIT.

A New Use for Flax—May Possibly Be Made in Canada

There is no country in the world that is better adapted to the culture of the flax crop than Canada, especially in Ontario and the Northwest. It is perhaps the best crop that can be used as a "primer" or first crop on new soil, or when the meadow lands are in the course of rotation. The value of the flax crop is for its seed and fibre. As it is costly to pull flax by hand in order that it may be made into dressed flax at the mills, farmers usually prefer to simply cut it and thresh it for the seed. In this way the straw is of no special value.

The latest use that is being made of the fibre is for insulating purposes. The Union Fibre Company of Winona, Minn., manufacture an insulation called Linofelt. This is made from the flax straw, that has been put through a special process. The straw is hackled and the fibre degummed by a chemical process, this is then matted between rosin-sized paper making a matting of about 1/4 inch thick. The fibre in this form is very durable, and is said to be thirty-eight times as warm as building paper.

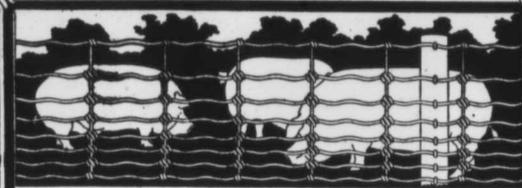
The possibilities for such an industry in Canada are wonderful. The market is here for the product, as the problem that has always confronted builders in this country is to make houses warm enough, and now that there is a scarcity of wood throughout the country it is becoming necessary for farmers in many districts to use coal, so that the warmer the house the greater will be the economy in fuel.

The product Linofelt is now being imported in large quantities, as it is being used for insulation in cold storage construction, as well as for houses.

It would be a good thing for the Canadian farmer if we could have such a means of disposing of the flax straw, as the flax crop could then be made much more profitable than it is at present.

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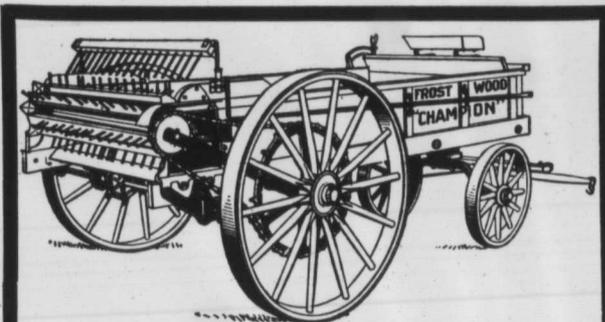
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