

been buying apples as a private business. Their methods were to buy by the barrel, or the tree or by the orchard, but in every case the object was to get the goods at the very lowest price possible. More or less scheming was done between or among the buyers, because orchards were "parceled" and this, one buyer would come for this man's apples, the other would take that man's, without any competition whatever, and the grower got only one bid; he had no option. Some buyers were even clever enough to get around in August before the fruit was grown, and when there was not any appearance of a good crop, and buy the orchard. It was a comparatively easy thing to do at that time, when farmers' bank accounts are the slimmest, and a great number of sales were then made, most of which in the end were to the disadvantage of the grower. Other little things, too, which we need not refer to here, have done a part to render fruit-growing less interesting as well as less profitable. Can you then blame the growers for ceasing to work to the interests of men, selfish indeed, who cared not a whit whether the producer found the industry profitable or not, as long as they themselves did, and who would not do the smallest act to further fruit-growing, to the growers' interests?

Then, you may ask a man why he does not spray his orchard, why he has not pruned it, why does he leave it in sod, why not cultivate, spray and prune according to advice given by expert growers, and he will tell you, "I haven't time" or "It doesn't pay me," either of which seems absurd, in view of the remarkable good results being obtained from good treatment of orchards elsewhere, but still each is truism. No man has time for anything that is not profitable. I believe that the fruit markets might be controlled by monopolies to such an extent that any time a man would spend sharpening his pruning saw would be utterly lost. Such may not have been the case in our district, but something has discouraged the growers, and I think that it is the treatment measured out by the buyers and packers. What we want then, what we must have to revive fruit-growing and to conduct it as it should be conducted, is some concern to handle the products and deal honestly and fairly with the growers. We have such an organization in "The Georgian Bay Fruit Grower, Limited."

With honest treatment from the men who put our fruit on the market, every grower will go back into the work with a new heart. We might be able to do something in the meantime to hasten the day when orchards are no longer ill-treated, the day when those unsprayed, unpruned, and uncultivated acres are not seen.

While fruit-growing is not where it should be in a naturally favored section such as the Georgian Bay district, with the adoption of these ideas and the extension of the co-operative organization, "The Georgian Bay Fruit Grower, Limited," to other localities of the district, than its present location at Thornbury and Meaford, there will be a great revival in fruit-growing, and soon the Georgian Bay district will not merely be classed with the best fruit sections of the province, but will be conceded, universally, to be the premier.

### An Overlooked Source of Weed Seed Distribution

T. G. Royner, B.S.A., Seed Branch, Ottawa.

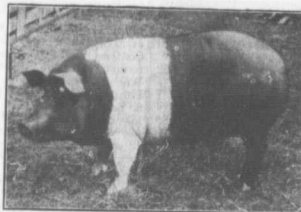
It has been a commonly accepted notion among farmers that if the grain fed to stock were ground crushed or rolled it would destroy the vitality of all the weed seeds. In buying bran and shorts or any of the mill feeds, they have thought it was all O.K. so far as weed seeds are concerned. Acting upon this idea, unless there is more or less straw or stems in his feed grain, he usually takes it as it comes from the thrasher and gets it hashed for feed of some kind.

This winter the Seed Branch has been investi-

gating a number of samples of feeds sold by millers. Flour and feed dealers as well as lots cracked for farmers use of his own growing. The results have been quite astonishing. It is only the very finest prepared feeds that are free of weed seeds, still vital. In the case of some of the coarser ground feeds the number of small seeds still vital per lb. would be rather startling if known to the feeder. The rolled feeds or more closely ground ones are the ones which contain most of such seeds and they may be counted by the hundred per lb. in some feeds.

Some of the screenings from the wheat of the North-west is very bad indeed when ground into feed. It is alleged that some millers run a spout containing weed seeds into the bran spout. It is well-known too that some of the mill feeds is more or less adulterated without hulls and floor sweepings making them of less value for feeding purposes.

As weeds are a factor to be reckoned with these days might it not be well for farmers who wish to reduce the cost of labor on their farms to use the fanning mill more freely than they do by making



Hampshire or Thin Kind Hog

This breed of hogs is more or less of a novelty with Canadian farmers. It may be classed about half way between our bacon type and the fat type of the corn belt. The hog illustrated, owned by Hastings Bros. of Waterloo, Ont., was a prize winner at Toronto last September.

a proper separation of the weed seeds and grinding them very fine by themselves. All the weed seeds uninjured by the crusher do not reach the stable manure, but there is no doubt but that many of them do. The farmer as a business man, must have his eyes opened to all possible sources of weed supply and try as far as possible to check them.

### The Art of Sugar Making

W. R. Ball, Brome Co., Quebec.

Three principal points enter into the art of making maple syrup. A good article is judged by its "body," i.e. its thickness, its color and its flavor. The first qualification is simply a matter of sufficient boiling to bring the syrup to the required thickness.

The other two are perhaps a little more difficult of attainment. It is to the development of these two points, that the energies of modern sugar-makers and manufacturers of sugar-makers' supplies are directed.

Three rules seem to stand out to guide one in attaining the desired results. They may be called the cardinal principles of sugar-making.

1st, and most important, Absolute Cleanliness. 2nd, Rapid Evaporation and 3rd, Shallow Boiling.

The simple straining of the sap, while very necessary, is a very small part of living up to the first rule. Scrupulous care must be taken of all the utensils with which the sap comes in contact. This holds good all the way from the spouts to the evaporator.

It is not difficult to keep things clean if the vessels are of tin or galvanized iron. If any of the vessels are of wood, it is absolutely necessary that they should be kept well painted, or the sap will penetrate the wood and become sour, and this will very greatly injure the color and flavor of

the syrup. As good syrup can be made from sap caught in a well painted wooden bucket as from that caught in a tin one, provided of course that they are cared for as indicated.

It has been the great object of makers of sugar making equipments to produce an evaporator that will combine the two last rules; rapid evaporation and shallow boiling. Their success in these particulars has done much to place sugar-making on the high level to which it has attained.

Some farmers have the impression that it will not pay them to install an evaporator in a sugar bush of from 200 to 400 trees. However, by putting in a modern "rig" and making a choice article a very good profit can be made on the investment. Keep everything clean and sweet. Handle the sap as soon after it runs as possible. Do not keep it boiling over and over in a deep boiling pan and you cannot help but produce an article that will bring the best price on the market.

### A Practicable Forestry Policy

In its issue last week Farm and Dairy suggested a method by which the thousands of acres of waste timber land in the counties of Durham, Northumberland, Simcoe, Norfolk and Lambton in Ontario might be reforested at but slight expense either to the counties concerned or to the Provincial government. Our suggestion has brought out the following interesting letter from Prof. B. E. Fernow, Dean of the Faculty of Forestry in Toronto University. Prof. Fernow has had many years of experience in Forestry matters in the United States and in Germany. His opinions, therefore, should carry weight. His letter is as follows:

Ed. Farm and Dairy:—I endorse without reserve the proposition for a forestry policy advanced by you to be applied to the waste lands of Ontario in its agricultural section. It is a sane, perfectly simple, and entirely practical and practicable proposition. There are no untried theories involved in the planting of waste lands, and the financial solution of the operation as outlined by Farm and Dairy seems to me to be sound and details capable of a fair adjustment.

#### THE COST

All this waste land could, if properly planned, be planted up for within \$10 to \$12 an acre. Some of it would not need planting, only protection. An expenditure of \$50,000 per annum for 25 years would create a forest property which would then begin to yield slight incomes, and within 60 years from the beginning of this policy, would begin to repay the capital invested with a fair interest rate.

The whole undertaking could be financed in such a way as to make the future, which is mainly to benefit by this policy, pay for it, mainly.

By 1970, when the first harvest would be ripe, wood prices would have reached the present ruling prices on the European continent, so that the European forest policies may be repeated here.

Such municipal forests are quite common in Germany and France paying a goodly part of taxes.

#### PROFITABLE FORESTS.

It may interest you to learn something of the financial aspects of some of the German municipal forests. They are as follows:

(ROUNDED OFF FIGURES.)

Names	Acres	Income	Expenses	Net	Per Acre
Goeritz (Silesia)...	74,000	\$208,000	\$75,000	\$133,000	\$2.00
Goslar.....	7,400	40,000	15,000	25,000	4.50
Stein.....	11,000	60,000	11,000	49,000	4.50
Frankfurt a M.....	3,600	72,000	27,000	45,000	5.34
Cassel.....	18,000	80,000	23,000	57,000	4.20
Augsburg.....	8,000	70,000	17,000	53,000	1.60
Freiburg i.B.....	18,000	100,000	40,000	60,000	3.35
Baden-Baden.....	11,000	57,500	30,000	27,500	6.00
Zurich (Schwyz), 1880-2,700	2,700	100,000	32,000	68,000	3.40

I can only encourage you in trying to convince the people and the government that the policy begun by the government in a small way and hesitatingly, is in the right direction.

B. E. FERNOW, Toronto.