

## FARM MANAGEMENT

### When Not to Fall Plow

L. C. Norfolk Co., Ont.

Fall plowing is much advocated, and in recent issues of *Farm and Dairy* I have read several articles advocating turning over the land before the snow flies. As a general rule this advice is good, but one needs to use discretion and vary his practice according to local conditions.

In the section of Norfolk county in which I am located fall plowing in many cases would be extremely inadvisable. On my own farm for instance, there are several sandy hill-sides. If I were to plow these there would be gullies three feet deep before spring and much of the best soil would be lost by washing. Such land is better kept in sod, but where that is not possible and where plowing must be resorted to, by all means do it in the spring.

I sometimes question if it is ever advisable to plow sandy soil in the fall. Once sandy land is plowed the rains beat it down hard and take the life out of the soil. I myself much prefer to work a soil plowed in the spring, than when fall plowed, when it is sandy. I am not saying anything against fall plowing in general, merely as it applies to my conditions.

### A Poor Clover Catch

Would you tell me what to do with a field which has a poor catch of clover? There are about seven acres and it is the best field from which I will have clover next year. I seeded it this spring with one bushel of clover and three of timothy. It did not think more than half grew. My father sowed some in the same way and he has a splendid crop. Would it be better to sow it early in the spring and at what time? Would it be advisable to sow it up again and try to substitute something else for clover?—G. E. Algoma, Ont.

Under the circumstances I would suggest sowing one-half the usual amount of clover and of timothy in the spring of the year, after most of the old snow has melted from the ground, and on top of a fresh snow of one or two inches. When the snow melts the seed will settle in the surface of the ground and will grow at the very last opportunity. The crop of 1915 would likely be a mixture of clover, and the crop the following year would also probably have a considerable amount of clover, after which timothy would be the principal part of the crop. We find that clover sown in the fall is usually winter killed. It is now getting rather late to sow timothy this autumn.—Prof. C. A. Zavitz, O.A.C., Guelph, Ont.

### Lambton Farmers Re-Organizing

Peter Gardiner, Lambton Co., Ont.

The Osborne Farmers' Club met on Tuesday evening, September 1st, for the purpose of reorganizing the club on the lines proposed by the provisional committee of the county of Lambton, who were appointed last June. Mr. F. J. McMahon presided. Our aim is to form a club in each school section in the county. There is something to gain and nothing to lose. We will produce a better product, and true to name, as represented, and as the cost of production will be known, we will be able to put a price on our goods that will leave us a fair margin of profit.

The wholesaler and retailer and business man generally fear the strength and power of the organized farmer, and so do all they can to keep us from organizing. It would take too long to tell all the things they say. They think we are too narrow-minded and suspicious of one another, and they seem to think we do not know enough. I wonder if

there is some truth in what they say?

We produce the necessities as well as the luxuries. Is it not reasonable that we should have some say as to their value? In our dealings with the manufacturer, we may pay spot cash, and so eliminate his bad debts, or rather we will save that much, for we realize that under present conditions we are paying the other fellow's bad debts.

Let me appeal to the farmers to form clubs in the school sections over the county. The constitution of the Lambton County Farmers' Cooperative Association will be sent on request to anyone desiring it.



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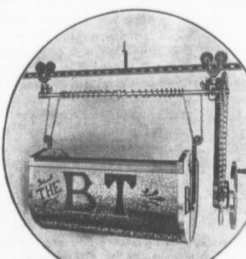
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