

neighbors who have used commercial fertilizers on fall wheat, therefore cannot give an opinion on the results

(3) All other conditions being equal, I consider from the 1st to 10th of September as the best time to sow wheat. This year, the wheat I sowed on the first days of last October was better than that sowed on the last days of August.

(4) I myself, and many others stick to the Democrat, but there is a good deal of Golden chaff and some other varieties sown.

(5) If my own seed is good, and I have it threshed in time, I always sow my own seed. I do not think there is much to be gained by the mere change of seed.

(6) I think the yield will not be over 15 bushels to the acre, of rather inferior quality on the average.

The crops in East Missouri appear to be better than they are in most places that I have visited.

E. J. PEARSON.

Kintore, Oxford Co., Ont., July 31st, 1899.

Farm Fences in New Brunswick

To the Editor of FARMING:

Your editorial wishing information about farm fencing having come under my notice, I take this opportunity to answer your enquiries from this section. In this section, owing to its being a new country and cedargrowing, sometimes on the spot and sometimes nearly all the fencing till within a few years has been done with that article, but, owing to its clumsiness and its beginning to get scarce in many places, and beside the inconvenience they cause along the road by snowdrifts, the farmers are beginning to turn their attention to wire, particularly for road fences. And though wire fencing is yet in its infancy in this section, from the extent it is enquired about and talked about between farmers themselves, there is no doubt that there will be a great deal of it used before very long. So little has been used so far that only an approximate idea can be had of its value as a reliever of the snow blockade, but farmers seemed settled on this point, and all are looking forward to renew as circumstances permit with wire.

The system of doing without road fences has been extensively tried in this country, and though you will find advocates for it, the general view is a feeling of insecurity, and in a few years I think you will find it generally abandoned.

Like the section you mentioned, barbed-wire was the pioneer here, but you can find very few advocates of it now, as it has maimed so many valuable animals.

The Wedge Lock Wire Fence has been placed on this market of late, and even when not purchased at the time generally commends itself to the farmer. The size of the wire, the wire all being of equal size and strength, the upright wire as strong as the lateral wire, and its secure locking at the crossing of each wire commended it at sight to the practical farmer, and when it has been tested it has borne any strain put upon it perfectly.

Yours very truly,

Andover, N. B., July 28th, 1899.

E. H. HOYT.

Hard Coil Wire Should be Used for Fencing

To the Editor of FARMING:

In reply to the article in a late issue of your valued journal referring to the important question of fencing, I beg to reply in reference to the questions therein submitted:

(1) The kind of fence most in use in this township is the old fashioned rail fence with about six feet angle to each

panel. Timber, however, suitable for fencing is very scarce and ere long the rail fence will belong to the past.

(2) Wire fencing is almost exclusively taking the place of rails and if of the proper kind it will meet the requisites of a first-class farm fence.

(3) Where wire fences have been erected they effectually prevent a blockade from snowdrifts.

(4) Fences along the highway, as well as to divide the fields, is an absolute necessity on a farm. No farmer can enjoy a good night's sleep, unless he has good fences to protect his growing crops.

In writing thus of this very important subject, I must be allowed to hint to my brother farmers, that all wire fences are not by any means first class.

Soft wire can never make a satisfactory or enduring fence and barbed wire has many objections. No farmer should build any wire fence unless he uses hard coil spring wire and this should be well supported by stays otherwise a much greater number of posts will be necessary.

Thanking you in advance for the opportunity to make these few suggestions, I am, dear editor, yours truly,

JOSEPH PARK.

Logierait, Ont., July 28th, 1899.

A Suggestion for Farmers' Institute Officers

To the Editor of FARMING:

Would you allow me as a friend of Farmers' Institutes to venture a few suggestions through the columns of your valuable paper? We farmers have, year after year, new men coming to speak to us at our Farmers' Institute meetings with comparatively old subjects. Now, to my mind, we must introduce something new every year to help to keep up the interest. The query is, "How best to do this?" I believe it is to the interests of every live farmer to try and help our indefatigable Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes.

I want to make a few suggestions by which I think interest could be kept up so as to help in a small degree. One is for the officers of Institutes to organize debating classes in the several divisions where Institute meetings are being held. Let the president and secretary of the Institute have the oversight of such organization, after which the directors of each locality can take the lead. Let each class take up some topic of interest to farmers and have some subject in particular prepared for the annual Institute meetings.

As an example of what can be accomplished in this way take the case of the young men of a certain locality who have formed a football team and practice once every week with some other athletic club, and all with the intention of leading up to a big picnic or concert, which they carry out to a grand finish. Such a contest was actually termed by an expert as one of the sights of his life. To see the happy mass of young people who gathered to spend the afternoon and evening in the beautiful grove was indeed a treat.

I quote this to show what can be accomplished by a little forethought and exertion. Now if we to the same extent would exert ourselves in conducting a first class debating club, with the object in view of leading up to our Institute meetings, great good would be done. All we want is for some two or three individuals to take the lead. I believe that here as a class we fail in a great measure to mingle one with the other to the extent that we should. By meeting once a week at our debating class we will overcome this difficulty to a great extent, as well as drawing out our young men and overcoming that bashfulness which prevails to such an extent in every locality. By such means we could get our young men to come out and take part at our Institute meetings, which should be one of the prime objects of the Farmers' Institutes.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, let me say again that if some few of the farmers would but give this matter just a little