

FARM.

Eradicating Mustard.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—In reply to your letter re method adopted to eradicate wild mustard (charlock) from farm purchased by me, I beg to say: Field number one was sown with barley, but the mustard came up so thick and strong that it completely overshadowed the barley. When the mustard was in flower we plowed under the whole crop, and cultivated that field as frequently as possible until after harvesting the other crops. After harvest that field was again plowed and cultivated frequently, each cultivation bringing up a strong growth of mustard. The following spring the field was cultivated as early as practicable and harrowed weekly, until the balance of the farm was seeded, when it was sown with oats, and that spring being favorable to cultivation, there was very little mustard to eradicate from that crop, or since that time.

Field number two was sown with oats, and with it appeared a fair crop of mustard, but not so strong as in field number one. This crop was allowed to mature, but the field was well cultivated as soon as the crop was hauled off. This brought up a strong growth of mustard, which was plowed under and the field cultivated same as field number one.

The following spring this field was cultivated weekly until the last days of May, and then planted with corn for ensilage. Very little mustard appeared, and that was eradicated in cultivating the corn, and very little mustard has since appeared in these fields, or the other on that farm that obtained a similar cultivation.

Mustard, or charlock, grows from the seed only, and while the seed will retain its vitality for an indefinite time in the ground, it only requires to be brought to the surface sufficiently to germinate, when its vitality is gone. As mustard does not grow from the old roots, and the seed is not carried by the wind from one farm to another, it requires only a determined effort to completely eradicate it.

If, by accident, mustard seed was sown upon an otherwise clean field, that crop of mustard can be killed by spraying with a three to five-per-cent. solution of sulphate of copper (bluestone) without injuring the grain crop. It may be necessary to spray twice to destroy a crop of mustard.

Hoping your efforts will induce the farmers of Canada to rid their farms of a weed that in many sections of the country has taken possession of the land.

The Senate, Ottawa.

W. OWENS.

About That "Open Letter."

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

I saw an enquiry in the "Farmer's Advocate" for something to keep horses from barking shade trees. Take a little coal tar and smear some on different parts of the tree, and the horses will not touch them, and it will not injure the trees. I tried it last summer, after losing some fine trees. It stopped the horses, and the trees are still doing well.

I was very much amused on reading the open letter to men in the "Farmer's Advocate," and have come to the conclusion that the nurse must have had her eagle eye on some young farmer, and that he did not respond to her liking; or else that she must have been very unfortunate in the patients she secured. One would think that people able to hire a trained nurse would observe the common decencies on entering the house. But no farmer has the time to change his clothing at the door, and I think he does not need to, to save the delicate nose of trained nurses, or their wives either, if they take the same care that is observed on my farm and the majority of my neighbors. I think the farmer has as delicate a nose and resents bad smells as any nurse that sets herself up as their critic.

Elgin Co., Ont.

THOS. N. HAVENS.

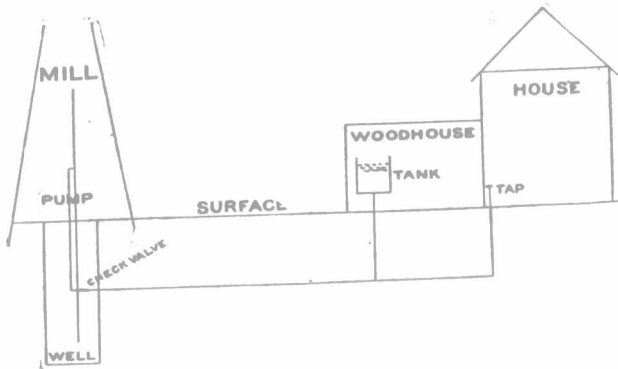
Rape for Pasture.

Rape as pasture has the advantage that it may be sown at any time during the summer, with a good prospect of yielding a lot of good forage in the fall months and right up to winter. It is especially suited to growing and fattening sheep and pigs, but is also an excellent feed for young cattle and for those intended to be fed for beef in the winter months. A piece of clover sod, plowed down after the hay crop is harvested, may make a good seed-bed for rape if it is rolled and harrowed well to reduce it to a fine tilth, and the rape seed sown broadcast at the rate of four or five pounds per acre and harrowed, or in drills two feet apart at the rate of two pounds per acre. A barley stubble plowed immediately after harvest and prepared in the same way may also produce a good crop of rape if the season proves favorable; that is, if a fair amount of moisture develops. If there is sufficient moisture in the land to give it a good start, it will stand a good deal of drought and make headway from the first.

Windmill for Water Supply.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

I notice in your issue of June 8th D. V. E. asking best and cheapest way to supply water from well twenty-seven rods distant from house.



I would advise the use of an eight-foot windmill erected over well, piping being run to buildings. A force-pump will be required, and I would not use anything smaller than one-inch piping, and galvanized at that. The cost will depend on the mill, pump, piping and tank, which can be obtained from any of the agents. I have used a windmill for three years, and it has given perfect satisfaction. If a check valve is used, as shown in the accompanying sketch, the pipe can be tapped anywhere between check and supply tank to water other buildings or stock at barn or anywhere desired.

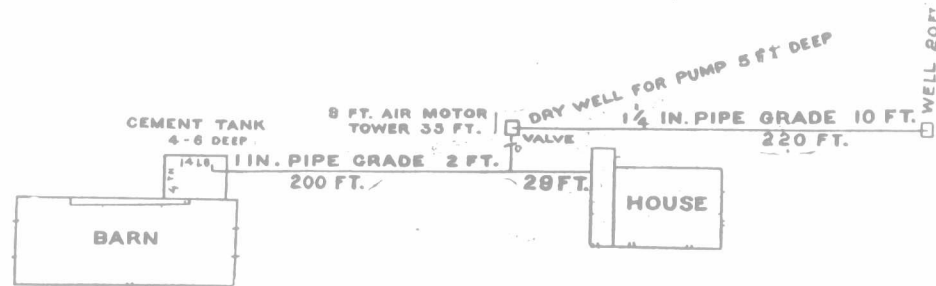
J. R. PHILP.

Grey Co., Ont.

Plan of Water System.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

I will send you my plan of water pipes and pumping windmill that has proven satisfactory: Well 20 feet deep, 4 feet water, pipes laid 3 feet in ground. Tank cement, 12 feet higher ground than well, dry well for pump and windmill, 5 feet deep. Check valve on short pipe from dry well, pipes from tank to house, with frostproof



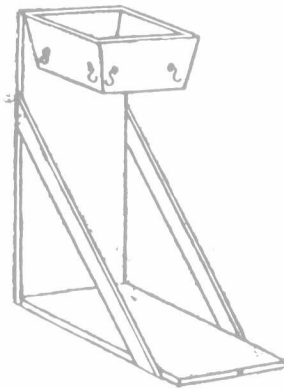
hydrant in back kitchen, which will not freeze, nor get warm in summer time. Windmill and pipes cost \$153. The cement tank is underground, and cost \$15.

WILLIAM SALTER.

Huron Co., Ont.

Portable Bag Holder.

More than once we have caught a little villain shivering and holding the bags in an icy granary, while the lusty men sweated over turning the fanning-mill and scooping up the grain. And we have seen men holding sacks in the busy threshing season, when the simple contrivance illustrated in



the accompanying cut could do the work better. The upright plank is an inch thick, three and a half feet long, and fifteen inches wide. The bottom plank is of the same dimensions, except that it is a foot and a half shorter. The hopper is easily constructed, and the hooks secured at any hardware store, or possibly improvised at home from bent nails. The base of the hopper is wedged from the perpendicular plank so that the bag may wrap all the way around.—[Australasian.]

Making Hay in One Day.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

In the June 29th issue of the "Farmer's Advocate" I notice an article entitled "Cut and Cure Hay in One Day." If any other reader of the "Farmer's Advocate" has any experience in this method of curing hay, please let us hear from him, or does "Subscriber" let his hay ripen like grain before cutting? HAYMAKER.

Renfrew Co., Ont.

[Note.—The making of hay in one day depends upon the weather and the amount of exposure of the hay to the influence of the sun and air. If cut after the dew is dried off in the morning, and kept tossed so that the wind and sun can act freely upon it on a bright day, hay may be safely stored the day it is cut, even if it be far from ripe; but if all these conditions are not available, it is safer to put it up in cocks when all outside moisture is dried off, and let it stand to sweat for a day or more, according to the weather, before putting in the mow. The writer saw six acres of heavy clover this season that was stored in prime condition before the 1st of July. It was, of course, a long way from being ripe, but it was kept moving nearly every hour from the time of cutting to loading, so that wind and sun could act upon it.—Ed.]

"Exaggerated and One-sided."

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—Being a farmer's daughter and a farmer's wife, and having taught school for six years in the country and boarded with farmers, I feel compelled to answer the open letter in your issue of June 29th, by "Nurse."

In all my experience I have only come across one man who was guilty of any of the faults spoken of by Nurse. Surely there must be something wrong with a nurse who has been in so many homes, and says: "Surely, if clean, clever farmers were so common as some say, I must have met one now and again," for by that expression she says she never met a clean, clever farmer. We say, surely that nurse must lack in proficiency to have been only employed by the class she described. She ought to be very grateful to you for withholding her name. For my part, I certainly pity her, and advise her to change her occupation to something she can do better, and

then, perhaps, the longing she expresses in these words, "When I hear of those well-conducted homes your readers describe, I do so long to see the men," may be gratified. Like "Nurse," I have lived among farmers in four or five counties of Ontario, but, unlike her, in all those homes there were

all the necessary comforts of life and some luxuries, and all paid for. I am confident that the lady readers of this paper join me in wondering how the Editor of a worthy, sensible paper like the "Farmer's Advocate" ever found room for such an exaggerated, one-sided letter. Of course, "Nurse" says it is not exaggerated, but who can believe that anyone could live in this fair, prosperous agricultural Province for any length of time and not "meet a clean, clever farmer now and again"?

A FARMER'S WIFE.

Oxford Co., Ont.

Our Scottish Letter.

June so far has been a very pleasant month for the pleasure-seeker and tourist. We have had comparatively little rain all month, and the atmosphere has been kept cool by breezes of east wind, while the sun has been shining in his strength. All this is excellent from the standpoint of almost everybody except the farmer. The wheat and oats and barley crop got a grand start, with plenty of rain in spring, and were heavy rains to come now these white crops might seriously suffer, by becoming too rank. But the hay crop is to be light, and the turnip braird has made a very poor start, the fly obviously obtaining a firm hold of a plant not over robust. A short hay crop means a big decrease in the revenue to the farmer who sells, and the bad prospects of the turnip crop means reduced prices for lambs in autumn. The outlook at present is, therefore, not too bright, and, speaking generally, we are in the somewhat unusual predicament of wanting more rain.

At such a time reflection on our pastures and the hay crop, which is the almost invariable precursor of pasture in this country, is natural, and an illuminating bulletin on the subject has been issued by the West of Scotland Agricultural College. This school has the good fortune to number on its staff one of the most capable and brilliant investigators in this country. Mr. A. W. MacAlpine is a teacher of whom any school might well be proud. He is witty, which helps him greatly in dealing with scientific truth in presence of a