

to get over the work of going back and forth each day, he ran a wire from the mill to the stable using small pulleys fastened on fence posts. It is simple and saves many steps. The wire enters the stable and from it the windmill is pulled in or thrown out, as desired.

Another thing we noticed at the farm was a home-made latch on the sliding door of the harness room. The door of this room slides into the partition and is weighted. When it is pulled shut, a small catch holds it there and which catch, to which is attached a wire running down on the outside of the room to a small foot pedal, is easily opened by simply putting the foot on the pedal when the door slides back into the partition, allowing the man whose hands may be loaded with harness to enter the harness room without putting down his load. The idea is a simple one and is adaptable to many kinds of latches which a man of any mechanical ability might provide. The nice thing about it is that the sliding door opens itself as soon as the latch is loosened which is done by the foot.

Most doors, in the ends of buildings where the loft is used for hay unloaded with a horse fork, are hinged at the bottom and flop back against the building when opened. They are generally put up and down by use of the hay fork rope, over the pulleys, in order to get purchase enough to handle the doors. Mr. Rolph uses a different device, his door not being hinged at all. It is simply a sliding door which is hung on weights and which is much more easily handled than a hinge door. It slides down the outside of the building to the bottom of the opening and the weights which balance it make it very easy to close it up when desired.

These are only a few of the many handy arrangements noticed on the farm. Another was a boxstall door fastening which consisted of two iron bars across the door and which were fastened together by another iron and both of which dropped into strong catches, one at the bottom of the door and one about midway up. This makes it easy to open a door which is securely fastened. The trouble with many boxstall doors is that they are broken out at the bottom. This double catch which opens by one latch fastens the door at the bottom and in the center and prevents this trouble. Some of these ideas may be of use to readers of "The Farmer's Advocate".

### A Few Timely Machinery Hints.

Wet days may be profitably filled in getting mowers, tedders, hay rakes and binders ready for the field.

Go over the mower and binder knives and tighten all loose sections. New sections may be needed. A supply of rivets should always be on hand, and above all keep the knives sharp. Get them ready now, for it will be fine weather after a time and you will want to use the machinery.

Oil is the cheapest and most effective life preserver for farm machinery of all kinds. We have known men who would only oil their binders once a day. A binder requires a thorough oiling twice per day, and the parts which run fastest should get at least two extra applications. A mower requires oil more frequently, because it is geared higher.

Every farm should have a workshop. Too much valuable time is lost in running back and forth from the village blacksmith shop for minor repairs which with forge and anvil, vice, dies, etc., could be made at home.

All outdoors is a big shed, but not the best place for the wagon or the cultivator when finished with it for a few days. If a regular implement shed is not provided the barn is always available, all the extra work entailed is to open and shut the doors.

The guards on the mower and binder would do better work if the "dubbed over" points were filed off sharp. New plates may be required also, and some guards may be loose. Make the machinery 100 per cent. efficient, ready for the field.

New slats may be required on some of the binder canvas. Now is the time to put them on. Of course, the binder was not put away with the canvas still

in place on the rollers. All canvas should be removed, carefully rolled and tied, and then hung up. Take it down and examine it. A few patches may be necessary, and broken slats should be replaced. Straps and buckles should be examined for the canvas must be adjusted so as to run free and true. For patching, sound, old bag material is good.

See that none of the "kick" is out of the hay tedder through the loss of a prong from one or more of the forks. Tedding is worth doing well.

Keep the shafts on the horse rake tight. A wide rake seems to put a great deal of side shake on the shafts, and if they are allowed to work loose the ends are liable to split out.

For killing weeds in the summer-fallow there is nothing to equal the broad-share cultivator. Put on the "wide feet" and cut off all the weeds in their infancy.

For cleaning a rusty plow moldboard a piece of brick is good. Oil should be used on the moldboard when the plow is put away for a few days or longer.

This department has been opened for the benefit of our readers. If you have a gasoline engine or any other class of power, other readers would like to know of your success and of your difficulties and how they were overcome. We ask our readers to help us make this new departure of greatest help to Canadian agriculture. We have employed a competent man to give us special articles on automobiles. We will from time to time have special articles on other farm motors and farm powers, as well as on the general farm machinery. We feel that, with the help of readers, we can make this one of the best departments of "The Farmer's Advocate." Questions will be answered free to subscribers.

## Canada's Young Farmers and Future Leaders.

### Boys, You Can Be Leaders!

Time passes very rapidly. The men who yesterday were the tillers of the soil and leaders in agricultural improvement, educational advancement, religious thought and political circles are to-day watching a younger generation guiding the affairs of state, community and church. With the experience of their fathers and present-day facilities for acquiring information they should be in a position to advance in every way, more rapidly than their fathers. Some advance, but too many allow the golden opportunities of youth to pass unnoticed. What of the future? The young man who would be a leader instead of a follower must commence now to prepare himself for that leadership.

Many young men have realized that the farm offers splendid opportunities for advancement. There are new problems coming up each day that must be solved, and solved on his own particular farm. Soils are not all the same, where one crop will do well another proves a failure. The young men are beginning to see the advantage to be gained by knowing their farms. By conducting experiments they are finding out what the soil will produce the most profitably. Some are endeavoring to introduce the cost system in their work, and several have discovered that some crops are produced on certain fields at a loss. This is something anyone could figure out by keeping a record of the time spent in preparing the soil, sowing the seed and harvesting the crop. When the yield is figured at market price it will give an idea of the profit obtained. Keeping accounts could go still farther in order to determine if the crop was being marketed through the most profitable channels. Some stock give better returns for the feed consumed than do others, and it is only by making a study of live stock that the most efficient can be picked out. On one farm where ordinary grade cattle had been kept for years the son discovered that they did not pay as high a price for the feed consumed as did the neighbor's cattle which were well bred. The father was willing that the young man should have an interest in the business, and together they purchased a couple of pure-bred cows as a foundation for a herd. To-day they have a valuable herd of cows, and it is a pleasure to look after them because they are paying their way. Many fathers would do the same as the one mentioned if the young man showed a desire for better stock and a knowledge of how to look after it. Showing on your own farm that there is profit in keeping good live stock is one form of leadership, that cannot be despised.

On a dairy farm there were two boys who were still in the public school, but who were obliged to assist with the milking night and morning. They soon discovered that some cows gave more milk than others, and persuaded the father to purchase a set of scales. In two months time the father became more interested in his herd, and at the suggestion of the boys he secured a number of pure-bred females. The poor cows were disposed of, and the average returns for the herd rapidly increased under better feed and care. These boys were leaders, and it was

not long before other dairymen in the neighborhood commenced improving their herds. By reading and studying these boys attained a good knowledge of types and breeds of dairy cattle. They figured out balanced rations and studied how to produce milk most economically. It was not long before they were being consulted by many in the neighborhood for information on dairying. They applied themselves, and although they have not yet reached their majority they are leaders along their particular line.

### How a Boy Made a Dollar Grow into a Flock of Sheep.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Some years ago I knew a boy, an Ontario boy too, who, at the age of seven took a dollar of savings made up of "coppers" and "nickels" and with it he purchased from a neighbor woman a goose which had laid seven eggs. They were not golden eggs but just ordinary goose eggs. After the goose was brought home she laid an eighth egg and after spending four weeks on them she brought out seven goslings. The boy's father fed the geese free and in the fall the lad had seven dollars for his trouble. Geese were cheaper in those days than now. All were sold, and to keep up the boy's interest he was encouraged to bank the money and the father gave him a grade Shropshire ewe, the wool and progeny of which was to be his but all the progeny was to be sold, for the father was afraid if the boy was allowed to keep the lambs from his ewe he would soon own the whole flock. The first year the dogs got at the flock and the boy's ewe was killed. But the father, anxious to develop the lad's interest in farming, gave him another good ewe with which he had better success. The bank account grew each year as the money from wool and lambs was added thereto. After a few years the owner decided to sell the grade flock and purchase pure-breds. The boy's ewe went too, but the boy had saved enough money to buy a fine pure-bred Shorthorn heifer from his father. The nucleus of the pure-bred flock was six ewes purchased at a good price and which, for two years proved very unsuccessful. The father tired of them and the boy traded his heifer, by that time a cow, for the ewes and two ewe lambs which had been raised. The trade was profitable for the boy, for, by buying good sires and attending closely to the sheep he soon had a flock turning him in between \$200 and \$300 yearly. The father fed the sheep free and the boy made money and developed a knowledge of sheep and a love for farming not common where boys do not get encouragement. The flock never grew large but it was choice. Fifteen ewes dropped thirty-one lambs in one year and raised twenty-six. Care made for success.

I simply relate this to induce, first of all, fathers to encourage the boys and to start while the boy is young. The boy should, as early in life as possible, have something his own. He should be encouraged to save his money and invest it in some kind of farm live stock. And the boy should study and when he gets a good opportunity should put his best effort into the work. The boy of whom I write used to work sidelines. One year, I remember, he raised forty-four

choice ducks which, in the fall, netted him enough money to buy a good fur coat. The boy is never too young to be given something to interest him in farming. It may be better to save the first gift money and buy some poultry or a sheep or something with it. This is a great lesson in the value of money. The boy of whom I write developed into an all round good farmer before he was eighteen years of age and he was consulted by his father about all the farm operations. Why? Because he had been given a chance and had improved his opportunities and his advice was worth while.

Boys, take an interest in your work. Get something yours on the farm and show father you can develop it. Fathers give the boys all the help you can. If they show a preference in boyhood for poultry, let them have it. If they want a calf, a pig, or a lamb arrange for them to have such. Help them to appreciate farm life and the country will be the better of your efforts.

A FRIEND OF THE BOYS.

### A District Known for Its Radish.

In Essex County, on its western side, is a small district which for many years has been known for the quality of radishes produced there. The farms are small, in many cases only about six rods wide, and the homes are close together. A vegetable gardener cannot depend upon one kind of crop alone. When he goes to market he must load his wagon with a variety to suit the tastes and desires which his customers bring to the trading place with them. Consequently, while this community is famous for the radish, all kinds of garden truck are produced in abundance and long is the line of market wagons that may be seen wending their way up to Windsor on a market day. Some of this produce finds its way across the boundary line and the radish is known on the New York market where it commands a high price as the "Petit Cote radish." The specimen seen growing by the writer was a long variety and very crisp and full of flavor. A person would be obliged to eat 100 pounds of radishes to derive approximately 6 pounds of food constituents so it is evident that the elite of New York are paying for Petit Cote quality, flavor and crispness rather than for actual food value.

The radish are grown in what appear like long beds. A block of the farm is set apart and these beds made about two feet wide for the length of the small field. Potatoes are first planted in the centre after which the radish seed is sown. The later crop comes quickly and is harvested by the time the potatoes are up far enough to require hoeing, then the remaining radish are cut out and the land is given up entirely to the potato crop. In one plot seen the radish seed had been sown by hand in drills crosswise of the long bed. The cross drills varied from 4 to 6 inches apart and must have entailed no small amount of work in seeding. On another plot they had been planted with a garden seed drill lengthwise of the beds. This was manifestly much more economical of labor but in a good season the yield would probably be smaller.

It has been a very unfavorable season for the Petit Cote growers. The excessive rains have soaked their land with moisture to such an extent that the crops are inferior and considerable loss has already resulted.

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