

October Retrospect.

Threshing throughout Canada is in full swing and the final estimates of the crop will soon be available. The yield per acre will vary greatly in the different provinces according as the weather conditions have been favorable or otherwise. In contrast if the returns from a series of farms in any locality were compared, the yields per acre of these farms would be found to vary much more than the average yield per acre of the various provinces. The reason for this wider diversity is not weather conditions so much as the methods employed in growing the crop and the difference in varieties and seed.

It is absolutely essential if one is desirous of improving their crop yields that they know the exact yield in bushels per acre that their fields return. Guessing will not do. There has been too much guessing about this important question and many have fooled themselves to their own detriment. Many estimate their grain on the basis of the bushels sown. This method is without practical value. For instance, oats sown at the rate of two and a half bushels will give just as large or a larger yield than oats sown at the rate of three or three and a half bushels per acre.

If a field has yielded only fifteen bushels of wheat or twenty bushels of oats, now is the time that the reason for such a low yield should be ascertained. The past season's work should be reviewed while it is still fresh in the mind. The factors that enter into the successful growing of a crop are many and varied and each should receive attention such as, the previous crop, the tillage operations, the treatment of the seed for disease, the rainfall, the variety sown, the quality of the seed, the date of seeding, etc.

Each of these should be considered until you establish in your mind just what factors are responsible for the low yield. This cannot be done intelligently unless one knows exactly what his land has returned in bushels per acre. Just as each man is able to place his finger on the weak spot in his methods during the last season so will his fields respond in bushels of grain the next. Critical retrospect is invaluable in planning the next year's operations.—Experimental Farms Note.

Questions and Answers.
Miscellaneous.

Mistake in Seed Sold.

If a flour and feed merchant, who also sells seed grain, sells me by mistake spring rye for fall rye for seeding purposes, have I any redress? G. S. S.

Ans.—If it were specifically understood that you were buying fall rye for seed, and you were supplied with something different, you are in a position to claim redress from the merchant.

Ensiling Hungarian.

Would it be advisable to mix Hungarian with corn when filling a silo? A. D.

Ans.—A small quantity of Hungarian might mix very well with the corn in the silo although it is not usually customary to do so. We have no data as to the quality of feed which this makes. However, there should be little deterioration in the value of the Hungarian grass through being ensiled, and mixing it with the corn would possibly make it more palatable and of greater value to the stock. One load to six or seven of corn should be a fair proportion.

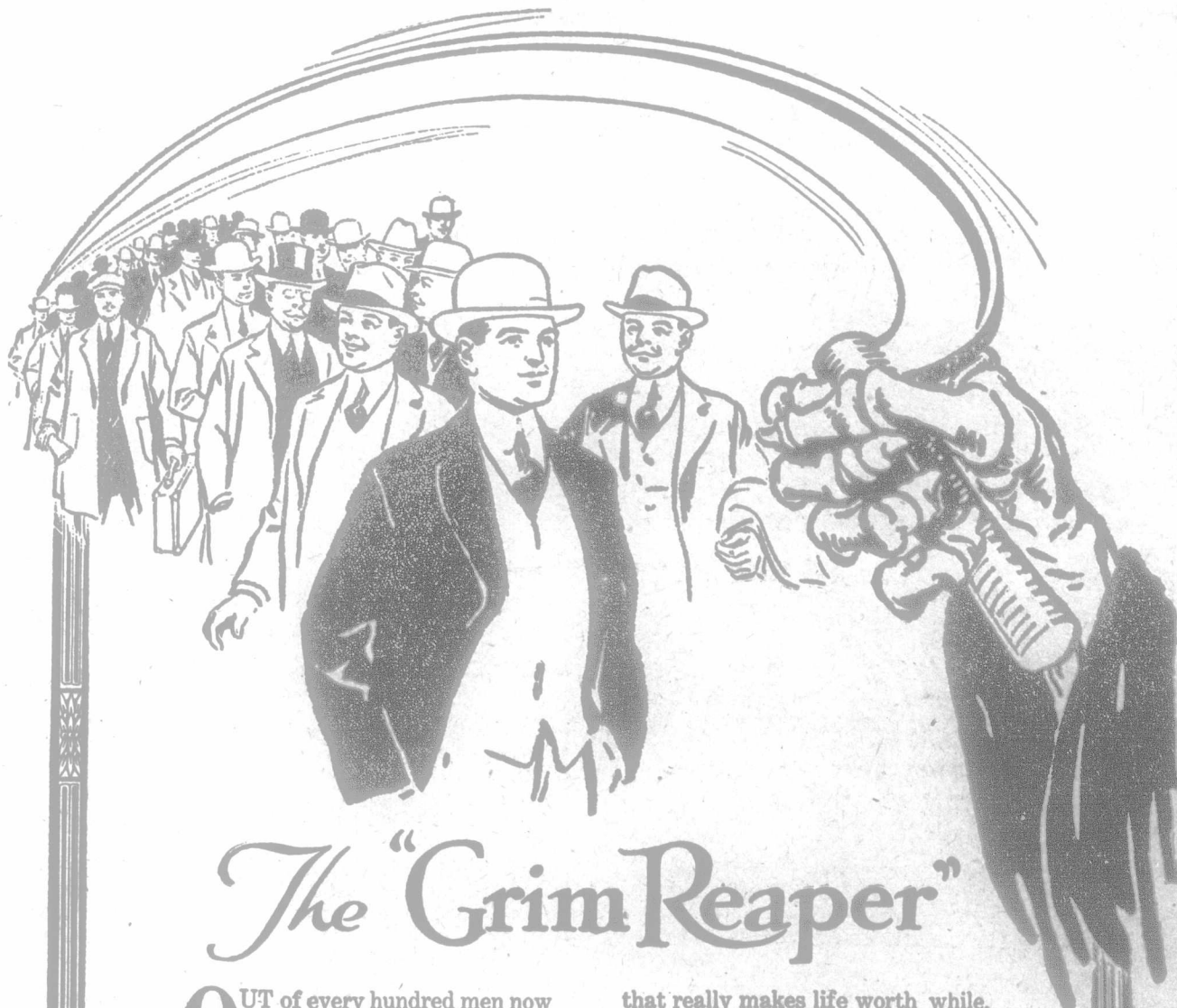
Breaking Up a Field.

1. I have rented a farm and the owner claims that I can only plow fields in rotation. This year I only got two loads of hay off one field, and I wish to break it up this fall. Can I be forbidden to do so?

2. In the lease we have promised to feed a pony, but we did not get enough hay off the farm to feed our own stock for the winter. Should we go short of hay and have to buy for our own use, are we supposed to buy supplies to feed the pony also? E. U.

Ans.—1. Unless it was specifically stated in the lease that the fields had to be broken up in a certain rotation, we doubt if the land-owner can forbid you breaking up the field.

2. It is stated in the lease that the pony must be fed, you are obliged to do so even though you have to buy the feed.



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