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Some Aftermath of the Seed Control Act, 1905.

Farmers are taking a lively interest in the noxious weeds seeds found in samples of grass and clover seeds. Never did they make so close an examination as they do this year. Some test its purity with the wet finger, others spread a small sample out on a piece of white paper, and even examine it with a reading glass. Very few as yet are noticed who take a knife and examine a few seeds at a time from a small sample spread on a piece of white paper, which is certainly the best way to make such an examination.

There are not enough farmers as yet who take the pains to examine closely the high-grade seeds and the lower-grade seeds side by side, to see if there be a reason for the difference in price of 25c., 50c. or \$1.00 per bushel, as the dealers usually make in their grades.

In most cases where this is done, I notice that the farmer buys the best seed, feeling assured he has got the best value for his money. And he has. In the cheaper seeds offered by the trade, while they may be comparatively free from noxious weed seeds, they often contain a large percentage of small seeds, other weed seeds, as foxtail, and more or less shrunken, dead and discolored seeds, which pull down the percentage of good vital seed. It may be said that good seed, like good land, is cheap at any price, and poor seed is dear at any price.

The following incident, which occurred this spring in one of the best clover-seed producing districts of Ontario, will serve to show some of the interest in clean seeds the farmers are taking. In many of the seed-producing districts, the Clipper mills, both hand and power machines, are in great evidence for recleaning purposes.

In the town of B—, a farmer brought in a lot of clover seed pretty foul with ribgrass or buckhorn, and wanted to sell it to a dealer who has a power Clipper mill. The dealer said, in looking it over, that he was doubtful about handling such seed, but if after cleaning it, it became presentable, he might take it if the price suited both parties concerned. The farmer consented, and his seed was put in the mill. Quite a stream of weed seed impurities were seen to come out of a spout which he watched carefully. While this was going on, Farmer No. 2 came with another lot to be recleaned. He naturally enough stepped up to see the seed and watch the process. He remarked, "What is that coming out there?" "Ribgrass," was the reply. "Pibgrass! Say, whose seed is that, anyway?" he asked. He was told Farmer No. 1's. Farmers 3 and 4 also drove up with small lots, and they also expressed surprise, and wanted to know whose seed it was. On learning, they remarked, "I thought you had a clean farm," etc.

Farmer No. 1 called the dealer to one side and said: "Say, Mr. —, I am going home, I can't stand this any longer. You can give me just what you like for that seed." He came back in a few days, and sold all the seed to the dealer, who exported it, and he bought some of the best seed the dealer had for sale, and free from noxious weed seed impurities.

A number of other farmers have done the same thing—disposed of all their seed to dealers, and bought the best recleaned seed available. This is a better way than trying to sell the low-grade seed to neighbors. It is as much a violation of the Act for a farmer to sell his low-grade seed to his neighbor for seeding purposes, when there are more than five noxious weed seeds of those mentioned in section 4 of the Act, to the 1,000 seeds of timothy, alsike or red clover, as it is for a seed retailer to do it, even if the farmer should sell and deliver it on his own farm, as clause 2 under section 3 allows. He has no exemption from sections 4 or 6 of the Act, however.

T. G. RAYNOR.

Superintendent of the Brandon Experimental Farm.

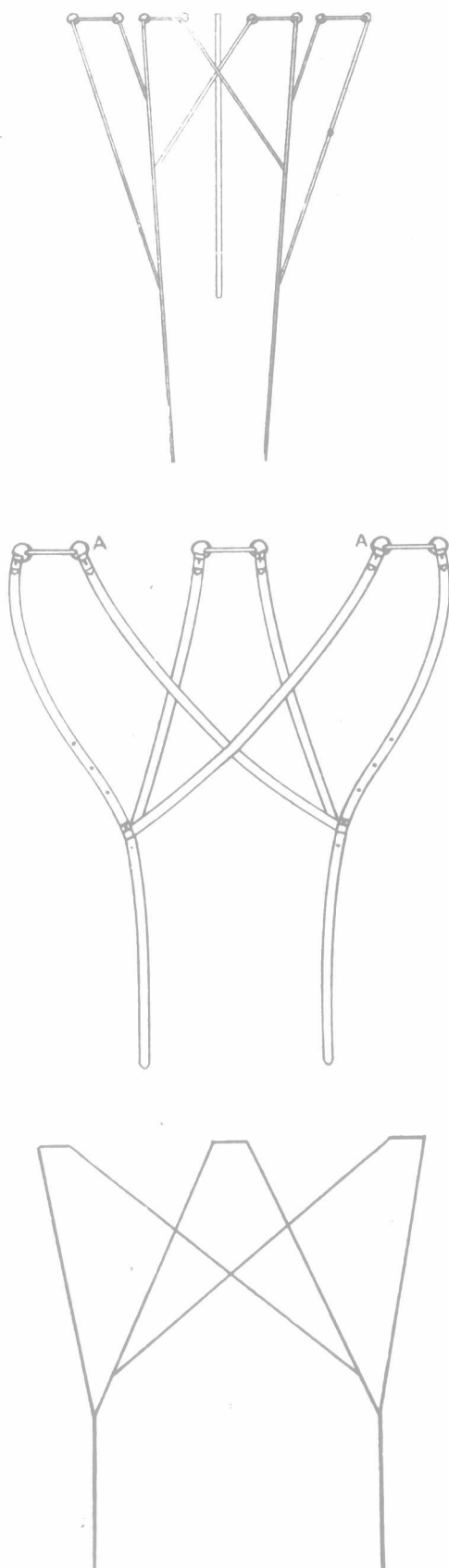
(Ottawa correspondence.)

Newton Woolverton, who has been appointed to take charge of the Dominion Experimental Farm at Brandon, Man., was born in Oxford County, Ont., and is a son of E. Woolverton, a prosperous farmer of that county. When a young man he attended Toronto, taking a course in arts, in which he was medallist, and took honors and a scholarship, being graduated B. A. in 1877. He then became professor of mathematics at Woodstock College, Ontario, a position he held for seven years. For the next seven years he was Principal of the same college, and during that time organized and equipped the first manual training school established in Canada. Upon leaving Woodstock, in 1891, Mr. Woolverton went to Marshall, Texas, where he had been appointed to a high position in Bishop College. There he taught mathematics, botany and chemistry, and during his seven years' service to the college, equipped and managed a large manual training department. Since 1898 he has owned and managed a large farm in Manitoba, and has made a study of every question connected with Western agriculture. By scientific methods and careful oversight he has made his farm one of the finest and most up-to-date in Western Canada.

Three-horse Lines.

Would you kindly illustrate in "The Farmer's Advocate" the proper way to arrange three-horse-team lines, using two lines only? W. J. THOMPSON.

Below will be found three ways of arranging lines for three horses, and one way for four horses. The cuts are self-explanatory.



A Mild Winter in P. E. Island.

The winter of 1905-1906 will pass into history as one of the mildest ever experienced here. The winter steamers gave us continuous communication with the mainland, and there was no interruption of the train service on our railway. Shipping has been continuous, and a great number of cattle and hogs have been slaughtered, and found a market in Sidney. Last winter the ice blockade, that lasted over two months, kept us from shipping till late in the season, then most of the beef cattle were thrown on the market at once, causing the price to drop. We do not anticipate any drop this year, as the cattle are pretty well cleaned up. Continuous communication with mainland markets, such as we enjoyed this season, is a great boon to our farmers; without it we suffer from serious drawbacks, compared with farmers on the mainland. On account of the brisk demand for hogs at a high price, a good many were fed this winter, and with feed cheap and plentiful, it was a good paying business. Potatoes were worth about 15c. per bushel at the outports, and have rotted badly, and, as a consequence, they have been fed to stock in large quantities. During the winter there has been a lively discussion going on in our local papers about our potato trade. The principal variety grown on the Island for the last half century has been a blue potato, called McIntyres, or Prince Alberts. They are a late-maturing, coarse variety, with deep, sunken eyes. In the past they have been good yielders, and not much given to rot; now they yield as well as ever, but often rot badly, and they are not wanted in the American market, except at a low price, and our Maritime markets are getting tired of them. They do not suit the Montreal market, as some shippers have found to their sorrow. It is proposed now by many of our thinking farmers to drop them, and substitute white varieties, that will suit the American and West India trade, and also to a large extent our Canadian trade. Our potatoes have always been shipped in bulk in schooners from the outports. They are run into the schooner's hold over a screen, and stowed away with shovels, and get pretty rough usage, and, consequently, look bad when the hatches are opened at the end of the voyage. Sometimes a large cargo, containing five or six thousand bushels, have turned out all rotten when they arrived in Boston. There is an agitation now for shipping in barrels or boxes. This would cost more for freight, but we believe the better condition of the potatoes on arriving at market would more than make up the difference. Our potato trade in the past has been a very profitable one, but if we are going to keep it so we must carefully consider what the modern markets demand as to varieties and manner of transporting them.

The dairy business promises to be brisk the coming season. One cheese factory will have commenced to make cheese as early as April 16th. A convention of Farmers' Institutes is called for Charlottetown, on April 18th. Prof. Cumming, of Truro Agricultural College, will be present, but as yet we have not seen any programme advertised. Frank Hearty, of Charlottetown, has bought a number of Clydesdales, a stallion and mares, to put on his farm in the Royalty. They were selected in St. John, from a shipment that had arrived from Scotland.

Prices: Oats, 36c. to 38c.; wheat, for seed, 85c.; milling, 70c.; cattle, 4c. to 5c., live weight; hogs, dead, 8½c.; eggs, 14c. It is too soon yet to say whether the clover has wintered safely.

W. S.

How They Clear Land in Temiskaming.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I promised some time ago to tell the readers of your valuable paper how we clear the land. There are several plans practiced throughout the district, but the plan that I intend to write about is the most progressive, as well as the most economical—one that is generally adopted. Through the advent of the sawmill the clearing of the land is made easy and profitable. There are eleven sawmills within a radius of seven miles from where we live; three of those sawmills have been brought up this winter, and all will be ready for work this season. Assuming you have a good team of horses, you will require to start at work in the fall—or, what would be better, about the middle of August. The portion of land you intend to clear the next year, it would be well to survey off, and blaze the boundaries out distinct. In the next place, you must cut a draw road as near as possible to the center of this proposed clearing. This draw road must be connected in some way with the road which will be the best to reach the sawmill. The next best work to do would be to cut out lateral roads from the main draw roads—you might say about every thirty rods. When you have this completed you will be ready. You must have all the necessary tools on hand, then start in the farthest corner to cut down, and cut in lengths suitable for lumber. Cut all trees from eight inches up. Assuming there are only two men in the gang, you can work it admirably. After you have the lengths cut for a start, one can take the team and draw those logs to the main draw road; in the center fix up a skid in the usual way. The bottom logs on this you can easily roll, but when it gets higher you can then deck them up best with the long steel line and block, which makes it both quick and sure. You must, of course, have the team on the line. After going over the whole proposed clearing in this way, it may be near Christmas, which is the usual time here when the team is put on drawing to the river or mill. If you and your partner have worked well in the meantime, you will have a great number of logs