

clover that is below No. 3 standard of quality (or, in other words, which contains more than 400 weed seeds per ounce) only for the purpose of being re-cleaned. In effect, section 9 expects farmers, when they have timothy or clover foul with weed seeds, to clean it to conform at least to grade No. 3 before selling it even to their neighbors. If they have not the facilities for cleaning seed, it is their privilege, of course, to sell it for the purpose of being re-cleaned, or of using it on their own farms.

I make this explanation because I realize that it is not the desire of "The Farmer's Advocate" to lead any farmers unwittingly into trouble through selling clover seed containing more than 400 weed seeds per ounce to their neighbors.

GEO. H. CLARK,
Seed Commissioner.

Prof. Grisdale on Standardization.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I notice in your issue of Jan. 27 a letter signed "W. L. Martin, Northumberland County, Ontario," in which my name is mentioned two or three times.

I do not propose to discuss all the various matters mentioned in Mr. Martin's communication; but would like to draw attention to the fact that while, as he says, Professor Zavitz does recommended O.A.C. No. 72 oats for Ontario in a general way, I advocated Banner for Eastern Ontario, and while the O. A. C. No. 72 is an excellent oat, in Eastern Ontario we have not found it to be any better suited for our requirements than choice Banner, hence as nearly everyone is stocked up with Banner I recommended this variety, and I still think that for Eastern Ontario it is quite as good, if not superior to O. A. C. No. 72. It must be remembered that climatic conditions in the Ottawa and St. Lawrence valleys are very different from those which maintain in the Great Lakes region, and often varieties of cereals, fruits, etc., that do very well in the Great Lakes region are not found at all suited for climatic conditions as they obtain in this part of the Province.

I quite agree that sometimes it must be rather confusing to farmers to have one man recommend a certain variety of grain, and shortly afterward hear some other speaker who might be considered an authority recommend an entirely different variety.

It is safe to say, however, that if farmers would use either one or the other of the two varieties of oats referred to they would be fairly safe, as compared with many inferior varieties which are found on the market. I might write a long letter explaining what is meant in this connection, but I do not consider it is necessary, since anyone who gives the matter a little thought will understand.

As to using barley and oats together, I may say that we, like Prof. Zavitz, have found that a mixture of grains will give a higher yield than any single grain; but it is rare indeed that any farmer is ready to sow a barley and oats mixture for his whole crop. To the use of this mixture, or some similar mixture as a part of his crop, he will raise no objection; but the using of any mixed grain as his whole crop is very objectionable, for the reason that live stock that do well on one kind of grain do not always do well on another. For instance, barley fed in large quantities to horses is not usually advisable, nor is it a good feed for dairy cows, save in very moderate quantities, while oats in the mixture is not very suitable for swine, although a moderate amount does fairly well. Everything considered, it is probably advisable that the crops be sown with pure grains, thus permitting the farmer to mix them according to his requirements, even although there should be somewhat of a loss in yield by sowing them separately.

In conclusion, let me say that I do not think there is any disagreement among agricultural college and experimental station men as to live-stock matters, since experimental work with live stock will give the same results if carried on either at Ottawa, Guelph, Lethbridge, or Port Vermilion. Climatic and soil conditions do not enter into these problems, hence experimenters are agreed. It is where climatic conditions have to be considered that there is found any important divergence of opinion as to what had best be recommended. That the farmers on the "back concessions" are being won over to "believe in the teaching of our agricultural colleges and farms" is becoming more and more evident every day if we may judge by the demands for information and the reception accorded our publications to-day as compared with conditions as they existed eighteen or twenty years ago.

J. H. GRISDALE.

It Remains.

We have cut out two papers for 1916, but we simply can't do without the one with the yellow back, as we consider it the best value of the whole lot for the money.

Bruce Co., Ont.

C. W. P.

Habit.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

It's noo aboot the time tae be breakin' oor New Year's Resolutions gin we hae na' already done it, sae maybe ye will no' mind my sayin' a word on the subject. Makin' guid resolutions is aboot the pleasantest an' maist consolatin' past-time that ony mon can go at, an' until the time comes for piltin' them intae effect there's na reason why ye should na' be tolerably happy an' self-satisfied, even gin it is war-time, an' ye have enlisted in the King's army.

But the warst o' it is that it's never vera lang until ye're up against somethin' that mak's ye wish ye had na' been sae hasty wi' yer promises tae reform, or at least that ye had na' made yer change o' heart sae public. The travelin' gets sae unco' rough that ye canna' keep frae thinkin' aboot turnin' back. I saw a guid picture along this line a few days back. It represented "Habit" as the Auld Nick himsel', sittin' on a pile o' cigarettes, wi' pipes an' bottles in the background. There was a wee man, wi' a string around his neck, rinnin' awa' frae him as hard as he kenned hoo, but Habit had hauled o' the end o' the string, an' the question below the picture was: "How far will he get?" Judgin' frae the mile-posts he was passin' he would na' get muckle past the second week in January, for he was unco' tired lookin'.

It's a queer thing, this feeling we ca' Habit. It will mak' us dae anything on aith, na' matter how foolish it is, or how muckle ye'd think we'd want tae dae the opposite. I wis readin' the ither day aboot a mon that had been in jail for aboot twenty years, an' when he was fuilly let oot he just went round kind o' lonesome like for a few days an' then went back an' asked them tae pit him in again. He'd got the jail habit, an' he did na' like ower muckle freedom. It reminds me o' a wee bull I had one time. He'd been tied up in the stable for a long while, an' I finally got sorry for him an' thought I'd let him oot in the pasture where the grass was guid an' where he wad hae congenial company. Weel, next mornin' I went oot tae the barn, an' ye may believe me or no', but that bull was there in the stable standin' in his auld place an' lookin' as though he did na' care whether he ever saw blue sky or green grass again. Gates an' fences could na' keep him frae his hame in the barn.

Sae we canna' wonder that, gin habit is sic an instinctive thing as it seems tae be, we find it hard tae get awa' frae. I heard anither story aboot an auld soldier, wha wis comin' hame frae the store one day wi' a dozen eggs an' a wee pall o' molasses that he had bought for the auld wumman. Anither chap, that was a bit o' a joker in his way, was comin' along behind him an' kennin' the ways o' the army he called oot, "attention." As quick as ye could think it the auld soldier straightened up an' drapped his hands tae his side, an' awa' went his eggs an' molasses over the sidewalk. He'd heard the command till he got the habit, an' it stayed wi' him.

Noo, a' this gaes tae prove what a guid mony o' us hae found oot for ourselves, an' that is that it tak's a lang time tae form a habit, be it guid or bad, an' it must in the nature o' things tak' a lang time tae break awa' frae the habit that we want tae get rid o'. When we ken this we willna' need tae be ower muckle discouraged gin oor first or second attempts turn oot failures. Gin we get up ilka time we're knocked doon we'll get the use o' oor legs aifter a while. A' the same, gin ye can stick tae yer New Year's resolution, nobody will be findin' fault an' ye'll feel an unco' sight better yersel'. Habits are like babies; they'll soon die gin ye never feed them, sae gin there's nae eneuch in ye, ye'll maybe be able tae cut o' the food supply right on the start. It's the easiest way, no mistak' aboot that. But frae a' my experience I wad say that the best way tae get rid o' the habits that ye ken are richt, an' that will na' be likely tae get ye intae jail or the poor-house. As I see it, the one thing that is keepin' this warld frae gaein' tae the bad entirely is that the great majoriv o' people in it hae got used un in earnin' a livin', an' as a consequence they dinna' get intae the mischief that some o' that unfortunate "born-rich" class are sae taken un wi'. Habit is ane o' the best things goin' when ye've got the richt one. And the way tae get it is tae start practicin' on it at once. We dinna' get anywhere by juist thinkin' aboot daein' great things. In fact it weakens us mair than onything else. But we hae got tae tak' the first an' every ither chance, tae dae the things we find difficult an' disagreeable, an' in this way keepin' oor will-nower alive an' active. For it's only by exercise that we can keep oor will growin' an' gettin' stronger ilka day. It's juist like yer muscle in that respect.

Ano' o' the best habits for ony mon tae get is that o' rollin' oot o' bed at a certain time ilka mornin'. Be it at five o'clock or earlier,

gin his business requires it, let him get oot on the meenute, na matter how dark or cauld it is, an' he can say he's started the day richt ony-way. There's naething mair weakenin' tae yer will than lyin' in bed half asleep aifter ye ken ye should be up an' at work. Ilka time ye dae the richt thing, in this or onything else, mak's it easier on the next round, and ilka guid habit ye form increases yer chances o' formin' anither. It's worth an effort, I can tell ye, for oor happiness or misery a' depends on it. Juist look aboot ye a wee bit an' ye'll see plenty proof o' that.

An' gin it's worth the effort ye may also depend on it that wi'oot the effort ye'll get naething. It reminds me o' what an Irishman said tae a friend o' his who was thinkin' o' undertakin' a certain job, but was afraid he might not make a success o' it. "Och man," says Pat, "juist spit on yer hands." It was his way o' tellin' his friend that gin he pit eneuch eneuch intae his wark he'd bring it tae a guid teenish a'richt. Sae, when we start in tae acquire a guid habit we may as weel remember the Irishman's advice, for though it was maybe no' an Irishman that wrote the Book o' Proverbs, still they come oot wi' a guid thing noo an' again, an' we should na' be above takin' notice o' them.

SANDY FRASER.

A Little Potato and Field Root Experience.

Last year was not a good year for potatoes in Ontario, especially on heavy land, like that of "The Farmer's Advocate" farm, "Weldwood." However, thinking that readers might be interested we may say that good results were obtained from the use of Basic Slag on this crop, potatoes being produced at the rate of 17 bags where the Slag was sown 300 lbs. per acre, to 7 bags where none was applied. This is nearly 2½ times the yield where no slag was sown. Of course, it should be remembered that the yield was low on both lots on account of rot.

We also had some mangels and turnips fertilized with Basic Slag. From six rows of mangels fertilized, seven 2,200-lb. loads of mangels were taken, while from six like rows unfertilized four loads and 1,200 lbs. was the yield. On six rows of turnips the yield was one-half load heavier on the fertilized than on the unfertilized. The mangels were a big crop, but the turnips were not so good. The Slag was applied to the roots at about 400 lbs. per acre.

THE DAIRY.

British Columbia Milk and Cream Contests.

The third annual Milk and Cream Contest in connection with the annual convention of the B. C. Dairymen's Association, held at New Westminster, on January 27 and 28, brought out a splendid display of high-class products. Three classes were offered; viz., Approved Milk, Market Milk and Market Cream, open to producers only. Entries were forwarded from Vancouver Island, interior and lower mainland points. The milk was drawn on January 20 and shipped to New Westminster, where it was stored with the New Westminster Creamery Association. The products were scored on January 24 on bacteria, flavor, sediment, acidity, fat, solids not fat, and package. Prizes of \$20, \$15, \$10, and \$5 were awarded in each class. A bacteria count of 48 hours' duration was made, and a remarkable feature of the Contest was the low bacteria counts recorded, the highest count in the Milk Classes being 3,000 per c.c., and the highest in the Cream Class being 6,500 per c.c. The average count of all the exhibits in both Approved and Market Classes, 17 in number, being 800 per c.c. Eleven samples resulted in a count of 500 per c.c. and under.

The Market Milk entry of Joseph Thompson, Sardis, B. C., scored highest in the Contest, the final score being 99.05. In the Approved Milk Class, J. M. Steves, of Steveston, B. C., and Shannon Bros., of Cloverdale, B. C., tied for first place with a score of 98. In the Market Cream Class, first honors went to William Hampton, of Port Hammond, B. C., with a score of 97.3.

The following is a list of the prize-winners, and the total scores obtained:

APPROVED MILK CLASS.—1, J. M. Steves, Steveston, 98; Shannon Bros., Cloverdale, 98; 2, Thos. Davison, Port Hammond, 97.75; J. A. Laity, Port Hammond, 97.75; 3, A. Laity, Port Hammond, 94.75; 4, E. & T. Raper, Victoria, 94.35.

MARKET MILK (producers only).—1, Joseph Thompson, Sardis, 99.05; 2, Grimmer Bros., Port Washington, Pender Island, 97.5; 3, Isaac Elise, Agassiz, 96.65; 4, Joseph Hamilton, Chilliwack, 96.5.

MARKET CREAM (producers only).—1, William Hampton, Port Hammond, 97.30; 2, Isaac Elise, 93; 3, J. W. Langley, Canford, 90.6; 4, Bridge Bros., Sandwick, 87.