## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

Clover Growing in Alberta.

Wheat delivered showing a lower clean test than 60 pounds, seller to pay difference, as es-tablished, to purchaser.

A standard price to be established for screen-

Screenings and waste matter not to be considered as part or parcel of delivery on contract.

Wheat that is not dry, but otherwise sound, to be certified as slightly damp, damp or very damp, as the case may be, as well as showing its clean test.

A uniform deduction from the sale price to be made on wheat is certified by rule 13, according to the certificate.

The difference in value between clean tests to be established on a percentage basis.

All wheat invoiced on the basis of 60 pounds. clean test; if wheat is delivered at a higher test than 60 pounds, the seller will add the established difference, and if delivered below the test he will deduct the established difference. This means, if wheat is delivered showing a 61-pound clean test, and the difference as established between 60-pound and 61-pound wheat is, say 5 per cent., the invoice would be made out at the contract price, and the 5 per cent. difference added to same. If below 60 pounds, and the percentage difference is 5 per cent., this wculd be deducted from the invoice or contract price.

Soft red wheat containing over 2 per cent. of hard, 2 per cent. of white, one-half of 1 per cent. of rye, one-tenth of I per cent. of cockle, any garlic or any onions, not deliverable on contracts.

The author refers to soft red wheat, he has not experimented with hard or spring varieties; and concluded by urging every miller to buy wheat, as far as possible, from known milling value. Said he: "This can be done by getting such an aspirator as we have in our office and using the chart mentioned heretofore, or making your own chart. After trying your wheat through this machine, you come pretty near bidding for the wheat what it is actually worth, and then you can prove when you get the car or cars in how close you come to the price.

We have been buying our wheat on that basis two years. We buy by test exclusively. We refuse to buy by grade. And we get the finest of the wheat that is grown, because we do not pay as much for these No. 3 wheats as our brother millers will pay for it, because we feel that we know it is not worth that price. The result is that we get 59, 60 and 61 pound wheat, which we pay a premium for over the ordinary No. 2. That is the kind of wheat we get, and the balance of the millers get the low-grade stuff, and we are awfully glad to see them get it.

The author of the paper is the inventor of a machine termed "Special Aspirator." which mechanically grades wheat, or, by its use, the exact value of the wheat tested may be arrived at through mechanical means.

Because a man earns his living elsewhere than or ready to take advantage of a farmer. The farmer, is sincerely to be pitied.

Believing, as we do, that in the successes and failures of our co-workers in the field of agricultural effort there is always something to be learned, the Farmer's Advocate has obtained from a number of practical men their experience in the growing of alfalfa and red clover in the Province of Alberta.

One of the first men interviewed was Mr. W. H. Fairfield of Lethbridge. This gentleman's farm is irrigated and the alfalfa has been grown entirely upon irrigated land. He said: "Alfalfa is one of the most successful crops that can be grown under our conditions. We have had it now for a number of years, and secure from the three cuttings per annum an average of from three to six tons per acre. When you consider how vastly superior it is to timothy or even red clover as a cattle feed, you will realize what this crop means to the Alberta farmer. Alfalfa will grow on the dry land, if it can reach the moisture and to do this the roots will penetrate to a great depth. On our own farm I have known them to go down nine feet. Of course office. it will not give as heavy a yield on the dry land, but it should do very well.

As to the method of sowing I would use a press or a shoe drill. Do not cover too deeply. We use about twenty pounds of seed to the acre. At about twelve inches in height the alfalfa plant will commence to form seed in its first season. This is a disadvantage. The tendency to root development should be stimulated, and seed formation should be checked to help this along. We cut before it reaches that stage with that object in view. The plant will grow up again and the cutting strengthens the root system. We have grown alfalfa mixed with Western Rye Grass and find that it does very well that way.

Alfalfa should be cut as soon as the bloom begins to appear. In curing, coil it up and handle with care. Alfalfa leaves are about as valuable as bran so you cannot be reckless in this matter. Alfalfa enriches the soil; it is an efficient weed destroyer. Few weeds can stand the persistent cutting our alfalfa crop receives in fact there is nothing that approaches alfalfa as a successful money making crop for our district.'

In the early days neither red clover or alfalfa seemed to do very well. Mr. Ostrum, a prominent farmer at Elbow River near Calgary said: "I tried red clover one time several years ago but it was a complete failure. The warm summer sun seemed to be too much for it. I remember, however, one plant that grew in my garden for a number of years and it certainly did famously. Timothy is now my standard hay crop. I have grown as much as three tons to the acre. I would like to try clover again but the cost is pretty heavy and western grown seed would be better too if we could get it.

Perhaps the question of native grown seed extent. on a farm, it does not follow, that he is crooked, may be easily settled. Mr. W. C. McKillican of the Dominion Seed Division mentions having mind that has got into such a state as to think noticed red clover growing in several parts of or believe, that every man's hand is against the the Province. He found several good plants sure its being kept dry. Where no house or shed

On rubbing the heads in his hand they were found to be full of an excellent sample of seed.

Mr. J. Eberly of Okotoks is another farmer who has tried alfalfa. "It seemed to be getting along alright until one day it was struck by hail and after that the native grasses got ahead of it and it never amounted to anything," said Mr. Eberly. "I believe that alfalfa will do well but the ground must be carefully prepared and some of the 'wild Indian' worked out of it first.'

This is the experience of men who have tried. There are others. We shall be glad to hear about these experiments from time to time, What about alsike? Is anyone growing it and with what success?

## Preparing Cement for Use on the Farm.

The Department of Agriculture at Washington has issued a bulletin on the above subject, by Philip L. Wormley, Jr., testing engineer of the

Hydraulic cement possesses the property of hardening or setting under water, in which respect it differs from lime, which does not harden except in the presence of air. Thus it is evident that in all places such as foundations, thick walls. etc., cement mortar should be used instead of lime.

The difference between Portland and natural cement is in the manufacture and the condition and relative proportions of the materials employed, which are, generally speaking, limestone and clay. In the manufacture of Portland cement the separate materials are mixed in such propor-tions as have been found by experience to give the best results. The mixing is done by grinding the materials together in mills, after which the mixture is burned at a very high temperature in kilns, and the resulting clinker ground to an impalpable powder is known as Portland cement. In the case of natural cement the materials used have been already mixed by nature in approximately the correct proportions, being found in the form of a rock which is generally classed as a clay limestone, or a limey deposit technically called calcareous clay. This material is burned at a much lower temperature than Portland cement. When the manufacturer has each ingredient absolutely under control and can adjust the proportions to suit all conditions it is reasonable to expect that a better and more uniform product will result than when the materials are found already mixed. Portland cement is far more extensively employed than natural cement on account of its superior strength, although the latter is frequently used in cases where great strength is of little importance. The superior strength and durability of cement as compared with lime, together with the low price at which it may now be procured, have caused the former to replace the latter in engineering construction to a great

## KEEP CEMENT DRY

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In storing cement care must be exercised to inon the grounds of the Olds Agricultural Society. is available for the purpose, a rough platform

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