

Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

Growing Beans.

Where they grow beans on a large scale do they sow with the grain drill, and how far apart is it considered advisable to have the rows? Do bean harvesters worksatisfactorily? How much seed do they sow per acre? In your opinion what is the best way to plant and handle the crop? Can beans be threshed with the ordinary grain thresher? How does the bean harvester leave the beans in the row? Is light land, well manured, good for beans, or is sod preferable?

R. J.

Ans.—Field beans are frequently planted in rows about 28 inches apart by use of the ordinary grain drill, although special bean planters are used in some places. The harvesters are used and prove satisfactory. A bean harvester is a two-wheeled implement possessing two flat knives, which are placed in the shape of a V. Two rows are cut at a time and placed in the one windrow. Some growers may use the side-delivery rake to gather three or four rows into a large windrow. The amount of seed to sow per acre depends on the size of the beans. If the small, white pea-bean is used 3 pecks of seed per acre is considered sufficient. The Marrowfat variety requires about 5 pecks per acre. Field beans will do well on a variety of soils, but rich loams, sandy loams, or gravelly clay well underdrained, are preferred, although properly drained clay soils will produce very satisfactory crops. If possible we would prefer having a clover or grass sod on which to sow the crop, and if the land was at all heavy we would plow it in the fall, and then cultivate it during April and May to conserve moisture, destroy weeds, and make the soil fairly firm underneath. With light land, well manured, the beans should do fairly well. Seeding takes place about the last week in May or the first week in June, depending on local circumstances, but it is important to plant so that the beans will get a quick start and make a rapid, continuous growth. Thorough cultivation through the early part of the summer is essential in order to destroy weeds and conserve moisture. Do not cultivate when the beans are wet, nor after the blossoming period has started. In some sections the bean crop is harvested in time to prepare the soil for fall wheat. At any rate the soil is left in excellent condition for the

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succeeding crop. Threshing is usually done with a specially constructed machine, but where one is not available the ordinary grain thresher may be arranged to do the work; the difficulty being that many beans are broken or split, and these have no value for commercial or seed purposes. When only a small acreage is grown the beans may be threshed with a flail.

Registering a Stallion.

I have a yearling Percheron stallion sired by a registered Percheron horse. Can I register the colt, and in what stud book? If he will not register can I breed him to my own and neighbors' mares?

W. H. G.

Ans.—The colt cannot be registered unless his sire and dam are recorded in the Percheron stud book. If he is enrolled he can be offered for service this coming year, but the Act designates that after 1918 certificates will be granted to none but pure-bred stallions. The Percheron breed cannot be registered by grading up.

Meetings in a School.

May a religious or political meeting be kept out of a school-house by law?

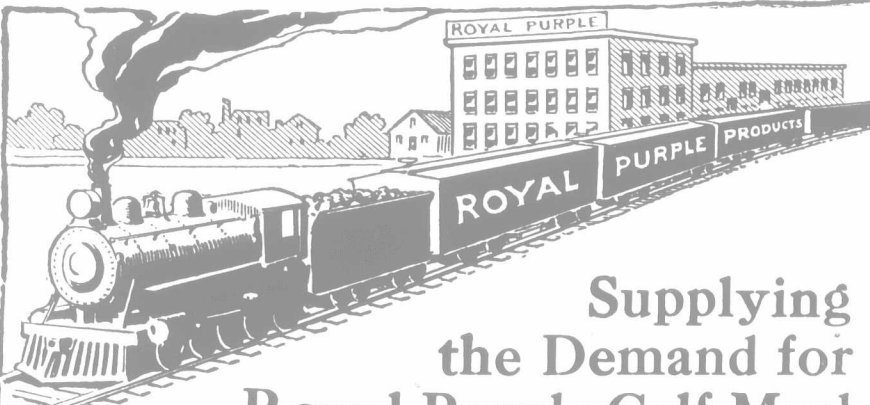
Ontario. SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—It is a matter in the discretion largely—although not entirely—of the school board. The Public Schools Act (Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1914, Chap. 266, sec. 73, sub-sec. a), provides that "it shall be the duty of the boards of all public schools and they shall have power to permit the school-house and premises to be used for any educational or other lawful purposes which may be deemed proper, provided the proper conduct of the school is not interfered with."

Leaky Stove Pipes.

We noticed an enquiry in a recent issue for a method of preventing the black, liquid smoke running from the chimney. We have had difficulty of this kind, and this is how we overcame it. The range of pipes was long with a couple of turns in it before entering the chimney. We got a pipe made with a hole in the side of it, so it could be closed when desired by a slide. We put this pipe on above the stove, with the hole facing out over the stove. When it was open a considerable draft could be felt drawing up the pipe. This appeared to free the pipe from smoke, and we have had no more trouble.

Simcoe Co. W. H. L.



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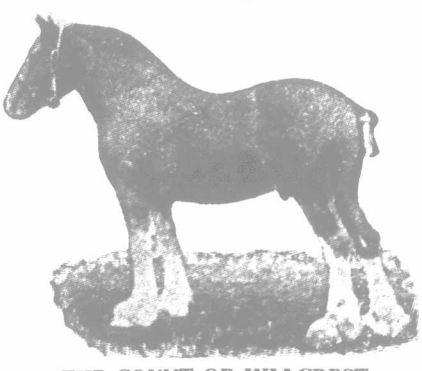
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