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TO SECRETARIES OF FARMER'S CLUBS, &c.

We have been requested by the Asst. Commissioner of Agriculture to notify all Secretaries of Farmer's Clubs and Agricultural Societies that it is their duty to send in immediately the lists of their members, in order that they may receive the "Journal of Agriculture" from the beginning of the month of July.

COMPETITION OF AGRICULTURAL MERIT FOR 1896.

NOTICE,

The Competition of Agricultural Merit will be held in 1896 in the counties of Bagot, Beauharnois, Brome, Chambly, Châteauguay, Compton, Drummond, Huntingdon, Iberville, Laprairie, Missisquoi, Napierville, Richelieu, Richmond, Rouville, Shefford, Sherbrooke, Stanstead, St-Hyacinthe, St-Jean, Verchères and Yamaska.

In accordance with the regulations of the Council of Agriculture, all those desirous of entering into this competition must file their entry in the Department of Agriculture and Colonisation on blank forms that will be sent to them on demand by that Department.

During the last year or two, certain persons asked the judges to inspect their farms after the competition had been opened, under the pretext that they were not aware before that the competition was to be held in their district.

We are anxious that in future, there should be no misunderstanding on this point, so no entry will be received after the lapse of the delays fixed by the regulations of the Council.

The "Lauréats" who obtained the silver medal and the diploma of The Highest Merit, in 1891, must not forget that this year, they are entitled to compete anew for the right of winning the gold medal and the diploma of the Highest Exceptional Merit. Those who, at the above epoch, only won sufficient marks to entitle them to the bronze medal with the diploma of Great Merit or of Merit, may likewise compete again this year.

IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY.

(From the "Quebec Diocesan Gazette.")

How often it is that men go right through life with a very imperfect knowledge of the methods which would enable them to farm to the best advantage. They work just as hard as the better instructed Farmer; but they do not obtain the same results, and the difference, which they lose, would be of course all profit.

Now it is in order to develop the capabilities of the Farmers of the Province of Quebec and to enable them to be more and more prosperous, that the Provincial Government has established several Model Farms, where young men are taught at little or no cost to themselves what will be of infinite service to them right through life. Already, the French Canadians are availing themselves freely of these advantages; and now, there is a new Model Farm

at Compton, which seems to be especially adapted to the needs of our English-speaking people. The Principal is Mr. John M. LeMoine (late of Stanstead, P. Q.) who tells me, in reply to inquiries which I have made partly out of my own desire to help our Farmers in all parts of the Diocese, and partly at the instance of the Honourable Louis Beaubien, Minister of Agriculture, that the Quebec Government has placed at the disposal of young men, who wish devote themselves to farming, fifteen Bursaries, which give to those who hold them, free board and tuition for two years.

There is, however, very wisely, a short probationary term of three months during which the Pupil has to pay seven dollars per month for his Board. But after three months, if he is approved by the Principal, he has a Bursary awarded to him, and has nothing further to pay. There are also money Prizes given for Ploughing, &c.

The new Building for the reception of Pupils will be ready by the 1st of July; the present House is full.

The instruction given at Compton is more especially in the best methods of practical farming; but, with this, there are to be theoretical and scientific Lectures, which will be given by competent Professors.

Young men are not admitted as Pupils under sixteen years of age.

Our Clergy would do well to bear this opportunity in mind; and our readers generally, who may feel interested, and who may wish to secure, for some members of their families, the advantages of sound training in the principles of practical Farming, with the help of one of the fifteen Bursaries, would do well to write at once to John M. LeMoine, Esq., Model Farm, Compton, P. Q., for further particulars.

OUR GRASSES.

Timothy—Perennial rye-grass—Orchard-grass—Meadow-fescue—Sheep's fescue.

The following description of the grasses that are of the greatest value to the farmer is derived from a bulletin by Prof. Shult recently issued from the Ontario agricultural department.

"Timothy, Herd's grass, Cat's tail." A perennial grass, coming early into leaf, blossoms in July. Stem long, erect and firm.

Suited to almost every soil, but succeeds best in land full of humus. One of the best hay-grasses; easily made, of excellent quality, and sells for the highest market price.

(Note). Good for horses, but not so suitable for cows and sheep.

As a pasture-grass, timothy is not good. The bulbous form of the roots exposes it to the attacks of insects, and renders it unfit for close feeding. It suffers greatly in droughts, and even in the best situations affords no aftermath to speak of.

The seed is abundant, and easy to thresh and clean. When sown alone, it needs 10 or 12 pounds to the arpent, (14 lbs to the acre.)

"Perennial rye-grass—Common darnel.

(Note). "Pacey's is the only "perennial" rye-grass that is trustworthy.

This grass is not to be depended upon in this county for more than one year, so is unfitted for meadows and pastures that are to be kept out several years. It blossoms in July. The stem

is from 2 to 3 feet in height, and the ears resemble the ears of couch-grass.

The grass is of good quality and in rich land the crop of hay is heavy, and not much inferior to timothy. From 30 to 40 lbs of seed to the arpent (35 to 46 lbs to the acre.

(Note). We never heard of any rye-grass being sown alone. If it were, the crop of grain after it would not be much. On a thousand acres of the finest land in Cambridgeshire, belonging to Mr. Nash, of Ochesterford, the production of grain was seriously diminished by the sowing of rye-grass by his son, who had studied in a farm in Scotland, and would not trust to the experience of some of the best farmers in the S. E. of England, that rye-grass would ruin his land. Any "grass" allowed to produce seed must unfit land for the growth of grain.

"Italian rye-grass" is best sown by itself for cutting green for cattle. Has it ever stood a winter in Canada? Three to four bushels an acre of seed.

ORCHARD-GRASS—COCK'S FOOT

"Perennial, very hardy;" coarse, rough stem. Answers almost every where, but of course prefers rich loams, and does better in the shade than any of the grasses. Blossoms at the end of June or the beginning of July. Has a tendency to grow in tufts and to smother other grasses; but is one of the best of pasture-grasses as it is early in the spring, keeps on growing all the summer up to the frosts, and stands drought well. It gives a good second cut, and will stand close feeding, but in a pasture full of this grass the parts that are not eaten down should be mown; it will then throw out plenty of young shoots. Not so good for hay as timothy, and should be cut as soon as the blossom begins to show, and even before, in fact, it can hardly be cut too early.

Sown alone, 3 bushels are not too much seed for an acre.

TALL OR MEADOW FESCUE—ENGLISH BLUE-GRASS

Almost the same plant, these two, but really two distinct varieties. Stem smooth and erect, 2 to 4 feet high. Leaves flat, long, and abundant. Blossoms about the end of June.

The fescues are hardy and perennial, and are chiefly valuable for pastures, though they produce a fair crop of hay. Seed, 35 lbs to the acre.

"Sheep's fescue". Stem smooth and slender, about one foot or eighteen inches high. There are many varieties of this plant. They do well in sandy soils, but are no good for hay; only worth sowing in poor, stony land; 20 lbs. of seed to the arpent.

(Note). It is all very well to talk about grasses being "perennial," but it must be borne in mind that no grass is likely to last long that is allowed to throw up its seed-stem.

(To be continued)

THE CROSSING of the PERCHERON AND ANGLO-NORMAN IN QUEBEC.

Foreign opinions—Degeneration—Canadian pony—Percherons and Anglo-Norman—Crossing.

Some time ago, a work, styled "A statistical account of breeding, rearing, forestry, and colonisation, in Canada," was published in Brussels; from this pamphlet we extract a few assertions, that are too rashly made to be passed over in silence, on the present