FOUNDED 1868 many years the feeding Mr. Barrie and his a lifficulty of securing choi e now a herd of Herelon are raising the stock for ave to pay out less money ss. By allowing the calv are able to produce bab a year old and weigh close a few milch cows are tied the stock runs loose. are with the cows an op oncentrates and hay, the th a pen from which the his pen they find a mixture with fresh, palatable have until the cows dry natural ned to feeding there is no weaning, a heavier ration added to the oil cake and ves do well. A few head the time a representative visited the farm were rifty, growthy individual exceptional high quality Under one part of the rn there is space for thirty ad of cattle. A large anger is built down the ntre of this pen for the eding of hay, silage or in. One can imagine the ficulty of carrying silage d roots the full length of manger, when there re thirty head or more of tle anxiously waiting to fed. To overcome the or and facilitate feeding, Barrie built an over

oox was constructed and hains to a car on this raised and lowered by as constructed by using a handle which small cost. This feed r and the silage or roots k. Probably others who s would find that an overtheir work a good deal. ling molasses knows that It does not mix very ped out of a barrel, it is eed. Mr. Barrie has the th a tap over a hole in the y open so that the molas the stable. This barrel

and it is found that the

the water readily dis-

ad track from the mix-

to the manger above

sily be sprinkled over the ture, some find it rather We noticed, however, t the sliding latch on the pring. There are many be attached to the latch the gate coming open.
Barrie about the farm y are not the ordin nine-inch wheels at the h wheels at the front. st a good deal if bought Ir. Barrie has made use o-inch gas pipe is used lged in where the strain ece rests on top of this neans of clips which go is placed on top of this ne front. It is necessary



ondon, Ont.

to keep the front fairly high so as to get as much sweep as possible in turning.

The advantage of the wide wheels is that the wagon may be used when the fields are soft without cutting them. It is handy for drawing manure and is used for them. Wr. Raggio has a soft without cutting them. them. It is hardy for drawing manure and is used for hauling grain and hay. Mr. Barrie has several of these wagons which he made himself.

Besides being very handy with tools, Mr. Barrie is an exceptionally good farmer. The farm is comparatively free from weeds and a specialty has been made of growing seed grain. Last year a carload of registered seed wheat was sold to one firm. This entails considerable extra work as the seed must be kept free from other varieties and carefully selected. Before shipping, the seed is all inspected and then the bags sealed. If the grain were harvested in the ordinary way it would be more difficult to keep it pure, but Mr. Barrie is equipped for doing his own threshing and threshes right off ped for doing his own threshing and threshes right off the wagon, so that there is no danger of mixing the varieties in the mow. It may take a little longer to draw in the grain, but there is no threshing to do later in the fall. The barn is long enough to permit of eight loaded wagons standing on the floor at once. It is customary to load these in the evening and thresh the grain while the dew is on in the morning. Of course, very few are equipped to handle the grain in this way but quite a few farmers have their own threshing outfit and are finding it advantageous to fork from the wagon to the threshing machine, rather than into the mow.

The gasoline engine for running the thresher, chopper cutting-box, etc., is set some thirty feet from the barn, and a two-inch shaft connects directly with the crankshaft on the engine. This shaft runs underneath the barn floor and pulleys of the correct size to run the different machines at the right speed are attached to the shaft. Many might find it convenient to connect their gas engine up the same way, rather than run the risk of having it in the barn. The gasoline engine used by Mr. Barrie is an eighteen horse-power and has been in use for over twenty years and is still giving good service.

There are many handy contrivances about this farm which Mr. Barrie has invented and made. One could spend several hours very profitably on this Waterloo County farm, and we feel satisfied that many new ideas would be conceived that would help out at home.

# THE FARM.

## A Drastic Increase in Postal Rates Proposed.

Notice has been given in the House of Commons, Ottawa, regarding the introduction of a Bill that vitally affects, both directly and indirectly, every Canadian citizen. We refer to the Bill amending the Post Office Act, and which will provide for an increase in the postal rate on newspapers and magazines from 1/4 cent per pound, as it is at present, to 1 cent per pound, to take effect on January 1, 1920. More than that, this Bill will provide that on January 1, 1922, the rate will jump to 11/2 cents are to 11/2 cents per pound, or an increase of 500 per cent.

This enormous and sudden loss Canadian publishers will not be able to absorb, and the inevitable outcome will be ruin to some publishers and an all-round increase in the subscription price of newspapers, magazines and periodicals. The sum total effect of such a drastic ncrease of postal rates on second-class matter will retard the reading of Canadian publications and deal a blow to Canadian ideals and citizenship, for which any far-seeing Government would not care to take the

We are living in strenuous times. Costs are increasing enormously all the time, and publishers are having their full share of the difficulties. The cost of paper has become almost prohibitive; inks and supplies are difficult to obtain even at enormously enhanced prices; wages and salaries, paid to the staffs who put these periodicals into the form in which the reader receives them, have increased several fold. In spite of ourdens a few publishe changing to their old subscription rates, in the hope that the tide would turn and a readjustment could be made without passing these abnormal costs on to their subscribers. "The Farmer's Advocate" has so far been able to retain its old rate, but many publishers have been forced by circumstances to increase their subscription rates and others were considering the same step when this sudden and drastic increase in postal rates was proposed. If this Bill carries as introduced there will be no alternative for a great many publishers but to still further increase their subscription rates and force

the reading public to bear an additional cost Realizing that the Post Office Department is likewise called upon to meet heavier expenses in handling Canada's mail, publishers proposed a 100 per cent. increase, or ½ cent per pound, and urged the Government not to enact more severe requirements until a thorough investigation of the whole question had been made, and until after the mails had been relieved of tons of useless material now being carried free. A 100 per cent. increase now may be necessary and wise, but a 300 per cent, increase on January 1, and another 200 per cent. increase in 1922, is unreasonable, unjust and not in the

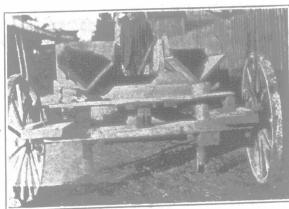
best interests of Canada generally. If such drastic postal rates, as proposed, are permitted to go into effect the Government and Commoners will then. thereby put themselves on record as placing no value whatever on the educational influence of agricultural papers, magazines, religious and educational papers, or the press generally. Agricultural papers are of inestim-able benefit to the control of the press generally. able benefit to a young producing country such as this,

yet an exorbitant postal rate will strike at the very heart of the publishing business, and the accuracy of the statement will be better appreciated when it is known that only two or three of the dozen farm papers published in Canada have ever returned a dividend to their shareholders. Agriculture is the basic and greatest wealth-producing industry in Canada, and much of its progress can be attributed to a virile, useful and intelligent farm press. Without farm papers, all the many institutions conducted by the Government for the benefit of agriculture and all the Government agencies working in this field would be isolated from the people they desire to serve. The agricultural press is the vital link between the farm and the outside world, and every wide-awake, public-spirited citizen will agree that it should be encouraged rather than suppressed.

Religious and educational publications in Canada are not in a position financially to endure additional burdens, yet they are potent forces in the upbuilding of a strong, wholesome character and high national ideals. Our magazines are at present fighting against enormous odds, for United States publications are coming into Canada in great volume, and, since the business of the publishers there is based on a population of over 100,-000,000 of people, they have a tremendous leaverage over the Canadian publisher with a scant 9,000,000 of people to serve. It would be a national crime to cripple Canadian magazines and Canadian literature, thus allowing United States thought and United States ideals full sway in this Dominion. Canadian magazines should be encouraged to build up a distinctive Canadian literature and thus contribute to a national conscience and national ideals. Burdens, such as an excessive postal rate, will only further strangle our magazines and render them still less able to struggle with the overwhelming competition they are obliged to meet.

Newspapers and the press generally would be dealt a severe blow if this Bill proposing such a drastic increase is allowed to carry. The press is the greatest educational factor extant in Canada. Why cripple it

with unreasonable postal rates? Publishers will be forced to pass the extra charges on to someone, and subscribers will naturally be expected to pay for having their papers brought to them. Many subscribers will, no doubt, be willing to pay the extra subscription price for their favorite papers, but the general effect will tend to thwart the press and seriously discount its influence for good. This is a national question and a question which concerns the individual and the home. It is to be hoped that sound judgment will prevail when this Bill is under discussion, and that true statesmanship will find expression in the modification of this dangerous piece of legislation.



Homemade Potato Planter. Made by Geo. R. Barrie, Galt, Ont.

# The Corn Crop for Silage Purposes.

May 24 has long been accepted throughout the silage-growing districts of Ontario as a safe date on which to begin corn planting. Corn has been planted earlier than this on many occasions, and good crops have been produced. During the last several years planting, too, has been forced on into June, and growers have found that it pays even then to plant corn for the silage crop. With seeding out of the way in fairly good time this spring, many will be ready around the 24th or a little earlier to put in their corn, and conditions at time of writing are as favorable for a good crop of silage corn as we have had in many years.

Those who did not plow last fall for corn should not curtail their acreage because of this fact. It is a moot question which is the better for corn anyway, fall or spring plowing. Good crops can be grown with both kinds of a seed-bed, and if spring plowing is necesboth kinds of a seed-bed, and it spring plowing is iteed sary it should in nowise discourage the grower. A great many producers of silage crops prefer to leave the land until about the middle of May, until it has the land until about the middle of grass. This organic some considerable growth of grass. matter, along with manure, sets up a fermentation and produces sufficient heat usually to force the young corn seedlings along rapidly. The disk-harrow and diamondtoothed cultivator can be brought into play, and with the land plowed a reasonable depth a good seed-bed for corn can be prepared without much difficulty.

Growers of corn for silage have been getting much of their information from the seed-corn-producing districts. From experiments carried on at Wellwood, and from what we have been able to learn from growers all over Ontario, we are convinced that silage production and seed-corn production require slightly different methods. The grower of silage is striving for a large tonnage of well-matured, good-quality corn. The chief

aim of the seed grower is grain. Planting in hills has some advantage when it comes to cultivating, but we believe that under most circumstances drill-planted corn will produce the larger tonnage. It is possible also that a little heavier seeding per acre than is customary will give better results when silage corn is being

#### GOOD SEED FOR SILAGE PURPOSES.

It has been a long time since so much good seed corn was available for planting. Corn matured well last fall, and the seed this spring is, generally speaking, excellent. Growers should not, under any circumstances, put poor seed into the ground this spring for there is enough of A-1 quality to go around. There are two or three points in connection with seed corn for silage purposes that have not been given sufficient attention by silage-corn growers. The first of these is the size of the germ. Some seed corn, while the kernel may look large and healthy, has a small germ, short and narrow; other seed corn has a broad, deep germ which almost covers the whole broadside of the kernel. This is the kind that should be selected. The start the young seedling gets depends upon the vitality of the germ, and a young corn plant coming on from a feeble germ and weak kernel has about the same chance as a weak calf on a dam that gives very little milk. Many a corn crop has been blasted while the plants were still young simply because of inclement weather and a dearth of support from the seed below.

Another point to be considered in growing silage particularly in cool climates, is that the large ear, both in length and circumference, indicates tardiness in maturing, and a roughened surface on a dent corn gives the same warning. On the other hand, these features indicate large stalks and heavy yields, so the grower must judge for himself just how far he can sacrifice maturity for heavy yields.

#### VARIETIES.

We have long been told that dent varieties of corn will produce the largest tonnage for silage purposes, and while there is no experimental evidence to disprove this, we have a very deep-rooted suspicion that the flint varieties in Eastern and Central Ontario are very close rivals of the dents. This is something growers might well investigate for themselves, as it is difficult to ascertain at any experiment station what is absolutely best for widely varying climatic and soil conditions throughout a whole province. Longfellow, as a flint, is a good yielder of both stalk and grain. Salzer's North Dakota and Compton's Early are likewise good flints, but hardly equal over a wide range of conditions to Longfellow. In the recognized corn-growing districts a grower can select from practically any of the dents. However, when we get back from the front, so to speak, it is well to give these varieties some consideration. In cooler climates and shorter seasons the Golden Glow, Bailey and early strains of White Cap Yellow Dent are most suitable, but if a grower desires a little more bulk he might add Leaming and Wisconsin

### COMBATTING CROWS.

Sometimes crows give a great deal of trouble and they have been known to ruin whole fields by walking methodically along the rows and pulling up the kernels. Numerous devices have been tried, but possibly the best way to combat the crow is to give the corn kernels a slight tarring before planting. Too much tar is detrimental to the seed, and the operation should be carefully done. Put the seed corn in a bucket or tub, dip the end of a stick in tar, and then stir the corn until every kernel becomes coated with a very slight film; use as little tar as possible to accomplish the SPRING CULTIVATION.

A light harrow or weeder on the corn land gives excellent results, and such can be used even when the corn is up three or four inches. If possible to prevent it, the surface of the field should never become crusted or hard. The harrow, or weeder, will keep a surface mulch on the land and prevent weeds getting a foothold. Just as soon as the rows of corn can be observed, the cultivator should be started and kept going every week until the crop has become large enough to prevent the use of teams and large implements.

# AUTOMOBILES, FARM MACHINERY AND FARM MOTORS.

## What Constitutes a Good Lightning Rod.

BY PROF. W. C. BLACKWOOD, O. A. C., GUELPH.

I have consented to give a paper on the subject: "What Constitutes a Good Lightning Rod," in the hope that as a representative of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, I might to some extent, assist the Fire Marshal for Ontario in the excellent work which he is correction with the creation he is carrying on in connection with the prevention of loss by fire. I feel that in giving to you from a scientific point of view the requirements of a good lightning rod, I am co-operating with the Provincial authorities concerned, the insurance companies of the Dominion of Canada and the rodding companies of this country in dealing in a national way with the conservation of resources, whenever and wherever the lightning rod can form an integral part of the entire protective

In dealing with the problem in hand, before stating