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It can be operated by hand power or water motor.

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MAXWELL LTD.
St. Mary's, Ont.
Dept. A



the enemy out of the regions in France, Belgium, Serbia, and Poland (which are now under his cruel yoke) the committee will be confronted with an immense task. But it is relying upon the co-operation of British farmers and is confident of its achievement. Its object is to restore, as far as may be, the agricultural industry in all the districts which have suffered so terribly by the invasion of a brutal and ruthless enemy.

Tobacco Diseases in Canada

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The two most common and serious diseases of the tobacco plant are "Root Rot" and tobacco Mosaic, the latter better known as "Calico."

Tobacco "Root Rot" is caused by the fungus *Thielavia Basicola* (Zopf.). This disease is characterized by the root system of the plants infected, presenting a dark brown or blackish appearance, and the roots are very friable and easily broken. The plants are often infected in the plant beds. This is quite often the case where the same beds have been in use for several years, and where no precautionary measures of sterilization, either by steaming, burning or treatment with soil disinfectants, such as formalin, etc., are taken. Plants also become infected in the field, especially if tobacco has been grown for a number of years in succession. The diseased plants in the field make little or no growth, present a yellowish appearance, and when pulled up the roots show the blackish or rotted appearance. The plants sometimes die out entirely, but more often remain throughout the season on the field practically no larger than when transplanted.

This disease has been quite prevalent for the past few years throughout the tobacco-growing districts of Canada. It is more common during a wet season, as was distinctly noticed last year, and apparently more destructive on rather heavy clay soils, in which when thoroughly contaminated, the disease may remain for a number of years.

The most effective means of combating or preventing this disease in the plant beds is by sterilization either by steaming, burning or treating the soil with formalin before sowing the seed. The control or checking the disease in the field is a much harder task. On fields that are already diseased about the only thing that can be recommended at present is to widen the rotation by growing other crops, such as corn, cereals and the grasses, namely: timothy, red top, etc. By growing crops like these which the fungus does not attack, the chances are much more favorable for the elimination of the disease from the soil than if grown to tobacco and other crops which are good hosts for the disease.

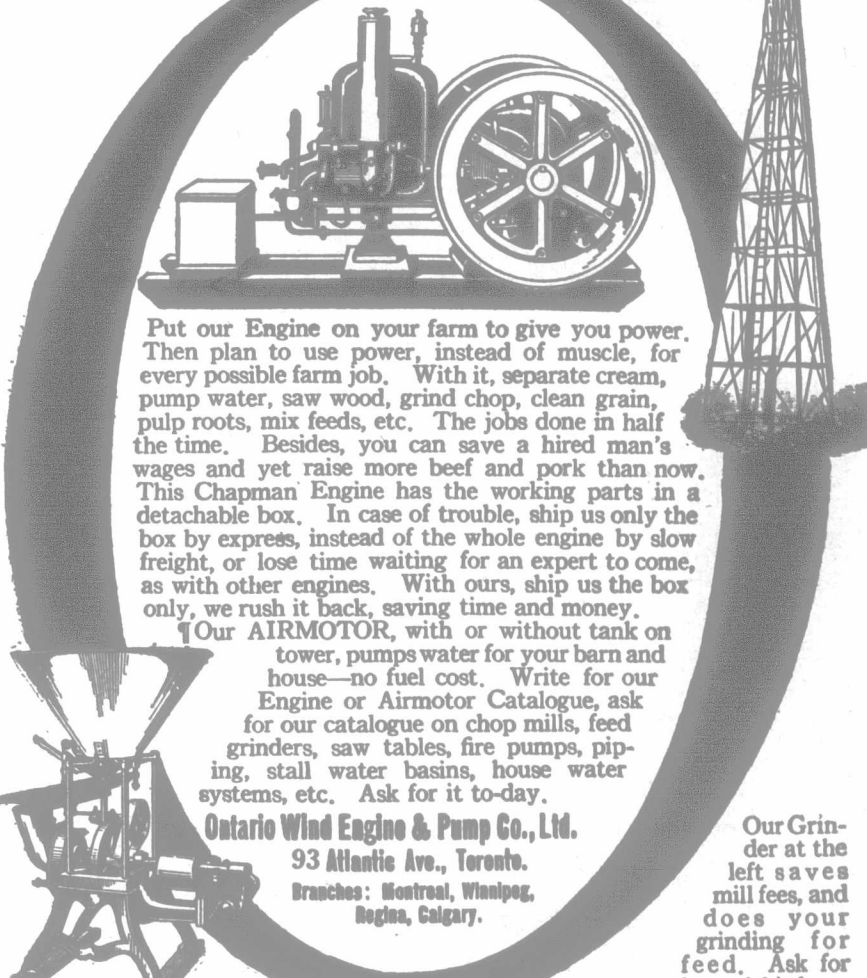
Tobacco Mosaic, also commonly called "Calico" and a number of other names, is easily distinguished in the field, and is common throughout the tobacco sections of Canada. It is classified as a physiological or nonparasitic disease, since no specific organism has been found associated with the disease. All or part of the leaves of diseased plants may show the peculiar mottled or spotted appearance. The leaves in some instances are ill-formed, presenting little more than the midrib. This "shoe-stringed" appearance is a rather common form of the disease.

While the exact cause of the disease has not been determined it is very infectious, and is transmissible in the field from diseased to healthy plants by worming, topping and suckering operations. It is the best policy to pull up and burn all diseased plants as soon as they are noticed in the field, in this way the spread of the disease will be checked.

Tobacco is also attacked by other fungi during moist and unfavorable weather conditions, which cause rusty spots to appear on the leaves, but these are of minor importance.

The Tobacco Division of the Central Experimental Farm has equipped a pathological laboratory for a further study of the diseases of tobacco, and would be glad if any growers who notice diseased plants in their crops would report same or send specimens of diseased plants to the Tobacco Division, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Ont., Canada. G. C. ROUIT, Pathologist, Tobacco Division.

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