

The mission of our governments is to further the interests of all classes, and particularly should they encourage agriculture in every possible form. The prosperity of our nation rests on the amount produced from our soil. Co-operation at this time spells patriotism. Governments co-operating with the farmers and manufacturers, and each with the other, for the common weal of the nation.

W. F. STEPHEN.

Unloading Roots With the Manure Spreader.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Having read with interest an article in a recent issue of your most valuable of all farm papers, in which the writer endeavored to solve the problem of harvesting the root crop I was much struck by the fact that more mention was not made of a very important factor in the harvesting of this crop, namely, the hauling of the roots from the field and storing them in the root cellar. At this late time of the year fine days are scarce, and when we get clear weather we naturally wish to make good use of it, and harvest as much of this excellent crop as possible while the sun shines.

Too good methods for saving time and labor cannot be employed in the pulling and topping of these roots, but allow me to outline a method which to some may not be new but which is worthy of mention, and which I trust will be a help to some of your readers at least. If you have a manure spreader, which a great many of our scientific farmers of Ontario have, you will make no mistake in getting it into commission at the earliest date possible. Remove the cylinder, which is only the work of a few moments, and reverse the comb turning the teeth upward. It is not advisable to remove the comb entirely, as this would allow the box to spread at the back, causing injury to the spreader.

Make a grate the width of the spreader box, and about four feet long. This will also necessitate a hole of the same width in the floor. Slat the grate crosswise with slats about one and one-half inches in width, leaving a space of one inch. Too wide spaces will cause the roots to stick and will clean them very little better. Put legs of sufficient length under one end to raise it within a couple of inches of being on a level with the apron of the spreader. Turnips will roll on a much longer grate, which will, of course, have less slant, but a short grate does the work equally as well. Slating crosswise cleans the roots to good advantage. Back the spreader up within a couple of feet of the hole and adjust the grate, moving the spreader back or ahead as is required. Nail a short strip at the front and back of the rear wheels. Each time the loaded spreader comes in it is backed into the strips, and is then the proper distance from the hole. By backing over the hole a short distance and throwing the spreader in gear, then driving ahead to the proper position, the rear end board will be lifted, but this is not practicable. The end board can be easily pushed up by hand and will lock and remain at its proper height. The load is then cranked off, eight or ten turns of the crank does the trick, but it is not advisable to crowd the mangels down the grate too fast or they will not have a chance to clean properly. The grate will clean the load well in thirty seconds, although the load could be dropped into the cellar in much less time. Oil the rollers well, this will add to the ease of turning off the load. By placing a couple of planks on the floor on to which to back the front wheels, thus giving the load more slant, it will then almost unload itself, but this is not necessary.

Although the spreader is a much larger implement than a wagon, yet it is not nearly so awkward. It shines in the barn where short turning is necessary, and a team will handle a ton and a half on it much more easily than on a wagon.

When pulling the roots throw four rows into one. This will leave ample space to drive the spreader between the two rows of pulled roots and admits loading from both sides. The box being lower than that of a wagon admits easier filling.

The spreader also works excellently for pitting roots and potatoes. I sometimes wonder why so many farmers hesitate in purchasing a manure spreader. We employ almost every modern convenience in the line of farm implements, and would not hesitate in ranking the manure spreader at the head of them all as a real time, money and labor saver.

Bruce Co., Ont.

W. E. JACKSON.

Consumers of all kinds of products should make it a point to buy, as far as possible, nothing but Canadian-made goods. By helping our manufacturers, thus the number of unemployed will be greatly reduced, and our own country will reap the full benefit of all transactions.

When "Dooley" Came to Caradoc.

The name "Dooley" is more or less famous the world over. Praises have been sung for it from Ireland's Emerald Isle to the sunny slopes of the Pacific. It is a great and glorious name, but there is one little spot in Old Ontario where "Dooley" is a household treasure, is on all tongues and is cherished, especially about mid-October above all other earthly names. The particular spot is Caradoc. Most of our readers never heard of Caradoc, and yet Caradoc has risen to fame. Where and what is Caradoc? Only a township in Middlesex County, Old Ontario, and by some not familiar with its possibilities, considered rather mediocre as an agricultural section. There are those who scoff at Caradoc, but they are the minority, and they do

baskets and emptied into bushel crates, set three in a place at intervals of a little over two rods across the field. Forty-eight of these crates filled make a load for the flat-racked wagon shown in the illustration. They are immediately loaded, and carted away to the barn and "dumped" through a trap door in the barn floor into a large box stall which is used as a cellar. Of course, much pitting is resorted to, for it takes considerable space to hold between 2,000 and 3,000 bushels of Dooley.

As a general thing Mr. Lamont plants his potatoes after winter wheat, which has been sown on a clover sod. This year, however, owing to circumstances upsetting his rotation, the potatoes are on sod, and truly they are a wonderful crop.

Considerable selection has been resorted to. Only fair-sized typical tubers are used in planting, and these are cut one eye in a set, it taking about twelve to fifteen bushels per acre for planting in rows made by plowing down every third furrow. These men are firmly convinced that selection is responsible for much of their success. The land is manured at the rate of fifteen tons per acre with "real" manure. The proprietors have little use for barnyard manure unless it is made from the right kind of feed, going through the right class of stock. They pin their faith to the feeding stall in which fat cattle, heavily fed on grain and roughage, are finished for the butcher. There is no doubt but this is good fertilizer. It is applied in small piles in the winter, spread and gang-plowed down in the spring. The potatoes this year were cultivated only three times. More would have been given, but the tops grew so fast that they precluded further efforts in this direction. Generally more frequent cultivation is necessary, but the patch was extra clean this year. Spraying is carefully done for "bugs" and blight, very little of the latter appearing this year.

There is a point on which most potato growers, who have not experimented with the tubers, agree, and that is that the seed end of the potato is not as good for seed as eyes from the remainder of the tuber, and many growers throw this away. Experiments carried on in Mr. Lamont's field do not bear out this theory. Twenty-five potatoes were selected, all as nearly alike as it was possible to get them, and under the direction of I. B. Whale, B. S. A., District Representative of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, these were planted, keeping the seed end separate from the remainder, and at digging the results from these seed-end hills in eighteen out of twenty dug showed more and better potatoes throughout. A similar experiment carried on at another farm last year and again this year gave like results. This should be tried on every farm. It will surprise most growers to see the results. The seed-end may be the best end for seed after all.

The potatoes in Caradoc are planted anywhere from May 24th to June 1st, and are dug about the middle to twentieth of October, giving them a rather

long season. Growers generally agree that the tubers are better in the soil as long as it is safe to leave them there, on account of the weather. Thousands of bushels are pitted; some are sold direct from the fields; most are shipped in car lots. This is the advantage of growing one variety and one variety only. Car lots of uniform, even-sized potatoes of the same kind sell better than large quantities of all sizes, colors and shapes, representing a score of different varieties. Too many kinds of potatoes are grown in this country, and other sections might well follow Caradoc and choose a variety and stick to it.

It is rather remarkable that so many of our good varieties of potatoes, when first introduced, were failures or partially so. Many of our best-



Forty-eight Bushels from Four Forty-rod Rows. Potatoes grown by A. Lamont & Son, Caradoc, Ont.

not know how Dooley is connected with the township.

When Dooley came to Caradoc, he, if we may be permitted to use the personal pronoun, weighed only three pounds. Rather a small start but lusty. At first he sprouted up rather spindly, and gave his guardians no little cause for alarm. While his outward appearances were none too robust, underneath he was coarse and rough, and it was not without some misgivings that he was allowed to grow and multiply. Dooley has done well since, and now covers the section of country where he made his feeble start some years ago. Dooley is only a potato, but the potato is Caradoc's shortest road to fame, and Dooley has paved the way. In short, the Dooley potato is the main crop in the light loam soil of this township, and practically the only variety of potato grown for main crop purposes.

When first introduced the variety gave little promise; above ground the stalks were sickly and spindly, and below the tubers were coarse in texture, and the general quality undesirable. From rigid selection and continuous planting the variety improved, as most good varieties of potatoes do, until to-day the quality is considered by the growers as second to none, the size and shape are desirable, and the yield is



The Digger, and Some of the Dooley Potatoes in Crates.

large enough to make the variety a favorite. On the ground behind the digger the potatoes look much like the Carman. They are white, very smooth, oval-flatish in shape, and uniform in size and quality. It is an inspiring sight to see digging operations progressing in a large potato field. We recently visited the farm of A. Lamont & Sons, and found three men and a boy taking up a crop of six acres of these potatoes, four forty-rod rows just at the time we called turning out 48 bushel boxes of tubers, approximately 350 bushels per acre, and the best of the field was yet to come. This staff of pickers take up one acre per day, so it is not such a "big job" after all. The potatoes are "lifted" with a digger as shown in the accompanying illustrations; then they are picked up into one-half-bushel wire