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**WEEDS ARE ROBBERS**

They Cost Older Ontario at Least \$28,000,000 Annually.

They Are Heavy Reducers of Legitimate Crop Yields—More After Harvest Tillage Is Needed—Dandelion Control — Why a \$5,000 Bull Was Sold for \$50.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

A superficial survey of Southern Ontario shows very clearly that the weed plants have gained so much headway on very many farms as to have become the largest profit-robbing factor. Thistles, ragweed, mustard, etc., are crowding out the useful food plants, reducing yields and making work more difficult.

Too Little Farm Help and Too Many Dogs.

In the old days when labor was more plentiful and gang-ploughs for after harvest tillage were found in use on every farm, clean, weed free fields were to be seen on every hand. Farms that were models of cleanliness and the pride of their owners are no longer so. The men of the old school and the condition of abundant, willing help on the farms has gone. The presence of competing weeds does not worry the present day farmer to a point of action. Shortage of help, apathy on the part of land-owners, neglect to make noxious weed bylaws operative, and the sheep-killing dog, have been the chief contributing factors favoring the wholesale weed development that is now experienced by this province.

Annual Losses Run to Millions of Dollars.

The average loss per acre on cultivated and grazing lands is difficult to determine. On the well kept farms the annual loss caused by the presence of weeds is not less than two dollars per acre. On the farms that

have been poorly managed for a number of years the annual loss from weeds may be as high as ten dollars per acre. Taking the lower figure of two dollars per acre as the minimum loss, on the Southern Ontario farms that have an aggregate area of 14,000,000 cleared acres we have a loss of \$28,000,000 per year. The weed increase which has been so rapid during the past ten years will, if not checked, cause a direct loss to the Ontario farmers of \$100,000,000 per annum.

Let the Plough and the Harrow Be Kept Going.

If the noxious weed robbery that is being perpetrated on the Ontario farmer from April to October each year just because he is willing to be robbed were stopped, money for household comforts, taxes, etc., would be more plentiful. After harvest tillage, autumn ploughing and the cleaning up of the fence rows and roadsides in good time will help check the advance of weeds. The agriculture of no province is so rich that it can afford to tolerate a weed nuisance that is costing many millions each year.—L. Stevenson, Secretary Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto.

**DANDELION CONTROL**

Four or Five Sprayings With Iron Sulphate Will Do the Trick.

Little attention was paid to the dandelion as a weed thirty years ago, but with the clearing up of lands and removal of obstacles to the spread of the weed great increase of the nuisance is seen in grass land everywhere. The dandelion cannot succeed on land that is well cultivated, but areas of grass, whether pasture fields, roadways or lawns, are usually heavily infested. Large areas cannot well be treated unless the use of the land is such as to permit heavy expenditures. Small areas, such as lawns and portions of golf courses, may under proper management be kept free of dandelions.

Spraying with iron sulphate, four or five applications during one season, will generally free a grass area of the pest. But the treatment must be repeated every third year. The first spraying should be applied just before the first blooming period of

the dandelion and followed by two others at intervals of three weeks. Two further applications should also be given during September or October. Spraying should not be done during the hot, dry period unless water can be applied to keep the grass growing vigorously. Grass areas that are sprayed usually blacken considerably after each application, but this burned appearance disappears after a few days. Areas that are being sprayed for the eradication of dandelion should be well fertilized, and grass seed should be applied to keep up the required number of grass plants to form a good turf. White clover is killed by iron sulphate spray, so cannot succeed under this method of dandelion control. The strength of solution to use is 1½ pounds to one gallon of water.—L. Stevenson, Secretary Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto.

Why a \$5,000 Bull Was Sold for \$50.

When a certain farmer a few years ago sold his registered Holstein bull to his local butcher no records had been made by any of the bull's daughters. Within a year eleven of the daughters freshened at the ages of two and three. Records were made of milk and butter-fat production, and to the astonishment of everybody the average milk production was 14,502 pounds and the average butter-fat production was 573 pounds.

But before these records were available the bull was dead and his hide had become leather. Because there were no records, a \$5,000 bull had been sold for \$50.

Two good reliable remedies which guarantee results are RAZ-MAH for Asthma and Bronchitis, and T.R.Cs for Rheumatism, Lumbago, Neuritis, etc., are sold by J. W. McLaren.

Fire did damage to the extent of \$300 at the residence of Mr. Russell Kirkpatrick, Petrolia, last week. It was soon under control.

**Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA**

**SOLDIERS' MEMORIALS**

The Editor, Guide-Advocate, Watford, Ontario

Dear Sir:—Even populous centres are finding it difficult to raise suitable soldiers' memorials. Difficulties arise not only as to the form the monument should take, but as to the site, cost, etc. The chief trouble seems to be that many of the schemes are too elaborate and expensive—impracticable, mainly on financial grounds in these days of necessary economy. With the return of industrial prosperity, however, such communities will very probably find an easy solution of the problem. Their gratitude, civic pride, feelings of patriotism and reverence for the memory of their noble dead will impel the living to perpetuate their memory in a manner befitting the magnificent services they rendered their country and the world.

One should be more concerned for the keeping green of the memory of the splendid men who came from the remote and sparsely peopled settlements—from the lonely camp, farm or mine, and gave their all for their country with a splendid patriotism that must never be forgotten.

Such poor and thinly settled communities may find in the following suggestion a means by which they may permanently perpetuate the memory of their local heroes at a negligible cost of money. All that is needed is a spirit of cordial co-operation on the part of a few men and women who are interested. These should get together as soon as possible and arrange for the removal of a huge natural rock or boulder—the bigger the better—to say the district school grounds or nearby crossroads (or the church or grave-yard if easy of access.)

On Arbor Day (about May 7) the children of the vicinity should plant a maple tree, assisted by the teacher and school commissioners, with appropriate ceremonies, near the rock or boulder—hereafter the cenotaph of the soldier whose memory the community desires to perpetuate. At the roots of each tree thus planted, place a sealed bottle or crockery-ware vessel containing a brief record of each soldier honored, signed by the mayor, school commissioners, councillors, teacher, neighbors and other interested persons. Such a record should give the parentage of the soldier, the place and date of his birth, date of enlistment, manner and place of death, etc. Current coins and newspapers and brief local historical records, properly protected in a glass or crockeryware container, should also be placed beneath the cenotaph.

And in the schoolhouse (church or lodge room) on the same day, an official Roll of Honor surmounted by a small silken Union Jack should be unveiled, and the whole—cenotaph, maple trees, roll of honor and flag—entrusted to the children for safe keeping, it being impressed upon them that it is at once a duty and a privilege to cherish the memory of our country's heroes, 70,000 having died in the cause of humanity and right.

It may be added that the rock or boulder used as a cenotaph should be large enough and of such sort as would allow of the soldier's name, etc., being cut upon it at the time if the services of a capable mason are available. If not, this could be done later by a modern Old Mortality who reverences the glorious memory of Canada's noble dead. One word of caution. Care should be taken that the rock selected for the cenotaph should be of a time-defying, element withstanding sort—not a rock that readily splits or crumbles. There are competent men in every locality who would advise wisely as to the choice of a suitable boulder.

Yours truly,  
D. LOWEL.

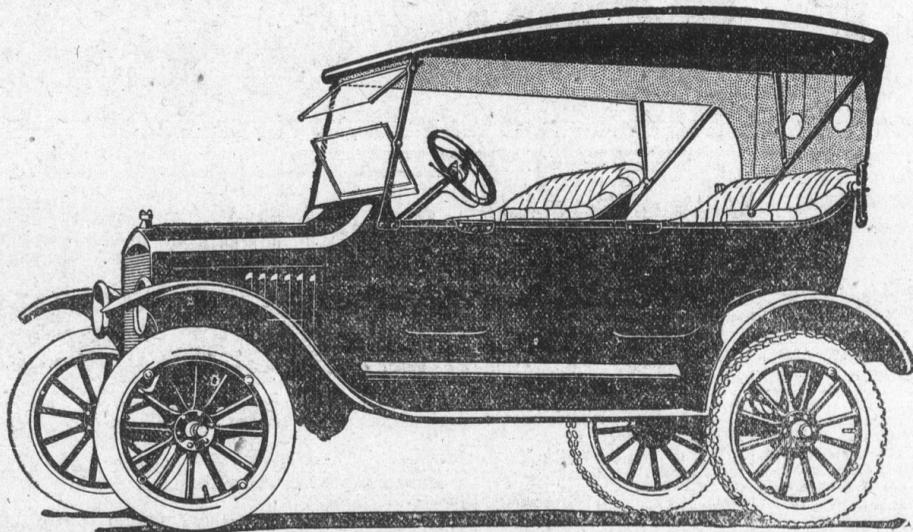
Eustis Mines, P. Que.

Wm. Clow, a farmer of North Dunwich, was found in his barn in a semi-conscious condition, suffering from injuries to his face and also the loss of three teeth. It is supposed that while watering the horses he was kicked by one of them.

M. CUNNINGHAM

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