

## The Dairyman's Friend

**S**UPPOSE one of your most "valuable cows gets seriously injured or sick and you need a veterinarian in a hurry. If you have a telephone you can call him immediately and save an animal that might otherwise die.

There is more than one use for a telephone on the farm. Our handsomely illustrated book, "Canada and the Telephone," gives numerous uses. Send for a copy. It's free.

The Provincial Governments recognize the advantage of telephones in rural districts and practically all of them have done something to encourage the construction of independent telephone systems.

In Ontario, the Government has given municipalities the right to build and operate independent telephone lines. In Nova Scotia, the Government bonuses independent rural telephone systems. In Saskatchewan, the Government lends its support. And so on.

If your community is without telephone service it is high time to get busy and secure it. Call a meeting of the residents and organize. We will supply you with all necessary information free. Our experience in assisting in the organization of the majority of independent local and municipal telephone systems in Ontario is worth money to any prospective telephone system and insures getting started on a paying basis.

Our telephones are of the very highest quality and most modern design. Our construction materials are guaranteed first quality. Our prices are right. In many instances, we can do unusually well for our customers because we were fortunate to make large contracts some time ago at exceedingly favorable rates. The raw materials entering into the manufacture of telephone construction supplies have steadily advanced in price on account of the huge demands caused by war orders. There are certain to be further advances, too. Any independent local or municipal system should be sure to get our quotations before placing an order.

**Canadian  
Independent  
Telephone  
Company, Ltd.**

269 Adelaide St. W., Toronto

the seed coat might be for a less hardy variety.

Alfalfa is the ideal crop for much of our soil, which is stony. Every time the soil is stirred stones have to be picked and hauled off and cultivating operations are always hard on both machinery and horses. It is our plan to get the most of our land into alfalfa and leave it there as long as possible. We have yet to hear of a more profitable or suitable crop.

### Experiments With Flax for Fibre

**D**URING the year 1915 a number of plots of flax were grown at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, the seed having been obtained from Holland. The samples were pulled at various stages of ripeness, retted under water, and afterwards scutched by the Ontario Flax Co., Ltd. They were valued by an expert of the York St. Flax Spinning Co., Belfast, Ireland, but in no case could any of the samples be pronounced first class. This was partly due to their being insufficiently retted, but by the time of sewing, by the character of the season, and by the stage of ripeness when pulled. Accordingly, a series of experiments were planned for the ensuing year, 1916, to clear up some of the doubtful points and to determine—in so far as this was possible in a single year—whether the highest grade of fibre-flax could be successfully grown in Canada.

The seed used in 1916 was harvested from some of the plots sown with Dutch seed in 1915. The rate of sowing per acre varied between 1½ bushels and 2½ bushels of seed germinating 100 per cent. The means that where it was decided to sow 2 bushels per acre of seed with a germination of 100 per cent, and the sample of seed available gave, when tested, a germination of 84 per cent, it was necessary to sow a somewhat larger quantity than two bushels of the latter—as a matter of fact, two and one-half bushels.

As very early sowing is an important factor in achieving success should the summer turn out to be unusually dry (as actually happened in 1916), seven plots were sown on the 26th of April, one on the 28th of April and seven on the 12th of May.

The soil was a heavy clay and at the first date of sowing was rather wet, consequently it was decided to make several shallow trenches about six inches deep between some of the plots. For several weeks after sowing wet weather continued with very little interruption, and the system of surface trenches undoubtedly saved the situation.

The crop was pulled on various dates between the 14th of July and the 27th of July, the crops being fully grown. In some cases the seeds were pale in color and unripe; in others the seed was pulled when the first seeds on each plant were ripe; in those pulled last about half the seeds were ripe.

The average height of the seven plots first sown was 30¼ inches, and the average of the last seven was 29 inches.

The flax was put into water on the same day on which it was pulled, and was allowed to remain immersed from three to three and three-quarters days. It was then taken out and spread on the grass for a period of one to two days. The scutching was done by the same firm as in 1915; and the final report, made by the same gentleman who examined the previous year's crop, was as follows:—

"The flax is a good length, well retted, and strong. It is the best flax I have seen in Canada yet. According to flax values here it should be worth 40c a pound or more."

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Glory Enkhuizen Cabbage (hard head) . . . Pkg. 5c, oz. 30c, 4 oz. \$1.00  
Rennie's Spinach Beet (for table greens) . . . Pkg. 10c, oz. 30c, 4 oz. 50c.  
Stringless Refugee Wax (Butter) Beans . . . 4 oz. 15c, lb. 50c, 5 lbs. \$2.25.  
Rennie's XXX Early Table Corn (sweetest) . . . Pkg. 10c, lb. 40c, 5 lbs. \$1.90.  
Davis Perfect Cucumber, for table or pickles . . . Pkg. 5c, oz. 20c, 4 oz. 50c.  
XXX Pink Skin Tomato, solid fruit, big cropper . . . Pkg. 15c, ½ oz. 35c, oz. 60c.  
Mammoth Green Squash, specimen 403 lbs. weight, Pkg. 10 seeds 25c.  
XXX Scarlet Round Radish (white tipped) . . . Pkg. 10c, oz. 20c, 4 oz. 50c.  
Quaker Pie Pumpkin, popular for pies . . . Pkg. 10c, oz. 25c, 4 oz. 75c  
Laxtonian Bush Table Peas, extra early . . . 4oz. 15c, lb. 45c, 5 lbs. \$1.90.  
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Select Nonpareil Lettuce, large heads . . . Pkg. 5c, oz. 20c, 4 oz. 60c  
Giant White Feeding Sugar Beet, for stock . . . 4 oz. 15c, ½ lb. 25c, lb. 45c.  
Rennie's Prize Swede for table or stock . . . 4 oz. 20c, ½ lb. 35c, lb. 65c  
XXX Climbing Mixture, Nasturtiums . . . Pkg. 10c, oz. 20c, 4 oz. 50c.  
Sweet Mignonette, fragrant, large flowers . . . Pkg. 5c, oz. 25c  
Giant Trimardeau Pansy, all colors mixed . . . Pkg. 10c, ½ oz. 40c  
Spencer Choice Mixed Sweet Peas . . . Pkg. 10c, oz. 30c, 4 oz. 90c, lb. \$3.00.

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