Farm Crop Queries

Conducted by Professor Henry G. Bell

The object of this department is to place at the service of our farm readers the advice of an acknowledged authority on all subjects pertaining to soils and crops.

Address all questions to Professor Henry G. Bell, in care of The Wilson Publishing Company, Limited, Toronto, and answers will appear in this column in the order in which they are received. As space is limited it is advisable where immediate reply is necessary that a stamped and addressed envelope be enclosed with the question, when the answer will be mailed direct.

J. F.:—I would like to ask you a few questions about sweet clover. I have twenty acres which was under sweet clover this last year. It was a real good crop and was cut for seed. It si clay loam and is in fair condition. If I plowed the stubble will the clover come up again, or will it come up if it sinot plowed? There was a lot of the seed shelled in the field. I have some very sandy soil, do you think it would be advisable to sow sweet clover on it? How much sweet clover should I sow to the acre?

Answer:—If much of the sweet clover seed shattered out in harvesting the seed crop, in all probability a considerable quantity will come up next spring whether the ground is plowed or not. The hull of the seed is relatively hard so that some of the sweet clover seeds may lie in the ground for two or three seasons before they germinate. If you wish to put in a cultivated crop such as corn or potatoes, I do not think you need have fear of a sufficient quantity of seed coming up to seriously diminish your yield, that is, provided you give the cultivated crop early and careful attention. The clover plant is a two-year plant; hence, a couple of years of cultivated crops should kill out a very large quantity of the clover that would come up as weeds. I believe you would do well to sow sweet clover seed on your sandy soil. I would recommend that you plow under the second crop if you wish to harvest the first crop of hay. What sandy soil needs is humus, and I know of no crop that will produce as large an amount of humus in a short time as will sweet clover. It is generally recommended that 20 to 25 pounds of hulled seed per acre be used. If the seed is not hulled, add 5 pounds more.

RENNIE'S War Time Production Seeds

THERE must be no "slackers" this year, either among the seeds or the growers. Every man and woman with garden space, must produce to the limit of his or her ability. And that is why Rennie's seeds are so essential—live, vigorous seeds from tested stock, to ensure record crops.

	Pkt.	¼ Oz.	Oz.	¼ lb.
BRUSSELS SPROUTS — Amager Market	.10		.90	2.75
CABBAGE—Rennie's First Crop	.10		.75	2.25
CABBAGE—Early Jersey Wakefield (Improved)	.05		.60	1.75
CAULIFLOWER—Rennie's Danish Drouth-Resisting	.15 & .25	1.00	3.50	10.00
CELERY—Paris Golden Yellow, Extra Select	.15	.60	2.00	
TOMATO—Bonny Best (Original)	.10		.60	1.75
Rennie's Improved Beefsteak	.10		.75	2.50

FLOWER SEEDS	Pkt.
New Giant Astermum—Mixed Colors	.15
Rennie's XXX Giant Comet Asters—Mixed	.10
Dreer's Peerless Pink Aster	.15
Early Blooming Cosmos—Mixed	.10
Rennie's XXX Exhibition Mixture Pansy	.25
Rennie's XXX Prize Ruffled Giant Single Petunia—Mixture	.25
Rennie's XXX Large Flowering Globe Stocks—Mixture	.20
Rennie's XXX Mammoth Verbena—Mixture	.10
Giant Zinnia—Mixed	.15

Mail Your Order TODAY For Planting Up to April 15th

LOOK FOR THE STARS
Turn the pages of your Rennie catalogue. You will notice a great many paragraphs with stars at the corners. These are extra special values that defy competition. When buying from dealers insist on RENNIE'S.

THE WILLIAM RENNIE COMPANY LIMITED.
KING & MARKET STS TORONTO
ALSO AT MONTREAL WINNIPEG VANCOUVER

Your Problems

Conducted by Mrs Helen Law

Mothers and daughters of all ages are cordially invited to write to this department. Initials only will be published with each question and its answer as a means of identification, but full name and address must be given in each letter. Write on one side of paper only. Answers will be mailed direct if stamped and addressed envelope is enclosed.

Address all correspondence for this department to Mrs. Helen Law, 235 Woodbine Ave., Toronto.

X. Y. Z.:—A complete reply to your interesting letter cannot be sent for a few days, as the matter of the installation of waterworks in your home has been referred to an expert whose advice will be sent you by mail as soon as received. Regarding the conversion of the large kitchen into a dining-room and kitchen, your ideas are quite practicable, and the result will be an enormous saving of energy in housework. The best location for the sink would be at the centre of the dividing walls between dining-room and kitchen, so that you could pass the dinner dishes through the communicating door, wash them in the sink, and put them right through again to be returned to the dining-table, which I presume you keep laid all the time. Can you arrange to have the cook-stove near the sink? If so, you could have a place for cooking utensils in the new cupboard, which you would find most convenient. If you keep the proposed alterations in mind as you go about your housework, many devices will occur to you that can be installed to lessen work. Should you care to send me a plan of the layout of your house, with the windows, doors and chimneys marked, I will send you a working plan for the alterations. Should any further questions crop up, please send them along.

Peggy:—Here are some good rules for your household, Miss Peggy. It is wonderful how a motto hung up in the kitchen pulls you up in some little extravagance through the day, isn't it?

GOOD FOOD IS WASTED,
If it gets into the garbage pail
If allowed to spoil in the home
If ruined by careless cooking
By careless paring and trimming
When too much is served at a meal

Harrassed:—But you won't be by the time you get the "Soldiers of the Soil" at work. Did you know that the Canada Food Board is enrolling 25,000 school boys between the ages of 15 and 19 to help on the farms this year? The drive to enlist this battalion of youthful soldiers has began and they should prove of immense help to the farmer and his wife. There is no doubt that there will also be a large number of girls on the farm this year who will assist both in farm-house and field. These two classes will help greatly to lighten the burden sustained by the farmer's wife and they will solve in some measure the problem of labor shortage.

Enquirer:—"What about potatoes?" Why, potatoes possibilities are endless, Miss Enquirer. The Food Controller is asking us to eat both fish and potatoes, and to eat plenty of them. Now the patriotic food is not always the most palatable but both fish and potatoes are exceptionally nutritious, economical and pleasant, and no one should have any difficulty in making extensive use of them. Do you ever roast potatoes in their own skins and eat them with a little salt? If not you are missing something in life. Next there is the baked potato, broken open to let out the steam and prevent sogginess. The potato boiled in its jacket is 20 per cent. more nourishing than the peeled potato. Have you ever tried potato biscuit? It is something like the old-fashioned potato scone that is as popular in Scotland as oatcake. Sift together 1 cupful mashed potatoes, 1 cupful Graham flour, 4 teaspoonfuls baking powder, ½ teaspoonful salt, 1 tablespoonful fat, ½ cup milk. Toss dough on a floured board and roll lightly to ½ inch in thickness. Bake for twelve to fifteen minutes in greased pans.

The Sunday School

INTERNATIONAL LESSON MARCH 31.

Lesson XIII. Easter Lesson—John 14. 1-24. Golden Text, 1 Cor. 15. 57.

Verse 1. Let not your heart be troubled—His talk of leaving them does not accord with their hopes for the kingdom he has talked of setting up. They are sadly perplexed. They are devoted to him, through the companionship and training and love of the few brief months they had known him. Believe in God, believe also in me—That is, Your doubts and troubles because of our separation will be cleared up if you trust God and trust me.

2. In my Father's house are many mansions—The image is taken from one of those immense Oriental palaces, in which there is room for the king and his son and for all the guests. They are to be comforted with the thought that the separation is temporary, and that all eventually to be together.

3. I go and prepare a place for you—He had told them of the Father's love. He had taught them to pray to the Father. What more fitting than that he should to talk to them of that time when the children of the Father should be gathered together in the heavenly home? I come again—When was that coming to occur? "At the final and glorious coming?" But it would be no comfort to them to look for a day which had not even yet appeared. "At death?" But this is impossible, taken in connection with verse 18. "By the Holy Spirit?" "I will not leave you desolate: I come to you." His final promise when he sent them forth was, "I am with you . . . unto the end of the world." Will receive you unto myself—Not only will he come to us, but we are to go to him. These are words of wonderful tenderness. Where I am, there ye may be also—All speculations as to the nature of heaven are of small, compared with this simple statement. Let it suffice that we are to be where Jesus is, in the place which he has prepared and where he is King.

4. Whither I go, ye know the way—For nearly three years, by inimitable illustration and extended conference, he had endeavored to unfold to them the nature of his work and the greatness of the Kingdom.

5. We know not whither thou goest—All honor to the disciple who is unwilling to let slip by a point which he does not understand. But Thomas had failed to see the great truth as Jesus had presented it.

6. I am the way, and the truth, and the life—Jesus now declares that it is through him that we come to the Father and through him that we obtain entrance into the Father's house. Peter wishes to follow him immediately, Thomas wants to know the way, and, later, Philip wants to see the Father. Jesus answers: "All these questions are answered in me"; "I am the way to the Father." Christian faith is not a personal opinion or adherence to a doctrine; it is confidence in Christ, the loyalty of the life given to him.

7. If ye had known me, ye would have known my Father—If Jesus is the manifestation of God (verse 6), then to know him is to know God. From henceforth ye know him, and have seen him—It is impossible to comprehend the infinite God, but it is possible to know the love of God as seen in Christ. These questions indicate that the disciples were not overawed by the Master, but were on terms of comfortable understanding, so that question and answer passed easily.

8. Philip said, Lord, show us the Father, and is sufficeth us—Philip will be satisfied if he can have at least a pledge of the glorious future reserved for them.

9. Have I been so long time with you, and dost thou not know me?—A sense of disappointment that, after all, Philip had not learned the gracious truth the Master had tried to unfold. He that hath seen me hath seen the Father—A plain statement of Jesus' unique relation to God, which lifts him above ordinary men. We can hardly conceive of the holiest of men saying, without blasphemy, "Look upon me and behold God!"

10, 11. Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me?—he does not say that the Father and himself are the same person, but that they live the one in the other. That this is true is shown by his words and his works. Believe me for the very works' sake—Jesus asks from his disciples faith in his union with the Father on the authority of the testimony which he has borne to himself.

12. He that believeth on me . . . greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto the Father—When the Holy Spirit is sent from the Father, great spiritual changes in men will be produced, greater than external miracles. The conversion of a sinner, through the Holy Spirit, is greater than turning water into wine or opening the eyes of the blind. To expect that the Christian disciple can work miracles is to take a backward step in spiritual development.

14. If ye shall ask anything in my name, that will I do—That is, to ask anything of God based upon what Jesus has told us of himself and his work. To pray in his name is not only to ask for his sake, but to ask in harmony with Jesus' instructions, or according to God's will.

15. If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments—The commandments here alluded to are the charges he has given them while he has been with them. To cherish and observe them is the true indication of their love and the preparation for what follows in verse 17.

16. He shall give you another Comforter—It is impossible for an outsider, "the world," to receive the inner Comforter, for the great gifts of the Spirit cannot come to an unspiritual and unresponsive soul.

18. I will not leave you desolate: I come unto you—He comes to them not in the personal, bodily return, after milleniums have passed, but through the presence of the promised Holy Spirit, as Comforter and Teacher.

19. The world beholdeth me no more; but ye behold me—The world, which has only known Jesus after the flesh, sees him no more, but to his own he becomes visible in the spiritual sphere. Because I live, ye shall live also—Death will be vanquished by him, and his victory includes our victory over death.

20. In that day . . . I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you—The day is coming when the subject which so puzzles them will be clearly understood.

21. He that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him—Love reveals itself to love. He abides in the heart which responds to him. (John 15.)

22-24. Judas (not Iscariot)—Judas of the village of Kerioth is the meaning of Iscariot in Judea. Literally, Judas the man from Kerioth. Why unto us, and not unto the world?—Jesus had really answered this in verse 21, but he goes further. Why not to all men without discrimination? Why make a distinction? The answer is that love cherishes the slightest wish of the one loved, and he who does not love does not carry out the wishes of the beloved.

Springtime.

This is springtime: all the heart of things
Is dancing madly, clapping wild its wings;
Bursting with carolling the thongs that bind
Rushing with passion love its mate to find,
And all things smile and all things seem so gay.
'Tis like the dawning of eternal day.

The Telescope.

A grain of sand has wonders there concealed,
And Genius strolling on the shingly bars
Stooped, gathered up a handful, and revealed
To waiting worlds the secrets of the stars!

FOR GREATER PRODUCTION

Making Two Blades Grow Where Only One Grew Before

GUNNS SHUR-GAIN FERTILIZERS

Gunns LIMITED

WEST TORONTO

FEED THE CROP, NOT THE SOIL

Some farmers believe in feeding the soil. This practice may be good. In these days of high prices for all farm crops we believe that it is much more profitable to feed the crop the necessary plant food (fertilizer) to produce maximum yields, and to resist disease.

Years of experimentation have shown just how much Ammonia (Nitrogen) Phosphoric Acid and Potash are required by all crops. With this information we have prepared a bulletin showing just what grade or analysis of fertilizer you should use in the raising of your particular crop on your type of soil.

This bulletin free for the asking.

If you have never used fertilizer you will find its use this year more profitable than ever before.

Harab-Davies FERTILIZERS

Ontario Fertilizers Limited
West Toronto Canada

Bedtime Stories

A New Kind of Marbles.

It had been a warm winter, with no ice at all, quite unlike the severe winter we have just passed through. "I'm afraid," said grandfather one day late in March, shaking his head soberly, "that this means no ice cream next July, and no cold lemonade, and no—"

"O dear!" chorused children. "Who ever heard of a summer without ice cream?"

"Well," answered grandfather, "who ever heard of a winter without ice?"

"It may freeze yet," put in grandmother.

"Maybe," grandfather said, "but it's nearly time now for robins and violets."

When Ted and Jean and Molly went to bed that night they felt the window-pane with their cheeks. "It feels very cold," Ted decided. "Maybe there'll be freezing to-night."

When they waked there was a queer, dull whiteness on the walls and a curious silence. Snow had fallen all night long, and now every roof had a heavy white blanket like eider down, and every fence post wore a tall white cap.

"The heaviest snow I ever saw so late in the year," father remarked at breakfast. "Well, it looks as if the ice house would stay empty, sure enough."

"No ice cream in July," began little Jean, but grandfather suddenly pinched her cheek.

"Plenty of it," he said. "That is, if you three chicks are willing to play marbles a while."

"But how can playing marbles fill the ice house?" cried Ted and Molly in one breath. "Now, grandad, you're making fun of us!"

"Not a bit of it," he answered. "Put on your togs, and I'll show you."

Ten minutes later, coated and hooded and finished off with good, dry rubbers, the three dashed out to their grandfather. "Here," he said, "hold out your hands. There's a marble apiece for you. Go to work and roll them."

The children looked astonished. Each little right-hand mitten was clasping a snowball.

"But, grandfather," Ted began, doubtfully.

"Roll your marbles," said grandfather, "and roll them carefully. Then you'll see."

So the three obeyed, puzzled but tremendously excited. Ted rolled east, Molly rolled west, and little Jean rolled south, down the long slope of the lawn. Laughing and shouting, they followed the little balls with care, pushing them whenever they stopped.

"Mine's as big as a pumpkin!" cried Molly in a few minutes. "Just watch it grow!"

They pushed harder and harder, and every moment one would call to the other. Presently, from the bottom of the yard, came a cry. "Oo-oo!" Jean sang out. "Somebody come! My marble is so big I can't get it up the hill!"

Sure enough, Jean's snowball had grown so fast that now it was entirely too much for her. Ted ran down, laughing, and rolled it to the top of the hill. Then they spied grandfather.

"Will you look at his marble!" screamed Molly. And indeed grandfather's ball was a regular giant, and was getting fatter and fatter.

"Forward march! to the ice house, now!" said grandfather. And the children, who had forgotten all about the ice house, went to work with a vim, trunling their big marbles gayly toward the open door.

Most of the morning they worked joyfully, and after dinner father and the hired men turned in with them, so that the long-empty ice house began to fill very rapidly. Before the snow had left the fields the ice house was quite full, and the hired men had pounded the great snowballs with shovels until the snow was packed almost as hard as ice. Then the children helped to pile in the straw on top and to pack it; and at last they shut the door.

"I can just taste that July ice cream!" said Molly happily.

"I can taste it too," Ted agreed, "and I've also learned a new way to play marbles."

To make a kitchen stove help warm the room in which it is used a metal cover that radiates the heat evenly has been patented.

Smut in oats may be prevented by soaking them in a solution of formaldehyde. Spread the grain around thinly on the barn floor. Take a pint of the formaldehyde and mix it with fifty gallons of water. With a sprinkling pot moisten the oats well and leave them a couple of hours. This will not injure the germ of the seed at all, but will kill the germs.

THE CHILD'S ALLOWANCE

By M. A. Bartlett.

Every child should have an allowance. The amount may vary according to individual requirements and family finances, but whether it be ten cents or a dollar a week matters little so long as it is regularly forthcoming and is the child's own. It may be given weekly in payment of specified chores or errands, but it should not include payment for extra work.

One mother of my acquaintance presented each of her children on their eighth birthday with a small leather-covered account book, a bank which could not be opened until it contained five dollars, and a savings bank book with five dollars deposited in the child's name.

From that date the child received each Saturday twenty-five cents from both his father and his mother. This fifty cents was to cover all small expenditures — entertainments, gifts, Sunday school, pencils, candy, etc.,—and the remainder each week was to be saved. The child was taught to keep an accurate account of every cent he spent, and of every additional penny he earned. At the end of the month the mother carefully audited the account.

At first the half-dollar a week seemed a small fortune to the child accustomed to asking for every cent, but he soon learned that in order to fill his bank he would have to "think twice" before purchasing a new knife or a package of gum.

One of the girls showed a tendency toward miserliness. The first week she deposited her whole fifty cents in the bank—only to regret it long before the week was out. The other children were buying candy, and she had no money. There was to be a birthday party, and each child was expected to contribute ten cents toward a present. All her money was banked. Tearfully she sought assistance from her mother, but she found her true to the agreement.

"You must learn, dear," said the sympathetic parent, "that you can't save all your money and spend it, too—just as your brother will find that he can't spent his fifty cents and then have it to put in the bank. However, I will lend you ten cents, and you can repay me next week. Make an item of it in your account."

The lesson was a hard one to learn, but eventually it was mastered. They knew the value of a cent.

Recently I saw their bank books. In four years the little girl had saved $25, the boy $30. The latter was two years the elder, and his income had been greatly augmented by outside work; but his expenditures also had been greater, as I saw by their account books. The latter were models of good book-keeping.

Parents complain that their children think they are "made of money," that they have no idea of money value. If such is the case, it is the parents', not the children's fault. Give them an allowance for spending money. Be firm in your refusal to grant more than the allotted sum, except as a loan. Let them learn by their own experience how to handle money to the best advantage. At the same time arouse their interest in saving until it becomes a habit to lay aside some part of their income. The value of such training can only be fully appreciated by those who have had it to learn in early manhood, and womanhood—or by those who have never learned it at all.