

Supplement to the "Standard" 2

Correspondence.

We wish it distinctly understood that we do not hold ourselves responsible for the views expressed by our correspondents.

Editor of the STANDARD.

Having attended some of the agricultural meetings I have heard much discussed. One above all the farmers seem to have their minds upon, viz: A change of seed grain, and that this change should be made periodically. But when the matter is further discussed as to how this should be brought about so that all may themselves of the benefits, the matter seemed to terminate rather abruptly. It became evident that a large amount of money would be required for a change which is not available. Some of our Provincial Government should give assistance. Others thought it hard to reach them, for you know, the government benches are very high, a great deal of climbing is required, and farmers are slow at making their way known at headquarters, therefore the Government has not been made the matter referred to, (change of grain) a necessity in the Province. Therefore, they having no practical way of our wants we cannot, strictly speaking, blame them until they refuse. But from one act of theirs, viz., the opening of the so called Model Farm, and the so called Experimental Farm, we believe they must have been wrongly advised, or at least have not acted in the interests of the farming community. Such very large sums of the money in maintaining the institution as the holding office are annually expending their thousands, and a few of them, a great number of whom are foreigners, the principal parties benefitted. And had the farmers of Ontario been consulted prior to the establishing of this Model Farm ninety-nine out of a hundred would have said "away with it, unless unrecalled for expenditure is government Creameries. Now, how are these institutions will be carried on in the Province seems to me impossible. If there be but three or four in the Province how will they be reached by the people, or even suppose there be in each electoral district what good? Now suppose one of these creameries established at Flesherton for East Riding, how can you imagine the whole Riding to be benefitted. Consider the distance

to be travelled and the class of goods to be carried. One man, say on a Spring morning, milks his cows in Shelburne and another at Thornbury, ask yourselves what state the milk would be in for straining by the time it would reach Flesherton. We think it would require Mr. Wood to have more experience than he has yet had at the Model Farm, even admitting that he has no superior at churning, before he could make the gilded butter he talks of. But suppose there be one established in each municipality, all would not avail themselves of it. To a great many it would be of no use to go, as on the success of good butter making a great deal depends on the facilities afforded those who have the butter to make. All have, yet, as you well know, the same facilities. I could point to some better makers who are almost invariably prize winners at our exhibitions. They have their stone or brick milk houses, the floors being laid with stone, excellent spring water to use, and good clear spring water almost in every pasture field for their cattle to drink. Others have not these facilities within their reach, therefore they cannot compete with those who have. Of course I am free to admit some butter makers lack in experience and, perhaps too proud to learn, while a great many to say the least are careless. But will a Government Creamery remedy this? We think not; and further it is well known and admitted that the success of butter making, both in quantity and quality, greatly depends on the breed of cattle and the food supplied. Can the Government supply this? We think not. It is quite evident there are too many circumstances to be taken into consideration in connection with butter making for any such institution to be of general service, and if Mr. Wood does happen to come on with a staff of salaried officers, one carrying a thermometer, and another a barometer, and a third a barometer, and a fourth carrying a specific gravity bottle, together with a large Government churn and two large Newfoundland dogs to do the tramping, to the butter makers of this part of the country it would appear more ridiculous than otherwise, and would be a wasteful expenditure of public money, no good resulting therefrom.

Now, what the farmers of Ontario is in need of is a renewal of seed grain, especially Spring wheat and barley. The matter has been well discussed at some of our annual agricultural meetings, all agreeing, and judging from experience that a change from a distance would warrant an increase in yield of about five bushels to the acre. Now, in order that we may have some idea of what this increase of five bushels per acre meant it becomes necessary to use figures which I

Vertical text on the left edge of the page, including fragments of advertisements and newspaper titles such as "DOLLARS A YEAR", "5 CENTS A MONTH", "ONE CENT A COPY", "W. J. ROWE", "C. RICHARDSON", "AT MICHIGAN", "DETROIT WEEKLY", "AND TRI", "\$1.00 per Year", "LL'S Treat", "OST & TRIBUNE", "ertaki", "s,", "al Pobes", "loves,", "Crape", "AND", "gs for Fu", "GRA", "DALE", "ortorted stock", "ITU", "OR RE", "2. HOLL", "good build", "ply to Jam", "remission, or", "ELLOW, T", "R SAL", "HD, B", "clear", "good", "will be", "Chair".