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**News and Information**  
**For the Busy Farmer**

**Clean Seed Important**  
Farmers at this time of year naturally become seed minded. Good seed sown early, other things being favourable, such as soil and climate, means good crops, and good crops are the basis of successful farming. What about the individual farmer's seed supply? If it is being purchased, he has the option of buying either Registered or Commercial seed of grade No. 1, No. 2 or No. 3 quality. If farmers are using their own seed and are within reasonable distance of a central seed cleaning plant, it would surely pay to have their seed cleaned in such a plant. These plants are usually equipped with modern power seed cleaning machines and operated by an expert in seed cleaning. If the old hand fanning mill is to be used, it should be hauled out from under the bags in the dark corner of the granary or storage shed and oiled, the screens carefully examined and any necessary repairs made. In cleaning seed, it is most important to use screens that will remove harmful weed seeds as well as dirt and chaff.

**Increase Use of Barley**  
An increased outlet for barley as feed may be achieved by an increase in the numbers of live stock fed on farms, by improving the market finish of meat animals; by reducing the volume of imported feeds, or by supplanting other feeds now commonly used. Barley is recognized as an excellent feed for many classes of live stock, and a pre-eminent feed for hogs, according to the report of the Special Barley Committee, submitted to the National Barley Committee at its annual meeting held recently in Toronto.

There is widespread support for an increase in hog numbers on a scale sufficient to absorb many additional millions of bushels of barley or other feed cereals, the report says. The potential outlet for providing an improved finish on meat animals is greater than may be generally appreciated. It has been estimated that it would require between seven and eight million bushels of grain to produce a desirable finish on the annual supply of poultry alone that comes to the Canadian market. Only a small portion of this is being used. Corn is the only imported feed that competes directly with barley.

**Current Crop Report**  
Fall wheat generally came through the winter in good condition, although in many districts the cold weather during most of April caused some setback. Considerable plowing has been done already. Warmer weather and showers during the past week have helped the crop outlook immeasurably, with spring seeding under way in most districts. First spray has been applied in numerous fruit areas and orchards are receiving their first cultivation. Lincoln County reports that potatoes have been planted on lighter soils below the escarpment and considerable acreage of head lettuce and early cabbage, beets and onions transplanted. A big increase in the demand for head lettuce is anticipated there. Brant County reports the recent sale of two carloads of Holstein cattle at a fairly good price. Horses are still in good demand there, the best horses selling as high as \$250. Oown in Grenville County American buyers shipped two carloads of Holsteins, with prices ranging from \$85 for top-grades to \$125 for pure-breds.

**Sheep-Dipping Time**  
In recent years there has been a remarkable improvement in the wool clip of Canada, due in a large measure to regular dipping of the sheep and more careful feeding methods. There are two external parasites common to sheep, namely, ticks and lice. Sheep ticks are recognized as being the most common pest, but both ticks and lice cause serious loss of wool and give the flock a very unsightly appearance. These pests sap the vitality of the ewe flock and young lambs, reducing their condition. In slightly affected flocks the ravages of the pests are not so evident, but cases have been known where death has resulted through heavy infestation. Dipping is the precaution and cure. Dipping time, or at least the best time for dipping, has arrived because sheep should be treated immediately after shearing. Nowadays, with the advent of modern arsenic powder dips, dipping is a simple task and all necessary information is easily obtainable from the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture and from the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers. For a small

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flock it is not necessary to construct an elaborate dipping plant. A barrel large enough to hold sufficient liquid to immerse a sheep will answer the purpose. A small trough, say 5 feet 6 inches long, 20 inches deep, 20 inches wide at the bottom, and 24 inches wide at the top has proved its efficiency on many occasions, and a small draining platform can be built without trouble, where the dipped sheep can be allowed to stand for a few minutes until the dip drains out of the fleece and back into the dipping utensil. In the case of an odd sheep where there is no flock and no tank available, dusting with insect powders specially manufactured for the purpose has proven effective but requires time and patience. Any kind of insect powder will not do.

**Corn Borer Warning (Continued)**  
Growers in counties under the Corn Borer Act are urged to co-operate with the inspectors and not wait to be forced to clean up their fields. They should remember too that standing corn or long stubble cannot be plowed under completely by any plow, used on the ordinary farm. Hence the standing corn must first be cut low with a hoe or mower or some other implement and then gathered and burned before plowing. Long stubble may be cut with a mower, or be disced twice to break it up; or a leveller composed of four planks lapped one on the other and firmly nailed together may be run both ways over it; or even a road-scraper may be used. Then the plowing should be done carefully and a skimmer or chain used to roll the refuse into the furrow. If proper care and thought are given to the work very little hand-picking will be necessary. Hundreds, or even thousands, of men treat their stubble so well they never have to do any hand-picking. Such men of course avoid the use of toothed implements after plowing and use only discs and disc drills.

The corn borer is just as dangerous an insect today as it was ten years ago and given a series of years of weather favorable to its increase nothing can hold it in check except a good clean-up of all corn stubble fields and the gathering and burning or plowing under of corn remnants where ever these may be. Such measures are vastly cheaper than spraying or the use of any kind of insecticide could possibly be and are the most logical and sensible method of control.

Farmers are gradually becoming accustomed to cleaning up their fields and it is gratifying when one drives from say Windsor to Belleville about the 10th of June to see how few stubble or other corn remnants are left on the fields compared with the number there used to be before the Corn Borer Act came into force.

Mistress—So far you have broken more dishes and things than your wages amount to. What can we do to prevent this?  
New Maid—I dunno, ma'am, less'n you raise my wages."

Just think how many poor people were denied a horse and buggy in the old days because nobody had thought of this dollar down idea.

Mrs. Cahsidy—My husband calls a spade a spade!  
Mrs. Garner—So did mine—until he took one and started to spade up the garden and it broke in two.

Negro woman (applying for a position as cook)—"I seen yo' advertisement in de newspaper, lady."  
Lady (interrupting)—"But I advertised for a Scandinavian."  
Negro woman—"I know dat, lady. But jess so a pusson can cook, what difference does religion make?"

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