

work, and stone quarry, that it is difficult to get extra help in the rush of work, especially in the berry season, when all our help is needed to weed the garden. We have to call on the wards to help us out with this kind of work, but we find it very difficult many times to get them when we need them most. Many that we take out are of very little help at first, but soon get interested in the work, and a good many improve so they are taken home; some stay; others come back. We take out others who are so demented that we are unable to get them interested in the work, and it is so much trouble to keep them with the crews that we have to keep them indoors.

In conclusion, I will give you a little idea of our farm. Last year we had about 1,400 acres, 700 of which were under cultivation. We planted about 100 acres of potatoes, 125 to 150 acres of corn, 150 to 200 acres in small grain, 50 acres to gardening and 200 acres in grasses. The rest of the farm is in bluffs, timber and sloughs, used for pasture. We rotate the crops as much as possible; corn, potatoes, small grain; then seed them to clover and timothy. We have 144 cows, 32 heifers, 18 calves, 2 bulls, 300 hogs and 25 sheep. The proceeds of the farm for 1913 were \$60,994.40 and the expense was \$39,204.07. The net profit was \$21,790.33. We rented 320 acres last fall for six years, which makes 1,920 acres.

#### HOW CAN WE MANAGE OUR FARM SO AS TO AVOID A RUSH DURING THE HARVEST SEASON, AND WILL THE GROWING OF ALFALFA AND WINTER RYE SOLVE THE PROBLEM?

By James F. Kane, Faribault.

Our boys do very nicely when we can keep a man working with them. During the haying season I keep one man and four boys cultivating potatoes and corn, while another man, with the rest of the boys, is busy at the clover. In this way the boys, if with a good man, accomplish a great amount of labor, especially the teamsters.

Now, as to the question: Will the growing of alfalfa and winter rye help in any way? I am not prepared to say, as we have never raised winter rye, not caring for it as feed; while as to raising alfalfa, our land was in such poor condition when the state got control of it, I thought the quickest and cheapest way of getting it in shape was by raising clover.

The way in which I manage to avoid a rush is by sowing different varieties of oats. The first sown is Crescent, which matures in about sixty days, a very good variety, small kernel, yields well on rich soil. Quite often we have this stacked before the next variety is ripe. The second sown is the Silver Mine, which is ripe about ten days later than the Crescent. This is a fine variety, yields well and has a good, firm straw. Then I have two varieties which mature later still; one a Canadian oat, the other a small, yellow oat. By having several varieties maturing at different seasons, we stand a better chance of getting a good yield of oats than we would by growing only one or two varieties, for so often we have hot winds during the maturing season that they are injured to some extent. We always treat our oats for smut and find that it pays.