

# FARM AND DAIRY

&

## RURAL HOME

### BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HAS ITS REWARD ON A QUEBEC FARM

**Dairying the Main Stay. Several Minor Departments Augment the Total Income Considerably An Editor of Farm and Dairy Describes the Prize Winning Farm of Alex Younnic, Howick, Quebec.**

**I**NTELLIGENT business management, eternal diligence and a deep rooted love of country life and farm work are a few of the factors that account for the success that has attended Mr. Alex. Younnic in the 24 years that he has lived on his splendid little farm at Howick, Que. The Younnic family seem to take as naturally to farming as members of other families take to law, medicine or theology. Mr. Younnic's father was one of the first farmers in his district to adopt those scientific methods of farming that tend to the preservation of soil fertility, and his sons have followed in his footsteps so closely that the two Younnic farms, of which that of Alex was a successful competitor in the Inter-Provincial Prize Farms Competition conducted by Farm and Dairy, are among the most fertile in the famous Chateauguay district of Quebec.

Mr. Younnic's system of management resembles closely that which most thorough investigations have shown to be the most profitable. Prof. Warren, of Cornell University, after investigating methods of management on over 6,000 farms in New York State, decided that the most profitable method of farming is to have one or two big specialities and several smaller side lines. Mr. Younnic has one big speciality, dairying. To the returns of his dairy herd he adds the profits that are derived from feeding a few beef animals, the returns from the poultry and apiculture departments and from the hogs and the orchard. When all are totalled up, Mr. Younnic has an income that fully justifies the wisdom of his management.

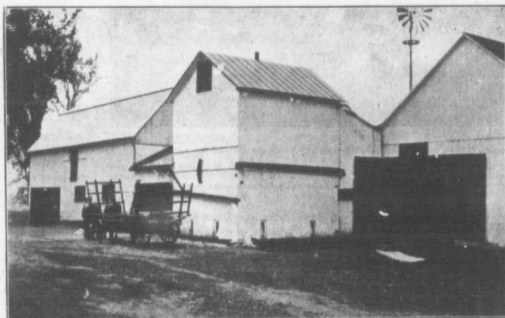
The Younnic farm consists of 15 acres of rich, clay loam, almost as level as a floor and divided into fields of 15 acres each. A short distance back from the road the land rises into a gentle elevation, and on this higher ground, surrounded by a splendid growth of elms and maples, are the farm buildings. The situation is ideal, being both beautiful and convenient. So flat is the country that tile draining has not yet been tried to any great extent, but Mr. Younnic sees well to it that his open ditches and water furrows are always clean and open.

Mr. Younnic's rotation of six years is rather long to be ideal, but so long has he been following his rotation that his farm is in splendid heart, and yields splendid crops. He devotes eighteen acres to hoed crops. The corn is followed by peas, oats and barley, seeded down to clover. He takes

three crops of hay and then allows the land to lie one year in pasture. Practically all of the feed produced on the farm is consumed on it, and the manure returned directly to the land.

#### HOME-GROWN SEED CORN THE BEST

It was on the Younnic farm that the judges in the Inter-Provincial Prize Farms Competition found the very best stand of corn seen on any of the competing farms. An editor of Farm and Dairy who accompanied the judges, asked Mr. Younnic where he had secured seed good enough to give him such a full and even stand. "Last year," said Mr. Younnic, "I bought my seed of the variety, White Cap Yellow Dent, from J. O.



An Old Country Arrangement of Buildings, that is Common in Quebec

The buildings on the farm of Mr. Alex. Younnic, who stood second among the Quebec competitors in the Inter-Provincial Prize Farms Competition conducted by Farm and Dairy, are arranged around a courtyard in the Old Country style. This arrangement provides a well sheltered yard in which the cattle may exercise, but is not conducive to the most convenient arrangement of the stables for work. Notice the large square silo in the foreground of the illustration. Mr. Younnic's farm and farming methods are described in the adjoining article. —Photo by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

Duke at Ruthven, Ont. In the fall of 1911 I went through the field and selected those ears that matured earliest, and used them for seed this spring." Mr. Younnic's new practice of selecting his own seed corn is one not common with Quebec farmers, but his success shows that seed corn selection is well worthy of a trial.

Mr. Younnic's herd contains 40 head, of which 27 are cows, a few pure bred Holsteins, but mostly Holstein grades. Shorthorns were once kept on this farm, but Mr. Younnic's excellent system of accounts soon showed him that they were not yielding the returns that they should, and a start was made with Holsteins. Four pure bred sires have followed each other in his herd, until now every animal possesses Holstein characteristics and color, and it would be difficult to distinguish the difference between Mr. Younnic's young stock and that of a breeder of pure bred cattle. Two

pure bred Holstein females have been recently purchased, and the progeny of these will gradually replace the non-registered animals. The milk returns have been greatly increased since the introduction of Holstein blood in the herd, and Mr. Younnic has never regretted his change from the Shorthorn.

#### A WELL SHELTERED BARNYARD

The barns on the Younnic farm are arranged on the Old Country plan, with a courtyard in the centre. The stables, therefore, are somewhat scattered and not so convenient to work in as if arranged compactly under one roof. They are, however, sanitary, comfortable and well lighted. The floors are of cement, with U bar partitions between the cows, which are tied by a chain around the neck. This chain in turn is fastened on either side to two upright steel rods. This gives each animal a maximum amount of liberty but not so

much liberty that they can interfere with the cattle on either side of them. A litter carrier runs through all the stables, thus facilitating removal of manure. Mr. Younnic's silo is of the old fashioned, rectangular kind, 16 by 18 by 20 feet.

A commendable point that we noted in Mr. Younnic's stables was the excellent water supply system. A windmill pumps the water into an elevated tank above the stables, and from there it runs to individual water basins, one basin to each two cows. The same system supplies water to the house; but of this we shall have more to say later. All of the outbuildings were thoroughly whitewashed, presenting a most pleasing appearance with their background of green fields and trees. Everything around and inside the stables was neatly arranged. This neatness was a characteristic of every department of this farm.

The product of the herd, milk, is shipped to Montreal each day. Mr. Younnic's milk house is a model of cleanliness, and would comply with the strictest regulations of a city health inspector. It is built directly over a well, but the cement floor is absolutely water-tight, and all drainage is carried to a safe distance through pipes. In the house are tanks in which the milk is cooled, and close by, at the end of the drive shed, is a cheaply constructed but efficient ice house.

Mr. Younnic's principal power on the farm is horse power. We saw seven horses altogether, one a light driver and the others of a good heavy kind. An eight horse power gasoline engine is harnessed to perform many farm operations, being used to fill the silo, cut feed and thresh. At the time of our visit it was hitched to a circular saw and standing next to a good sized wood pile, the fuel being cut in the grove around the buildings.