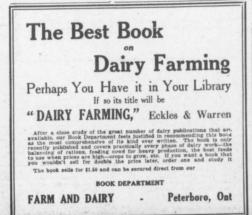
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FARM AND DAIRY

What District Representatives Say of Farm Tractors.

They Have Had More Experience With Tractors Than Any Other Disinterested Parties in Eastern Canada—The Conclusions of Two of Them, R.A. Finn and F. C. McRae

BW men in Eastern Canada have had fuller opportunities of study-ing the tractor in operation than District Representatives of On-o. The Ontario Government tracthe tario. tors have been operated under their, supervision. They have seen tractors supervision. They have seen tractors operating under all possible condi-tions. Farm and Dairy is pleased, therefore, to be able to quote the opinions of two of these representa-tives, Mesars. Finn of Middlesex county in Western Ontario and McRae of Engeneration in Eastern of Peterborough county in Eastern Ontario, who have written us out of the fullness of their experience. R. A.

the fullness of their experience. If A. Finn, B.S.A., writes as follows: "From my experience in the last two years with the tractors under my charge, from observing those on pri-vate farms, and from queries received from farmers, it seems to me as if each farmer might approach the sub-lect in this manner: "(1) Would it he a maring promoting the second is the second in the second is the second in the second is the second in the second in the second in the second in the second is the second in the second in the second in the second is the second in the sec "(1) Would it be a paying proposi-tion on my farm?

"(2) Are conditions on my farm suitable for tractor work?

"(3) If I had one could I operate it? "(4) What size or horse power would be most economical? "(5) What make or type should I

buy?

"The answer to the first question depends upon the answer to all the others. Since on the average farm (perhaps not on all farms) horses are a necessity there is not much need of a tractor on a small farm, yet indications are that on a larger farm where a large acreage has to be plowed and cultivated, etc., where belt work such as silo filling, grain chopping, wood cutting, or even threshing has to be done, there is a place for the tractor. one, there is a place for the Tactor. It will do satisfactory work if oper-ated properly. It does the work quickly and at a seasonable time. It is possible to get, after harvest, culti-vation done, also to prepare ground for fall wheat and to fill silo at the the seasonable time. time you desire.

"My experience leads me to believe that hilly, stoney, stumpy, springy or boggy land is unsuitable to the economical use of a tractor.

"The average farmer has enough mechanical ability to take proper care of a farm tractor, but should

course in Farm Power if pos can get many good pointe course, particularly after he ated and become somewhat international with his outfit. The man who oper-ates the tractor himself and, there fore, always knows the condition it is in, and who does his own repair work, will usually meet with success

"The tractor that will pull two or three plows and have power to spare appears to suit the farmer on one, two or three hundred acres of land.

"In regard to the make or type to buy, there are several good makes on buy, there are several good makes ou the market, but personally I should prefer one that has plenty of power, simply constructed, light weight, yet strong, rigid frame, easy to get at when adjustments or repairs are re-quired, and above all, it is necessary to consider a company near you carry ing a full line of repairs, and one that gives you service.

"The chief difficulties that we have had have been due to frequent changes in operators; too much moving on the road from farm to farm, which appears to rack the tractor, particularly when not run slowly; overloading the tractor, that is, plowing hard ground with three plows when two would have been more satisfactory; attempting to plow unsuitable land; and fouling of plow unsultable land, and blump spark plugs, due to poor quality kero-sene. In some instances it would have paid to have strained the kerosene through a chamois to get rid of the water. A plug that is suitable for

gasoline does not in all cases appear satisfactory for kerosene. One that satisfactory for kerosene. One that goes well into the combustion chamber and has the points projecting forward so as not to hold the kerosene, seems to give us the best satisfaction.

October 3, 1918.

"Many farmers after carefully con-sidering the question are purchasing small farm tractors, and there is no doubt that there is a day not far dist ant when on many Ontario farms a tractor will be practically indispensable

Peterborough County Experience. F. C. McRae, B.S.A., writes as follows:

"Almost two years have elapsed since the Department's scheme 1213.4 put into operation and in that time runch valuable information has been collected. In the county of borough, two machines, a Mogul 8-18 and a Bull 12-24 were placed. The Mogul is a four-wheeled outfit, while Alogar is a four-wheeled outly, while the Bull has only three wheels. Plos-ing was the chief work done, though they have been used to a limited er-tent in discing. Two makes of plow, a Cockshutt 12-inch bottom, and an Ollarse follow here work invite Oliver 10-inch bottom were furnished with the machines. The disc harrows were a Bissell and a Cockshutt.

"It is rather unfair to compare the work of these tractors with that which might be accomplished by a privately owned machine, because we were obliged to engage inexperienced operators, men who almost invariably had never driven a tractor before, and who, after becoming reasonably pro-ficient mechanics, were generally dis charged, owing to lack of work for the machine. However, from the result machine. However, from the result obtained. I find that under normal conditions from three to four area can be plowed in a day of ten hom at a cost of from \$1.80 to \$2.50 µg acre including fuel, lubricating and operator. Discing has cost est and operator. Discing has c farmers about \$1.10 per acre. These machines require from 10 to 15 galloss kerosene and about one quart of lubricating oll per day, depending upon the nature of the work being done.

Conditions Necessary to Successful Operation.

"The tractor as yet, is only in the experimental stage, and for this ra-son we find a great many different Farmers get types on the market. erally are taking a keen interest in this new form of farm power. May have already purchased machine while others are waiting to seem more difinite information regarding have their practicability for the average their practicability for the avenge ontario farm. From my own exper-ence in handling the tractors unders supervision, I have found that he order to do successful work, its necessary to have a fairly large fait ten acres or preferably more. This must be reasonably free from sloan must be reasonably free from scalar and level, as our machines did at have the power on rolling land when it was necessary to climb sharp, step elevations. On side hills, also, he had a tendency to run into the plowe land. On very wet land, or init where there are soft spots they would nearly always mire, and time lost h able. However, provided that the ground is level and in good shape to working, the tractor will do an enter lent job.

I am convinced that, for the present at least, the tractor will not replace the horse on the farm and therefore. to be profitable, the intending per chaser should have a farm sufficiently chaser should have a farm sufficient large that a number of hores are should be as large as possible. "Another factor of paramous is portance is that the mechasis" the tractor be as simple as possible Given this, a man with a mechanic

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