

The Methods Followed on Prize Winning Farms

While describing his methods of farming, Mr. R. M. Lovelless, of Agincourt, Ont., one of the successful competitors in the Dairy Farming Competition held last year near Toronto by The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World, stated that he started sending milk to the city of Toronto seven years ago. On his 100 acre farm, he keeps five horses, and two brood sows all the time. When the market is favorable, he keeps the offspring of the sows, otherwise they are sold when six weeks old. He found it profitable to keep a couple of sows on the farm all the time to consume materials that would otherwise be wasted.

"Until a year and a half ago," said Mr. Lovelless, "I used to buy and sell my cows. It worked all right at first but conditions seemed to be getting worse, or else I was. Disappointments were numerous. I then decided to breed my own stock, I selected Holsteins and now have 11 pure bred animals, and so far I am well satisfied with the results. I would advise others who are starting in dairy farming to do their own breeding.

"I have a system of rotation but of late, it has been considerably broken on account of the necessity I have been under of fighting cow thistles. In order that I might overcome them, I have had to change my system of rotation. I try to follow a six year rotation. Sod is followed with two grain crops. The land is then manured and some to acres are put in roots which are followed again by grain and then by timothy and clover. For summer feeding I depend on clover during the first part of the season then on peas and oats. Graystone turnips and finally on corn."

MR. HARTLEY'S EXPERIENCE

Mr. Thos. Hartley, of Downsview, stated that up to 10 years ago, he had been a jack of all trades. He

then decided to change his method of living, and with that object he hunted up a good partner who has since proved her worth. He bought a farm upon which the former tenant had run behind \$1,000 for rent. In this case, it was the fault of the farmer and not of the farm. The farmer had allowed the fences, fields, and everything else to run down. When he, Mr. Hartley, secured the farm it was well seeded with weeds. He had the farm for five years and succeeded in destroying most of the weeds. During this period, he tore down the barns and put up larger and better ones.

When he bought the farm, \$5,300 was all the money he had. His friends told him when he decided to put up larger buildings, that he was making a mistake. He told them, however, that he believed he would be able to make 10 per cent. on his money by having good buildings conveniently laid out. He borrowed money and the results have paid him well for so doing. He finally decided to move to a farm near Toronto. Some of his neighbors, when they heard of it, claimed that he had been running things with too high a hand, and that he was selling out because he had to. The fact of the case was that he had doubled his money during the five years he had been on the farm.

NOW HAS PURE BRED STOCK

When he started farming near Toronto, he made the mistake of buying some very cheap animals. Finally, however, he decided to go into pure bred Holsteins. He bought a thoroughbred Holstein cow, kept her for two years, and sold her for a little more than he had paid for her. He also received good prices for two of her calves. Since then his herd has grown until now it numbers 48 pure bred Holsteins which he is proud to show to any person who cares to see them. Mr. Hartley stated that his system of rotation is as follows: In the fall he plows down sod, puts on manure and the follow-

ing year, raises 25 acres of corn. This is followed by oats and barley. It is then seeded to hay for two or three years, after which it is plowed and put under corn again. Mr. Hartley thanked The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World for having started the dairy farms' competition and expressed the hope that more competitions of the same kind would be held.

Prepare for Seed Time

As seed time draws near it is our duty to ask ourselves a few questions. One of these should be, can I make any improvement over the past as to varieties of seed grain, and as to my system of putting it in the soil? Anyone who has not tried mixed grains should by all means try part of his crop mixed. Good results may be obtained from a mixture of 2 parts oats, 1½ parts barley, and ¼ part of peas. If I could get clean goose wheat I would prefer 2 parts oats, 1 part barley, ¼ part goose wheat and ¼ part peas, by weight. In either mixture add a very little flax seed.

We can obtain much larger yields by mixing than by growing grains separate. Of course anyone growing grain for sale cannot follow this practice. It is advisable for every farmer to experiment in a small way with other varieties of grain alongside of the varieties he sows. In this way he will find out for himself the variety that suits his particular conditions. There is no doubt but that one variety will excel under one condition, while another will excel under other conditions, perhaps only a few miles away. Any repairs needed to make the farm machinery do satisfactory work should be attended to at once. It will be considerable loss of valuable time later on.

R. H. H., Middlesex Co., Ont.

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results. The disking breaks the crust that may have been formed during the winter, cuts up and incorporates with the soil any stubble or other organic matter that may be on the surface. In this way it aids the capillary movement of the water. Where grass, straw, weeds or cornstalks are plowed under in the spring, this interesting organic matter is often responsible for the failure of corn plants to secure sufficient moisture in periods of light rainfall or drought.

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M. C. Bingham, Waterloo Co., Ont.

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A cubic foot of pure Water weighs 62½ lbs.: Iron, 480; Ash, 46; Hickory, 53; Oak, 52; Pine, 59. (p. 88)

Which is heaviest, which the lightest substance known? Give the Tensile strength of iron, woods, etc. (p. 106).

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