

Thirty Years of Herd Improvement Work

(Continued from page 8)

to 1,500 lbs. of milk a month. We might go on, giving instances of high production from animals whose ancestors on the female side were scrub cows, averaging 3,000 lbs. of milk in the season. The difference is the result of intelligent breeding, consistent weeding and better feeding.

Mr. Hotson has the figures for the milk and butter production of every animal in his herd for each year of the past eight. This has given him a valuable opportunity to improve the herd. All cows are discarded which do not prove their merit at the pail. No heifer is turned down for being new in her record one year. There may be some good cause for it. If the performance is repeated, however, she goes. With these figures to lead, Mr. Hotson can also breed more intelligently, as only the progeny of the best cows are used to replenish the herd.

The expense of maintaining a pure-bred bull for the grading up of this herd has been exactly cut in half

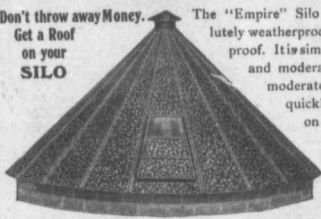
pay. The results have been excellent. Land that was of no use before tiling, is now in first-class condition. Our general plan has been to run main drains through the low-lying land and then run laterals where they were most needed and other laterals later on as we were able. A part of the farm that we recently purchased was so wet that we could hardly get a team across one portion of it. We put in a few drains and now you would think it a garden. We were on it early this spring.

The Fruits of Labor

Mr. and Mrs. Hotson are now taking life a little easier than in the strenuous years that have passed. They have a productive farm, a beautiful home and they propose to take time to enjoy it. Just a day or two before my visit, a new automobile arrived to take its place in the fire-proof garage that had been prepared for it. Great things are expected of that car. Woodstock used to be 10 miles away and represented a long, tiresome drive. Now it will be only a

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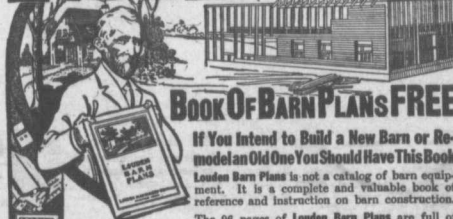
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A One-Armed Man Turning Three Furrows with a Small Tractor.

—Out courtesy M. Ramsey Company.

by a nice little piece of cooperation. For years Mr. Hotson and his father worked together. Each had a pure-bred Holstein bull. At the end of the second year of use they exchanged, thus the cost of one bull to each of them got two bulls for both of them.

The Hotson Farm

The country around Innerkip is gently undulating with numerous trees and occasional stretches of bush, giving the landscape an almost park-like appearance. The soil is a nice, sandy, happy medium between sand and clay. Mr. Hotson owns 155 acres of it, 15 of which is in waste wood and 140 under the plow. For 30 acres of this farm, Mr. Hotson is indebted to his father. In the 30 years that the present proprietor has been at the helm, the area has been practically doubled, the farm buildings rebuilt and the substantial old stone house made wonderfully attractive by the addition of a big wide colonial veranda and a tasty laying of the grounds with much planting of shrubs and trees. From a profit-making point of view, however, the biggest improvement that Mr. Hotson made has been in the addition of tile drains, of which there was not one in the land when he got it.

"We cannot hire a man to lay tiles on this neighborhood," remarked Mr. Hotson, "but we have put in a few now and then when we were able to do it with the regular farm labor. We have been doing this for 30 years, and with the exception of 100 rods, every tile is of our own laying. The most needy spots on the farm are all tiled, but there are still places where we could put in tile to advantage."

"We never put in a tile that did not

little over half an hour's run with the car. Other points of interest and friends everywhere will be reached with equal ease.

Here is one case at least where a very clear relationship can be traced between intelligent dairying on the one hand and a beautiful home with some of the luxuries and all of the comforts of life, on the other.

Another on Auto Lights

EDITOR, Farm and Dairy.—In your issue of Oct. 7th, "Auto Owner," Hastings county, suggests that all vehicles carry lights. I would suggest that they all be compelled by legislation to carry lights.

I have to drive from the city every night after dark, and the glare of the auto lights is such that I cannot see where I am going. Then I often come near running down a cyclist because he has no light. Rubber-tired buggies are hard to see or hear coming on a dark night. I would like to see something done in this matter. F. W. M., Frontenac Co., Ont.

Harvest All Red Clover Seed

PROSPECTIVE supplies of red clover seed are very much reduced and at best Canadian farmers next year will face an extreme shortage with high prices. Farmers should endeavor yet this autumn to save every bit of the red clover crop that promises to yield good seed. —Seed Branch, Ottawa.

Is this season's crop of calves a little more promising either because of ancestry or individual vigor than the crop of last season? If they are not, why?