

FARM AND DAIRY & RURAL HOME



We Welcome Practical Progressive Ideas



The Recognized Export of Dairying in Canada.

Trade increases the wealth and glory of a country; but its real strength and stamina are to be looked for among the cultivators of the land.—Lord Chatham.

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What Hydro-Electric is Doing on Seven Farms Mr. Irvin Hallman, Waterloo Co., Ont., Tells of Its Advantages to Himself and His Neighbors.

SEVEN farmers, living just one mile from the town of Waterloo, are deriving perhaps greater advantages from Hydro-Electric power than any similar group of farmers in the province of Ontario. On each of these seven farms grain is threshed, silos filled, chop ground and wood sawn by electric energy. The homes in which these men live are lighted by electricity; in not a few of them, house work has been lightened by electrically driven washing machines and wringers, electric irons and electric toasters. Chores have been lightened in a very literal sense by lighting systems that reach every corner of the stables and drive sheds, and even up into the mows. A portion of the privileges enjoyed are due to proximity to Waterloo and hydro power.

They are due in still greater degree to the co-operative spirit exhibited by each of these seven men in making use of their opportunities. The men are Messrs. Irvin Hallman, Eldon Hallman, Josiah Stauffer, Noah Snyder, Urias Snyder, Alvin Schiefel, and Cleason Shantz.

Mr. Irvin Hallman is a brother of Mr. A. C. Hallman, the veteran Holstein breeder, and it was through the latter that a Farm and Dairy representative learned of this syndicate of seven. It was Mr. Irvin Hallman who told us of the workings of their system. These men have special advantages. All of the seven have large farms and use a large amount of power. Two of the farms average 219 acres, and the remaining five have an average area of 170 acres. These big

farms are closely grouped, no one farmer being more than a mile and a quarter distant from any other member of the syndicate. They have thus overcome a factor that has militated against the adoption of Hydro-Electric in many sections.

Drawbacks to Hydro-Electric

In not a few districts that would otherwise be served with Hydro-Electric energy, a few farmers are very anxious for electric privileges, but the majority of their neighbors hesitate to "come in on it," thus increasing the cost of dis-

tributing electricity to a prohibitive figure. Small farms with small power requirements are also a drawback. The absence of these conditions explains the good rate secured by these seven Waterloo farmers. Having made these explanations, Mr. Hallman conducted our representative out through the drive floor door in order that we might see the system from the start.

Three power cables run from the power line on the highway and terminate on a 20 foot pole standing near the barn. On these lines the voltage is 2,800. When work is to be done, three

cables from the transformer, owned by the syndicate, are attached to the power cable by long bamboo poles and the voltage reduced to 220. A cable 150 feet long carries the energy from the transformer to the motor. All machinery operated must be within 170 feet of the power pole in the farmyard.

"Our initial investment," explained Mr. Hallman, "was in a transformer and a 20-horse-power motor. Both of these are mounted on covered wagons and look like gypsy rigs. One team can handle both in transporting from farm to farm.

This equipment cost us \$800. We all paid alike on the capital account, and we make a charge of \$1 a day to each member of the syndicate for the use of the motor. This is for maintenance. A meter on the transformer registers all the power used. Each member reads the meter when the motor arrives on his farm and again when it leaves, and each man pays for the energy that he has used. In addition, the Hydro-Electric Commission charge us a \$90 service charge for each member of the syndicate. The consumption charge is four cents per kilowatt-hour, less 10 per cent. for cash. We pay on this same basis for our lighting."

"What about the machinery that the motor operates?" we asked.

"The same syndicate that owns the motor and transformer, also owns the rest of our equipment," answered Mr. Hallman,—"and on the same basis,—the cost is divided equally among the seven of us. We have our own threshing separa-



Electric Energy is Used in Both House and Outbuildings. This is one of the seven farmsteads near Waterloo enjoying the benefits of Hydro-Electric connections; the home of Mr. Eldon Hallman.

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The Hydro Fitted Home of Mr. Irvin Hallman, Waterloo Co., Ont. Notice the Power Pole to the Right of the Silo.