

OUR NATIONAL MAINSTAY

Scenes at the
great
Three-Days
Plowing
Match, held
a few days
ago, on the
Farm of R.
J. Fleming,
near
Whitby,
Ont.



Small-sized Gasoline Tractors costing about \$300 are now within the reach of many eastern farmers.



The furrow as straight as a sunbeam.

WHEN we call the plough the national mainstay of Canada it is a figure of speech. The ploughman is the farmer.

And the plough is more important to this country than the smokestack or the electric generator. We never hesitate to say this. But there is a good deal of twaddle sometimes as to just how we are proving it. The farmer is the mainstay of this or any country on one condition only: that he is a farmer for profit. The more he makes without unduly taxing the average consumer on the cost of consuming what he produces, the better for everybody.

The pictures on this page illustrate the importance of the plough to the nation. Modern locomotion is revolutionizing the plough. Big Western farmers have long since discarded the horse for ploughing. Eastern farmers are beginning to consider the possibility of more machine-ploughing. The top picture on this page illustrates the use of a small tractor costing about \$300 without the plough. This tractor is very efficient. It is capable at ordinary speed, with three mould-boards, of turning over six acres a day. Is such a machine a wise investment for an average 100-acre farmer? Or will it be an unwise expenditure? If it is unwise for the farmer, it may be a good thing for the manufacturer for the time being, but a bad thing for the nation. We can't afford to have unprofitable machinery on farms. It is estimated that such tractors are a good investment only if they can be rigged with a pulley for the purpose of driving feed-cutters, fanning-mills, etc., in the barn. To tie up \$300 in a rig that does nothing but plough or draw a harrow—possibly a self-binder—is a bad investment; just as bad as raising wheat where mixed farming would be more profitable, or hogs in a section where cattle would pay more profit.

The gasoline tractor is a good example of the kind of thing that causes farmers to take stock of their farms as productive plants and to book-keep enough to find out where the money goes.



The ploughshare and the sword. 182nd Battalion held a recruiting parade on the grounds.

The Horse Plough is still the Standard of Good Ploughing.

The crowd on the grounds was large enough for a good County Fair.

