June 10, 1908

a rural delivery roote. I then laid out a 23 mile route, and drove over it to get the names of those who would take rural delivery. The post office department required that three quarters of those people who accepted rural delivery would agree to put up boxes as a guarantee that une service would be patronized. Neatly all the people agreed to take rural delivery and to put up boxes, although a few, refused to do so. Some parties were getting their mail through other post offices and did not want to change.

<sup>e1</sup> did this work in the spring. The Inspector came out in the summer and went over the route and changed it slighty, so that the carrier would not have to travel over the same ground twice on any part of the route. The route was started on September 16, 1908, with 65 boxes. It now has 80 boxes and we expect that before long there will be more.

"Quite a number of the people on the route main me their orders for groceries and I deliver the groceries to those who live within two or three miles of my store. Our office is a lourth class office but the service is growing so rapidly it may soon go u<sub>1</sub> to a third class office."— H. B. C.

## The Secret of Large Yields Geo. Rice, Oxford County, Ont,

The whole secret of large yields of milk is that a cow is considered to make milk from her whole system, devoting all her energy to the work. She has, as it were, a storage battery storing up energy whilst dry, and strengthening her whole system. The feed fed whilst a cow is dry often has more effect on large production than that feed fed, at the time she is producing so heavily. A cows stomach can easily be overloaded. A cow that is fed too much and is bilious or sick is not likely to produce so well as at fed just enough to satisfy her.

Many cows are knocked out by over iscange, it is impossible to say how much a cow should have to produce the best as so many cows have to be fed and considered as individuals. A considered as individual Owing to the tax of motherhood her stomach will not be so strong and she must be fed very judiciously for a couple of weeks, Considering the demands of motherhood in itself no little tax upon the cow besides producing heavily, we see how absolutely essential it is to give a cow the very best care and feed at all times. It is necessary if we expect good work.

## TWO MONTHS REQUIRED TO RECUPERATE

A cow should be dry two months or more yearly and whilst dry is the time to feed her for the next year's work, to strengthen her up. This is an essential point in managing dairy cows. But it is not followed. Not well enough understood what a tremendous tax it is upon a cow to produce milk yearly? If we want say 7,000 lbs. of milk from a cow consider that she is providing 2,800 quarts of milk equal in value to that many pounds of beef. How important it is to recuperate her system. Furnish her with energy for the next year's work whilst dry. Is this often done? On the contrary cows are dried up often not to feed them up and recuperate them but to save feed on them. The result is a poor cow, poor in energy, weak, when she should be strong. So long as the present system or lack of system prevails we cannot hope to get large yields.

A cow to give large yields must be bred with the inherent ability to devote her energy to milk production. The ability is of no use unless she has the energy. This can only be secured in a good measure whilst the cow is dry. It is well known cows do not give the same quantity of milk each year. It will depend upon what fettle she is in when freshening. Sometimes a cow will

not get in as good condition as we would desire. It may be that the pasture has been poor and the cow has run herself down more than we made allowance for. She may have milked so heavily he has not recuperated properly. But the greatest cause of a poor condition is that no attempt has been made to put her into condition. Hence low production is sure to follow.

THIN COWS REQUIRE 2 YEARS TO GET IN SHAPE

It is well known by some dairymen who are considered good feeders, that it is necessary to feed a cow that has been in poor hands two years to get her' system strengthened up so that she will be able to do her best work. She will likely give considerable more the first year of good feeding, but it takes two years to bring her to her maximum production. This shows that the milk does not come directly from the feed, but as the energy is built up in the cow she is stronger and is able to do greater work.

Of course it is important that a cow should be fed well when she is producing else she will draw more largely upon her bodily emergy and when she has depleted her system she will have to shrink in her milk flow. However, it is always injurious to feed a cow too much or overload her stomach. We want cows that are constitutionally strong, and we must do all we can by judicious feeding and care to keep the cow in as good fettle as possible.

But, since with the very best care and feed we can give a good cow, she will draw upon her system and deplete her energy, it is necessary to have her dry long enough to replace this energy. It is because this is not done and cows are fed so poorly whilst dry that we see such poor results. There is no use of a man asking for a ration when a cow is fresh. A man needs to know how to feed her whilst dry as well as all the year round. The best way to teach that is to show the tremendous energy that the milch cow expends in producing milk.

## Modern Methods of Clearing Land Alfred Carr, Nipissing Co, Ont.

It is very evident that the old methods of clearing/ land are quickly passing away. It is less than two years ago that we were digging the stumps up with axe and showel. Coming into a heavily wooded country with but few and small clearings, we knew quite well what lay before un. So we went boldly at work with axe and saw, chopping and logging.et. But the problem was how are we going to get rid of the stumps, which averaged about 150 to 200 per acre. Of course it was impossible to cultivate the land with the stumps standing and taking up so much space.

Our land is heavy clay and free from stones and grit, so we could chop off the roots until we could pull them over with the team. This, however, left a lot of roots in the ground which prevented us from ploughing until the roots were rotten which meant from five to ten years. So we tried the block and line system. This proved to be slow, laboritous and expensive, although we had a good steady, heavy team. We were continually breaking parts of the harness on the line. Even then the largest stumps remained.

Consequently we decided to purchase a stump puller, and can say after considerable experience, that it is a much easier, quicker and cheaper method than any of the former. After the smallest stumpe with the team and then select a good sound stump for an anchor. We use too feet of ½ inch steel wire cable, in two sections. One piece is removed when working closer to the machine. We also use a double power pulley for any stumps that are larger than the anchor? We pull to prevent pulling the anchor stump. We pull

all within reach. It takes from 1 to 3 minutes to pull an average size stump and then attach a strong decking line to clear the track for the next setting. We go through the whole patch in this way, and leave the stumps uppet for two or three weeks. If the weather be warm and dry, after this we go around and fire the stumps. Much of the loose matter burns off which makes the stumps lighter to draw and pic.

I do not think it would be advisable for each settler to get a machine, because there would be a great deal of the time it would not be in use. One or two machines in a neighborhood would be sufficient, for unless one has a large field to stump, it would be chcaper to hire than to buy. I do not advocate any particular machine, because there are several good machines made. T ~ main feature is to get it of a simple and strong construction. We use a Milne, one-horsie "ron Giant" and it gives excellent satisfaction.

## Statute Labor a Thing of the Past

In our township our old system of doing roadwork by statute labor bocame very unsatisfactory. Some of our people did their work well but others would not work at all. Eleven years ago, when I first became a councillor I found some beats had done no work for three or four years. The pathmasters were as bad as the rest and the council was very slack.

Eleven years ago we submitted a by-law to the ratepayers to commute our statute labor at 45 cents a day. This was carried by a large majority. The advantage of this system is that every rate-payer pays his share and no more and every one has an opportunity to tender for work. Our roads have been improved under the new system, and we get more uniform work done. We have our roads divided off into sections two or three miles in length and let a contract on every section, letting all our contracts early in April.

Our new system is giving general satisfaction and we have very little trouble with it when working it out. My opinion is that statute labor was a good thing in it's day, but it's days have taised.—Robt. Brown, Reeve of Westminster.

In making hay from alfalfa, the greatest care should be exercised in saving all the leaves and the finer parts which are so easily wasted. The alfalfa when cut with a mower should be grathered after it is partly dry with the hay rake and placed into windrows sufficiently loose to dry out still more, but compact enough to hold the leaves and finer parts. It is difficult to teach one just how to make hay from alfalfa. It must be learned from experience. However, when one realizes the possible losses in alfalfa haymaking, he should make. a careful study of the principles underlying successful practice in handling this crop.

As a general rule, we try to give good sound food to our cows without ever resorting to the use of stock or condimental foods, which are of very little use. As Prof. Henry says: "A good manager of live stock will have no use for these high priced condimental foods or condition powders; a poor manager will never have fine stock by employing them." Silage, hay, and straw, for roughage, bran, shorts, corn meal, oil cake, and ground oats, for concentrates, is what we use. Roughage is given three times a day, only what will be eaten up clean, except in the case of straw which we let them pick over, throwing what is left under them for bedding. Without trying to come within an ounce of the mark, about one pound of meal is given for four pounds of milk. The cattle are fed and milked regularly, are given a good bed of straw, twice a day, are brushed daily, and everything is kept as neat as possible in the stable, so as to make them comfortable .- Gus Langelier, Quebec County.

5