later, and, in the case of a young cow, she can only be developed into a greater one by good care and feed, which will show in years to come. The safest guide we have yet to a good cow is *large production*. It is all *rot* we hear when people say, "Oh, these large records are made by stuffing a cow."

Whilst there is no limit to how much might be starved out of a cow to show cheap production, there is a limit to how much a cow can be made to eat. A cow can't be forced over her capacity. There is not only the fear of getting a cow off her feet entirely to restrain the too eager feeder, but before this stage is reached, a cow can be got to eat more than she can digest. But the intelligent feeder will not so feed her. As the undigested feed not only does no good, but is a positive injury. We will see here where the science of feeding comes in, calling for a thorough knowledge of each individual cow.

The more food a cow can *consume* and *digest* the better the cow, as the maintenance is no greater and the total production is thus giving us a large profit. But if to the maintenance we add waste through undigested food, we not only lower the profit but lower production. As the energy that should go to produce is needed to throw off the undigested food and thus upsets the whole system, the elaboration of milk depends upon how nice the system is kept running. The best the feeder can do in showing his skill is to strike that point and know just when the cow has enough. Not an easy thing, by the way, as it means a close study of individual cows. That one can produce more than another is not due to feed alone. For the same reason one steer will put on more beef than another, or one horse will trot faster than another, or one man will do more work or business than another. Training development, inherent and inherited ability, are what make the difference. Records are to cows pretty much the same as records are to trotters. Cows are developed, and this development is again transmitted and can be further developed, and acts as a spur to the breeder to use the most intelligent methods. If we do not go ahead in developing a dairy animal we shall surely go back, as that is a law of nature.

GEO. RICE

Curries', Ont., Dec. 6, 1898

NOTE.—The food test which Mr. Rice refers to was begun on November 21st and ended on November 27th last, inclusive, and was conducted under the supervision of Prof. Dean of the Ontario Agricultural College. In this test Calamity Jane, the cow referred to, produced 485 75 lbs. of milk, containing 17.846 lbs. of fat, equivalent to 22.307 lbs. of butter containing 80 per cent fat. Though Calamity Jane was the only cow in which the food was taken into account, Messrs. Rice h[a] a number of other cows in their herd tested. Among them may be mentioned Pauline Fairmont, calved October 1st, 1896, who gave 241.50 lbs. of milk, 8.316 lbs of fat, and 10.395 lbs. of butter; Daisy Texal 3rd, calved November 2nd, 1896, who gave 250 75 lbs. of milk, 8.048 lbs. of fat, and 10·06 lbs. of butter; Dewdrop's Clothilde, calved May 22nd, 1896, who gave 267 lbs of milk, 9.525 lbs. of fat, and 11.906 lbs. of butter; Daisy Texal 2nd, calved September 16th, 1894, who gave 437 lbs. of milk, 14 449 lbs. of fat, and 18.123 lbs. of butter, and Lady Pietjes Konigen, calved January 22nd, 1894, who gave 397.5 lbs. of milk, 13 39 lbs. of fat, and 16.737 lbs. of butter. Calamity Jane was calved on January 4th, 1891, and dropped her last calf on November 15th, 1898.

EDITOR.

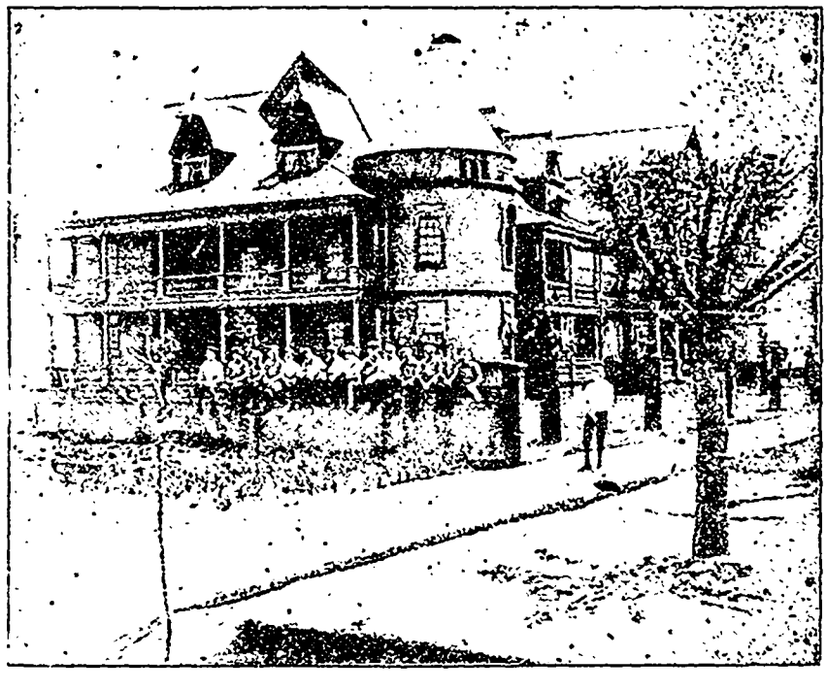
The Threshing Problem

What Can be Done with the Tread Power in Helping Every Farmer to do his own Threshing

To the Editor of FARMING:

I read the letter in your paper from Mr. J. R. Gies, of Heidelberg, Ont., on the threshing problem, and when I paid him a business visit a few days ago I asked him about the tread power and how he liked it, and he speaks very highly of it.

I myself think that the tread power is the thing for the farmer, as it enables him to do his own threshing. My father a few years ago bought a machine in company with a neighbor, so we were a little more independent than some others, but still we had to help to thresh out six neighbors besides our own threshing. Whenever those six neighbors came and said they wanted to thresh on such and such a day of course we had to go, no matter if our grain were ready to come in or not. We had to go, for they did the same for us. Now if we had a tread power we could thresh whenever it rained. There are often some rainy days in harvest time, and more so in the fall, when you want to do fall-ploughing and don't care to go threshing when the days are nice.



THE LAKESIDE HOME FOR LITTLE CHILDREN, SUMMER, 1898.

I have known some farmers in our neighborhood to go threshing for a week at a time when the steam thresher came in the neighborhood. Sometimes it came during harvest, and again just when fall-ploughing was in full blast. One can do a lot of ploughing in a week in the fall, and during a week in the winter time one can also do a lot of threshing with the tread power.

Mr. Gies told me that he could thresh between 45 and 70 bushels of oats an hour, which would be between two and three thousand bushels a week. Now the farmer who spent one week threshing in the fall only threshes between ten and fifteen hundred bushels each year. He could, therefore, easily do his own threshing in half a week's time with the tread power.

It can easily be seen, I think, that the tread power is ahead of the steam power so far as threshing in Ontario is concerned. How it is out in Manitoba and the Northwest I don't know nor care, so long as I am in Ontario.

R. B. MARTIN

Elmira, Ont., Dec. 12th, 1898.