

get a chance to gain in condition and rest up, just doing what little trucking around there might be to do. Perhaps doing a little fencing and straightening up around the buildings.

About July 15th or 20th I would cut what hay I could on the unbroken land and then hire a man for three months at the going wage which is about \$30 per month; buy a mower, \$45, fall terms; rake, \$28; make a home-made stacker, material of which costs \$18, and go to the hay marsh six miles east. Hay permits may be gotten from speculators holding this land and it yields exceptionally well. The haying season lasts for at least three weeks and as there are about three tons to the acre two men can put up a very large amount of hay in a short time. In the three weeks we would, with good management, get up two hundred tons. The stacker is certainly a great help when it comes to putting up a large quantity. We generally hire a tent for this work; most times three or four farmers going together.

This hay is pressed, drawn to Carman in the winter and shipped to Winnipeg where an average of \$13 per ton is realized. Thus a fair revenue would be forthcoming, which is so necessary in the first few years and it would not deplete the soil of any fertility.

After haying, the horses would be put onto the plow again, back-setting until the oats and flax were ready to cut and also during odd periods when it might be too wet to cut during harvest. Having a few days work before harvest and with the little done during wet days, I think thirty or forty acres might be turned back. The rest I would get done with a power outfit, say sixty-five acres at \$2.75, \$178.75; leaving this one hundred acres in the pink of condition for a bumper crop of wheat the following year.

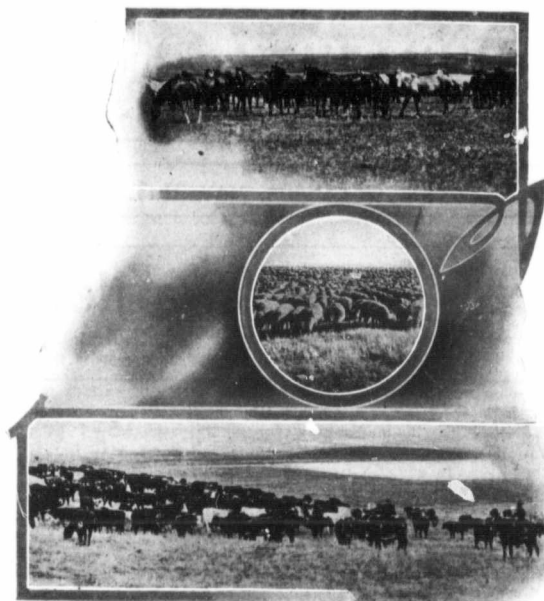
Next order of business will be to purchase an eight-foot binder, \$160 fall terms, and 250 lbs. cord, \$25.00 fall terms. This allows two lbs. per acre for the flax and two and one-half for oats. When the cutting is done four portable granaries of 600 bus. capacity, costing \$60 each will be built. This being done while the grain is getting ready for threshing. I will endeavor to get as much threshed from stook or in other words will not stack any more than possible. The grain will be run directly into the granaries from the separator, thus eliminating a great amount of labor which would otherwise be required in hauling to an elevator or even to a central elevator.

I will endeavor to engage an outfit having stook teams and also, if possible, cooking caboose. For this small amount of grain such a system would be far more satisfactory than to go to the trouble of getting in extra help and generally fixing up for the accommodation of men at meals. However, failing this system, as we sometimes do, the next re-

sort would be to get the men boarded at a neighbor's as is the custom of a few bachelors in our district. These neighbors generally charge twenty cents per meal, so for this small crop \$12 should pay the board bill. Again, as machines furnishing stook teams are not always available, I in this case would have to change work with one or two neighbors

granary until freeze up anyway. The one outfit will manage the plowing of the 120 acres in good shape before the freeze up takes place.

While the hired man is plowing in the fall I will build a drive shed to shelter the binder, mower, rake, wagon, etc., and make it large enough to accommodate the drill and other machines I



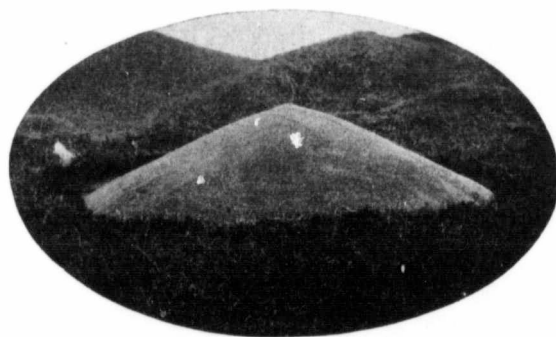
The live stock on a thousand prairies.

to get the required help. However, with the use of the portable granaries both my teams would be furnishing for drawing stooks.

The twenty acres of oats would on an average year yield, this being breaking and having all its fertility, 65 bus. per acre, 1,300 bus., and the 100 acres of flax, 11 bus. to the acre, \$1,100 bus. Thus the threshing bill would equal \$12

will necessarily have to purchase within the next few years.

This building will be the first one built of a permanent structure, built of corrugated iron and a part at one end for work and blacksmith shop. The cost of this building will be about \$500. The stable and shanty will also require an extra covering of boards and paper between. This



Bins full to overflowing.

for board of the men; \$1,300 bus. of oats at 4c. per bus., \$52.00; and 1,100 bus. flax at 12c. per bus., \$132.00; also \$50 for entire expense which cannot be itemized but which can always be relied upon to occur.

As soon as the threshing is finished the plow must be started, letting the grain remain in the

the market reaches a higher level. The 150 tons, less \$2 per ton for pressing and 50c. per ton for shipping will return still the amount of \$1,125. Now this appears big but nevertheless fact will stand and I have known it to be done more than once. I am here taking an average of \$10 per ton while the present market of Winnipeg quotes \$13 for the same class of pressed hay.

If there isn't much demand for seed flax, the elevator will get it as soon as the snow comes. Last year's price was \$2.60 per bus. and the demand very brisk. However, I will take an average of \$2.30 and sell 900 bus. at this time, \$2,070.

There is always a demand for seed oats from breaking and so I will just let them lie there till near spring. The horses require 150 bus. each year for feed, 600 bus.; also 100 bus. for seed, so will have 650 bus. for sale, make it 550 bus. at 40c. per bus., \$220. Now my expenses for the year amount to a large sum of money, yet with the income I have given a very, very good rise in capital is manifested. After I had paid the \$1,000 payment and interest on \$4,000 at 6 per cent., \$240, altogether \$1,250, I still have a good supply to start the next year.

In the first place I had..	\$1600.00
Bought 4 horses, cash	\$ 955.00
Harness	60.00
Hay	36.00
Oats	141.00
Plow	80.00
Wagon	50.00
Seed oats	16.00
Shanty and stable	150.00
Fitting up shanty	60.00
Curbing for well	10.00
Seed Flax	150.00
Getting 100 acres broken	275.00
Fencing, etc., around buildings ..	25.00
Wages for man, 3 months	105.00
Mower	45.00
Rake	28.00
Stacker	18.00
Backsetting 65 acres, \$2.75 per acre	178.75
Eight-foot binder	160.00
250 lbs. cord	25.00
Four portable granaries	240.00
Board for threshers	12.00
Threshing bill	184.00
Also, \$50 for unforeseen expense ..	50.00
Cost of drive shed (next year payment) ..	
Fixing up stable and shanty ..	75.00
Profit on hay	\$ 1125.00
Flax, 900 bus. at \$2.30 ..	2070.00
Oats, 550 bus. at 40c. ..	220.00
Paid on land	1250.00
	\$5015.00 \$4478.75
Balance on hand	\$536.25

My cash on hand commencing the second year will be considerably smaller but my capital very much larger:—

Cash on hand, \$536.25; Flax and oats on hand, \$660; horses, \$800; machinery, etc., at 10 per cent. depreciation, \$451; improved farm with \$3,000 improvements but worth much more money than paid for it, \$27.50 per acre, \$5,800—total capital, \$8247.25.

This is a real fair estimate and although the increase in capital appears large it is still reasonable. From experience similar to the method outlined I have known several men who have got more out of their land each year than they made, or put back in, in pay-

ment cost \$75. As soon as the fall plowing is done or freeze up comes, what hay that will be necessary for the next year's work will be drawn home and stacked; also get the remainder pressed, \$2 per ton, and hauled to town before the snow comes if possible. The hay will be stored here till near spring, when