

FARM AND DAIRY

&

RURAL HOME

THE KIND OF MANAGEMENT THAT BRINGS SUCCESS IN DAIRY FARMING

The Farming Methods of Mr. S. A. Northcott, Ontario Co., Ont. described by an Editor of Farm and Dairy. Mr. Northcott is a Young Farmer who is making a Success of his business with Pure Bred Stock, A Short Rotation and Attention to the Details of Management.

EXCELLENT management is a characteristic most in evidence in connection with all of the farming operations of Mr. S. A. North-



S. A. Northcott

cott, whose farm secured second place in district No. 3 of the Interprovincial Dairy Prize Farms Competition conducted this year by Farm and Dairy. Evidences of good management were to be found in the layout of his farm for crop rotation, in the rapid improvement that Mr. Northcott is making in his stock by selection, breeding and

buying, and in smaller details, such as caring for the farm implements.

Mr. Northcott's farm consists of 140 acres, five miles from the town of Ottawa. Most of the soil is a heavy clay loam; one field inclines to sandy loam. One hundred and twenty acres are on one side of the road and 20 on the other. The buildings are situated very conveniently for drawing in crops with the shortest haul. Ten acres of the farm are in bush. An open ditch running through this bush and the centre of the farm causes some waste of land, but otherwise the fields are level, free from obstructions, and well laid out for convenience in working.

PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Northcott has been on this farm only six years, but he has made great improvements in that time. Last year he laid 9,000 feet of tile drains. Altogether he has taken out 240 rods of cross fences, his ideal being to have large fields, easily worked.

Dairying is here the main source of revenue. Cream is taken to Oshawa every other day to supply a regular customer in a restaurant. Horse breeding, hogs, poultry, and a good orchard also contribute to Mr. Northcott's income.

In July, at the time the farm was judged by Mr. Hy. Glendinning and an editor of Farm and Dairy, who took notes of some of the leading features of Mr. Northcott's farm for the Benefit of Farm and Dairy readers, Mr. Northcott's dairy herd consisted of 14 cows, four being registered Holsteins. This young farmer has made a good start along pure bred lines. Two of his cows and a heifer had been purchased from the Holstein herd of G. A. Brethen, Norwood. His herd was bred by Mr. A. D. Foster, in whose herd are animals that have held world's records.

Mr. Northcott has had some interesting experiences in cow testing. Dairy records of the milk and fat production of his individual cows he has kept for a little over a year. As a result of the discoveries he made through cow testing, he sold 13 cows last spring, and of his original herd of over 20 cows he now has only two or three.

The results of his first year's cow testing came

as a surprise to Mr. Northcott. The information he then gained was promptly acted on, and any cows producing less than 7,000 pounds of milk had to go. There are only two cows now in the herd that will make less than 8,000 pounds of milk a year. In starting out for a new herd, Mr. Northcott secured two excellent cows from a neighbor, who, as he says, "had no better sense than to sell them." A Babcock testing machine is kept and used for determining the fat in the



Country Home Equipped with Modern Conveniences

The home of Mr. S. A. Northcott, here illustrated, is fitted with a complete bathroom and hot and cold, hard and soft water on tap. Such conveniences increase the comfort of the country home and relieve the women folks of much drudgery.

milk of each cow and for keeping check on the fat in the cream sold.

FEED IS GROWN AT HOME

Mr. Northcott buys very little feed. He depends on corn ensilage, alfalfa, and clover hay, and the mixed grains that he grows on his farm. Short pastures are supplemented with alfalfa, or corn ensilage if it is on hand.

Two registered Clydesdale mares of good breed-



Beautiful Trees are Appreciated on This Farm

A row of trees such as may be seen in the illustration extends all round the farm of Mr. S. A. Northcott, Ontario Co., Ont., and on both sides of the permanent lanes through the farm. These trees add to the value as well as the beauty of the farm. Read of the farming methods of this successful young farmer in the adjoining article.

—Photos by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

ing and conformation are a source of profit and of satisfaction to Mr. Northcott, who finds that a heavy draft horse for sale occasionally is a profitable proposition; particularly when the colts are eligible for registration. Altogether there were six horses and two colts on the farm.

Mr. Northcott believes that there is profit in

sheep; he keeps an excellent flock of 30 pure bred Shropshires.

In his piggery were 15 pure bred Yorkshires. Two breeds of hens are kept, Plymouth Rocks and White Leghorns.

PURE BRED STOCK MORE PROFITABLE

Farm and Dairy readers will notice that in all lines of live stock, Mr. Northcott either already has all pure bred stock or is getting into it as fast as he can. He finds that pure bred stock can be kept as easily and as cheaply as common stock, and it is more profitable. When there is stock for sale the initial cost of a pure bred foundation is more than made up in the extra price that can be obtained for the surplus stock.

The main farm barn is 102 by 42 feet, with a stable under the whole. An "L," 60 by 36 feet, is used as a straw barn; under it are the sheep pens and an open shed for cattle. In the stables are all modern conveniences for doing the work easily. The manure is removed in a litter carrier and is dumped directly on to the spreader. It is then taken to the fields and spread daily. Feed carriers reduce to a minimum the work of feeding the stock.

WATER BEFORE THE COWS

Water on this farm is supplied to the cows in individual basins in the stables. A 14-foot windmill pumps the water into an overhead tank. The rain water from the roof is saved in a cistern in the basement. The one objectionable feature of his well-water system is the supply, which is drawn from a well in the larnyard. The yard is kept fairly clean, but even then the well would be much better situated some distance from the buildings.

No adequate provision has been made by Mr. Northcott for ventilation in his stables. Two shafts extend to the roof at each end of the stable, but only the doors and windows supply an inlet for fresh air.

An inside silo, 14 by 10 by 30 feet, erected by Mr. Northcott, has been in use for a few years. A second one, a circular cement silo outside the barn, was just about to be erected when the farms were judged. With his two silos, Mr. Northcott will now have ensilage to feed the year round.

USES FOR THE WINDMILL

His power windmill not only pumps the water for the stock but turns the grindstone, cuts feed, and when there is a good wind it develops power enough to run the feed chopper, which grinds all the grain fed on the farm.

Mr. Northcott is of a mechanical turn, and delights in working with his implements, keeping them in first class repair, and in improving them. All of the implements on the farm are kept under cover in a dry shed. In the several years that the Linder has been in use it has never once been out over night. Exposed parts of machinery, such as the mold boards of the plows and the cutter bars of mower and binder, are greased when put in storage. "We can grease steel a lot easier than we can scour it," was Mr. Northcott's comment on this feature.

A three-year rotation is followed; the first year