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PROFITABLE DAIRYING ON A RENTED FARM

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Some Facts About a Well Known Oxford County Farm on which One Tenant Has "Made Good" and Another is Doing So—A Herd of 54 Cows the Income Makers.

I WOULD classify dairymen into three distinctly different classes. In one I would group the ordinary farmers who sell their milk as a side line to general farming. The second class includes the men who make money from the sale of pure-bred stock. The third class consists of the men who sell milk and milk only. The subject of my sketch is one of the latter class.

Down at Tillsonburg, in Oxford county, is a big old farm that in the old days was considered to be a wonder in productiveness and in modern equipment. It is known as The Old Tillson Farm, and was established long years ago by the founder of the town, the late E. D. Tillson. At one time the farm comprised several thousands of acres around the site of the town, taking in the land now occupied by the lumber yard, the mills, the condenser and the network of railway yards and shops to the north and east, but at the present time the town has grown until all but 300 acres at the east have been swallowed up. This is enough as the old fashioned buildings will not accommodate crops from a larger acreage even if 200 acres are taken up in wild land, deep ravines and broad mill ponds, making a wonderful season round pasture with cool, refreshing and shady retreats at every hand.

A PARK LIKE ASPECT

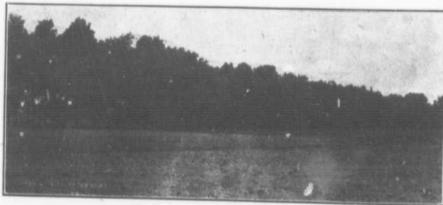
To look at, the farm is a wonder. Not one of those straight cut, bald looking, modern affairs that seem to have been made to order and set up for inspection, with a sturdy red barn, thread-like wire fences and blocky residence set out in bold relief. Not like this; something different and homelike and—well—kind of permanent as if it was built to last for ever.

The old residence, with its big spacious lawn of fully half an acre, is set back in a grove of hemlock and a spruce. Well trimmed hedges and a soft velvety lawn, with two big weeping willows and a complete surrounding of stately maples, make the first impression one not to be readily forgotten. You go down a deep avenue of maples, past the house and cut into an evergreen avenue which takes you on to the barn where you receive another surprise and wonder where you are.

IN THE BARN

The barn is a huge white brick affair, which at first glance looks much like a warehouse and not at all like a barn. Big tall brick ventilators which look for all the world like chimneys rise up

along each side and reach nearly to the height of the roof, and you are at a loss to know why they do not fall. Down in the stable everything is



An Improvement that is Both Pleasing and Useful

The splendid trees constitute one of the most pleasing features of the Annandale Farm. Surrounding the entire farm is a row of beautiful maples, while the lanes are lined on either side by these beautiful shade-givers, forming a shaded driveway to any part of the farm. Who would estimate the value of such improvements?

white and clean, and through continued improvement is now nearly modern. There is room for three long rows of cows and several box stalls, four calf pens, and an engine-room to operate the mechanical milker. Water is always before each cow.

When you go upstairs and see the huge bays and well like silos you cease to wonder how the raft of 54 milking cows is fed each day, in ad-



A Substantial Brick Structure Built for Permanency

When the late E. D. Tillson established an mandale Farm he considered more than mere utility. He aimed at beauty as well. The upper illustration shows one of the several maple lined avenues that connect the fields of the farm. Below is the large brick barn that now shelters Mr. J. W. Allan's herd of 54 milch cows. This farm is described in the article adjoining.

dition to what they get in the pasture line. There are three silos, 13 by 19 by 55 feet. Also a huge root cellar. Hay and grain is unloaded by engine power. A complete workshop makes easy repairing and a complete equipment of machinery makes for rapid farming with a minimum of labor.

A short distance from the barn is the old cream-

ery, which is now used as a milk house and cooler, with an ice supply at the back. A few feet away are two tenant residences and a huge tent which shelters a part of the help for the summer months. Other buildings are a machine shed, a henery and a first-class hog pen. It is safe to say that the farm has every requirement. The farm itself is delightfully laid out, the whole being surrounded by a row of maple trees and in many places a double row is to be found, forming a cool lane leading to any part of the farm.

The whole farm is well drained, and a part is laid with water mains for use in a drouth or dry spell. Many of the fields have 20 and 30 acres, and the general appearance of the whole farm with these big square fields and avenues of green maples and still greener evergreens can readily be imagined.

A TENANT FARM

The farm is not for sale, but is leased for a term of years to some person so situated as to be able to float such a proposition. As a rule when the lease expires the man who has made the venture is in a position to retire for life. Mr. George Rice (Tillsonburg), the noted dairyman, is an excellent example of what the Tillson estate will do for an energetic man, as his home, The Highlands, amply testifies.

At present the farm is operated by Mr. J. W. Allan, who has had the farm for the past few years. He practices plain farming remember, not any fancy, high-toned proposition, but simply ordinary farming on a big basis and scientifically managed.

A HERD OF 54 COWS

At present Mr. Allan has 54 milking cows and a number of young animals just coming into maturity. He does not keep a record of each cow's performance, but watches them closely, weeding out the ones below average and gradually building up the herd. The herd produces throughout the year anywhere from 1,200 to 1,700 pounds of milk a day. A part of this goes to the local condenser, but the major portion is sold to the town milk dealers who are willing to give an increase of 10 cents a cwt. over condenser prices to be sure of getting a full supply of milk of a uniform quality. Summer prices are \$1.25 at condenser and \$1.35 from dealers, winter prices being an advance of 40 cents a cwt.

Mr. Allan has recently installed a modern milking machine, and since the cows have gotten used to the machine, he thinks he is getting more milk of a much better quality than formerly.

FOUR MEN CONSTANTLY

Annandale Farm naturally requires quite a force of help, but only two married men and Mr. Allan and son are constantly employed. The milking