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## Three Years' Work on a New Farm

By E. W. JONES.

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In view of the fact that successful farm management encompasses almost numberless details and methods which only actual experience can teach to each individual suiting his particular case and condition, there are still two very important factors which apply to any state of environment that a farmer may be placed in, namely, making money and the retaining of fertility. In a very large number of cases and I am sure in far too many cases, the beginner on the land disregards the question of fertility for the former mentioned factor. This, I consider, is due to the fact that we young Canadians have the ambitious get-rich-quick spirit of the West and like to see the bank account swelling even at the expense of the store of plant food in the soil. Thus we have to repeat that so often used, but certainly true term, "soil robbers," for such we have been and perhaps still we are, although now beginning to understand and that the essential man in the community is constructive rather than destructive in his farming operations.

With these two main factors on an equal footing, and the ambition to be successful in both, I will start out on my farm which is situated eight miles south-east of Carman, four miles east of Graham station on the Great Northern and seven miles north-east of Roland, Man. The land

is a clay loam, level and no scrub, being drained marsh land and worth in the neighborhood of \$20 per acre in the raw state. Of the \$6,400 which will be seen to be the value of the 320 acres, \$4,000 is still unpaid and is in four one thousand dollar yearly payments, one becoming due Feb. 1st of each year, with interest at 6 per cent. Apart from the \$2,400 which is paid on the land I have \$1,600 in cash, making altogether

4 horses at \$250 each but 8 per cent. off for cash—\$45 off—\$955; harness, fall terms, \$60; hay for 3½ months, 3 tons at \$12 cash, \$36; oats for 180 days, 405 bus. at 35c., cash, \$141; plow, fall terms, \$80; wagon, second hand, cash, \$50; seed for 20 acres oats, 2 bus. per acre, 40c. cash, \$16; fitting up shanty, etc., cash, \$60; curbing for a well 3 ft. x 3 ft. x 20 ft. deep, cash, \$10.

This would be about all the expense at the commencement so

oats are in, the breaking must be resumed and besides the amount I will be able to do with my own outfit I will hire 50 acres broken by a power outfit, there being several in the district for this class of work. Now on the 50 acres hired done and on the 50 acres I would be able to do myself, flax will be sown, putting 30 lbs. to the acre and costing three dollars per bushel, \$150.

From this time up to July 1st I will do my best to get 50 acres more broken and also hire 50 acres done with the outfit doing the power plowing in the district. In this way 200 acres will be in good condition for wheat the following year. However, here let me say that the farm yard is something that must not be neglected and the first year is the proper time to establish certain rules as to the size, shape and equipment of it. I certainly will leave the breaking for a day or two about May 25th and plow a few furrows where I expect to plant trees the following year.

Trees should be planted on the north and west sides of the buildings to furnish a wind break. Windbreaks and other improvements which add to both the attractiveness and comfort of the home repay many times for the expenditure of time and money put on them.

After July 1st it is too dry and late to break, as the sod does not get a chance to rot, so for a couple of weeks the horses would



A crop the third year. Something for every farmer to look forward to.

an aggregate of \$4,000, the extent of my capital.

About April 1st I will, endeavoring to follow the enumerated plan which I will give as closely as possible, purchase enough lumber to build a stable with accommodation for four horses, 12 ft. x 16 ft. with bent roof and for a shanty, 16 ft. x 20 ft., together costing \$150, for which cash will be paid. Perhaps right here I may better give a list of further expenditure necessary, which will be somewhat as follows:

with this outfit I intend getting the buildings up and well dug by the time the land is ready for spring work. Just as soon as fit I will start breaking and keep at it till the season has so far advanced that there would be no more frosts, then sow the 20 acres all ready for crop to oats, hiring a drill for the day's work from a neighbor. This 20 acres would also require a considerable amount of harrowing, for which a hired harrow would be the implement used. As soon as the