

hay cure more in the swathe. When we think we can get the hay in the afternoon we ted it about nine or ten o'clock in the morning. If the weather is not favorable we leave heavy Lucerne hay in the swathe as we find that it is not injured as much by rain or dew as it would be were it tedded and not hauled in the barn."

"It pays to use the side delivery rake as the hay can be handled with greater ease. Then also it dries better as the dump rake gathers it together too much. If we find that the hay is not drying rapidly enough we sometimes roll it back over again with the rake. One of the advantages of this method is that it leaves the hay in rtraight rows ready for the loader. When cutting the hay it is a good plan to cut it in long strips, the longer the better, as it facilitates the loading. In a field 40 rods long, we usually cut a 10 acre field in two or three strips, depending on how we think we can handle it.

HAY LOADER DOES GOOD WORK

"Loading is commenced as soon as the hay will rustle, or as soon as it can be handled with reasonable ease. Although some of our land is rolling, we have been able to use the loader wherever we could drive a load of hay. A loader saves the work of a man. Formerly two men used to pitch the hay from the windrow and a good man was kept on the load. Now we require only two men on the load, and the amount of labor necessary to handle the same amount of hay is much less. Formerly we used to have to

effects in labor. We used to have a five year rotation, including two years in corn, or grain, and three years in hay and pasture. Now we grow Lucerne alone on the same land from seven to ten years, and get larger and better crops each year than we used to, and avoid the necessity of having to plow and seed the land two years in the five-year rotation. In addition, the land all the time grows richer, Lucerne being a deep feeder, drawing its nourishment from the soil four to six feet deep, and sometimes deeper."

METHODS OF GROWING

"Lucerne should not be sown on ground that will carry fall wheat. It will not grow on wet ground. We sow about the first of May with a nurse crop of barley, using one bushel of barley, one pound of timothy, and 15 to 20 lbs. of Lucerne, depending on the age of the seed. On land that follows corn, well dressed with manure the winter previous, we have grown over 50 bushels of barley from one bushel sown. The Lucerne is sown with a seed drill and harrowed. If it is not likely to rain, we roll it."

FEED FOR THE COWS

"A few days after the first cutting, we turn in our cows and, by changing the fields, have fresh clover for them almost all the season. In this way the flow of milk is well maintained throughout the season. This could not be done with timothy meadow.

"Many people think that cows are apt to bloat worse on Lucerne than on any other clover. We

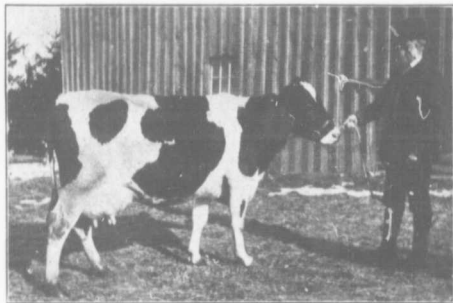
cow stable there is a milk room, in which the separator is kept.

The milk is sent to a cheese factory in Caledonia, in which the Messrs. Richardson have a half interest. Before we left the farm, the Messrs. Richardson informed us that they considered that The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World is a great improvement over either of the papers whose place it has taken, both of which they had taken for years. Like all up-to-date farmers, they believe that, to be successful, it is necessary that farmers should be well read. They not only take several farm papers, but a daily, and several other publications as well. Were a provincial dairv farms competition to be held, Riverside Farm, should the Messrs. Richardson decide to compete, would be sure to take a high standing.—H. B. C.

Eradicating the Sow Thistle

T. G. BARNES, B.S.A., Seed Dept., Ottawa.

The sow thistle is becoming one of the worst weeds with which the farmer has to deal. The Canada thistle and the wild mustard used to be talked of years ago as being the worst weeds, but to-day they are not in it with the perennial sow thistle. The sow thistle will give the farmer the biggest chase of any weed, if he would exterminate it. In the day when our attention was mostly devoted to the commoner sorts of weeds, weeds such as the sow thistle, were getting a foothold. Had we nipped them at that



INKA MERCEDES DE KOL

One of the three cows owned by Richardson & Son, Caledonia, that gave over 5,000 lbs. of milk as a three year old in an economical 8 months food test at the Pan American Exhibition. She is now ten years old. The last test was 132 lbs. of milk and 20.6 lbs. of butter in a week, being an official test in April, 1905. Three of her daughters are in the herd.

employ several extra men at haying time. Now this is not necessary, as the hay is gathered with the regular help.

IN THE BARN

"In our main barn we have to carry the hay over our grain mow. For this purpose we use slings, and we are able to take a load off in three draws. The sling we are now using is the best we have ever had. Our barn is 64 feet by 116 feet. Owing to its width, we have two tracks and cars. The hay is deposited near the centre of the barn. Our hay shoots are at each side. By having the shoots on the sides, we save a great deal of labor. The hay in the centre of the barn being higher than at the sides, makes it easier for us to throw it down to the stables below.

ADVANTAGES OF LUCERNE

The Messrs. Richardson have grown Lucerne for many years. They say that it is one of the most profitable crops that can be grown on the average farm, particularly on the dairy farms. "One of the features about Lucerne that we like the best," said Mr. Richardson, "is the saving it



PIETERTJE BOSCH DE BOER

His dam and sire's dam averaged 25.67 lbs. butter in seven days. The average test of dam was 1.31 fat. Sam's dam holds world's highest milk and butter record for heifer under three years old—57.62 lbs. milk in one day and 27.07 lbs. butter in one week. Owned by Richardson & Son, Caledonia.

have not found this to be the case. Care should be taken not to turn the cows in when the grass is very wet, or when they are very hungry. Bloating is caused by indigestion. Salt is a good preventative.

A SPLENDID FEED

"For feeding purposes, Lucerne, when properly cured, is ahead of any other grass crop grown. Timothy cannot be compared with it. We say this after having grown it for 30 years.

"One of the great secrets in keeping hay is to have neither dew nor water in it when it is being placed in the mow. In the mow it should be levelled off, and tramped, to prevent its heating. When hay is dropped from the forks in big bundles, if it is not levelled, and there is the least moisture in it it will heat."

NICE FARM BUILDINGS

The farm buildings on Riverside Farm are not elaborate, but they are large and commodious, and amply serve all requirements. They include an ice house, and a large wagon shed, in which the implements and machinery used on the farm are kept in the best possible condition. Off the

time, we would have saved ourselves the great expense which is necessary at the present time to rid ourselves of these pests.

Weeds cost the farmer a great deal of expense in the extra implements which are necessary to fight them. Careless farmers are the curse of their neighbors, and their unfortunate brethren are strictly "up against" the weed problem, as these careless farmers make the problem much more complicated. This is especially true with such weeds as the sow thistle. The seed is carried by the wind, and any cultivated ground upon which it may fall is in the best of shape to induce this seed to grow.

Sheep are one of the best agents to use in fighting the sow thistle, and it is unfortunate that more sheep cannot be kept owing to the sheep-killing curs which infest our country, most of which are kept by men who cannot keep themselves. Dogs belonging to such men are the ones most generally caught killing sheep.

The Ontario law has not much effect in connection with the sow thistle. It is possible to enforce the law where 50 ratepayers petition