AND RURAL HOME

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6. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. CIRCULATION STATEMENT

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FARM AND DAIRY PETERBORO, ONT.

EASILY MADE MONEY

"The property at 9, 11 and 18 "West King street, and with a "through depth to Melinda street, "which was purchased three months "ago from the Cawthras by W. S "Dinnick and his brother, A. G. C. "Dinnick, has been turned over by "the latter to a group of English "capitalists at \$500,000."-Toronto World.

The property referred to was purchased by the Messrs. Dinnick three months ago, according to The World, for four hundred thousand dollars. Thus in three months these gentlemen have cleared one hundred thousand dollars by the advance of land values in Toronto. It is time that as farmers we began to realize that we have a vital interest in transactions of this kind. The men who have obtained this one hundred thousand dollars did nothing to earn it. The increased values were created by the returns the fertility back to the land community at large and the benefits where it belongs.

FARM AND DAIRY should be returned to the public that created them.

Every time land values in Toronto, or in other business centres, advance, the effect is to increase the cost of doing business on that land, and thus the public at large is taxed for the benefit of the speculators who handle this land. The great difference between the price the farmer obtains for his products and the price the consumer pays for it is due in the main, not so much to the much abused middleman, as it is to the excessive cost of doing business in towns and cities, caused by the enormous land values in the business sections of such centres. By and by we will get tired of allowing others to benefit without labor and with but little risk by merely buying and selling city and suburband land, the increases in the value of which are created in a large measure by the productive work of the farmers of the surrounding country.

HARD ON LAND

We recently had a talk with a young farmer who has inherited a prejudice against the corn crop and the silo. He advanced every argument that he could think of why he should not erect a silo and, knowing himself, that his arguments had not been convincing, he at last gave out one that he considered unanswerable. hard on the land," said he. "Last summer, for instance, I sowed a bit of corn along with my potatoes. Von can tell in the grain crop this year just where we had that corn. The growth is not nearly so good as on the adjoining potato ground."

Of course corn takes much from the land. A good crop of corn, say fifteen tons to the acre, will take from the land about eighty-four pounds of nitrogen, thirty-three pounds of phosphoric acid, and one hundred and eleven pounds of potash. This is more than twice as much as we would carry away in a two hundred bushel crop of potatoes. In two hundred bushels of potatoes there is only thirty-eight pounds of nitrogen, fifteen pounds of phosphoric acid and fiftyfive pounds of potash. But from an acre of corn properly housed in a silo we will get two and one-half times as much feed as from an acre of potatoes, and we will return two and onehalf times as much fertilizing nutrient to the soil to aid the growth of plants. And the labor expense for producing that fifteen tons of corn is not so great as the expense of producing two hundred bushels of potatoes.

It is well to conserve soil fertility, but the ideal conservator is not the one who takes nothing from the soil, but the one who returns to the soil as much as he takes. According to our young friend's standard, the North American Indian was an ideal conservator. He took nothing from the soil. We know how prosperous he was. According to modern standards, however, the ideal conservator is the progressive farmer whe grows a big crop of corn, the bigger the better, houses it in a silo, feeds the silage to dairy cows, and then in the manure

Of course corn is hard on the land in the sense that it takes much from the soil. So is every crop worth while

ANENT HIRED HELP

The hired man's side of the help problem was well expressed to an editor of Farm and Dairy a few months ago by an able-bodied working man in the city of Peterboro. This man was out of work and we asked him why he did not go to the country and get a job. "I could get ten jobs in the country a few weeks from now." said he; "in fact, the farmers will be falling over themselves to get help. could not get a job now at a decent living wage. The most that many of them would want to give me would be my board."

Here is something for us farmers to think about. This man was considered a good workman. He had had several years experience on the farm. Could be have gotten an opportunity for a year round job with a decent cottage for his newly made bride, he would have preferred country work to any other. But he could not. There are lots of men like him. If we will provide suitable accommodation for our hired help there are lots of good men around the country who would be glad to work for us.

ALFALFA AND DRAINAGE

No crop will show the beneficial effects of tile drainage quicker than alfalfa. When judging fields entered in an alfalfa growing competition, conducted recently by Farm and Dairy in Peterboro County, our editor inspected several fields that were only partly tile drained and in all cases the growth was markedly better in the tile drained portion of the fields than in those portions were drains were lacking. In many other fields not tile drained at all the most vigorous growth we invariably found on those parts of the fields that were naturally well drained, while springy places almost invariably showed a weak, under colored growth.

Alfalfa is rapidly increasing in popularity. One of the indirect blessings that may come from the increasing acreage of alfalfa will be the increased interest in tile draining. The average farm crop will pay the cost of the tiling in the increased yields of two or three years. In some of the fields that we inspected we believe that the increased crop of the first year would pay for the tiling if we put a price on the alfalfa commensurate with its feeding value. In preparing land for alfalfa in future we will be wise to take tile drains into consideration if the field is not already

underdrained.

ON STRIKE

Most of us farmers feel that an eight or 10-hour day is an impossibility in the country. . When we hear of such time limits being imposed by the working men's organizations in the cities, we thank fortune that farm laborers have no such organizations. Some of us even think that it is impossible to get work and chores done

by six o'clock in the evening farmer who works till nine o'clock at night does not see how his work could be done in shorter time. could finish our work in good time if we would. What one man can do another cen

An editor of Farm and Dairy recently visited a farm where the whole system of work had been reorganized We all went on strike this spring," said one of the sons of the family, to our editor. "We told our daddy early in the season that the work had to be done, chores and all, at six o'clock. We told him that if we are ranged things right and used our heads to save our heels we would get through more work in less time Father agreed to give our plan a trial and now even he admits that we are getting more work done than in previous seasons, and we have always stopped at six o'clock."

What are we here for anyway? The farmer whose life is one round of drudgery is getting very little out of his stay here. He is shortening his own years and sickening his children of farm life and farm work. Working long hours is more a habit than a necessity. Let us break the habit

The best to-day is not good enough tomorrow. Keep improving.

The land values would pay all our taxes if we would only let them. Land values are the natural source of revenue.

There may be a place for dual purpose cattle in our farm economy. It has been argued that there are lots of our farmers who are not sufficiently good stockmen to handle specialized dairy cattle. But why should we be farming at all if we are not going to know all we can about our business and be able to handle any kind of cattle? Those of us who wish to get to the top in this specialized age will follow specialized farming with specialized cattle-the kind that will bring the Liggest results.

The Value of a Dairy Sire

(Hoard's Dairyman) car load of grade Guernsey cows Iowa for Kansas a short time since at an average price of \$175 per

How much do you think their mo-thers could have been bought for supposing they were ordinary native

We will be liberal and say apiece. So then it is clear that a registered Guernsey bull added to the commercial value of every one of those cows \$125. Of course, these are high figures. But they point the way just the same.

way just the same.
The farmers of Wisconsin years ago, bought pure bred bulls and so established herds of grade Jerseys, Holsteins, Guernseys, and, in a few instances Ayrshires, built a in a rew instances Ayrsnires, built a broad, strong foundation for profitable business beneath them. They have been producing milk and height and cows for sale, all made more possible and more profitable by the put

And yet there are farmers right in such communities who will hust about for a cheap grade bull to bred from, with all these facts before their eyes.

July 4, 1912. Why Not Reti

By W. Petiring from

the most serious a Especially Usually farmar. Life in t ent from life on dapt himself of that period o in being out of Fron actor in the f often becomes a or even w Why move to even for moving ducating the ch

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