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DAIRYING GIVEN A PLACE ON A LARGE FARM

R. E. Gunn, Mgr. Dunrobin Stock Farm, Ontario Co., Ont.

A well selected, re-selected herd of dairy cows guarantees a sure and steady income. They solve the labor problem by providing work for the men for twelve months in the year.

WHILE we are not entirely forsaking the beef business for the milking of cows, we are however installing, or rather have installed a dairy herd. We have 500 acres of land and endeavor to put in from 150 to 200 acres of crop each year. This necessitates the employment of four or five men during seeding, haying and harvest. This year the men we have are eminently satisfactory and when the fall plowing was done I was at a loss to lucratively employ them over the winter.

THE STOCK KEPT

We have about sixty-five head of beef cattle, about 35 to 40 horses, and a varying number of hogs, running from 50 to 200. This amount of stock, and the care thereof would only employ one man and a teamster beside "the boss" who does a little himself in the way of looking after the horses. The solution of the question of profitably employing these men offered itself in the installation of about 35 dairy cows. These cows, properly handled, require the attention of an extra man. The manure from them and the rest of the stock is all spread in the winter, or rather drawn to piles in the field to be ready to be spread by the manure spreaders in the spring. Thus the handling of the manure in the spring is minimized, and the boys are kept out of mischief and in employment the year round.

STEADY INCOME FROM DAIRYING

The last year has been quiet in Shorthorns, though I look for a brighter market during the ensuing year. We were well sold out of Clydesdales and our hogs, fat cattle, and fall wheat brought us in money only at one time, and that all in a lump. While these aforementioned branches of the farm do well, still there is an element of uncertainty and speculation in the returns therefrom. Therefore we look to our dairy department to bring us in a regular wage paying, expense meeting, income to which we can look with a certainty. This latter phase of the dairy is the one thing above all others that appeals to us, and while we have no intention of forsaking the Shorthorn, the Clydesdale or the Yorkshire, still we feel sure on a farm as large as ours that a fair-sized dairy herd of selected and reselected cows, can and will be a paying branch from which we can derive a surer and steadier income than from any of the other departments of the farm.

From our short experience we find that a good

cow, well fed, is worth looking after, while a poor cow, or careless feeding, has no place on a well regulated stock farm. But this same is true all along the line. System is as necessary on a farm to derive the best results as it is in a large department store, and we are coming to the conclusion that the farm should be run after the intensive methods employed by the fast food Dr. Detrich, whose 18 acres near Philadelphia, became world-famed simply through the system employed thereon.

DOUBLING EARNING CAPACITY

We are studying all the time to utilize all the ground, all the animals, all the men, to the best

A Proper Christmas Gift

Now is the time to figure out what you will give your friends for Christmas. Choose nice gifts, those that will be a pleasure for your friends to receive; gifts that will please them the whole year through—not just at the time they are received. If you wish to remember your friends in the best way possible, send them a paid-up year's subscription of The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World. Send us the name and address of the friend to whom you desire to send our paper for one year, together with one dollar, and we will send them, in time to reach them on Christmas morning, an attractive card, showing that you are sending them The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World for one year, as a Christmas gift. We will also renew your own subscription for six months. If you are not already a subscriber, we will enter your name on our mailing list for six months. That is our Christmas gift to you.

Decide this matter now. Get it off your mind before the holiday rush. Write to-day, stating plainly your own name and address, whether you are already a subscriber or not, and the names and addresses of your friends to whom you wish to send The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World as a Christmas gift. Address Christmas Gift Department, The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World, Peterboro, Ont.

advantage all the time. We make mistakes as everyone does, but the working out of the plans for a large intensive farm are so interesting and so absorbing that it makes the manager of such an enterprise feel that he certainly has a mission to perform. Every farmer can, by the introduction of such methods, double his earning capacity and also open up a field of employment so pleasant for his boys, that we would no longer hear the cry, "Keep the boys on the farm."

We feel the dairy herd has a place all of its own, whether a specialty or a side line, and we have been at the business long enough to know that it pays handsomely for the exacting care necessary for the best results.

Fall Cultivation on the Farm

O. A. Fretten, Peterboro Co., Ont.

My plan of fall cultivation is not at all in accord with an article appearing in your issue of Nov. 18th, entitled "Plowing Corn and Root

Lands," by John Fixter, Macdonald College, Que. Unless Mr. Fixter can give better reasons for plowing corn and root ground than he advanced in the aforementioned article, I would be loath to accept his advice.

Mr. Fixter says, "Having harvested the corn and root crops, we should at once prepare the soil for the following crop." What is the following crop? In nine out of every ten cases, in our district at least, it is grain seeded to clover. Why do we seed down after corn and roots? Because the soil, as a result of increased cultivation, is cleaner and in better "heart" than after almost any grain crop. Such being the case, is it not a trifle late to talk about preparing land for seeding out at the end of the season after the roots are gathered, etc.?

MUST LOOK IN ADVANCE

A much better guarantee of a crop of grain and a good catch of clover will be secured if the farmer were to look about a year in advance and make every stroke of the cultivator throughout the warm summer days count in preparing a good, clean seed bed for the next season's crop. But Mr. Fixter says, when you have this good, clean seed bed, "Having cultivated and carefully cared for the hood crops during the summer, it is worse than wasteful not to plow." I really did read that over a couple of times before I could believe it was the advice Mr. Fixter intended to give the farmers of this country. The idea of cultivating and carefully handling the root crop all summer, with the result that you have at least one field with a seedbed of three or four inches as free as you can make it of weed seeds and all other obstructions to the vigorous growth of the seed you sow, and then to put that beautiful, clean seed bed down eight or ten inches below the surface at the same time bringing up fresh soil with its full supply of weed seeds to the very place they should not be when the first warm spring days come to germinate the good and bad seeds alike, is ridiculous. How can the plowing of corn ground give the best results under these circumstances? These circumstances are common to the majority of farmers.

CLOVER WILL BRING UP PLANT FOOD

Continuing, Mr. Fixter says, "The depth to plow will depend upon the depth of the plant food in the soil." If we attend to getting the clover in the soil, we can get the clover roots to bring up the plant food from the lower depths easier than we can do it with a team and plow. Besides, the clover roots bring up only those things that will benefit the succeeding crop and