

to make money? Have we not regarded it in the light in which the city employee sees the factory as a place of toil? In fact, we have come to refer to the farm as the "farm factory." I hate that expression. "The farm home" embodies my ideal. I believe we should look on our farms as our home, the home of our children and of our children's children. Why not make it our ideal to make that home one for which our children will thank us? We may be sure of this,—if we do not, the children will find little around the farm to attract them, and the first thing we know they will be off to the city. And can we blame them? Is not a comparison (and young people are prone to make comparisons) between the city home of an average well-to-do citizen all to the disadvantage of the unimproved farm house?

One who regards the farm as a money making machine alone cannot be expected to make improvements. The farmer whose farm is his well-loved home will improve to the limit of his ability. What is your ideal? F. E. E.

The Basis of a Good Herd *

By Glendinning, Ontario Co., Ont.

It will be found most profitable for the dairy farmer to confine himself to some one of the well recognized dairy breeds. I do not mean by that the cows should be pure bred and registered. Having made a selection of the breed I would always use a pure bred sire of that breed. Such a sire should be possessed of a strong constitution and descend on both sides of his parentage from heavy producers of milk or butter-fat.

I believe that those dairy farmers who raise their own cows are best satisfied. In the creamery district this is easily done, as there is always an abundant supply of fresh skim milk. For the first 10 days I would feed the young calf its mother's whole milk. From then on I would add a little skim milk. At the end of three weeks the skim milk can be cut out altogether. As the new milk is reduced I add a little ground flaxseed to take the place of the natural fat of the milk. This goes along with pasture grass in the summer. Winter calves get alfalfa hay in addition to milk and flaxseed and this along with corn ensilage and roots is all the food required to raise a good calf. If alfalfa hay cannot be had I would feed some ground oats along with less nutritive fodders. I have had no experience in feeding calves whey.

I do not believe that young heifers should drop their first calf until at least 30 months of age. Deferring freshening gives the heifer a chance to develop a strong vigorous body.

Re Mr. Hamill's Financial Statement

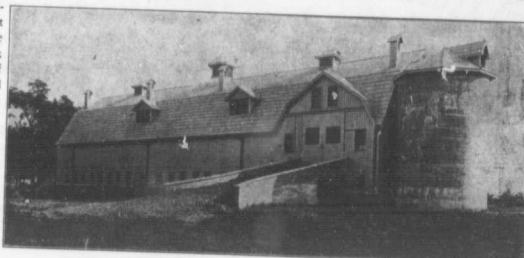
J. A. Macdonald, Carleton Co., Ont.

Interest on farm investment should never be less than 10 per cent., when no allowance is made for the owner's management (aside from manual labor) and to cover risks from drought, heavy

*Extract from an address at the recent E. O. D. A. Convention at Cornwall.

rains at harvest time, insects, fungoid diseases and winter injury.

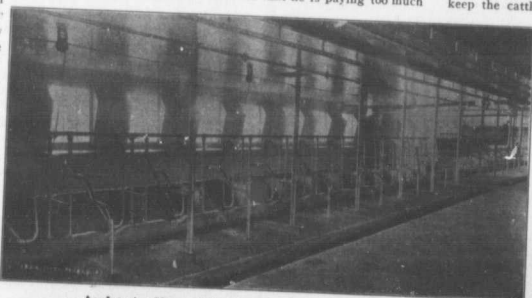
Mr. Hamill's statements of expenses and profits are quite characteristic of many producers. Such figures are misleading, because they do not give the total cost of production.



The New Dairy Cattle Barn at the Ontario Agricultural College

Our experience in growing the various crops has shown that the charges for the use of machinery, including interest, repairs and depreciation are not usually less than 50 cents an acre. Taxes will be about the same. Then there are the numerous overhead charges in a good up-to-date farm, such as telephone, general farm repairs and improvements, agricultural papers, time and money attending institutes, dairy association and breeders' meetings, and so forth, which in our times are legitimate farm expenses but which cannot be charged to any one department of the farm, and must therefore be distributed over the whole. These expenses are variable, but will generally be to be not far from \$1 an acre. This amounts to about \$2 an acre in addition to the usual \$6 interest on the value of a good farm, or \$8 per acre annual charge.

We do not see the object of stating farm costs so much below what they actually are. It actually injures the farmer's interests, because it leads the consumer to think that he is paying too much



An Interior View of the Model Dairy Stable at the O. A. C.

Many of the desirable features of this stable could be incorporated in any new stable at moderate expense. Note the abundance of window glass and that the frames are hinged at the bottom; direct drafts on the cattle are thus avoided when windows are used to aid ventilation. Note how little the steel equipment obstructs light and how sanitary it is. Also the 12th, the plank are inserted under the cows with cement floors elsewhere. Smooth walls do not facilitate the accumulation of dirt and cowbats.

for what he buys, and that farmers are getting rich, which is not true, though prices of farm produce are considerably higher than they have been. At the present time \$1 a cwt. is the price of milk in Ontario, and the present value of food-stuffs, taxes, direct and indirect, increasing value of farm land and abnormal price for labor, no amount of figuring can show a profit.

A Covered Barnyard for Dairy Cows

By E. L. McCuskey

It is estimated that 40 per cent. of the original value of manure is lost by leeching and fermentation in the care, or lack of care, that it gets on the average farm. How can we avoid this loss?

I would draw attention to another fact in farm practice. Any dairy farmer who has stabled his cows for some weeks and then started to turn them out for exercise each day in cold weather cannot but have noticed the serious decline in the milk yield. Cows cannot wander around even a sheltered barnyard on a winter's day with the temperature down below freezing and the wind blowing and not make an unsatisfactory showing at the pail next milking. For this reason the practice of the daily exercising of the cows, once so common, has been practically abandoned by our best dairy farmers.

I believe that both of these losses, the loss in the fertilizing value of the manure and in the milk production of cows, can be largely avoided by having a covered barnyard as a part of our building equipment. The only wonder to me is that in a climate such as we have in Canada the covered barnyard idea was not adopted long ago. When visiting the farm of A. C. Hallman, the veteran Holstein breeder of Waterloo county last winter, I found that he had tried out the covered barnyard idea and found it a success. Down in Oxford county I have run across a couple of covered barnyards and their owners are more than satisfied with the plan.

The advantages of the covered barnyard from the standpoint of manure preservation are self-evident. The manure is kept tramped down hard by the cattle, reducing fermentation to a minimum. Leeching does not occur at all, as the manure is under cover. When desired straw can be scattered over the surface of the manure to keep the cattle clean.

The advantages to the dairy cow are also well worth considering. In the covered yard sheltered from wind, the dairy cow can exercise and enjoy herself without suffering from cold. One United States dairyman of whom I have heard went so far as to advocate that cows be kept in a covered barnyard all through the winter and tied up in the stable only at milking time.

Why have we not more covered barnyards in Canada? Where tried the plan has evidently been successful. It seems to me that reason and logic are all on the side of the covered yard.

At a meeting of the Toronto Live Stock Exchange on March 12th, it was the sense of the meeting, that the resolution of a deduction of \$2 per head on all horned cattle sold on markets in the city of Toronto, be put in force April 1st next, as was originally resolved.

Who is the greatest man in the land? The farmer. He is King of the Castle, the father of the people, the giver of life to mankind.—"Uncle John" Hyatt, Prince Edward Co., Ont.