finally death found him in his official harness."

Why He Hesitated "Professional work robs a man of decision and self-confidence in dealing with money matters, added Mr. Smith with conviction. "If you work too many years for someone else, you lose the courage that is necessary to the running of a business of your own." These latter remarks were in reply to my expressed incredulity that a man who had held aloft the banner of free-trade when almost all others were downhearted and discouraged, should be afraid of such an apparently simple transaction as the buying of a farm. "When you are working for someone else, particularly in a position that lacks financial responsibility," he continued, "you do not develop the character that is possible to the man who is the boss of his own business. When I came to this farm I did not have the confidence in myself to fully believe I could master all the ins and outs of practical successful farm management.

"But that was four years ago," he added with a smile. "I have developed more confidence

As I walked over the farm with Mr. Smith, talking on many subjects relating to agriculture I found his enthusiasm for his new life most contagious. I wished that all the young fellows who are discontented with the farm could spare a few hours with Mr. Smith, who has seen the other side of life that they consider so desirable. He fully appreciates that advantage of the farm known as "being one's own boss." To him the farmer is monarch of all he surveys. His is the joy of creative work. To him to see crops growing and the live stock thriving is the source of greatest joy, the joy of creation.

A Practical Idealist

Perhaps this sounds too idealistic, too much like the viewpoint of the armchair editor who urges others to go back to the farm, but always finds some good excuse for not going himself But Mr. Smith is a practical working farmer. Let there be no mistake about that. On my first visit to my old friend in his new quarters, I found him in the orchard spraying, and he was doing a good job, too. On succeeding visits I have always found him energetically prosecuting his farm work; but perhaps I'd better tell something of his farm.

As the total area of his farm is only 50 acres. and the cultivated area considerably less, Mr. Smith regards diversified farming as offering his only chance of profit. He is placing the emphasis on the more intensive lines. Although he has not yet realized all of his plans, he is well on the way. His orchard, which he is extending by additional plantings, is and will continue to be one of the main sources of revenue. Small fruits with raspberries and strawberries in first place, are already bringing-in a few hundred dollars Tomatoes and cucumbers are grown for the canning factory, and proving decidedly profitable.

The Poultry Department

The poultry department is already one of the most up-to-date I have ever seen in the hands of a practical farmer and on a farm where attention is necessarily diverted to many other lines. The stock is all of the famous O.A.C. bred-tolay strain of Plymouth Rocks. Accommodation for 200 laying hens has been provided in O.A.C. open front poultry houses. Artificial hatching and brooding is the rule and the poultry department is already on a good paying basis.

It was the dairy herd, however, that I was most interested in, and it was with a view to their comfort that most of the improvements in the buildings have been made. The old hog house has been remodelled into an up-to-date dairy stable, with cement floors and mangers, steel partitions and swing stanchions, and individual water basins. All of this work was done with the farm labor in spare time at a minimum of ex-The cement silo, however, was built on pense. contract.

(Concluded on page 11)

## For Permanent Pastures Henry Glendinning, Ontario Co., Ont.

E have about 80 acres of our farm in permanent pasture, and under many conditions I believe the establishment of permanent pasture to be highly advisable. To see permanent pastures at their best, we must go to the Old Country, where good pastures will rent for



Indispensable on the Small Place. the silo erected by W. L. Smith on his second Durham Co., Ont., as photographed by farm and Dairy shortly after completing monolithic concrete construction, with a st

more than arable land. In the titles of estates it is there provided in some cases that the pastures shall not be plowed, so highly are they valued. I have walked through pastures at Newcastle-on-Tyne that have been in pasture since the Roman wall was built. Walking on that verdure is like walking on plush. These are the kind of pastures that I would strive to imitate in this country.

In seeding for permanent pasture I use a mixture of alsike and white clover, orchard grass,timothy and Kentucky bluegrass. Part of our pastures seeded with this mixture have been down for 15 years, and it is from this pasture that we get the best fattening and the best milk production if we except alfalfa itself. Permanent pasture is ready for grazing earlier in the spring than the rotated pasture, and will stand closer grazing. I would note, too, that the best pasture grasses can seldom be sown to advantage in a rotation. The field on our farm that is in permanent pasture is some distance from the buildings, more difficult to reach than the others, and I believe is returning bigger dividends as permanent pasture than it would if under crop.

## When Alfalfa is Sickly By Tom Alfalfa

Y good friend, the editor of Farm and M y good friend, the Dairy, has been severely criticised for booming alfalfa so strongly. Alfalfa has been one of his favorite subjects in the five years that I have read this paper. Many who have been induced through reading the articles in Farm and Dairy to give alfalfa a trial, have failed The alfalfa has been sickly in appearance, fooled around the whole year without making much growth, turned yelle , and finally the field was plowed up in disgust.

There are many causes for alfalfa behaving this way, but the biggest cause of all in Ontario is lack of lime in the soil. Much of Ontario is off the limestone belt. Haldimand is the great alfalfa county, because the soil is rich in lime. Where the lime is not naturally there, it must be applied. The litmus paper test will show whether or not the soil is in need of lime.

Get some blue litmus paper at the druggist's and cut it in strips. Go out into the moist field and separate the soil with a knife blade. Slip in a piece of litmus paper and press the soil against it. Leave it there five minutes. If when withdrawn the blue paper has turned to pink, it is a sure indication that the soil is sour and needs lime before alfalfa can be grown successfully

There are several methods of applying lime to the soil. Air slacked lime, one or two tons to the acre, will right any soil moderately sour. Ground limestone rock is coming into favor as a method of correcting sour soils, but applications of it must be heavier and its action is slower. Wood ashes are rich in lime, as is also basic slag. This latter I regard as the very best commercial fertilizer for alfalfa, it containing the two ele ments most necessary, lime and phosphoric acid. I would advise Farm and Dairy readers who have been berating the editor for getting them into what they may regard as a "foolish venture," to try some method of correcting the acidity of their soil, and then see if they cannot grow alfalfa to advantage

## Sowing Alfalfa in Drills

T Macdonald College, Que., alfalfa has been grown in drills very successfully. A few months ago an editor of Farm and Dairy was conducted through the Experimental plots by Mr. Paul A. Boving, and the results of his observations were published in Farm and Dairy. Since the publication of that article, many of Our Folks have written us requesting further information as to the advisability of seeding alfalfa in drills where hay, rather than seed, is desired. Mr. Boving writes us on this point as follows:

"In reply to your question regarding alfalfa, I want to emphasize, before making any statement, that last year was exceptional, at least as far as this district is concerned. The drought threatened for a while to almost kill all vegetation, and the superiority of drill sowing of alfalfa, with subsequent cultivation, may be partly due to these extreme conditions. We had, as you may remember, experiments with both seed production and hay growing in rows as well as broadcast. If seed, we had about 50 pounds an acre, with alfalfa sown broadcast, whereas the drills vielded on the average of different distances, around 150 pounds of seed an acre. None of these yields are exceptional; they may even be considered rather low, but the difference in vields is very striking.

Drills Culture For Hay

"In regard to hav we had fully as high yields from drills planted on a distance of anywhere from 20 to 30 inches as from broadcast, and when one considers that a good stand can be obtained by drilling with as low a rate as five pounds an acre, it is worth while to try this method, even if it causes more subsequent labor.

"The yields of alfalfa for hay were not high last year-only about 25 tons; but it should be noted that alfalfa, broadcast, did not in a single case give a higher yield than any of the drill sown plots; and as you will remember, we went down, in rate of seeding, as far as three pounds of seed an acre."

Man did not make the earth, and though he had a natural right to occupy it, he had no right to locate as his property in perpetuity any part of it. -Thomas Paine.

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