

**Y**ES, paid off \$9,500 on the farm, built a \$5,000 barn and a \$6,000 house—that's the latest 12-year record of the Holstein herd at Ossian Hall. Besides this they gave the family a handsome living—a family at the "educating age," too. And the secret? That was told me in a few words by the owner, R. H. Dowler, as we sped cityward in his big "McLaughlin special," after a visit I recently paid to his farm. "My cows have never been pinched," said Mr. Dowler, "no matter what the price of feeds. In return for the care they received, if they didn't fill their pail they found a place in front of a butcher shop. My cows have always stood by me, and I have stood by the cows." It is this mutual support that has brought success to Dick Dowler and his Holstein herd.

For many years the Dowler farm, situated some three miles west of Ottawa on the river road, has been run as a dairy farm. For almost as many, it has been known as a Holstein farm. "Our Holstein herd has easily paid for the farm twice over," said Mr. Dowler, "and this is the second generation of Dowlers that have been raised on the income from our dairy herd." It is not a cheap farm either. It contains 226 acres of fertile land in a good location and well cultivated—a farm worth \$50,000 as it stands.

#### The Herd.

The foundation of the present herd was laid many years ago. Daisy Jewel, the first pure bred on the farm, was given registration certificate No. 342 in volume two of the Holstein-Friesian herd book. Anyone having herd books reaching back



"Ossian Hall," the comfortable home of R. H. Dowler.

## A Dairy Herd That Has Paid for a Farm

With Something on the Farm, the Beautiful Home that Crowns it and R. H. Dowler the Owner.—By S. R. H. Hodgins, Associate Editor

far enough into the past will be able to find out when this herd was started. At any rate it is old enough to merit its standing in Holstein "society."

At no time has the stable contained pure breeds only. Good grades that give plenty of milk are never barred. But the herd has such a proportion of pedigreed stock that it is virtually a pure bred herd. In building up and maintaining the herd, the ideal towards which Mr. Dowler has striven is production. A cow that gives 50 lbs. of milk a day is welcomed to the barn on her own merit, even though her parents may not have been titled personages. And the cow that falls down in production or fails to breed regularly, wends her way to market, no matter how blue the blood in her veins.

Mr. Dowler is breeding some good stuff in the Holstein line. His stock this year were well up among the prize winners at the Central Canada Exhibition, his herd sire, King Pontiac Ossian, carrying off first prize in his class. Another of his outstanding animals at the exhibition this year was August Jewel, winner of first honors in the senior yearling class with eight competitors. This was said to be the strongest Holstein class at the Central Canada fair. The fact that Mr. Dowler is a practical dairy farmer who knows the amount of milk each cow gives every day, and who depends for his income on his checks from the Ottawa Dairy, means that the stuff he breeds is bred not for the show ring, (although that side is by no means neglected), but for milk—the ultimate source of income from dairy cows.

The sire standing at the head of the herd at Ossian Hall is King Pontiac Ossian, sired by Pontiac Kornyk Het Loo. His dam is Geraldine Jewel, one of the high producing cows of Mr. Dowler's own stables. Geraldine Jewel has a seven-day record of 27.43 lbs. fat from 598 lbs. of milk. King Pontiac Ossian is a quality sire showing considerable size and strength as well. At one year, 10 months, he weighed 1,600 lbs.: This characteristic of size may be seen all through the herd. They are good capacious cows and their performance shows that they know how to make use of the large amount of food which they are capable of assimilating.

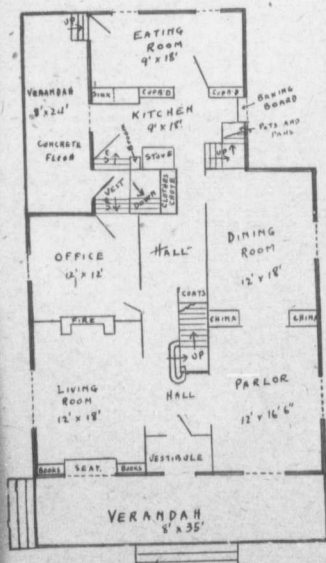
Most of the 46 cows that are being milked this winter have been bred on the farm. For instance out of a row of 20 milkers standing on the east side of the stable, all but one was raised by Mr. Dowler. The cows are fed liberal rations, depending on their production. Bran, shorts and oil

cake are the concentrates being used this year and plenty of ensilage is available from two 18 x 30 foot stave silos. This liberal feeding is having its effect. The day I was there, one grade gave 50 lbs. of milk at two milkings and most of the others that were in full flow approximated this. One pure bred three-year-old heifer, that was put dry to go to the Ottawa fair and freshened 10 days after being put dry, is running from 48 to 52 lbs. a day. None of the cows are being forced. No records are being tried for. They are merely weighing the milk for their own information. It might be of interest to know that Mr. Dowler was offered \$500 for this three-year-old pure-bred heifer a couple of weeks ago. He, however, informed the enquirer that she was not for sale.

#### The Farm.

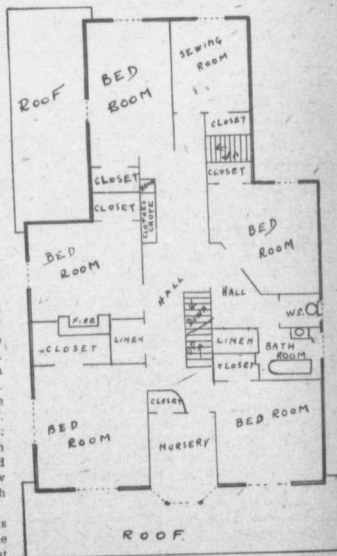
The farm of R. H. Dowler comprises 226 acres of good heavy land. For a number of years the present owner was the proprietor of but half this farm. The other half was owned by his father. Twelve years ago his father died without a will and in order to hold the farm in a block, R. H. took over the farm formerly occupied by his father, borrowing the money to do so. "I came out of the office of the Toronto Trust and Loan Company that night," said Mr. Dowler, "with a dollar in my pocket and a \$9,500 debt on my shoulders, but I had a good farm and a good herd of dairy cattle. My herd have since paid off this debt and have besides built my barn, which cost me \$5,000, and a \$6,000 house."

The barn to which Mr. Dowler referred is (Continued on page 18.)



The Ground Floor Plan.

The features of this floor are the well planned kitchen, the office or den of the owner, and the cheerful living-room.



The First Floor Plan.

Plenty of clothes and linen closets, separate bathroom and water closet and the clothes chute are some of the features to be commended on this floor.