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### Care and Abuse of Farm Machinery.

Recent investigations by the Conservation Commission reveal some very interesting facts regarding the effect of care, or neglect, as the case may be, upon the tife of machinery on the farm. Between 90 and 95 farms, divided into three districts, were visited in each of the Provmces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. In Saskatchewan, out of 94 farmers visited by the Commission's representative, 76 leave all their implements out of doors. On 78 of the farms there were no implement sheds of any description. On 21 of the farms, sheds large enough to cover a part of the implements were found, in most cases this being only a buggy or a democrat, but not on one single farm was the machinery all Not one farmer was found who housed. painted his implements to protect them from the weather. In Manitoba, only 14 out of 94 keep their machinery under cover during winter, while 44 claim to keep a part of it inside. On 34 of the Manitoba farms no provision whatever is made for protect ng implements, and only four claim to have done any painting. In the three districts visited in Alberta, mixed farming is carried on quite extensively making more barn room available, so that implements are more likely to be protected, but even here, 37 out of the 92 visited leave all machinery out of doors. In one district in Ontario where 40 farmers were visited, every man housed his implements during winter, although none of these men do any painting. In the Ontario district visited where the implements are housed, the average life of the binder was found to be between 16 and 17 years. Many binders were seen which were in good running order after cutting 20 seasons' crops. In Saskatchewan and Man toba, where so much of the machinery is left out of doors, the average life of the binder is given by the farmers as about 7 years, which is less than half that of the binder protected from the weather. Many binders do not last as long as 7 years. One farmer near Moosomin, Sask., who, after 12 years, was retiring from the farm, he'd an auction sale. His binder, after cutting 12 crops, sold for \$80, or 50 per cent. of the original cost, and his other machinery at proportionately high prices. It had all been well boused, and the necessary painting anl repairs had been done to keep it in good order. On a neighboring farm a binder which had cut only three crops which had been neglected and had stood out of doors, was being relegated to the scrap heap, and a new one was being purchased. An implement shed costs money, but if its use will double or treble the length of time the machinery will last, it is a good investment. Farmers often say that they can not afford to build a shed. The truth is, they really can not afford to be without one. Apart from the additional power necescary for operation, the depreciation on unhoused machinery on the average sized farm is so great as to amount to much more than the cost and upkeep of an implement shed. The binder works for only a short time during the year, while machinery in a shop works the whole year through, and lasts proportionately many times longer. It is simply a matter of care. The life of a machine extends in direct ratio to the care it receives, and abuse and neglect will shorten the life of any mechanism. The manufacturer is not responsible for the care of the machinery after it is sold. This rests entirely with the farmer, and 48 a common - sonse business proposition he should look after his own interests sufficiently to house his implements, and thus save the thousands of dollars wasted annually in unnecessary depreciation.

# Ossio

Volume 17. of the Holstein-Friesian Herdbook of Canada, has been issued from the press, and a copy, by courtesy of Secretary and Editor W. A. Clemons, St. George, Ont., received at this office. This volume contains pedigrees of bulls numbering from 15726 to 18425, and of cows numbering from 23301 to 27400. Also an index to the owners, with their address, and an index to the animals recorded; also an index to address of members of the Association.

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