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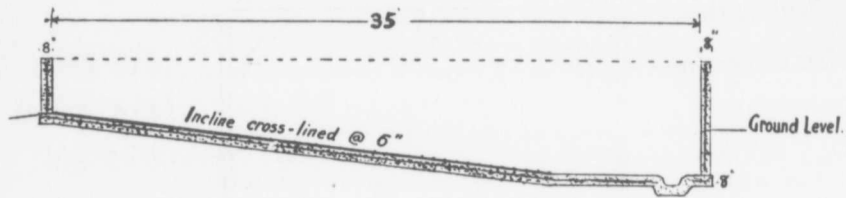


THE STOCKMAN'S DUTY TO CONSERVE MANURES

BY

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It is a recognized, proven fact that, ultimately, the only agriculturally successful communities and countries are those where mixed farming is commonly practised. Without the use of barnyard manure, however, the following of such a system of farming is impracticable. Live stock husbandry, then, is the backbone of permanent agricultural prosperity. There are numerous reasons for this, but one of the most outstanding is the maintenance of farm fertility. If, then, the by-products of animal husbandry, namely, manures, are of such intrinsic value, why do over 95 per cent of Canadian stock farmers take no special care to prevent waste? In all other great industries the conservation of the by-products is given special care and such are made to largely meet a large share of operating expenses and to counterbalance overhead charges. Why not in agriculture? Manure is one of the raw materials in field hus-



bandry. In all other industries, raw materials are carefully preserved and it is the duty of every Canadian farmer to adopt similar sound business practices.

This very important question might be briefly summarized for all Canadian live stock men as follows:—

1. The value of manure as voided depends on the age, condition, and health of the animals and the quality of the feed. Young growing animals and heavy-producing milch cows extract from 25 to 50 per cent of the fertilizing value from the food consumed, while unthrifty and fat animals extract only from 8 to 20 per cent, the balance being voided in the manure. The fertilizing elements in the manure, however, are in direct proportion to the same elements contained in the foodstuffs. For example, for milk production cottonseed meal and linseed oilmeal are worth about the same pound for pound, yet high grade cottonseed meal contains from 10 to 20 per cent more of the fertilizing ingredients than does the linseed meal; hence the manure from the former would be more valuable.

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