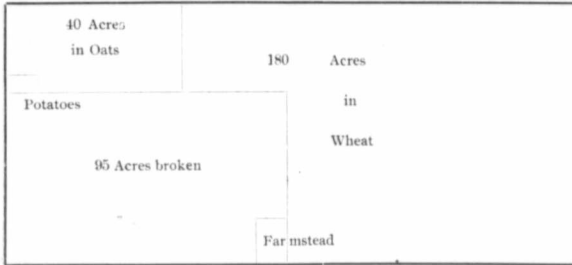


A Three Years' Program for the Cultivation and Equipment of a Half Section of Land in Manitoba.

Continued from page 20

CASH ACCOUNT FOR SECOND YEAR		Dr.	Cr.
April	Bought four horse team.....		\$1000 00
	280 bush. seed wheat @ 85c.....		238 00
	One drill.....		120 00
	Gang plow stubble and breaker bottom.....		110 00
August	Twine 440 lbs. @ 9c. per lb.....		39 60
	Threshing bill.....		500 20
	Eight ft. binder.....		185 00
	1 man, 12 days @ \$2.50.....		30 00
Sept.	Sold wheat 5200 bush. @ 85c.....	\$4471 00	
	Interest on farm and horses.....		483 00
	7 months wage @ \$35.....		245 00
	Paid on first team.....		500 00
	Made payment on land.....		1000 00
	Sundries.....		10 20
		\$4471 00	\$4471 00



Plan of farm at end of second year.

The third spring I would put 275 acres of land into wheat leaving the same forty acres for oats again as was used the previous year. I would keep the one team on the drill as much as possible and the other team preparing the land for the seed. A sufficient amount of potatoes would be sown again. A man would have to be engaged again for the seven summer months at the usual wage of thirty-five dollars per month. About 415 bushels of wheat would be required to seed the 275 acres and eighty bushels of oats for the forty acres left for oats. This grain would have to be cleaned free of all weed seeds and rubbish and treated for smut with formaldehyde. After the grain is sown it should be well harrowed. It is almost impossible to spend too much time with the harrow as it is one of the most effective implements in the forming of a very desirable dust mulch and seed bed. The harrow is also

an invaluable tool in the eradication of young weeds. By harrowing when the weeds are just showing two leaves above the ground they are nearly all killed, if, however, they are allowed to become very strong the harrow is of little use. If the land can be harrowed on a very hot day the sun can be used to great advantage as it kills the young weeds before they have a chance to take root again. The weed problem is of vast importance to every farmer and should, therefore, be very carefully studied. Various solutions are advocated for spraying to kill the weeds after they are well developed, but prevention is better than cure and our aim should be to prevent them attaining such a size as to need spraying, as when they are young is the time they are most easily dealt with. The land plowed in the spring should be packed immediately after plowing and given one

stroke of the drag harrow before seeding.

After all the seed is sown I propose to fence the half section with woven wire. This I deem very advisable as it prevents to a large measure the spread of weeds by keeping all stray cattle and other animals off the land; and prevents the straying of the owner's stock. A good fence adds immeasurably to the value of the farm, making it look more attractive and giving it an air of prosperity. If there are any stones on the land they should be neatly piled in places allotted for such and not thrown in fence corners, etc., as this detracts very greatly from the appearance of the farm and shows carelessness on the part of the operator. The five acres allotted for the farmstead would be fenced off from the rest of the field. The fence should be well and strongly erected. On the north and west side of the farmstead a wind-break would be planted, the variety of trees depending upon the climatic conditions, the soil and the personal ideas of the owner. It would be well if an acre was fenced off with trees to make a garden where fruit trees could be grown, as a good garden adds much to a farm, both in appearance, value and usefulness. The fence would be of fairly heavy woven wire, costing about 14c. yd., 5,840 yards would be required, costing \$817.60. A post every ten yards would require about 600 posts at 12c. per post, costing \$72, making a total cost of \$890, which when all gates and other necessities had been accounted for would amount to at least \$900.

The two mares with foal could be allowed to be idle till harvest. They would be bred again. The necessary amount of hay would be again put up. At harvest time I would hire a stooker for about twenty days at \$2.50 per day. There being a fairly large crop if it came in together, as it usually does, I would use both teams on the binder, changing off and keeping the binder going from early morning till late at night to prevent as much loss through shell-ing as possible. The twine neces-

sary would be about 630 lbs at 9c., amounting to \$57. An average yield for this crop would be about thirty bushels per acre, amounting to 8,250 bushels wheat. The oats at forty bushels per acre amounting to 1,600 bushels. The total threshing bill would amount to about \$660. As in the previous year I would load the wheat direct into cars, retaining about 500 bushels for the next year's seed. The 7,750 bushels at 85c. would bring in \$6,588. As soon as harvest was over I would set the teams plowing after harvesting the potatoes. The land would be packed and harrowed as in the previous fall. All the remains of the straw piles must be carefully burned so as to prevent any land being wasted.

The following spring I propose building a good house and barn. With a fairly good crop these could be paid for together with the balance owing on the farm. When the farm is all broken up it will not be necessary to rush the work so much so that the number of live stock could be increased. With this increase it would be advisable to include grass in the crop rotation. By using grass in the rotation bare summer fallow could be avoided. The latter proves very successful as a conservator of moisture but does not aid the maintenance of soil fertility to an appreciable extent. Grass proves a very good revitalizer of the soil and at the same time crops of hay are being produced. With an increase in the number of live stock, pasture land of some kind would be necessary. The land that had yielded a crop or two of hay would be very satisfactory for this purpose if it was fenced. An adjoining half section would be a good investment if it could be secured. With an increase in size of the farm and the production of larger quantities of grain, live stock, etc., the farm could be carried on cheaper in proportion to the production, as almost invariably a large enterprise can be carried on more cheaply, proportionately, than a small one. With an increase in the acreage of grain it would be advisable to purchase a



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