



## Send For These Records

To know what other farmers have actually done with their tractors is worth more to you than theories of mechanical construction. Records of work well done weigh heavier than brilliant probabilities. Facts are what you want.

The records in this little booklet were picked at random from the hundreds sent in by enthusiastic Big Four "30" owners. They do not represent the greatest amount of work which it is possible to do with the Big Four "30" in a season.



they merely tell what was actually done during the season of 1911. With every record is given the name and address of the man who sent it in—write to him and see what he thinks of the Big Four "30"

The thousands of testimonials we have on record mean just one thing—that the Big Four "30" makes good every time—delivers the goods. If it didn't do this—every time—we never could afford to sell it on approval—we'd have to get our money before it was unloaded. But we know that it makes good every time and we're not afraid to let you try it out in your own field before you pay a cent on it. That's fair, isn't it?

The Big Four "30" has many exclusive features which place it in a class by itself. Its self-steering device easily adds \$1,000 to the engine's worth.

SEND FOR THIS BOOKLET TODAY.

# Gas Traction Co.,

First and Largest Builder in the World  
of Four-Cylinder Farm Tractors.

172 Princess Street, WINNIPEG, Man.

Canadian Office & Factory, Winnipeg, Man.

General Office and Factory, Minneapolis, Minn., U.S.A.

spring, and so disked and harrowed that capillarity has been restored below, and the upper soil is in that mellow, crumbling condition which the farmer can feel as he walks over it better than any living man can describe it.

There are some things which the farmer can do to put his soil out of physical condition. He can plow it after the frost is out while it is wet. In clay soils this will surely form clods. A clod contributes nothing to plant growth so long as it remains a clod, for the simple reason that plant roots can not penetrate it. These clods allow too free access of air, and the land dries out. Hence the man who allows his land to get cloddy through bad cultivation invites a crop failure, which will not wait for a second invitation. Where the farmer is undertaking too much, he is almost certain to plow some of his ground wet. He can remedy this mistake to a certain extent by harrowing after plowing, and doing it before there is time for clods to form. This clod formation does not take long, especially on a dry day, with a south-west wind blowing.

condition than oats stubble or wheat stubble.

We do not claim to be able to tell each individual farmer what he ought to do; that is impossible. Our aim at present is simply to call the attention of farmers to the fact that unless in some way or other they get their soil in proper condition, they must not expect a big crop this year, no matter what the season may be.

### How to Improve the Lawn.

It is singular, though not very surprising, how many there are who forget that the common grasses are plants requiring food; that a lawn simply consists of thousands and millions of these plants growing closely together, and emerald green, when in very good condition.

Lawns are periodically mown, sometimes with a scythe or shears, commonly by means of a lawn-mower. It is chiefly since the advent of the lawn-



The farmer can get his land out of physical condition if he allows his fallow land to lie untouched until the end of the planting season. On dry days, when the evaporation is very rapid, this land will crack open, and every crack is simply the outline of a clod. This can be prevented by disking frequently, beginning just as soon as the ground is in condition in the Spring. This will form a dirt mulch and if followed with the harrow will effectively save the moisture that is in the soil, bottle it up, as the saying goes.

Lands which are worn, or, in other words, lands in which the vegetable matter is to a great extent exhausted, are much more likely to get out of physical condition than lands which are well stored with humus material. Hence, generally speaking, the poorer the land, the more difficult it is to secure the proper physical condition. In lands that are well stored with humus material or humus, the soil particles are not nearly so likely to run together and form clods, as in those in which the humus material has been exhausted by improper cultivation. Sod land is always easier to get in proper physical

mower that lawns—and especially old lawns—have become more or less unsatisfactory in so many cases. This is because the lawn-mower with grass-box attached—as it is in more than 99 per cent. of cases—collects practically all the grass it cuts, and the whole is removed from the lawn.

Imagine a meadow mown for hay by a farmer who never applied any manure to that meadow, and never turned any stock into it to supply a fertilizer indirectly. It would, after a series of years of such treatment, chiefly present a patchy appearance—green, brown, and earthy—unless it chanced to be near the water-level and became flooded occasionally.

### The Process of Exhaustion.

Lawns are in nearly all cases removed from the last-named contingency, but the process of exhaustion is unceasing. The grass is mown and taken away. The plants continue to extract nourishment from the soil below so long as any remains available. Nothing has been returned to the lawn to serve as manure during that period, and where the soil is thin or poor, there the grass first

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