

We Welcome Practical Progressive Ideas

Trade increases the wealth and glory of a country; but its real strength and stamina are to be looked for among the cultivators of the land—Lord Chatham.

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The Machinery on a 150 Acre Farm

Mr. W. C. Good Enumerates the Implements He Considers Necessary

ONE of the best worked farms in Brant County, Ont., is the 150-acre holding of Mr. W. C. Good, who lives on the old toll road between Brantford and Paris. I have visited Mr. Good several times, usually during the summer, and have always found the work well advanced, and with a minimum of man-power. Practically every acre on the farm, with the exception of five acres in orchard, is variable, and included in the rotation. Heavy crops are grown if the season is at all favorable, and the work is all handled with the help of one man in addition to the proprietor himself, the young Goods not yet being old enough to be even a small factor in the farm operations. The despatch with which the work is done, Mr. Good attributes largely to an efficient equipment of modern implements. On the season of my last visit, I found Mr. Good busy laying bricks as a foundation for a summer kitchen, as he went on with his work he enumerated in answer to my questions the implements that he considers a good investment for the man who follows mixed farming on 150 acres.

"I have not been able to come to a definite decision as to the place for the tractor on a farm the size of this one," said Mr. Good as he travelled out the mortar for the next brick. "At present I am still opposed to the tractor nor enthusiastically in favor of it. We have the horses anyway, and at present my implements are designed to be used with horse power."

"Let us take the cultivating implements first," continued Mr. Good. "A man needs one good general purpose walking plow. I don't think he has need for more than one. Then he should have a two-furrow riding plow for three or four horses. This two-furrow plow will do most of the plowing on the farm. With it, one man handles what was once a two-man job, and leaves me free to look after the special jobs around the farm, which would be neglected were we depending altogether on single furrow plows. For instance, while my man is plowing four furrows at a round I may be pruning in the orchard."

"I have another plow that I think a great deal of. I had it made specially to my order, and it is used principally for plowing hard ground for fall wheat. This plow cuts 16 inches wide, and 10 inches deep, and I believe there is a place for many plows of the same type on farms where fall wheat is grown somewhat extensively."

The Spring-Toothed Cultivator Favored.

"For working up the land once it is plowed, I would place the riding spring-toothed cultivator as first in my estimation. My friend Drury has a stiff toothed cultivator, which he thinks a lot of, but my preference is still for the spring-toothed. In fact, I can't imagine myself getting along without this implement. It works splendidly in connection with our double disk harrow. We follow after the double disk with the riding cultivator and it levels the land which has been left uneven by the disk and tears out every weed if there are any present."

Mr. Good paused for a moment to draw his line for the next tier of bricks. "I would never be bothered with a single disk harrow," he remarked when the line had been run to his satisfaction. "We have a double disk big enough to do the heavy work of a horse, but with it we cover a lot of land in a short time. If I had to choose between a spring-toothed cultivator and a double disk harrow, however, I believe I would take the cultivator. Finally, we have a smoothing harrow wide enough to make a good load for three or four horses."

In cultivating the growing crops, I consider a two-furrow cultivator an excellent investment. We have used one for a number of years on our 10 to 17 acres of late crop, and would not like to be without it.

It is easier to guide and does more effective work than the old-fashioned single-row scuffer. The scuffer is needed occasionally, however, and is a necessary part of the farm equipment."

A Remodelled Hoe Drill.

The second last row of bricks was nearing completion when I enquired about seeding implements. "I have never tried the disk drill," Mr. Good admitted, "although I have heard it highly recommended. I did, however, fix over my old hoe drill last spring and I consider that I made a great improvement in it. Previously we had had difficulties with the hoos in the farm workshop. With the help of the force more than ordinarily are, and pointed them in fact, made them more like the teeth on the spring-toothed cultivator. The hoe now cut through everything and the drill works fine. Ours is an eleven-spout two-horse drill. The ground on some of my fields is rather uneven, and a smaller disk adapts itself to those conditions better than a wider one. We use this same drill for corn planting, and have used it for mangel seedling. For the smaller seeds such as turnips and mangels, however, I prefer the hand seeder. We do not grow many roots, preferring to put the emphasis on corn for the silo, and for all the time it takes I consider the hand drill a good investment and it does an extra good job."

Mr. Good was now on the last tier of bricks. "I read the articles by Messrs. Hallman and McKillop on hay-making equipment in the Farm Machinery Number with a great deal of interest," he told me. "I had figured on the investment in a side delivery rake and hay loader myself and decided that it would be profitable if I were handling from 100 to 200 tons of hay per year. Our crop runs from 60 to 80 tons of hay and we have not yet made the investment in either of these implements, though we have them under consideration. Of course, a wide cut mower, good-sized hay racks, and horse forks in the barns are not only necessary but indispensable."

"My binder is a six-foot cut. Our grain crops are usually heavy and the binder is a fairly good load for three horses. When I have to buy another

machine, however, it will be a seven-foot cut."

Electricity the Model Power.

During the past year Mr. Good has connected up with Hydro-Electric. All the buildings are now illuminated by electricity, and one of the most appreciated conveniences in the Good home is an electric range. Further use is now going to be made of the electric energy in doing the farm work. "I do not think there is any question but that electricity is the best farm power," remarked Mr. Good. "If a farmer has a tractor for field work he has a power already provided for heavy belt work. I myself am considering a portable ten-horse-power electric motor. For years our threshing outfit is coming. I believe that the small threshing machines have been getting bigger and bigger. Now the tendency is the other way and farmers, I believe, will figure more on doing their own threshing. A motor of reasonable size and a grain separator represent a heavy investment for a single farmer, and I think it is here we should have cooperation among neighbors. If I get the power I would invest in a silo filler as well; probably, too, a small grain grinder."

By this time the cement mortar had run out and we strolled out together to the stable to look at a couple of bunches of young cattle, which, Mr. Good said, demonstrated the value of proper breeding. One bunch had been bred on the farm, and they were making splendid growth. Another bunch had been bought in at sales and they were not doing half as well on the same feed. Incidentally I noticed that there were at least 200 loads of manure in the barnyard. "That's one implement that I forgot to mention," said Mr. Good, indicating his manure spreader. "It is an implement that any man with a reasonable amount of stock cannot afford to be without. A possible exception might be where all the manure is hauled out and spread in the winter time. On this farm we have lots of straw, use lots of bedding, and the manure in the yard is always well tramped. I do not think there is any appreciable loss in fertilizing value of manure held over in this way for fall wheat."

"There is another thing that I must not forget to mention in connection with farm equipment," added Mr. Good just before I left. "We have a farm workshop with its forge, anvil, and all other equipment necessary to keep the farm implements in shape. Every farmer is compelled to have more or less tools around, and if he has a properly equipped workshop he will find that he spends many very profitable hours therein."—F. E. E.

Paint the Car at Home

And Save Money—By Tom Alfalfa

WHEN passing through Toronto on the train a few days ago I saw a big sign over a carriage factory, "35¢ to paint your Ford." That night in Guelph I got into conversation with an old friend, who at one time kept store in our village, and I noticed that his Ford car, which stood at the curb, was completely in a new coat of paint. "What did it cost you?" I asked, with the frankness that is permissible between old friends.

"Just \$1.45 and my own time for several evenings," the job looked fairly good. Some time after this, as already related in Farm and Dairy, I called on Mr. W. W. Ballantyne of Stratford. Their Ford car, which has been on the road for five years, now had all the glister of a car just out of the factory. "No, it didn't cost us \$35," remarked Mr. Norman Ballantyne. "We just sand-papered to get the rust off" (Continued on page 11.)

Idle Machinery is Expensive

WITH the labor problem the most acute in the history of farming, the farmer must depend upon machinery to supplement the labor he will find unavailable. The Government is taking steps to insure that there will be no delay in delivering the thousands of cars of new implements needed during the war period and thereafter. In this connection here are a few pointers which the farmer would do well to keep in mind.

"Machines make money for you when they are in use; they cost you money when they stand idle."

"A machine makes the greatest possible profit for its owner when it is used continuously and profitable work till it is worn out. Then it is really worn out—it does not rust or rust out."

"The average farm implement is only about half worn out by use alone. The rest of the wear is due to rust and decay."

"Acres count in the life of a machine—not years."