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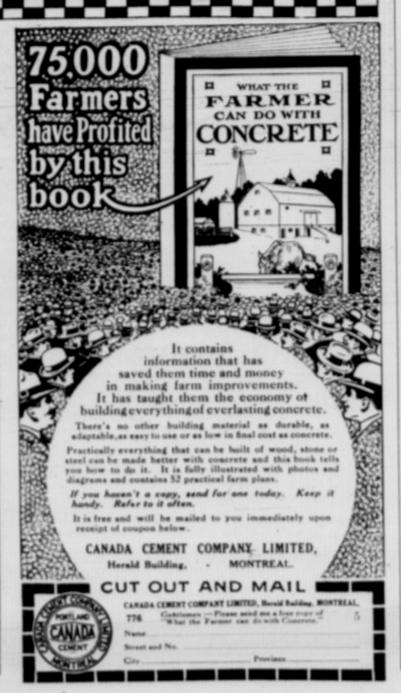
## HIDES

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## IN A BRUSH COUNTRY

IN A BRUSH COUNTRY

My separator has a 24-inch cylinder and 29-inch rear with bagger, but no straw carrier or blower. The power is supplied by a six h.p. gasoline engine, mounted on a half trues heavy wagon. The separator is also on its own trucks; i like this better than a combined outfit, because we thresh practically all the grain raised in nine townships and the roads are very bad in this brush and timbered part of the country. The engine and parts of the separator make a ton load for a team of oxen, and the separator weighs about fourteen or fifteen hundred. We use two teams of oxen, as we find them ideal for this work, as they go thru mud and rough roads much easier than horses and give less bother in several ways than horses. The machine is hand fed. In this locality we have lots of straw not fully ripened and as most of the settlers need all the straw for feed they cut it very close to the ground, which ties up most of the weeds and grass and makes very tough threshing for small power, especially during a wet fall like 1915. Thus what information I give here from my books for the last five years would not be what the machine could do on the prairie where the stubble is cut-high and the straw ripe and clean. It requires three teams to thresh 20 acres in one setting, each man pitching his own load, three men on the straw and one team and man to bend grain, a feeder and one man to tend engine, separator and bag the grain—in threshing outs it needs a man to tend engine, separator and bag the grain—in threshing outs it needs a man to tend engine, separator and bag the grain—in threshing outs it needs a man to tend engine, separator and bag the grain—in threshing outs it needs a man to tend engine, separator and bag the grain—in threshing outs it needs a man to tend engine, separator in tough grain. Of course I could overcome that by logging the separator pulley. With a straw carrier, a tailing elevator and high bag ger I would advise an eight-horse power engine, as it will not use as much gasoline as an over

a feeder.

We have threshed in good oats 110 hushels an hour, but 820 bushels is one of our higgest ten hour days and about 70 hushels of wheat an hour is the most we have made. I may say we have never lost five minutes in the five years we have threshed.

## Points to Be Considered

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A farmer's first consideration will always be to save all his grain with the least possible expense. The help required to keep a small outfit running to its capacity will depend largely on the size of the machinery. This can be easily judged once the proper size is decided on. It may be presumed that a small outfit can be expected to threah from 600 to 1,000 bushels of wheat per day, other grains in proportionate quantities.

It will remain an open question as to whether an outfit with less capacity would be a financially good investment for the average farmer. Doubtless numerous farmers will remember the horse-power machinery of days gone by. How one man compared with another could feed more grain to a machine and use considerably less power. A small individual farmer's outfit will be successful or not to a large extent according to the methods of the hand-feeder himself. The secret of successful hand feeding is the proper spreading and tossing of the sheaf. This has a great deal to do with the power neces sary to operate a separator successfully. No matter how the machinery may be equipped otherwise, it is for the individual farmer to decide as to the most profitable method or process to employ for the saving of his crop. Will a small outfit of his own result