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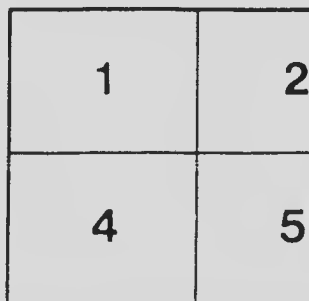
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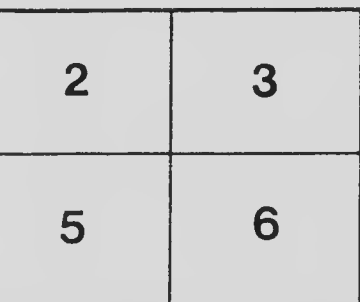
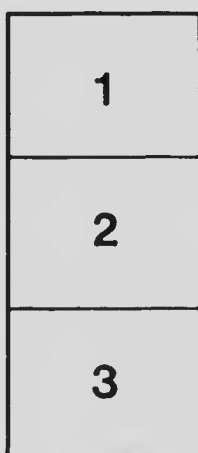
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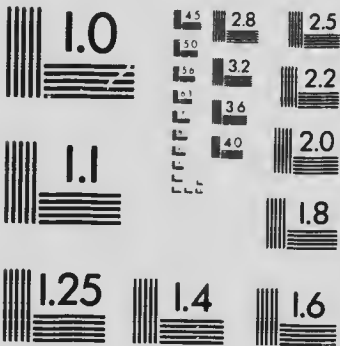
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THE MILKING MACHINE

A PARTIAL SOLUTION OF
THE LABOUR PROBLEM

THEY WILL TAKE THE PLACE OF THAT EXTRA HIRED MAN SO HARD TO
OBTAIN AT THE PRESENT TIME.

**Unlike that Hired Man they are always there
Ready for Work.**

THEIR WORK IS NOTED FOR ITS UNIFORMITY FROM DAY TO DAY.
MILKING MACHINES ARE NOW RECOGNISED
AS A GOOD INVESTMENT.

ONE MAN WITH A MILKING MACHINE CAN MILK TWENTY TO TWENTY-FIVE
COWS PER HOUR.
THIS NUMBER WOULD TAKE THREE MEN AT HAND MILKING.

**THE REAL DRUDGERY OF THE DAIRY FARM IS ELIMINATED BY THE
USE OF THE MILKING MACHINE.**

DOMINION EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.
SPECIAL CIRCULAR No. 13.

J. H. GRISDALE, B. Agr.,
DIRECTOR.

GEO. W. MUIR, B.S.A.,
ASSISTANT TO
DOMINION ANIMAL HUSBANDMAN.

INTRODUCTION.

THE object of this circular is to put before the dairy farmer the value of the mechanical milker under the present conditions of labour on the farm.

There has been in the minds of many dairy farmers a great deal of prejudice against the use of a mechanical milker, but the present is no time to let prejudice stand in the way of increased production.

Every dairy farmer with a herd of 12 or more cows should consider seriously the installation of a milking machine.

The experience of an ever-increasing number of practical farmers, coupled with that of a number of our Experimental Farms and Stations, goes to prove that these machines are decidedly advantageous.

COST OF INSTALLATION.

The average cost of installation, taking into consideration the five most popular machines on the market, would be about \$500 for an outfit to milk four cows at once.

Such an outfit would be large enough for a 25- to 35-cow herd.

For a 20-cow herd a 3-cow outfit would be sufficient. For a 12- to 15-cow herd a 2-cow outfit would be sufficient.

For each reduction of one unit in the installation there will be a reduction of approximately \$100 in the cost price.

This brings the average cost price to \$16.60 per cow for the large herd; \$20 per cow for the medium-sized herd; and \$25 per cow for the small herd.

This in turn goes to show that while the cheapest installation for work done is with the large herd, nevertheless the first cost is not excessive in the case of a small herd.

COST OF OPERATION.

The annual cost of operation for a 25- to 35-cow outfit, including repairs, power, labour in caring for engine and washing machines, interest on investment, and ten per cent depreciation on machine, would amount to approximately \$225.

The above is approximately one-third of what the farmer is at present paying his hired man, where board is not taken into account.

Divided between 30 cows, this brings the running expenses to two cents per cow per day.

ABOVE COST COMPARED WITH COST OF HAND-MILKING.

The average hired man will not milk more than seven cows per hour, which, at 25 cents per hour, costs 7.2 cents per cow per day for hand-milking.

One man with a milking machine can milk 20 to 25 cows per hour, which brings the total cost of machine-milking, including the above-mentioned daily running expenses, to 4.5 cents per cow per day.

This is a saving of considerably over one-third and in a large herd would enable the farmer to dispense with at least one, if not two, men, or it would liberate these men for other important lines of increased production.

It also enables one man to milk many more cows than it is physically possible for him to milk by hand.

UNIFORMITY IN MILKING.

Not only does a machine decrease the cost of milking, but it gives uniformity in milking.

All cows are milked in the same manner every day, and every good dairy farmer knows this is important and that it is hard to obtain with the general run of farm hands.

RELIABILITY OF SERVICE.

A machine when properly installed and equipped with a stable source of power is always there ready for work.

Breakdowns are comparatively rare and usually easily remedied.

Wear and tear is not excessive, considering the nature of the machine, and provided the latter is given proper attention.

EFFECT ON COWS.

A machine that is properly adjusted and handled will not injure the cow's teats or udder any more than the average farm hand.

Three years' experience of mechanical milkers on the Central Experimental Farm does not show that the cows dry off any more quickly than when milked by hand.

There is no more, if as much, objection to the milking machine on the part of the cows than there is to hand-milking.

Old cows used to hand-milking object most, and may not let down their milk readily, but heifers take to machine milking like ducks to water and require hardly any stripping.

Stripping by hand after taking the machine off is advocated by all users, as well as makers, as a precautionary and economical measure.

EFFECT ON QUALITY OF MILK.

If the machines are properly handled in the barn, and likewise properly washed in the dairy, the milk produced will be as good, or better, than that produced by hand-milking.

Where extra pains are taken with the machines and the care of the milk a very high grade of milk can be produced.

Careless handling results in bad milk and ultimate failure of the machine.

IMPORTANCE OF EFFICIENCY IN OPERATION.

Last, and of far more importance than the cost price or make of the machine, comes the question of the efficiency of the operator.

Handling the machine is a job for the farmer, his son, or some hired man who has an interest in the success of the machine and the cows.

For best results the operator must be quick and quiet, with an eye for details.

Know the machine and the cows, and adapt the one to suit the other, giving each their proper share of attention at the proper time.

MAKES OF MACHINES.

Any of the more prominent makes of milking machines upon the market will do good work provided they are properly handled.

The addresses of the dealers or manufacturers of the various machines can be procured from the farm journals, or upon application to the Animal Husbandry Division, Experimental Farm, Ottawa.



