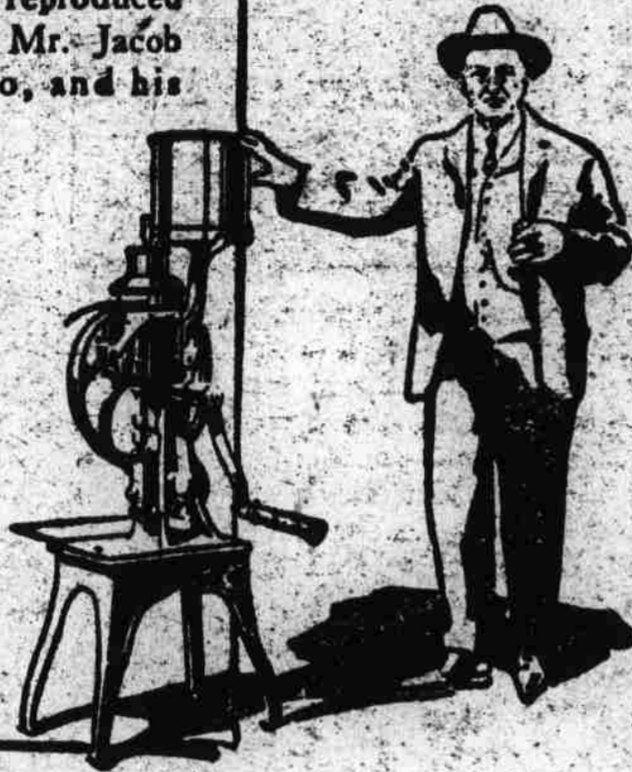


# DURABILITY OF THE DE LAVAL

This illustration is reproduced from a photograph of Mr. Jacob Rimelspach, in Ohio, and his DeLaval Separator, which has been in use for over 25 years.

The machine was brought in on a local De Laval Service Day to be looked over by the service man.

There was nothing the matter with the separator, and after it was cleaned up and oiled Mr. Rimelspach took it home with the comment that it ought to be good for another 25 years.



The De Laval Separator gives the greatest value for the money, because it gives better and longer service. Mr. Rimelspach's experience is equaled by the records of a large number of De Laval machines.

Considering its greater durability alone, the De Laval is the most economical separator to buy; and with its cleaner skimming, easier running, greater capacity and unequalled service, the price of a "cheaper" machine is high in comparison.

If you don't know the De Laval agent in your community, write to the nearest De Laval office

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# The Puzzling Cattle Situation—By A. L. French

Livestock Men Should "Sit Steady in the Boat"

THE cattle situation has been considerable of a puzzle to many of our friends during the past year, and some are beginning to feel their grip slipping.



MR. FRENCH

Any of us are ready to admit, I think, that those who have been buying feed to turn into beef or growth on cattle have been working at a losing game during the past 12 months. The present situation has simply confirmed my belief that the man who is trying to produce any sort of livestock or dairy products on purchased feed will fail in the South in the long run. Profit may be derived from turning purchased feed into such products occasionally, perhaps one year in five over a term of twenty years, but I have ever contended and still contend that a feed-growing business must precede a livestock business on ninety farms out of every hundred. But I hear some one say, "If we cannot be sure of making cost from our feed nine years out of ten what's the use of having the livestock at all?" And this looks like a reasonable question and one that is hard to answer.

But there is a lot more to this question than appears on the surface. Nine farms out of ten, the South over, have more or less land that cannot be utilized profitably except as pasture for some sort of animals, and if the animals are at hand to utilize this pasture during the summer they must be fed through the preceding winter, for when one starts out in the spring to purchase cattle to turn on pasture he finds too many others on the same quest. Oftimes the slight loss that is incurred through feeding high priced roughage through the winter is more than offset by the profit derived from cheap grazing the previous summer. Again it will be noted by careful observers that the farms where livestock are maintained in considerable numbers usually are the heaviest producers of surplus feed, and we gather from this that the beneficial effect of the livestock is generally responsible for the increased productivity of the land and indirectly responsible for the greater amounts of feed such farms produce.

So it comes down to the question of keeping livestock to which some high priced feed must be given in the winter or accepting less returns from the land in hay as well as other crops by cutting out the livestock. In the first case, when the roughage is fed, the manure remains on the land to add richness to the soil, while in the other case there is less produced and nothing goes back to the land. It must ever be remembered that the feeding of cattle on the average farm calls for practically no extra labor cost. The farm workers are there and must be fed and clothed through the winter. The extra amount of work incurred in giving feed to cattle over that necessary to put that feed on the market in the raw state is trifling indeed.

The farming game is one that cannot be played to a finish in one or two years. And rich soil, the foundation upon which permanently profitable agriculture must be built, is not the result of any one or two practices for one or two years, but is the culmination of various improving factors in operation for a term of

years. On the other hand poor soil is generally attributable to the absence of these same factors for a much less time, for it requires less effort (and time) to tear down than is required to build up.

Cattle, in modern agricultural practice, have ever been one of the strong factors working for the average man in his effort toward a more stable agriculture.

I have been a close observer of the rise and fall of soil fertility and the rise and fall of agricultural prosperity for more than 35 years, and have yet to see a farmer using good judgment go down or his soil to become depleted where he has stayed by cattle as a regular part of his farming business through thick and thin, through good times and bad.

So I say to Progressive Farmer readers, who are already in the cattle business or who are contemplating taking on some cattle with their other lines of farming, to hold steady, striving ever to increase the productivity of their fields—a practice that will insure ever greater yields of feed and other crops—and by the use of the best sires within their means, endeavor ever to raise the standard of the quality of the animals produced. This, when we have learned to organize so as to demand the price for our produce to which supply and demand should entitle us, will make cattle growing and feeding the safe and sound business that its importance to the farm and the consuming world demands. I have had many men produce figures to prove that they could not profitably grow cattle on their farms, but almost without exception these have been the men who owned the poorest farms in their various sections, and the majority of times they had less evidences of prosperity about them than their less argumentative neighbors had who continued to grow cattle year after year. That saying, "figures won't lie" is true as applied to many lines, but is not true when applied to the cattle business on the average farm, for the figures don't go deep enough to catch the real effects on farm and farmer that cattle growing and feeding leaves in its wake.

### What Weeds Do to Crops

SAYS the Kansas Agricultural College:

The ragweed, common in eastern Kansas, removes from the soil 146 pounds of nitrogen and 3 pounds of phosphoric acid for each ton of weeds, while the same weight of wheat in grain and straw removes only 12.2 pounds of nitrogen and 2.8 pounds of phosphoric acid. One ton of wheat is equivalent to a 13 bushel crop.

Some weeds show even a more striking comparison than ragweeds.

The plant food used by weeds is taken from the growing crop when the two are growing in competition in the same field. The only sure way of retaining this plant food for the farm crops is by controlling the growth of weeds.

Not only do weeds use the plant food needed by the farm crops, but they also rob the soil of large quantities of moisture. The leaf growth of most weeds is large and hence evaporates a large amount of water.

Plan to cultivate the soil so the growth of weeds will be as small as possible and thus insure larger yields and greater profits.

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