

# LIQUID MANURE AS A MONEY-MAKER

During the last three years the Taranaki farmer whose farm is discussed in this article has increased his herd from 53 to 85 cows. He considers that

much of this increased carrying capacity was due to the treatment of 55 acres with liquid manure, the outlay for which was only £75,



A view of Mr. C. A. Marchant's farm at Cardiff, Taranaki, where liquid manure is used.

## Carrying Capacity Increased By 40% in Three Years

AMONG those who appreciate the value of liquid manure for top-dressing paddocks are Mr. C. A. Marchant, a prominent member of the Dairy Board and a successful breeder of Fresians, and Mr. W. Pitcairn, the manager of Mr. Marchant's Cardiff dairy farm, where for the past three seasons the cowyard manure from the milking shed and yards has been regularly distributed over the pastures of the farm as liquid manure.

The farm is on the Cardiff road near Stratford at an elevation of 1400 feet, and growing conditions in the winter and early spring are anything but good. The country is flat to undulating, but with two deep gullies cutting across the area. The soils are light volcanic, with, however, a good rainfall.

The plant for collecting and distributing the cowyard manure was put in three years ago at a cost of £75. The plant was designed to handle the manure from the 53 cows being milked, and consists of a concrete sump to hold 3000 gallons, an electric pump which will lift 100 gallons a minute to the distributing tank, and two 200-gallon tanks which can be easily put on and off the farm truck as required.

Because the yard has been extended at different times and the drainage does not always run towards the sump, the solid manure from the yards is carried to the sump in a wheelbarrow, and only the milking shed and part of the holding yards are washed down into the sump.

By  
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### Treatments Over Three Years

In the first year, when 53 cows were milked, the 3000-gallon sump was filled every 14 days, and 16 acres of the

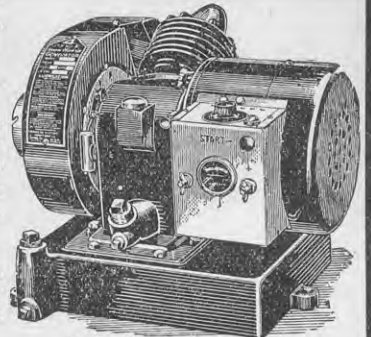
pastures were top-dressed with liquid manure at the rate of about 16 to 18 tons per acre. With the motor truck and two 200-gallon tanks, it takes about two to three hours to empty the sump and distribute the liquid manure. Five of the 16 acres treated were specially top-dressed in the late autumn for early spring feed with really outstanding results. In the second season 59 cows were milked, and the sump was filled in about 12 days. Another 18 acres was top-dressed this season, including five acres for early spring feed.

For the third season the herd was increased to 66 cows, and the sump

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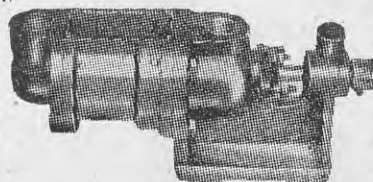
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