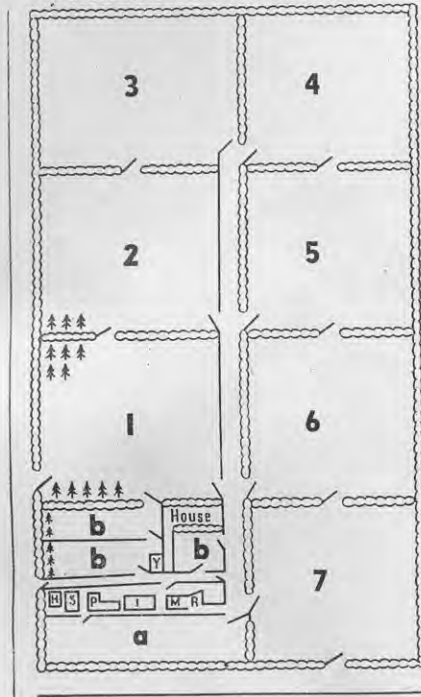## A TYPICAL EDENDALE DAIRY FARM.

In order to present a clear picture of dairy farming under Edendale conditions, a farm has been chosen on the terrace near Edendale, and the owner, as a practical gesture of appreciation in return for the pleasure he has derived from reading previous "Studies in Farm Management" that have appeared in this "Journal," has very kindly co-operated by supplying the information for the following part of this study.

Situation and Layout

The farm, situated two miles south of Edendale, comprises 130½ acres, 2½ acres of which are taken up by the steading site and a central gravelled stock-race 40ft. wide. The farm is subdivided into eight paddocks of 16 acres, all opening on to the central race, and every one with a supply of water for the stock. One paddock, in the shelter of the trees around the homestead, is subdivided into four small paddocks for bulls, calves and horses. For cropping purposes the paddocks are halved by means of a temporary fence, and an electric fence is used to enable forage crops to be fed off in breaks.

The buildings are of substantial wooden construction, in first-class repair and adequate for handling the livestock and housing the implements and plant.

Stock in 1943-44

The stock carried in the 1943-44 season comprised:—

60 dairy cows, including heifers.
12 yearling heifers.
15 heifer calves.
3 purebred Jersey bulls.
140 full-mouth Romney cross ewes.
3 Southdown rams.
4 draught horses and 1 spring carter for taking the milk to the factory.

The cows are grade Friesian, Jersey, and Ayrshire crosses. Jersey bulls from a strain with a high butterfat backing have been used for a number of seasons. The ewes are the best class of dairy farmers' ewes, bought for constitution, wool, and ability to throw a big crop of lambs. Cow numbers are up slightly on previous seasons. The usual number of ewes carried is 140 to 150. All the young stock is reared on the farm.

Implements

Implements include a light swamp plough, a double-furrow plough, 8ft. disc harrows, 5-leaf tine harrows, 9ft. Cambridge roller, 13-coulter drill, two-row ridger, double scuffler, binder, mower, hayrake, hay-sweep, stacker, dray and frame, and rubber-tyred 4-wheel trailer for milk cartage. The milking shed equipment includes a four-cow milking plant.

Production

The average production from the herd over the past three-year period was 300lb. of butterfat per cow from an average of 56 cows. The ewes shore 12.2lb. of wool in 1943 and 10.7lb. in 1944, while 190 fat lambs at 38lb. went off the property. In addition 150 to 175 sacks of oats are threshed.

Herd Management

The bull goes out with the herd on November 20 and calving begins about the end of August, the majority of the cows coming to profit during September, though a few late calvers may come in as late as November. The average drop of calves is 90 to 95 per cent. Twelve to 15 heifer calves from the best cows are retained for herd replacements, the balance being sold as bobbies.

All the cows in the herd have been regularly tested for a number of years.

PLAN OF FARM

PADDOCKS.

No. 1: Fodder crops.
No. 2: 5th and 6th year pasture.
No. 3: 9th and 10th year pasture.
No. 4: 3rd and 4th year pasture.
No. 5: 7th and 8th year pasture.
No. 6: 1st and 2nd year pasture.
No. 7: 11th and 12th year pasture.
a: Horse paddock.
b: Bull and calf paddocks.

KEY.

M: Milking shed.
R: Concrete yard and race.
I : Implement shed.
P: Pig and poultry house.
S: Stable.
H: Man's hut.
Y: Sheepyard.