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FARMS AND FARMERS



Plans for Farm Barns.

The many very marked changes in farm life would lead one to believe that the large farm is, or soon will be, a thing of the past. The high price of farm help, the necessity for better cultivation and farming, fewer and better bred stock, better care of stock, better buildings for housing the hay, grain and stock, has or soon will bring the small farm, and, so planned and arranged that a greater variety of products are raised.

Many instances are known where the man who had struggled for years with 200 to 300 acres, barely made a living, and of doubling their income by simply renting out all of the land except fifty to eighty acres. That several cows must be kept on such a farm goes without saying, not only for the monthly income and profit, but for the nature that is necessary to keep the soil alive.



Handy Small Barn

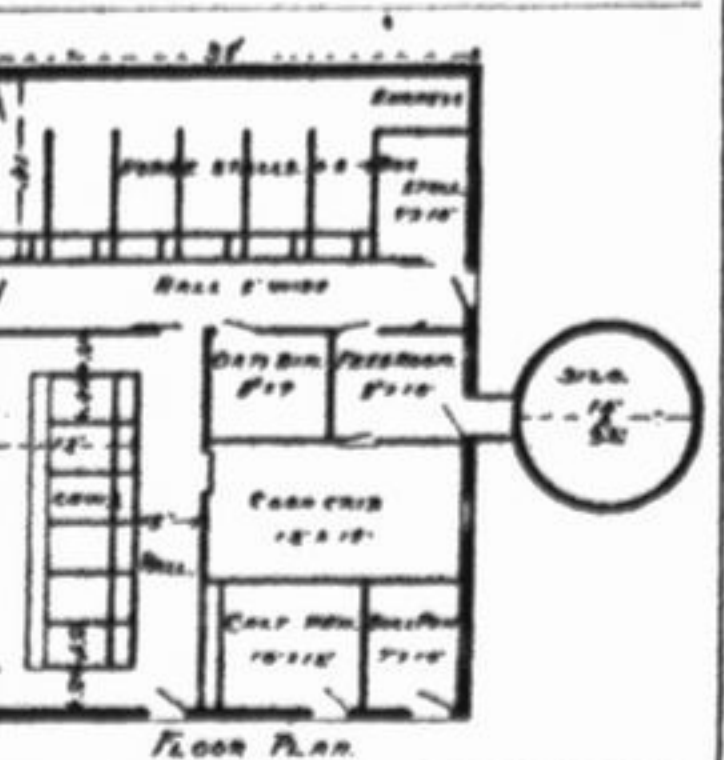
Present sanitary requirements call for many devices and appliances that cannot be installed on the small farm, but cleanliness and kindness is within the possibilities of any of us, and while it is true that to house the cows in the same building with the horses has some disadvantages, it also has its advantages, and is not only expensive, but calls for extra help in caring for and feeding them.

A careful study of the barn shown in the illustration herewith will show what we will call a condensed arrangement, and while the cows are in the same barn with the horses, a good, tight partition separates them from the horse barn, to keep out the dust and odors. For the same reason the silo is located where shown, for silage, no matter how well cared for, has an offensive odor, that is readily absorbed by milk.

The floor plan is self-explaining, the silo is an ordinary stave structure, with wire cables for hoops, as the cable is not so easily affected by contraction and expansion as the solid iron hoops.

The crib has the foundation left out as shown, and the floor is of 2x8 inch studding, with one-half-inch spaces between. The siding is drop siding, the same as the balance of the barn, but the top and lower edges are beveled, and a one-half-inch space is left between each board. This construction allows a free circulation of air, and keeps out the rain, snow and wind.

The small amount of corn that drops through the floor is eaten by the poultry and hogs. The studding are 12 feet, and the lower story is 8 feet; the cow stalls are of cement, with gutter, and all stalls have pounded clay floors. It will pay to plaster the walls and ceiling of the cow barn with cement. After the silo has been used for several years, it is intended to lath and plaster it with cement.



As the various climates demand slightly different construction, and the lumber used is not the same in all sections, it would be simply a waste of valuable space to describe them here.—J. E. Bridgman, in St. Paul Dispatch.

Cultivation That Damages Corn.

The corn is often damaged by the roots being broken in deep cultivation. This is not the case to a serious extent early in the season, when the corn is small, but the check to the crop may be quite marked if cultivated deep late in the season, when the corn has reached a height of 2 to 3 feet or more, particularly if the previous cultivation has been shallow or neglected. If dry weather happens to follow such treatment the damage to the crop is much increased. When not followed by some form of cultivation that will level down the ridges left by the large shovel cultivator, the ground will dry out quite deeply and in the furrows between the ridges this drying readily reaches the roots of the corn. To obviate this as much as possible, when the old-fashioned large shovels are used, the work should be followed as soon as possible with something to level down the surface. Unless there is something to be gained by it, deep cultivation should not be followed.—Oklahoma Station.

Destroying Stumps.

Here are two ways of destroying stumps by means of acids: In the fall bore with an inch auger 10 inches deep into the stump. Into this put one-half pound of vitriol and cork up very tight. The stump will probably be rotten in about eight months. Another way: Bore with inch auger 28 inches deep into stump and put in one ounce of sulphur and then 28 oz. of holes with

water and cork. In about six months take out the plug and pour in about a gill of coal oil and set fire to it. This should burn the stump nearly up.—Valley Farmer.

Co-Operation Among Farmers.

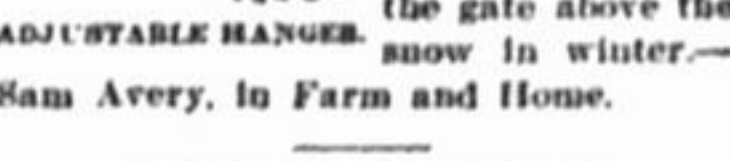
Men in all other lines of business organize and work together. Farmers are beginning to see the need of concerted action, but as a rule we still work single-handed. At Lombard, Ill., about twenty miles west of Chicago, the farmers who produce milk for sale in the big city have tried several times to organize in order to force the milk trust to pay them a price in accordance with what the customer pays, but the trust is always able to hire some farmer to break the rules of the local association or to talk against the project to such an extent as to defeat its ends. That is one great difficulty in forming protective measures among farmers. There are always a few men in the community who are willing to sacrifice future advantages to gain a few cents in present price.—Agricultural Epitomist.

All in Management.

Folks say that if you want any class of stock that can always be sold at a profit, from weaning time until fattening old age, you want a mule. We do not raise mules, so can not speak from experience. This much we do know, however, several good friends of ours have been dickering in mules for years without making any money. Perhaps these are the exceptional cases that prove the rule. Others have raised and bought mules and made good money. We surmise it's more the man and his management than it is the mule, that reaps the profit. The same man dealing in razorblades might make some money.—Farmers' Mail and Breeze.

Easily Regulated Gate.

The gate hanger illustrated in the drawing is very handy for use where it is desired to let hogs pass from one pasture to another while cows are confined to one. As shown, the hanger is a piece of strap iron bent around the post and supported by pegs. These pegs may be inserted in holes at varying heights. This is also a good device for raising the gate above the snow in winter.—Sam Avery, in Farm and Home.



ADJUSTABLE HANGER, snow in winter.—Sam Avery, in Farm and Home.

Fertilizing the Garden.

Don't be afraid of getting the soil too rich for any of the vegetables whose leaf or stem is edible. If you cannot have plenty of well rotted manure, a top dressing of nitrate of soda just before planting will furnish the plant food needed of nitrogen, but other elements may be needed for a proper balance. Wood ashes, if available, are a good source for potash, but sulphate or muriate of potash may be used instead and frequently a dressing of hyperphosphate is beneficial.

If one is growing only a small garden for home use, the droppings from the poultry house will furnish enough fertilizer to keep the soil in a good state of fertility; but if growing truck on a large scale, it would be well to inquire of your experiment station what commercial fertilizers would be of most help in securing maximum crops of the vegetables you wish to grow.

Fertilizer for Potatoes.

For potatoes the past year we used 1,200 pounds of fertilizer to the acre, one-third applied broadcast and the rest scattered in the furrow, brushing the fertilizer into the soil of the furrow before planting the seed. After planting, the surface was kept well stirred to prevent weeds starting and the cultivator was run often enough to keep down the weeds. A little hand hoeing was done. The yield was 250 bushels per acre. The crop followed corn and the land was very thoroughly harrowed before potatoes were planted. Plenty of harrowing and liberal use of fertilizers may be depended on to give a good crop.

Fertilizing the Lawn.

No top dressing nor fertilizer will do more to revive grass than nitrate of soda, and it should be used in combination with materials containing phosphoric acid and potash. A mixture of 150 pounds of nitrate of soda, 150 pounds of acid phosphate and 75 pounds of muriate of potash is recommended. Grass, even in old meadows, will respond very quickly to this treatment.

Breeding Cows.

Prof. R. A. Moore says that painstaking in breeding cows has raised the average corn production in Wisconsin from 25 bushels per acre in 1901 to 41.2 bushels per acre in 1907. This increase is worth striving for in every State and on every farm.

Notes of the Pig Pen.

Give growing pigs food to produce bone and muscle rather than fat. No domestic animal responds so quickly to good treatment as the hog. The pig should have a warm, dry bed kept clean and free from dust. Thrifty hogs turn grains into money quicker than any other domestic animal.

The thrift and condition of the mother determine to a great extent what the pig will be.

When a hog has to be driven to his feed usually a mistake has been made in his feeding.

When fed dry shelled corn is more economical than cornmeal to feed to fattening hogs.

Beauty in form and appearance is not a safe indication of the value of a sow as a breeder.

Marvelous, Quaint and Curious.

Scriptural Antiquities.

The rude musical instruments here represented have been collected by modern travelers, and are but little changed from the ancient forms. The drum or tambour marked A is made of thin baked clay, something in the shape of a bottle, with parchment stretched over the wider part. On being struck with the finger this instrument makes a remarkably loud sound. These relics are lodged in the London Scriptural Museum, and are all tick-



eted with the texts they serve to illustrate. This arrangement is very ingenious, and gives a great additional interest to the sacred objects while under inspection.

The distaff was the instrument which wrought the materials for the robes of the Egyptian kings, and for the "little coat" which Hannah made for Samuel; by it, too, were wrought the cloths and other fabrics used in Solomon's temple. By reference to the engraving it will be seen that nothing can be more simple than this ancient instrument, which is a sort of wooden skewer, round which the flax is wrapped; it is then spun on the ground in the same manner as a boy's top, and the thread wrought off and wound upon a reel shown in the foreground of the picture. "Querns," or stone hand-mills of various sizes, similar to that represented in our engraving, have been repeatedly found in connection with Roman Sax-



on and other ancient remains in England. They are still to be met with in constant use over the greater part of India, in Africa and also those districts of the East which are more particularly associated with Holy Writ.

It may be worth while to mention that this description of mill is an improvement upon the method of slimp' crushing the corn laid on a flat stone with another held in the hand. The "Quern" is a hard stone roughly rounded, and partly hollowed, into which another stone, which has a handle, is loosely fitted. The corn required to be ground is placed in the hollow receptacle, and the inner stone is moved rapidly round, and, in course of time, by immense labor, the wheat, etc., is ground into flour. The Scripture prophetesses mention that of two women grinding at the mill, one shall be left and the other taken—the two-handed mill will explain the meaning of this passage.

"There's Many a Slip."

This phrase originated with a poor slave. It was prophesied of a king, and the prophecy was fulfilled. When Ancus was King of Samos in the Grecian Archipelago, he planted an extensive vineyard, and oppressed his slaves so heavily in its cultivation that one of the bolder ones prophesied that he would never live to taste any of the wines. The King laughed and had the slaves beaten. Then at last, when the wine was made, he sent for the slave to witness him drink the first glass of it in order to show him that the prophecy was false. When the servant appeared, the King, raising his glass of wine, said, "What do you think of your prophecy now?" "There is many a slip 'twixt cup and lip," was the answer. The words were scarcely uttered when Ancus was informed that a wild boar had broken into the vineyard and was ruining it. Dropping the wine untasted the King hastened to the scene to drive out the boar, but he was killed in the encounter, and the slave's prophecy was fulfilled.

The First Scapgoat.

The word "scapgoat" originated in an ancient Hebrew custom practiced at the feast of the Passover. Placing a young goat upon the altar, the priests would pray over it, asking that all the sins of the people be visited upon the goat. Then, after each member of the tribe had transferred his guilt to the victim by laying on his hands, the animal was turned loose in the forests to be devoured by wild beasts.

Men are so anxious to speak well of each other as women are not.

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SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NO. 42.
Notice is hereby given to all persons interested that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Downers Grove, Du Page County, Illinois, having ordered that an improvement be made of adjusting storm water inlets and manholes, constructing concrete curb and gutter flags, grading and draining roadways and parkways, establishing grade and paving the roadway on Farmington avenue, between Maple avenue and Summit street, in said Village, the ordinance for the same being on file in the office of the Village Clerk, having applied to the County Court of Du Page County, Illinois, for an assessment of the cost of said improvement, being payable in ten installments, each bearing interest at the rate of five per cent per annum, and an assessment therefor having been made and returned to this court, the said hearing thereon will be had on the 21st day of June, A. D. 1908, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, and the business of the court will permit.
All persons desiring to file objections in said court before said day, and may appear on the hearing and make their defense.
Dated Downers Grove, Illinois, A. D. 1908.
FRANK J. KNIGHT,
Appointed to Make Said Assessment.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE.

SPECIAL WARRANT, NO. 41

Public notice is hereby given that the County Court of Du Page County, Illinois, has rendered a judgment for a special assessment upon the property covered by the following improvement: the laying and construction of a brick pavement on Washington street, in the said Village, from the south line of Railroad street to the south line of Summit street, as will more fully appear from the certified copy of judgment on file in my office. That the warrant for the collection of the said assessment is in the hands of the undersigned.
All persons interested are hereby notified to call and pay the sum assessed at the collector's office, located in the hardware store of M. Plevka & Co., in the Village of Downers Grove, Illinois, within thirty (30) days from date hereof.
Said assessment has been divided into installments, the first installment being in the sum of \$1,000.00, and the deferred nine installments being in the sum of \$1,200.00 each. Said deferred installments bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum. The first installment being payable on the 26 day of January, A. D. 1910, and the deferred installments being due and payable on the 26 day of January of each and every succeeding year until all installments have been paid.
United Downers Grove, Illinois, May 21, A. D. 1908.
SAMUEL CURTISS,
Village Collector.

WANTED.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo and State of Ohio, and that said firm will pay the sum of one hundred dollars for each and every case of catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall Catarrh Cure.

FRANK J. CHENEY,
State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County, ss.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1896.

A. W. GLADSON,
(Seal.) Notary Public.

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You can't afford not to read this folder if you are going away anywhere this year.

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