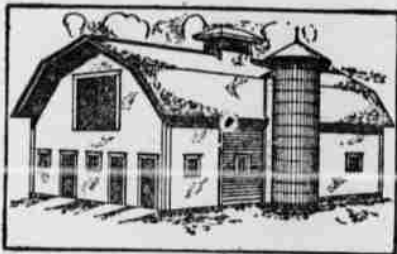


FARMS AND FARMERS

Plans for Farm Barn.

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 500 acres, barely made a living, and of doubling their income by sim-



HANDY SMALL BARN.

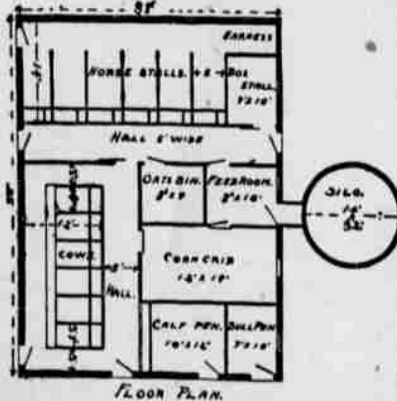
ply renting out all of the land except fifty to eighty acres. That several cows must be kept on such a farm goes without saying, not only for the monthly income and profit, but for the manure that is necessary to keep the soil alive.

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 to build separate buildings for both, 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 2x6 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 poul-



FLOOR PLAN.

try 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.

It will pay to use good material throughout, provide a good foundation and roof, and to keep all exposed wood work well painted.

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.

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.

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



ADJUSTABLE HANGER.

Sam Avery, in Farm and Home.

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 tottering 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 razorbacks might make some money.—Farmers' Mail and Breeze.

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.

Breeding Corn.

Prof. R. A. Moore says that painstaking in breeding corn 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.

The pig should have a warm, dry bed kept clean and free from dust.

No domestic animal responds so quickly to good treatment as the hog.

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.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY

The Abyssinian wife is the head of the house.

The hide of a cow weighs about thirty-five pounds, but that of a horse is about half that amount.

Since their incorporation the Kimberley mines have produced twelve tons of diamonds, valued at \$5,000,000,000.

It is anticipated that the anti-opium crusade in China will be the means of opening up a new market for American tobacco.

Protection afforded to the seal and the salmon has for the time being made a serious deficiency in the value of the fish product of Canada.

On Jan. 1 Canada was sheltering 38,258 Orientals, including 17,239 Chinese, 15,484 Japanese, and 5,171 Indians. Canada has made British subjects of 7,442 Orientals.

An automatic burglar alarm has just been invented in Russia by Lieutenant Colonel Tuflaev and a Mr. Domanovsky. The signal consists of 200 shots fired automatically.

In some years the total coffee, tea and cocoa imports into this country is considerably more than \$100,000,000. Coffee imports alone have on certain occasions approximated \$100,000,000 in value.

In a recent lecture delivered before the Royal Society of Arts, Leon Gaster advances the opinion that ultra-violet rays from indoor electric lamps are injurious to health. He advises the use of bulbs which obstruct these rays.

The French Government's project to pension servants of the state railways has been completed, and presented to a parliamentary commission. It provides for the retiring of engineers and firemen over fifty years of age who have been twenty-five years in the service on half pay, and it gives pensions to disabled men who have had fifteen years of service.

A new test for ascertaining the hardness of metals has been proposed by W. I. Ballentine. A disk of metal is attached to the lower side of a drop weight, which falls on an anvil. The anvil carries a pin on its upper side, which rests in contact with the piece of metal to be tested. The diminution in thickness of the disk is the measure of hardness.

Some citizens of Buffalo have proposed a new branch of the municipal government, a sort of "boom bureau," to do in an official way work which the Chamber of Commerce now does. A bill offered in the Legislature by Senator Hill of Erie County to carry into effect the suggestion would establish a municipal department of commerce and industry. One of the schemes to boost the city if the bill becomes a law is to expend \$500,000 in five equal annual installments in advertising the special advantages of Buffalo.

"On a recent Sunday morning I conducted service in an asylum. On my way to the institution I wondered whether my fluffy, fearless chorister of last winter, a robin, would attend. I had missed him hitherto, and feared some mischance had befallen. To my delight, there he was on the upper bar of the window sash, just a little down from the top; and as we began to sing down he darted to the floor in front of the reading desk and poured forth his silver treble with throbbing joy. On the giving out of the text he returned to his perch, and remained silent till the parting paraphrase brought him back once more to render with full heart his gladsome song."—The Scotsman.

One of the most curious instances of longevity is found in Miss Louisa Couteau's "Notes of an Octogenarian." A witness in a will case in which Belenden-Ker, the great English conveyancer, was engaged, was asked if he had any brothers or sisters. He replied that he had had one brother who died 150 years ago. The court expressed incredulity, and documentary evidence was produced in support of the statement. This showed that the witness' father, who married first at the age of 19, had a son who died in infancy. The father married again at the age of 75, and had a son who lived to appear in the witness box at the age of 94, and made the above startling statement.

An expedition left Llandudno, Denbigh, and Penmaenmawr yesterday afternoon with the object of tracing, if possible, the submerged palace of Llys Helig, a Welsh chieftain of the sixth century. The palace is said to be visible at very low tides at a point midway between Penmaenmawr and Great Ormes Head, but it cannot be said that yesterday's search established its existence. The exploring party was divided into two sections, one of which laid bare what looked like an old wall, while the other claimed to have traced the outline of a wall 130 yards long, with a shorter wall running at right angles. The rising of the tide compelled the explorers to leave the spot before completing their search.—London Daily Mail.

WHY NOT TAX THE OLD MAIDS?

A Defense of the Bachelor by a Heart Specialist



The Legislatures of a number of States are again considering the ancient question of taxing bachelors; but why, asks a heart specialist in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, should bachelors be taxed any more than old maids? People grow hysterical over the declining marriage rate, and rail violently against men who will not take upon their shoulders the yoke of matrimony. But is not there something wrong here? Are not the women more at fault than the men? Why, I have known a young woman to receive seven offers of marriage between the ages of 20 and 30, and she is a spinster to-day. She had chances of marrying, one or two of them very good, yet she refused every offer! For all that, her spinsterhood will be set down as a result of man being tardy in coming forward—man, who prefers his freedom, his luxuries, and his full liberty! That is the hardship. Man is blamed for not coming forward, when the blame should rest on the women.

Certainly, tax men who won't make an effort to get married—that is a different thing, but precious few would there be to tax. And, most certainly, tax any woman who, having received offers of marriage, has refused them all, granted that all else is equal. In that event a good sum would come to the revenue annually. Undoubtedly every bachelor is the handiwork of some woman, or women, and, doubtless, there are plenty of bachelors, from 40 years upward, who would willingly pay taxation rather than marry, after the rebuffs and insults they have received from ladies to whom they proposed.

Undoubtedly it is the women who are responsible for our declining marriage rate; they, and not the men, are to blame, and the business woman is the greatest sinner amongst the sex, especially she who has attained to a salary of, perhaps, \$10, per week. I have found it to be a fact that the woman who earns a salary of that kind will not wed on any account; and she who earns, say, \$15 to \$20 per week absolutely jeers at wedlock. In short, the high-salaried lady may be set down as a certain spinster—she is too comfortable ever to think of marriage; never would such as she consent to be tied down to the routine of ordinary household work. If bachelors are to be taxed, tax spinsters, too; they are the greater offenders, if the truth be told.



THE FAMILY DOCTOR

Fighting Tuberculosis.

It has always been recognized that in warfare a knowledge of the enemy's weak points confers immense tactical advantage. This was never truer than in the tremendous crusade that mankind is banding together to wage against that dread foe, tuberculosis.

A few decades ago this particular enemy of the human race was not believed to have any vulnerable spots. It was thought by all to be invincible, and that its mere touch meant death. Then it was gradually discovered that, after all, certain weapons were at hand by means of which mankind could give fight; that before sunlight, fresh air and proper food this foe would recoil like Mephistopheles before the crucifix.

Then, little by little, the fight was begun. By example and precept people were taught not to lie down and die, but to stand up and battle for themselves.

The good news was taken to the tenements and crowded parts of great cities, where sunshine and fresh air are not secured without a struggle, but where they are just as efficacious as in the haunts of wealth.

The great free exhibits given by the International Tuberculosis Exhibition are of immense value in this educational crusade, and the charity that takes the form of paying car fares in order that the poor of the tenements may not miss this invaluable object-lesson is a very real one. Here the mother who is trying to save her stricken child in two small rooms in a tenement district is shown those two rooms as they probably are and as they may be. In the first instance dirty, cluttered up with useless rubbish, with every crack through which air may filter carefully stuffed with unclean rags. Then side by side with this picture, the same rooms cleaned and purified, with windows which will open wide and say open, and with nothing in sight that cannot be made clean and kept clean.

The great lesson is taught in capital letters that comfort and stuffiness are not synonymous terms; that whitewash is a thousand times better than ancient, germ-laden wall-paper, and can be applied by any one, and as often as is desirable; that a floor that can be washed daily with soap and water feels better and looks better than

the same floor covered with scraps of microbe-infested carpet; and that sanitary receptacles can be had for the asking, which make it possible to exorcise without endangering the lives of a whole family.

It would be well indeed if these exhibitions could be given in every town and village in the country.

MARY BETTS' TWENTY CENTS.

New York Spent \$37.90 to Liquidate Its Indebtedness to Her.

"Mary Betts must be paid," said Comptroller Metz, idly, to his subordinates, according to the Cincinnati Times-Star's New York correspondent. "The books show the city owes her 20 cents. Straighten that account out."

What Metz says goes with his clerks. They found the account. Then they found Mary.

"Go long wid yees," said Mary. "I'm a harrd workin' woman. I'll not be bothered with 20 cints."

The clerks explained to her that she must be bothered with it. She had to come to the office in person and sign a voucher, so the city's books might be straightened out.

"An' pay tin cints car fare an' lose me time? I will not," said Mary.

So they got an appropriation through one of the side issues of the city for that car fare. A clerk was sent over with it. Mary came to the city hall. The man who had the account in charge wasn't there.

"Ye're jokin' wid me, b'ys," said Mary. "I'll crack the dial av th' nixt man that comes blandanderin' about me wid his story of twenty cints."

So all the clerks in the city took a day off and signed affidavits and vouchers and initialed paper and carried on something scandalous, until at last a voucher was mailed to Mary. "Fine," said Metz. "That's business. That's the way the city does its work."

Deputy Comptroller Phillips sniffed one of those long, moose call sniffs that sound like a call to battle. "You are right, Mr. Metz," said he, making every syllable count. "That is precisely the way the city does business. It cost \$37.90 to pay Mary's 20 cents."

The Ever Mobilized.

Rudyard Kipling recently attracted attention by eulogizing the medical profession in an address. He said that physicians made up a "permanently mobilized army, which always is in action, always is under fire against death."—Argonaut.

A Venomous Comparison.

Utah—Why are those Russian labor organizations like a rattlesnake? Paracvenue—Give it up.

Utah—Because they expend so much venom when they strike, though they get rattled at the end.—Baltimore American.

The mean things done by those we dislike never surprise us.