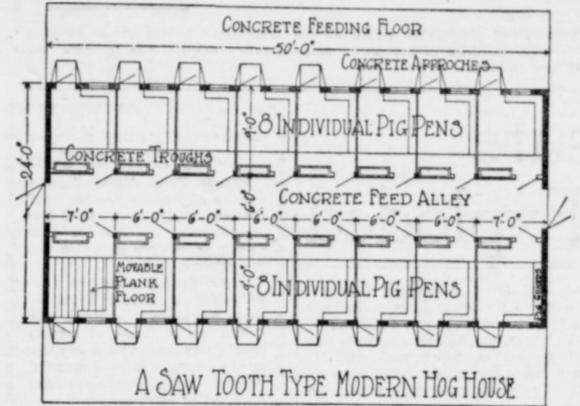
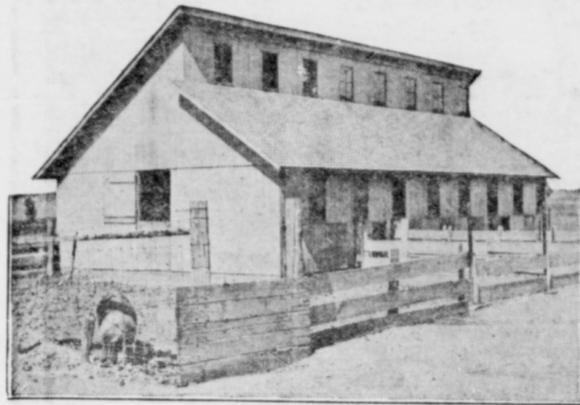


Sunshine and Ventilation Keep Sows and Pigs Healthy in This House



By W. A. RADFORD
Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all problems pertaining to the subject of building work on the farm, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as editor, author and manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on the subject. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 1827 Prairie Avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only inclose two-cent stamp for reply.

Here is the sort of a hog house, or farrowing house, that is popular in Iowa, where they raise corn and hogs and make a profit from their operations. The offset in the roof permits windows facing the south so that the pigs may be farrowed in late winter or early spring and every bit of warmth from the early spring sun will penetrate to all parts of the house. The frame building is constructed so that it will be weather-tight. It is set on a concrete foundation which also

provides a concrete floor in the building. The dimensions of the house are 24 by 50 feet, which provides space for 16 pens, 8 on each side of the feeding alley that runs through the center of the building. The house is set so that it extends east and west and faces the south. The lower windows admit the sun to the pens on one side and the roof windows flood the pens at the back with sunshine.

Removable pen partitions may be used so that the house will be available for the growing pigs throughout the summer. A false floor is built over a section of the floor in each pen and guard rails provided for the protection of the young pigs.

Housing all the sows and their pigs in one house is economical as it permits the work of caring for the litters to be done under one roof at a saving of time.

Doors Can Be Made Part of Home Charm

The doors of a house may be the deciding factor that determines whether it shall offer charm or an intangible disappointment. Doors are the most intimate detail in the whole construction of the home.

A door that combines the simplicity of the single panel with the richness of the molded door has possibilities. It has a character that lends itself to many styles of architecture.

It is significant that many beautiful homes today have utilized the rare qualities of a one-panel door to harmonize with their uniformly tasteful effects.

A recently perfected model made by well-known manufacturers is the result of efforts to produce a door new in design, correct in proportion, artistic in appearance and moderate in price.

The design of this door represents the first time that a stock door has been placed on the market which has the feature of an insert frame with a recessed panel, together with a flush molding in a stock thickness of door. The results obtained could usually be secured only in a two and one-quarter inch or thicker door.

Here's Hint on How to Pay for Building

Get a standard form of agreement between contractor and home builder from your stationer and fill it out with your contractor.

Write into the proper place the total amount of money to be paid. Then write in a paragraph providing for partial payments as the work proceeds; that is to say, at 30-day intervals. Provide for the payment of all bills for labor done and materials delivered on the job. Pay the contractor no money until he can show you receipts for bills.

Get a mechanic's lien release for every item. Hold out 15 per cent until 30 days after the work is turned over to you completed. Get an architect to help you draw the papers.

Home Entrance Should Appear Hospitable

The entrance should be hospitable and so placed as to help the harmony of the building—not necessarily in the exact center of the front wall, but in harmony with the other features of the house. One too frequently seen fault of modern houses is that the doorways are small. The fine, big doorways of some old-fashioned houses frequently reach well up to the sill of the second-story windows and seem to extend a hospitable air of welcome to the incoming guest.

Each Bedroom Should Have a Large Closet

If a new house is being built, all care should be given the fundamentals that mean comfort and stability, such as heating, plumbing, solid structural construction, etc., but the housewife's demands for ample storage and closet space must not be overlooked.

Every bedroom should have a commodious clothes closet, and if more than one person is to use the room, a separate closet for each is a provision that will make much for peace and comfort. Closet equipment has had many additions and improvements in the last few years.

The main bedroom closets, however, should not be so small and dark as to make necessary any such arrangement mentioned above. In fact, they should have a window to admit light and air, for this provision does much to overcome the inroads of moths, the arch-enemies to woollens, furs, etc., that require such valiant watching.

Living Room Light Is an Aid to Relaxation

A living room is primarily for play and rest. As such, the background should be of a nature which would harmonize with the playful or relaxing mood. If the living room could suggest out-of-doors as we find it on a healthful spring day, it would properly fulfill its function. A living room which is dark by nature should be painted as much as possible like the sun or artificial light. Light brings cheer into the darkened room just as it brings life to the spring. Yellow being the dominating color in a decorating scheme, suggests light, life, cheer and buoyancy. If to the hangings we should add some yellow and use yellow lampshades lined with white, all the light of nature would be ours.

Ironing Board

An ironing board that is always ready for use and never in the way, that is kept free from dust, that will not warp, crack nor split, that can be adjusted to a comfortable height, that has no flimsy, folding legs, that is stable and strong, that requires no heavy lifting—these are some of the advantages offered by a folding ironing board in its built-in wall case that make it well worth the few cents a week that it will cost over the long time it lasts.

Ceiling and Wall

The ceiling, walls and floor should in each case form a unity of background. As to the relationship of ceiling, walls and floor, we must be guided by nature.

ORCHARD GLEANINGS

EARLY OVERHAUL HELPS SPRAYING

Defective spray machines cause big losses of time and materials to growers each year. Low pressure, due to worn pumps or to faulty operation of engines, and delays while repairs are being made, can be largely avoided by thoroughly overhauling the sprayer during the winter months, suggests A. Freeman Mason, extension specialist in fruit growing, New Jersey College of Agriculture. The grower or an experienced mechanic should make a careful examination of the machine and repair or replace all worn parts, and give the rig a general cleaning and overhauling.

The engine valves should be ground, new piston rings installed if compression is weak, bearings adjusted, batteries, coils, spark-plugs, and wires tested, and dirt and grease removed with gasoline or kerosene.

The pump generally will need most attention. Place new packing in the boxes, replace plunger washers on the pistons, or replace pistons if the old ones are worn or scored. Valve seats should be turned over or replaced. If balls are worn down or scored they should be removed. Clean and grease all moving parts on the pressure regulator, placing new packing in the stuffing box at the top of the stem and a new rubber diaphragm at the base if this type of regulator is used. Bearings on the pump and agitator should be examined and replaced or tightened as needed, new packing placed in the boxes, and any broken paddles replaced.

All hoses should be tested at a somewhat higher pressure than is to be used in the field. A new brass or copper strainer should go on the suction hose and on the strainer box in the filling vent. Examine hose connections and repair leaky ones; clean guns and nozzles; and install new disks. Paint the entire sprayer with a high grade paint.

An ample supply of repair parts should be on hand for use in case of emergencies. Most needed of these are valve seats, packing, plunger washers, new pump pistons, hose connection clamps and bolts, spark-plugs and coils. With these precautions taken, the grower may face the spraying season with but little apprehension.

Protecting Fruit Trees From Injury in Winter

That mice injury to fruit trees occurs nearly every winter, says J. H. Gourley, horticulturist at the Ohio experiment station, is indicated by the annual call for information on bridge grafting of girdled trees.

Protecting the trees and destroying the rodents are recommended as much cheaper than repairing damage or possibly losing trees.

The first means of protection is to clear up litter about the base of trees. Long, uncut grass, or the piling of fodder, straw, hay, or other material against the tree, provides an ideal harbor for mice and other rodents. A clear area should be maintained around the tree trunk.

A mechanical barrier or protection for young trees is an excellent precaution, particularly in sod orchards. Paper tied about the tree trunk is usually effective, but must be removed in the spring.

Hardware cloth makes a more or less permanent protection until the trees are of a size to be reasonably free from attack, although old trees are sometimes girdled.

Thoroughly Remove Dead or Injured Peach Twigs

Some of the smaller fruiting twigs of the peach naturally die as the tree develops and fruits. Those near the base of the tree begin to die first, followed later by others higher up through the top of the tree. At times, weather, spray, brown rot, mechanical injuries and other factors, greatly add to the normal number. All such twigs should be thoroughly pruned off during each dormant season. Even though there may be some question as to whether they reduce the vigor and vitality of the tree to any measurable extent, they most certainly interfere with the operations of spraying, thinning, and harvesting and are the direct cause of many scratches and blemishes upon the fruit, particularly where the orchard is in an exposed location. In addition, they attract orchard pests, such as bark beetles.

Fruiting twigs and branches that may not be dead but are seriously girdled or weakened by spray burning so that they cannot produce large fruits, should be pruned off or cut back to stimulate growth.

Mulching Plum Trees

Mulching the plum trees after the ground is thoroughly frozen may save the plum crop from freezes late in the spring, says A. L. Ford, extension specialist in horticulture at South Dakota State college. Ordinarily plums blossom too early in South Dakota. A mulch in the fall will keep them dormant for a longer period in the spring and may retard the bloom until after the critical frost period. This mulch should be applied around the base of the tree.

THE BLIND MAN

By H. M. EGBERT

(Copyright by W. G. Chapman.)

THE lonely blind man came slowly along the passage of his big house, thumping his cane. At the door of the parlor he stopped, hearing voices.

The voices ceased. A charming woman came forward and gave the blind man her arm.

"Are you coming in to tea, dear?" she asked.

Charles Hawley, the blind man, gripped her arm tightly. "Who is with you?" he asked.

"Only Lionel," answered his wife. "I don't think—yes, I'll come in and see Lionel," said the blind man.

Lionel Graves had been Hawley's best man at his wedding eight years before. Both were prosperous architects, members of the same firm. Then Hawley had suddenly gone blind. The attack came on him without any warning as he sat at his desk one day. By the time he reached home he lived in a world of darkness.

There was no organic trouble that the specialists could discover. His light had simply gone out. They pronounced it to be atrophy of the optic nerves, and incurable.

Charles Hawley gave up his work and withdrew into the seclusion of his home. He had plenty of money, he had a charming wife, but the light was gone out of his life as well as out of his eyes. His little daughter, their only child, had died the year before. Life now seemed utterly purposeless.

At first he thought that he would break down under the strain. He grew nervous and despondent. He hired a man to read to him and accompany him abroad, and then he blamed Letty for allowing the care of him to fall into the hands of the attendant. In his increasing suspicion he believed that his wife found him a nuisance. He suspected her of caring for Lionel, his best friend.

As the blind man's eyes closed, his ears opened. He heard every sound in the house, conversations on other flights; he fancied that Lionel was constantly there unknown to him. Gradually his wife and he became estranged. Letty was too proud to question him and withdrew into herself also.

So matters went on for several years. They hardly met now, and Letty's rare approaches were received by Charles with coldness.

"I believe you can be cured," Doctor Abergavenny, the specialist, put down the flash mirror and spoke.

"The trouble is," said Abergavenny, "the optic nerve has ceased to function. But it is intact. There is no atrophy. I think the whole question revolves itself into a case of stimulating it. A few electrical treatments should restore the tone. Then, if your sight returns, it will return completely. I had such a case last month and the treatment proved a success."

"When shall I come to you for treatment?" inquired Hawley.

"I can come to your house."

"No, I prefer to come to you," said Hawley.

"Then let us begin right away," the doctor answered.

After an hour's treatment the blind man was as hopelessly blind as before. He returned daily and the treatments had no result whatever. He grew discouraged.

"When the sight returns it will come like a flash," said the specialist. "I can see an improvement. You may suddenly see—"

"Or I may never see?" The oculist admitted that. "There is no use continuing the applications," he said. "If the sight does not come back you might try another course in six months' time. But, frankly, I don't understand why your sight has not come back of its own accord."

Hawley knew that the specialist tacitly admitted failure. He paid him five hundred dollars and went home. And now he began to pray for the gift of sight.

He wanted to look for one moment upon his wife's face when she was with Lionel Graves. For that privilege he felt that he would give ten years of his life. Either he had bitterly wronged her or he was deeply wronged.

Lionel continued to be their visitor. He and Letty were alone a great deal. Hawley did not know how much. Sometimes he fancied that he passed a waiting figure in the hall, or on the stairs. He read guilt into his wife's voice, he wondered where she went when she was out of the house. He grew more and more irritable, and at last dismissed his attendant, declining his wife's offers of assistance. He was completely cut off from the world. He lived like a hermit in an upper room of his big house.

Wool and Velvets Are Among Season's Modes

Combinations of velvet and woolen fabrics are sponsored this season for sports and tailored ensembles. The frock may be made of velvet and the coat of the woolen fabric, or vice versa, or if it is a two-piece suit the skirt is velvet and the coat of a woolen material. Whatever the method of combination used the result is distinctive and new.

A compose suit uses a fancy gray

Charles Hawley saw!
He awoke one morning to discover that vision had come back to him completely. He sprang out of bed and ran to the mirror. He looked with amazement upon the gaunt, haggard man, with lined face and graying hairs who stared at him out of the mirror.

His first impulse of joy was to tell his wife. His second was to restrain that motive. He felt that at last his chance had come.

He made his way downstairs, tapping with his cane as usual. He saw his wife for the first time in years. He noticed that she, too, seemed to have aged.

"Dear, I am thinking of going out for the afternoon," she said to him.

He nodded as if he did not see her, though his eyes scanned her face.

"I have some shopping that must be done," she continued. "Is there anything I can do for you?"

"Nothing," he answered.

From his window upstairs he watched her leave the house after luncheon. As soon as she was in the street he slipped on his overcoat and put on his hat. He followed her. Ashamed and yet determined to probe her acts, he dogged her footsteps on the opposite side of the street.

She hired a taxicab and he took another, ordering it to drive in pursuit. As he had suspected, it stopped at Graves' house. Letty went in.

Charles Hawley waited in the door of a big apartment house opposite. He never took his eyes from the door till Letty and Graves came out.

They walked for blocks, and always the man who had been blind followed them.

They were approaching a suburban district and it was beginning to grow cloudy. Hawley wondered why they still walked together.

They turned into a little yard that led toward a church. On one side was the building, on the other the graveyard. It was an old parish church which had stood there for nearly a hundred years—since the days when the metropolis was only a distant blur on the sky line, and this an independent village.

Hawley remembered what was familiar about this church. He had been married here. And—their child had been buried here. It was only a few years before, but the time that had passed since then seemed infinite.

They were approaching the grave of the child. Hawley clenched his fists. Anywhere but there, he thought. If they had gone anywhere but there.

They were so absorbed in their conversation that they did not hear him approaching; nor might they have recognized him in the shabby, muffled man who glided into the doorway behind them.

Hawley's sharp ears could now hear their conversation.

"She was all that united us," Letty was saying.

"It was good of you to bring me here. I appreciate your confidence and understand how much it means to you," said Lionel.

"If only Charles could understand what he means to me. I have tried so hard to regain his love, and it means nothing at all to him. While our little girl lived he cared for me; but since she died and he has become blind he cares for no one. And I would give my whole heart to comfort him."

"Yes," said Lionel. "I don't know what can be done—except to wait and hope."

"I ought not to have told you this," went on Letty. "I should never have told anyone but you, and that only because you are his only friend."

"Was," said the other. "I have felt that I hold that friendship no longer."

Letty turned her eyes on him; and suddenly Hawley, with bursting heart, realized that neither of them understood the suspicions that had been in his heart. He had been blind—blind, not only with his physical but with his moral faculties.

He stepped out from the porch. They turned and stood amazed at his appearance. Charles drew his wife to his heart.

Chinese "Venice"

Soochow, China, has been called the Venice of the East because of the many canals with which it is intersected. There are 12 canals, which cross each other every quarter of a mile, and these in turn are connected with the outlying country by smaller canals. The Grand canal, on which Soochow is built, is said to be the longest artificial waterway in the world. It is nearly a thousand miles in length and runs from Hangchow to Tientsin. It is considered one of the greatest works of engineering on earth.

Distinction Dropped

The terms "author" and "poet" are used for both men and women. One frequently hears the word "toastmistress" employed to an authoritative speaker. There is, however, a tendency to eliminate this form of word from the English vocabulary. It is correct to call a woman an "actor," a "proprietor" or an "editor."

woolen fabric for the skirt, which is plaited in front. The coat, which is of a slightly darker gray velvet, is strictly tailored in line and cut. A white vestee is worn with the suit.

Blue Jet Trimming

Blue jet is a favored trimming of the moment, especially when applied upon a dress of rose or pink crepe de chine.

Fully one-half of England's population live in London.



KEPT HIS RELIGION PURE

"Parson," exclaimed Ephraim, "I've got 'ligion, I tell you."
"That's fine, brother! You are going to lay aside all sin?"
"Yes, suh."
"You're going to church?"
"Yes, sur-ree."
"You're going to care for the widows?"
"Sho' am!"
"Are you going to pay your debts?"
"Suh? Dat ain't 'ligion. Dat's business."—Capper's Weekly.

Right Under Her Nose

"My dear, I was so confused that I didn't notice how many times he kissed me."

"What! with the thing going on right under your nose?"

ARBOREAL PUP



"Yes, my dog often trees the game."
"And then?"
"Barks and sometimes roars."
"And if he get nothing?"
"Leaves and branches off in another direction."

Strictly Business

He gazed into her azure orbs
As soft blue as the sky—
He was an oculist and she
Had a cinder in her eye.

Seems So

Conversation over the teacups:
"What's this—airplane starts on fifth leg of trip?"
"That's a figure of speech."
"Is a figure of speech entitled to five legs?"

"Quite" Is Good

The question was put in an examination for the army: "Does anyone in the class know how a fly eats?"
A cadet replied: "Like an elephant, but not quite as much."

GOOD NEWS



Typist—I'm going to take a spell at the typewriter now.
Boss—Delighted to hear it—your orthography is fierce.

Chewing Chow Chosen

I bought quite recently a chow,
Who bites my bedroom shoes;
And though a chow it's true I chow,
The chow it is who chew!

Doing His Best

Visitor—I'd like to see the boss, please.
Office Boy—Then take a look at him pleasing the new stenog.

Too Natural

Villain of the Piece—Hah! Me proud beauty! I'll win you by fair means or foul!
Fair Heroine (absent-mindedly)—It doesn't matter so long as you have means.

Jealous

She (out in catboat)—I don't like to go sailing with you—you hug the shore too much.
Mr. Williboy—My goodness! You're acreage in Florida.

A Fretter

Mrs. Smith—What kind of work does your husband do now, Mrs. Brown?
Mrs. Brown—He's a fret-worker. He works the first two days of the week and frets the rest.

Pump Handle Again

She—Didn't I see you with the doctor's wife again today. Don't you think it's a bit risky?
He—Not at all. You see, I take an apple a day.—Everybody's Weekly.