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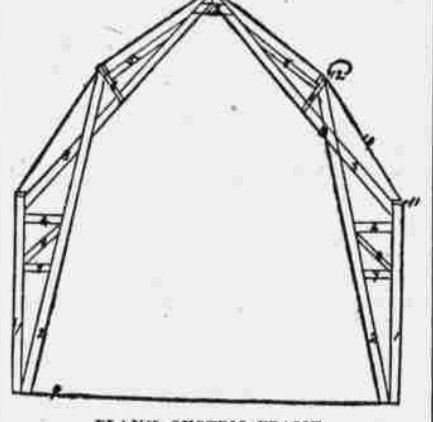
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# Home AND GARDEN

## Roof on Plank Frame.

The sort of frame here pictured is called the plank system and is a hip roof braced from the sill and plates without post. The sketch explains itself, but to make certain that no mistake will occur a key to the numbers is given. No. 1 is the main side post built of two pieces of 2 in. x 8 in.; No. 2, purline post built of two pieces 2 in. x 8 in.; No. 3, purline roof support, one piece 2 in. x 8 in.—10 in.; No. 4, main tie, one piece, 2 in. x 8 in.; No. 5, sub-support, one piece, 2 in. x 6 in.; No. 6, stay, two pieces, 2 ft. x 4 in.; No. 7, tie, 2 in. x 8 in., or 2 in. x 6 in.; No. 8, strut, 2 in. x 6 in.; No. 9, sill or main cross tie, two pieces, 2 in. x 8 in.; No. 10, line showing pitch of roof; No. 11, main



PLANK SYSTEM FRAME.

plate, two pieces—top piece, one piece 2 in. x 10 in., and side piece, 2 in. x 8 in.; No. 12, purline plate, two pieces, 2 in. x 8 in.; No. 13, collar tie, 2 in. x 10 in., or 12 in.

## Dry Potatoes for Food.

Consul Frank S. Hannah sends a report to the Department of Commerce and Labor relative to some recent experiments in the drying of potatoes under the auspices of the German Imperial Interior Department, which may offer a new field for farmers. The potatoes are reduced by this process to about one-quarter of their original weight, and can be kept in a good condition in this compressed form for an indefinite length of time. The military authorities have made thorough experiments with this product and have become convinced that its nutritive value is fully equal to that of corn, and that the dried potatoes can take the place of one-third of the former ration of oats. The fact that the potatoes are reduced to one-fourth of their original weight brings about a corresponding reduction in the price of freight, so that it will pay to grow more potatoes than has formerly been the case.—Michigan Farmer.

## The Plain Farmer.

Speaking of farmers' institutes, one man says: "I would like to know what is in the mind of the working farmer in felt boots, who sits in the back seat." He adds: "A few people who are good talkers praise the work, but what about the silent ones who listen and say nothing?"

The Rural New Yorker, commenting on these statements, says: "The institute speakers can not do any wiser thing than to learn how to encourage and keep just this class of farmers. The retired farmers and successful men who make up a good share of the audience are well able to take care of themselves. It is pleasant to entertain them, and their praise gives a man a thrill of satisfaction. It is a truer service to the State, however, to gain the confidence of the plain farmer and help him."

## Live Stock and Prosperity.

Live stock is the chief element of agricultural prosperity. It is the foundation upon which both the present and future profits are established. We boast of our great wheat and corn crops, and we have a reason for so doing, but if we depend upon them alone we rob ourselves and our children by selling off the fertility of the soil with each year's crop. For many years the soil will continue to yield their crops, but they will get poorer and finally fall unless they are fed. How much better to make your farm richer instead of poorer; to get the benefits of the increased crops during your own lifetime and then leave a rich and valuable farm to your children after you have done with it. Live stock will do it as nothing else can.—Kansas Farmer.

## The Work Horse in Summer.

Working horses from grass has never been our way, although a great many do it and keep their teams in very good fix. When there is only light work for a few days, our horses have the run of good pasture when not in the harness, but most of the time they are in the barn, where they get grain and bright hay three times a day. It seems to us they are better able to stand hot weather when on a hay ration, with grain, than when they get grain and green grass for their roughness. It probably does no more harm to a horse to sweat than it does a person. It is usually certain that when a horse is sweating freely he is taking no hurt, but a "grass sweat" can be avoided by feeding hay instead.—Twentieth Century Farmer.

## Farmers Must Watch the Crop.

In order to determine what elements of plant food are deficient in a soil, it is necessary to carefully study the growing crop. Many farmers seem to be of the opinion that a chemical analysis of the soil will show the amount of plant food contained therein. This, however, is a mistaken idea. The chemist can only determine approximately the amount of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash in a soil, without specifically showing what proportion of these elements can be taken up by the growing plant. A large percentage of these elements is not available to plant food. Hence the necessity for them in an available form. We must turn, then, to the crop, and by watching it closely during its growth and by a careful examination when matured, see whether the soil is deficient in plant food and what elements are lacking.

## Care of Setting Hens.

When sitting the hens in order to keep the lice from bothering them, a good plan is to fill the nest boxes with wood shavings, preferably those that have some odor about them. Cedar shavings are excellent and so are cedar twigs, and the hens will appreciate the nest of such materials. Lice are a great drawback to a hen when she is on the nest, and many times they compel the sitter to leave her nest when she does not desire, and if there is anything the poultryman can do to keep the sitting hen comfortable he will be amply repaid for it in the end. The shavings are inexpensive and are easily destroyed. They do not pack hard in the boxes and are quite comfortable for the hen. Try some of them when sitting a hen and see how useful they really are.—Rural World.

## A Celery Spray.

Celery blight can be controlled by spraying with ammonical carbonate of copper. To make this, dissolve 3 ounces copper carbonate in a pint of ammonia, and add 25 gallons of water. To make copper carbonate, dissolve 5 pounds copper sulphate (blue vitrol) in 5 gallons of water, also 5 pounds carbonate of soda in 5 gallons of water. Mix the two solutions slowly, stirring well. Let the mixture stand until next day to settle, after which pour off the liquid. Pour on 10 gallons of water, let stand until next day, and repeat the operation, after which strain and dry the blue powder, which is the copper carbonate.

## The Flavor of Butter.

It has been a generally accepted theory among teachers and writers on dairy subjects that the production of good butter necessitates the development of a certain amount of acid in the cream, for two reasons—to develop a desirable flavor and to improve the keeping quality. Recent investigations by the United States Department of Agriculture indicate, however, that butter made from pasteurized sweet cream has better keeping qualities and remains free from objectionable flavors for a longer time than butter made from sour cream.

## Dry Farming Fruit.

Dry farm fruit promises to yield an abundant crop this year in Colorado, according to E. R. Parsons, of Parker, Colo., one of the most successful dry farmers in that State. Mr. Parsons created much interest in the subject of fruit growing on non-irrigated land when he described his orchard in an address at the third dry farming congress at Cheyenne, and has promised to send an exhibit of his dry farm horticultural products to the International exposition of dry farm products when the dry farming congress holds its fourth session at Billings, Mont., October 26, 27 and 28 next.

## Profit in Sheep.

There is one thing the farmer can not afford to overlook in sheep raising, and that is thrift. Thrift means health, gain in quality, quantity and productiveness, the elements out of which the profits are derived. It must be the first object of the owner to keep his sheep in thriving condition. The quality of the wool, as well as the quantity, and the general productiveness of the flock make this requirement imperative.

## Have Sense of Direction.

Bees return to their hives in a direct line when they have been carried away and liberated, up to two miles. This has been supposed to be due either to the sense of sight or of smell, but the experiments of Gaston Bonnier have proven that neither sight nor smell can serve the purpose and that bees have a special "sense of direction." This sense is not in the antennae.

## When to Cut Grass for Hay.

Good hay can only be made by cutting the grass as soon as it heads out, and clover as soon as the heads are in full bloom. It is a mistake to wait until the heads turn brown. There is nothing in the theory that sunshine alone makes hay. Air is as much a factor as sunshine. Curing mainly in the winnows and hay cocks is now practiced by many of our best hay specialists.

## Spiced Currants.

Spiced currants make an excellent relish to serve with meats. Allow to each pound of the fruit a pound of sugar. Make the syrup in the proportion of one pint of vinegar to each four pounds of sugar, two teaspoonsful each of mace, cinnamon and allspice, a teaspoonful each of cloves and salt. When boiling add the currants, cook twenty minutes and put up in glasses the same as jelly.

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## Touch and Go.

"Good morning, sir," said the tall man in the suit of faded black, opening his valise. "My name is Glasspy. I am the inventor of a little device for—"

"I am glad to meet you, Mr. Glasspy," interrupted the man in the doorway. "My name is Washabaugh. I have the sole right in this county to take subscriptions for a new and copiously illustrated edition of the works of—"

"Good day, sir."  
"Good day."—Chicago Tribune.

## Discordant Note.

"Mr. Meskun, don't you think a woman should receive a man's pay when she does a man's work?"

"Why—er—look at the other side of the question a moment, will you? Think how many men are doing women's work and not getting a cent for it!"

## One Distinction.

Stranger (at Crown Point)—What's the difference between this sort of thing, in principle, and a horse race?

Automobile Enthusiast—Great Scott, look at the possibilities, man! You can get a million more thrills out of it.—Chicago Tribune.

## Dressed as Scholars.

At the wedding lately of the head master of Eastbourne College, England, the three pages in the bridal procession were garbed as scholars in black satin knee breeches, buckled shoes, scarlet silk gowns, with white shirt fronts. Each carried a mortarboard hat and a scarlet-bound prayer book.

## Early Showed Greatness.

Andrew Jackson was a marvel of precocity. He carried a flintlock musket, as a soldier of the revolutionary army, at the age of 14. At 23 he was appointed by Washington district attorney of Tennessee. He was a United States Senator at 30. He did not reach the presidency until he was 62.—Sunday Magazine.

## Due to Score Next Time.

"You refuse me, do you, proud girl?" he howled. "Well, you're not doing anything original! This is the third time I've been turned down!"

"So I'm the third sacker, am I?" merrily responded the girl, thrusting her tongue in her cheek in a well meant but only partially successful effort to look like Mr. Steinfield.

## History Rewritten.

With much reluctance King George III. had decided to let his American colonies go.

"Mark my words, though," he said, "they'll be governed some day by a monarch ten times as absolute and despotic as I am!"

If any doubt exists that his Britannic majesty had the spirit of prophecy upon him, look at Mr. Aldrich.—Chicago Tribune.

## A Studied Explanation.

"Will you be able to explain your attitude on the tariff?"

"Yes," answered Senator Sorghum. "I'll have my explanation ready when the time comes. But I'll wait till my constituents are interested in other things and will carefully make it a little hard to understand."—Washington Star.

## Getting Back.

"Captain, what time does the boat start?"

"It starts, madam, when I give the word."

"Then I've always had the wrong idea. I thought it started when the engineer pulled a lever, or did something. Thank you ever so much."—Chicago Tribune.

## The Old Adam.

"I wonder why three-fourths of the stenographers in business offices are women?" "I guess it is because men like to feel that there is at least one class of women whom they can dictate

## Food Scarce.

"This circular describing the Mount Inguis says you can sit at the dinner table and see the beautiful mountain peaks," said the man who contemplated going.

"That is true," replied the one who had been; "and that's just about all you can see."—Yonkers Statesman.

## Reminiscent.

"How long will eggs keep, anyhow?" said the casual customer at the lunch counter.

"I have met some in my career," answered the dark, gloomy man with the deep, tragic voice who sat next to him, "that I am willing to swear had been kept for not less than two years, by Jupiter!"—Chicago Tribune.

## Boyhood of Great Men.—No. XXI.

"Papa," said little Eddie, "I gotta have another pair o' shoes. These is all wore out."

"That makes seven pairs 'this year!' groaned the unhappy parent.

This incident took place more than sixty years ago. That boy has become an old man. His name is Edward Payson Weston, and he wears out shoes faster than ever.—Chicago Tribune.

## One Thing Beyond Any Power.

Tip knows other places where traveling is of the agony brand. After waiting for nearly four hours in Shannonville, Canada, between Toronto and Montreal, for a "mixed"—17 freight cars and one coach—I asked an impatient clergyman if he had been able to learn when the train would arrive. He eyed me up and down with pity. "Sir," he said, "that is the only thing that the Almighty does not know."—New York Press.

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