

BETTER BUILDINGS MAKE BETTER FARMS

Care of farm buildings is one of the paramount necessities for successful farming. Go along any country road and you can pick out the prosperous farms by looking at the house and barn. Well painted buildings in good repair invariably spell paying farms.

The farmer who is not making money will of course hesitate to make improvements. On the other hand, it is equally obvious that the farmer whose house is comfortable, whose machinery is up-to-date and efficient, and whose barn and other out-buildings are in good repair, can work better and get more returns from his land.

The last United States census showed a total farm land valuation of 54 billion dollars, with buildings valued at 11½ billions. The average farm is valued at \$10,284, with the land worth \$8,503, and the buildings \$1,781. But on some farms in the East the buildings represent more value than the land itself.

As a general rule, the Eastern farmers spend more for buildings than

those in the West. New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania rank first in the number of buildings, with an average of 7.8 per farm. A survey of 200 representative dairy farms in Pennsylvania revealed that the average farm of 140 acres has a barn worth \$4,420. For every acre of farm land in Pennsylvania there is an investment in buildings of \$31.60.

Unquestionably the farming population is attaching more importance and putting more money into home improvements than ever before. Urged by the farm journals and newspapers the farm woman is the principal factor in this development. She is demanding modern conveniences and facilities to lessen her work and enable her to provide a better home for her family.

She wants piping laid down into her kitchen and bathroom as a relief from carrying water from outside. She has had the work and bother of oil lamps long enough, and seeks a carbide gas installation that will ease her labors and give her more leisure and better light in which to enjoy it. Modern lighting and attractive fixtures inspire an improvement in appearance generally. The movement

spreads within the home, with the result that there is now no more cheerful home in the land than is to be found in many farm houses.

Aside from the increased livableness of the modern farm house, these improvements are adding to the permanent value of the property. The same thing applies to the barn and other out-buildings. Every improvement makes a farm more valuable and more efficient. Another aspect is that the cost of insurance and depreciation is lessened. Building depreciation can be kept at a minimum by using permanent materials and by making repairs before it is too late.

Realizing that their buildings represent such a large part of their investment, successful farmers are paying more attention to this part of their business. Conditions in the repair and construction of farm buildings are rapidly changing. Steel stanchions, home-made concrete and similar fire-resistant materials are going into barns and replacing old wooden structures. Farmers in this country last year used 130,000,000 bags of cement, enough to build a concrete pavement three feet wide that would go round the world five times.

The improvement in farm homes and out-buildings is but one evidence of the progressive spirit that animates agriculture in the country at the present time, and that is tending toward better farm life and more satisfactory farming operations. So far as the individual farm is concerned, anything that increases its value, such as improvements and repairs, additional buildings or new implements, inevitably makes it a better paying farm.

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The Ford Motor company has presented the University of Arizona College of Agriculture with a latest model Fordson tractor for use in teaching agriculture. The Ford company plans to replace the tractor to determine the different kinds of every six months with a new one. The College of Agriculture will make tests farm work that can be done economically and the cost of doing farm with the tractor.

Also the Oliver Chilled Farm Implement company has presented the College of Agriculture with a set of farm implements to be used with the Fordson tractor.

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Boston Transcript—Some men are brilliant talkers in public and others go out with their wives,

Saving farm women from drudgery

For 61 per cent of American farm homes, water must be carried an average of 39 feet. The total weight of water so carried for each home each year averages 49 tons. When you establish your home, will you load that tremendous chore on your wife,—expecting her at the same time to keep her house clean and cheerful, to care for her family and to retain the charm that made you fall in love with her?

A Crane water system, operated by gas or electric motor relieves farm women of such punishment. Running water makes possible a convenient laundry, a pleasant kitchen, a bathroom; while stock are kept healthier, more than repaying the cost of the installation.

It will pay you to make yourself an expert on plumbing for better farm homes. Write to Crane Co. If possible, visit the Crane Exhibit Rooms in the nearest city

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