

I consider that I saved nearly forty per cent. in timber. I paid for sawing about 20,000 feet of timber for this frame, including roof sheathing and mow floors. It required the labor of four carpenters almost exactly three days to complete the frame ready for raising. All was framed and raised from Tuesday evening to Saturday evening of the same week. After raising, it requires a little more time and labor to prepare it for siding, as the nail ties and side braces have to be put on after raising."

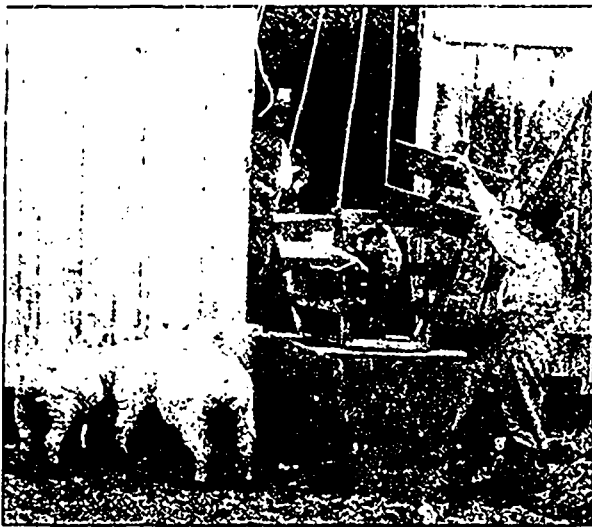
The advantages claimed for the plank-frame barn are many. One of the chief ones is that from 40 to 50 per cent. can be saved in the cost of the timber, which is a big item. Square timber in many sections is very hard to find and costly, while plank may be picked up in large quantities in any well-conducted lumber yard. Skilled labor is not needed in framing, as any one who can handle a saw and square and drive spikes can work at it. Its advocates claim that it is as strong as any square-timber frame of the same size.

Dipping Sheep

By Alfred Brown, Picton, Ont.

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Dipping sheep and lambs for ticks is a necessity, as no animal can thrive and give the best results for food consumed when tormented with insects. One dipping each year with Cooper's dip directly after shearing has kept our sheep clear of ticks where they have been isolated from flocks that have ticks.



Dipping Sheep.

The dipping apparatus need not be expensive. Any arrangement that will saturate the fleece to the skin will do (ours is shown in accompanying illustration). The tub is made water tight 18 x 44 inches at the bottom, 30 x 56 inches at the top and 30 inches deep, inside measurement. A cage for handling the sheep in and out of the dip is made to fit nicely inside the tub by using clear basswood for the frame. At the ends the sills are 1 x 3 x 18 inches and the posts are 1 x 3 x 36 inches, joined to the sills with wire two inches from the ends. The floor is 5/8 x 18 x 44 inches and the sides are 1/2 x 3 inches, with a 6 inch space between each piece having the top one a little below the top of tub to be out of the way when working the sheep in the bath. A slide or hinged door is handy at each end for bringing the sheep in at one end and after draining letting them out the other. A rope is fastened to each corner post of the cage and centred in the pulley of the horse-car. A block pulley of any kind will do for raising and lowering the cage.

With this rig two men can dip one sheep every three minutes, allowing one minute to drive the cage, one for soaking the fleece and one for draining, at an expense

of one cent for labor and two cents for dipping material. Full directions for mixing are printed on each package of dip.

The Growing of Sugar Beets

The agitation in regard to the growing of sugar beets in this country about a year ago has not altogether died out yet, and the subject is still of more than passing interest. Experiments conducted at Rothamsted under the direction of Sir J. B. Lawes and Sir Henry Gilbert in the early seventies prove that, by the liberal use of farmyard manure and ammoniacal and nitrogenous fertilizers, much larger crops of beet root can be grown than are produced in those foreign countries where the manufacture of beet-root sugars is systematically carried on. But these experiments also showed that, although the yield of the root (twenty-five tons per acre against the eleven tons per acre produced in France and Germany) was superior in quantity, it was decidedly inferior in quality, as the roots thus grown contained rather less than 10 per cent. of sugar against 11 1/2 to 12 per cent. obtained on the continent. By the use of purely mineral manures a larger percentage of sugar was obtained at Rothamsted, but the yield of the root was then only one-fourth. The value of beet-root to the manufacturer is dependent upon the percentage of sugar in the root and upon the purity of the juice, and, as a rule, the higher the percentage of sugar, the greater the purity of the juice. In France and Germany, where duty is charged upon the weight of roots submitted to manufacture, it is essential to the profit of the manufacturer that the roots should contain a large percentage of sugar.

Narrow Versus Wide Tires

There is a French adage which says: "That wagons should make that road and not that rut." There is a lot of sound philosophy in this phrase. Very many roads to day are injured by heavy teaming with narrow tires. Narrow tires cause ruts in the roadway which retain moisture. This is destructive to the road, especially with a frost. On the other hand wide tires make a dirt road better and help to preserve a stone or gravel way. Repeated experiments with dynamometers, and in general practice, have shown that the haul with wide tires under most conditions is easier than with narrow ones. Their use is especially advantageous for all kinds of teaming on the farm. By an ordinance the city of Rochester, N. Y., has effected a complete change to wide-tire wagons, which are now approved by teamsters and owners, and are considered beneficial to the streets. The change in the country cannot be effected as quickly as in the city, but something of this kind is well worth trying. A good instance of the beneficial effects of wide tires is seen in the ordinary traction engine. Though in ordinary teaming the weight would not be so large, the benefit to the roadway by the use of wide tires would be equally as great.

Poultry Fattening by Machinery

A new and quick method of fattening poultry has been devised in one or two districts near London, England. The fowls for this purpose are mostly bred in Ireland, the English farmers fattening them rapidly by means of the cramming machine.

The birds are kept in narrow pens with little room to move about. The food for fattening is a special compound of oatmeal, milk and fat, mixed to the consistency of porridge. The cramming machine consists of a large funnel from which the food falls into a cylinder whence a piston drives it by means of a treadle through a flexible tube into the bird's crop.

The birds are fed twice a day, the person in charge of the machine taking the fowl under his arm, opening the beak,