



In planning Forms for large structures, the oftener each section is used, the less the cost. You save money if they are rigid in alignment, and well surfaced. In other words, if you count on using your Forms over and over again, the more nearly perfect they are, the more often they can be used, and the cheaper they become.

If Forms are only to be used once, as is generally the case on the farm, they should not be nailed so securely as to prevent their being readily taken apart, and the lumber used for something else. It often pays to put them together with screws. If nails are used, do not drive them home.

Care Needed in Selecting Lumber for Forms

The selection of lumber is of importance. If the Forms are to be used over many times, surfaced lumber, matched, tongued, and grooved stuff, free from loose knots, is an economy. If, however, they are only to be used once, almost any old plank will do. By nailing a board on the outside of the cracks or over the bad knot, and filling with a little clay, the Form is made tight.

Green lumber is preferable to kiln-dried or seasoned stuff. Seasoned stuff, when wet (either by throwing water on the form before placing the concrete or by absorbing the water from the concrete), warps, and the shape and tightness of the Form is damaged.

Originally only surfaced lumber was used for Forms, dependence being placed on it for giving a finish to the work. While to-day other than smooth surfaces for concrete are the fashion, surfaced lumber has some advantages. The Forms fit together better and are easier to erect. They are more easily cleaned. They are easier to remove. All these items reduce the cost of the work. The saving effected will of