

Farm Implements and Conveniences

A "Dump" for a Sled

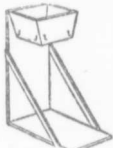
Dump cars for hauling manure and other articles are usually associated with wheels, but for hauling out manure in winter the wheel cart is not practicable. Here is a dumping arrangement applied to a sled—an idea borrowed from the dump is from those used for grading



railroads. Any one can see from the cut how the principle is applied. The "dump" must be pivoted high enough so that when the pin is pulled the "dump" will be sufficiently inclined to empty all the contents at the side of the sled. Such an arrangement will be found most convenient for stable work in winter.

Portable Grain Holder

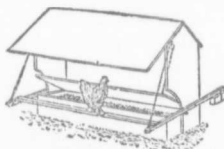
More than once have we caught a little villain shivering and holding the bags in an icy granary while the lusty men sweated over turning the fanning mill and scooping up the grain. And we have seen men holding sacks in the busy threshing season when the simple contrivance illustrated in the accompany-



ing cut could do the work better. The upright plank is an inch thick, three and a half feet long and fifteen inches wide. The bottom plank is of the same dimensions except that it is a foot and a half shorter. The hopper is easily constructed, and the hooks secured at any hardware store, or possibly improvised at home from bent nails. The base of the hopper is wedged from the perpendicular plank so that the bag may wrap all the way around.

Self-Feeder for Poultry

A perfection feed hopper is shown in the cut. It is 8 inches wide, 2½ feet high and 3 feet long. The roof projects over the perch on which the fowls stand while feeding. The method of



constructing the perches and the weight and attachment to the lid over the grain is clearly shown in the picture. The weight on the arm should be adjusted to the size of the fowl. This box may be made of any length desired, but the height and width are about right.—B. T. Wagner, Lewis County, Mo.

Build an Implement Shed

Many farmers do not place much dependence upon shelter for prolonging the "life" of farm implements. At least, it seems so to me. In riding through the country we see at almost every farm one or more (generally more) costly implements that are being allowed to "weather it." This is by no means the proper way to do, and in this letter it is my purpose to warn people against it.

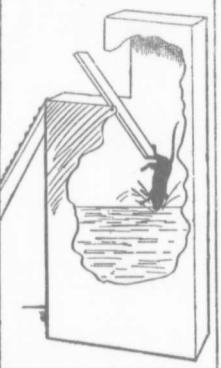
Let us figure a little. A good implement shed can be had cheaply, for not more than say \$25.00, with facilities for all implements and a buggy besides. Say a farmer buys a binder, which, of course, would cost at least \$100.00. If this binder were allowed to set out, in three or four years it would not be worth anything at all, except for "old junk." With proper care and shedding it will last at least twice as long, possibly longer, and so with other implements. Plows, if allowed to rust, are hard to make smooth, but if axle grease is applied when they are put away the whole trouble will be avoided and the plow will last much longer.

Thus, the cost of the shed is nothing compared with the serious damage and cost of the implements. By all means have a good implement shed and use it, and also apply plenty of paint to all farm implements as well as vehicles. Hoping this may be of some benefit to my Canadian brethren.

B. P. WAGNER.

To Trap Rodents

The late Captain Kidd, our piratical countryman, had a habit of sending his captives to a watery grave by making them walk a plank blindfolded, the victims stepping from the end of the board into the sea. After much the same idea a resident of Elkins, W. Va., plans to rid us of our rats and mice. The advantage over Captain's Kidd's plan, how-



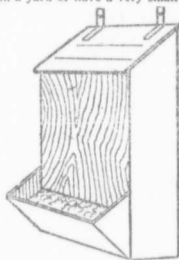
ever, is that the rodents will not have to be captured and blindfolded in advance.

A little tank of water is provided, with an incline board leading to a landing above the water level. The landing is hinged at its centre, so that when weight is applied to the rear half it tilts. On a wall in the rear is a small hook or shelf, on which is placed a tempting morsel. When Mr. Rat ascends the incline and tips merrily toward the bait his weight tilts the landing, and down

he goes into the water. The landing quickly rights itself, ready for its next visitor who will soon join his unfortunate companion in the watery depths beneath.

Shell and Grit Box

A very necessary article for keeping fowls in health where they are confined within a yard or have a very small space



is a shell and grit box. The one shown in our sketch meets all requirements, is easily made, and can be readily removed if deemed advisable.

A Scraper for a Poultry House

A handy scraper for use about the poultry house or the nest boxes where pigeons are kept for squab raising, or for scraping orchard trees is shown in the cut. It is made from a worn out section



of a moving machine. A hole is in the centre and a rod with lead on one end and nut on the other passes through the knife section and through the handle, the nut drawing the whole tightly together.

Strength of Steel Wire

The question is often asked: What is the real difference in steel wire that makes one kind so much stronger than another, though both look alike? The difference is generally owing to the chemical quality of ore from which the pig iron was made, and also to the difference in treatment of the metal through its various stages of manufacture.

Carbon is the element more directly responsible than anything else for the strength of steel. Carbon hardens and strengthens the metal, and when properly assimilated, adds greatly to its toughness.

It should be borne in mind, however, that hardness can be obtained in low carbon steel by working it under certain conditions, but hardness thus obtained is at the expense of toughness and adds scarcely anything to the strength.

According to tests made by the Page Wire Fence Co., wire containing 3 per cent carbon has 90 per cent more strength than common steel wire. A high carbon wire No. 9 gauge has an average strength of 2,400 lbs., as compared with 1,300 lbs. for common wire of the same gauge. As high carbon steel costs only a little more than other grades it is evidently poor economy to use low grades under any circumstances.

Miss Mayfair—Miss Furby certainly carries her age well.

Miss Maryland—Yes, she started out with her twenty-fifth year three years ago, and she hasn't dropped it yet.