

Conserving Woman-Power

Some months ago we asked for contributions regarding simple labor-saving devices about the home which any woman might easily have. Several letters with excellent suggestions have come in. So many of the suggestions are so easy of attainment that the wonder is that all homes are not more adequately equipped. A little time and planning on the part of the farm man and his wife will accomplish wonders as evidenced by these letters. In these days when greater production is urged on every hand, and the farmers are really doing their utmost, more time and thought should be given to averting too great a strain on the farm woman. The extra work for the men directly reacts on the already over-worked farm woman. Any device which will save her work this year should be favorably considered by her husband and no effort spared to install it. Any kind of power in the world is preferable to the expending of so much invaluable woman-power. Woman-power has operated the household implements too long. It is wearing out these last few years. Why not conserve what is left and substitute something else?—Editor Women's Department.

Basement Power House

The farm women surely deserve some convenience to make life less drudgery and hardship. I have recognized this fact—that the more monotonous and slave-like life is heaped upon the average farm woman, the quicker the worn-out loving helpmate will succumb. The efficiency of farm life begins at the sunshine and comfort of the home. With drudgery and endless days' work in the farm house life is anything but joyful.

One particular invention which was devised for our farm home in particular was installed in the basement of the kitchen. In fact the kitchen had no basement before this, but we dug it out and placed in this basement a power equipment which greatly reduced the work for the home loving woman. We took the shaft out of an old 24 disc drill and placed pulleys on same. Using the boxes of the running gear of the drill we bolted the shaft on the ceiling of the basement floor. From this shaft we ran a belt about 10 feet long to a one-horse engine. From this old drill shaft there are different sizes of pulleys scattered from place to place as needs be, to operate the different machinery, on what speed one wishes each special machine to run. One can easily come to a decision to find out what speed each needs to run by, one way or another. One pulley from this shaft operates the cream separator. We find by the power being applied thuswise to the

cream separator a better flow of cream is obtained as the speed is more accurate and uniform, also no exhaustive work is connected with its operation. The next pulley out on the shaft operates the churn. We arranged a clutch from an old Havana drill which throws the churn in and out of gear, so in this way one can stop and start the churn while the engine is always in motion. Next on the shaft is the pulley operating the sausage machine. This operation of the sausage machine gives the engine the hardest work as our sausage machine is a large one, but the engine faithfully pulls it. It gives the family table an ample supply of good sausage with little or no slave work falling on the farm woman. On the other end of the shaft we are going to place a pulley to operate the washing machine which formerly was operated by the engine independent of the shaft. Also on the balance wheel of the engine we run a small belt which runs a small emery wheel, which of course is very desirable for doing quick grinding. We have steps arranged to lead directly outside from this kitchen basement so no one need trudge through the house with milk cans, etc., to get to the power-house. The exhaust pipe of the engine is also connected up so that the exhaust is outside. We take particular precaution when we put gasoline into the engine and always fill that in day time. We intend to put the gas tank outside underground so as not to have any danger in this line and have a pipe leading the gas to the engine. There is really no danger in having the gas tank with the engine only that careless employees might fill it by lantern light and so cause a destructive fire. I sincerely recommend this power house as a great success and very economical for the farm woman.—Oscar Quilly.

Improved Water System

As I knew a great majority of women carried water from all distances, I conceived the idea of having water on tap in our house, a thing which very woman in the house looks forward to. Here is how it was accomplished. I went to the tinmith's in town and told him I wanted two galvanized tanks made, one to hold 60 gallons and the other to hold 30 gallons. The 60 gallons was for hard water and the 30 for soft water with brass taps in each and covers on them. While they were in the making I sent to Winnipeg for a white porcelain sink with attachments, also a little cottage pump and three feet of pipe. Having gotten all these things I proceeded to instal. I built up a platform in a little room off the kitchen high enough that the sink would be the right height for my wife to work with ease. I next put up the



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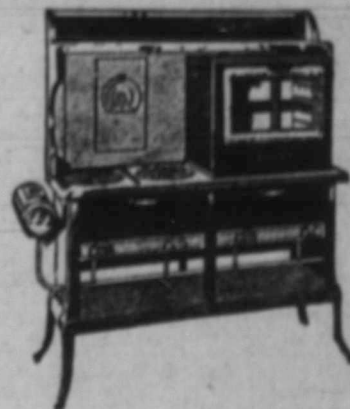
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