

About the Farm

The Farm Well

Good water is as essential as good food for the maintenance or health in the family and the thrift of the farm live stock. An ample supply of pure wholesome water is not only a blessing of inestimable value but one of the most valuable assets a farm can possess. There is no country in the world with a greater abundance of pure water in lakes, rivers and springs than Canada and there is no insuperable difficulty in the larger number of our agricultural districts in obtaining a supply ample and pure.

A glance through the annual reports of the experimental farms shows that the division of chemistry is doing a valuable work towards the improvement of the farm water supplies throughout the Dominion. In the course of the past thirty years many hundreds of samples from farm wells have been analysed and reported on. A perusal of these reports shows that year in and year out only about one-third of the waters were pronounced as pure and wholesome, in other words, were free from excretal drainage matter. This is not as it should be, and the reason is not hard to find. In too many instances convenience only has been considered in locating the well. For the most part we find these polluted wells under stables, in barnyards or dangerously near the privy or where the slops from the farm house are thrown out. Wells in such locations can never be depended on to yield pure water. They must sooner or later become polluted

pump will be found a paying investment, enabling the water to be pumped to the house, stable and barn, thus securing running water in the farm buildings, a convenience and blessing that needs only to be experienced to be appreciated.

White Feathered Fowls

Not all the so-called breeds are exactly pure white, many of the members of some of these breeds will show up with yellowish tints in the feathers; this is for the white breeds showing yellow legs. There are some white breeds that have dark legs, and these will show, as a rule, if kept to standard, pure white feathers if kept clean. A few years ago occurred a controversy over the White Rocks and White Wyandottes. These two breeds so closely resembling, some fanciers made claim that to breed either of these breeds to a pure white state of feathers you bred out not only egg-laying quality, but strength to resist disease, because of weakened vitality, others again declaring there was nothing in this. How it was settled, if ever, I cannot say, but this I knew then that the White Wyandotte will to the average flock show more pure white birds almost totally devoid of the yellow tint than will the White Rock, and also that both breeds that do show the yellow tint in the feathers show a tendency after one year old to grow whiter feathers for the following molting, and again, the fowls that persisted in



With all their household goods loaded on the cart and their two cows being led behind these French refugees are fleeing to points of safety behind the British lines. Many of the inhabitants of the front line towns were forced to seek shelter thus when the first attack of the German drive was launched. Many less fortunate than these pictured in this British official photo were compelled to leave all their worldly possessions behind when they fled.

by filth draining into them from the surrounding soil, which inevitably becomes saturated with manurial products. These wells indeed act as cess pits and the records show not a few instances in which the water of such wells possessed a distinct fertilizing value from the presence of excretal matter.

The lesson from these facts is: Don't sacrifice health to convenience, locate the well at a safe distance—50 to 100 yards at least—from any possible source of contamination. A bored or drilled well tapping a deep seated source, tightly sealed off at the junction of the soil and rock is likely to give the purest supply. If a dug well, line it to a depth of 10 or 12 feet with concrete or puddled clay, 4 to 6 inches in thickness, to ensure the exclusion of water from the surface layers of soil. Keep the surroundings of the well absolutely clear from the accumulation of filth and preferably in the grass. Make provision to carry off the waste water from the pump, so that it may not re-enter the well and so protect the mouth of the well that surface water cannot flow in and mice, frogs, snakes, etc., are excluded. With wells such as these pure water may be secured. A wind-mill, gasoline engine or hand force

showing up with that soft, yellow tint, scarcely perceptible, and yet there when contrasted with cloth or snow, or anything pure white, did seem to me more vigorous and more able to withstand colds, roup and various diseases, and did lay more eggs. This is my individual opinion; I do not give it as an established fact for all facts. At any rate, I do find some judges of poultry who do not incline to cut out a fine bird in the show room on account of that "brassy" tinge in its feathers, and I am sure that like myself perhaps they feel that strength, and to withstand disease and to produce more eggs is worth more than the pure white color demanded by the Standard. On the farm one need not be so particular as in the fancier's pens.—Twentieth Century Farmer.

The Headquarters of the Farm

Written for The Western Home Monthly by Allan Campbell

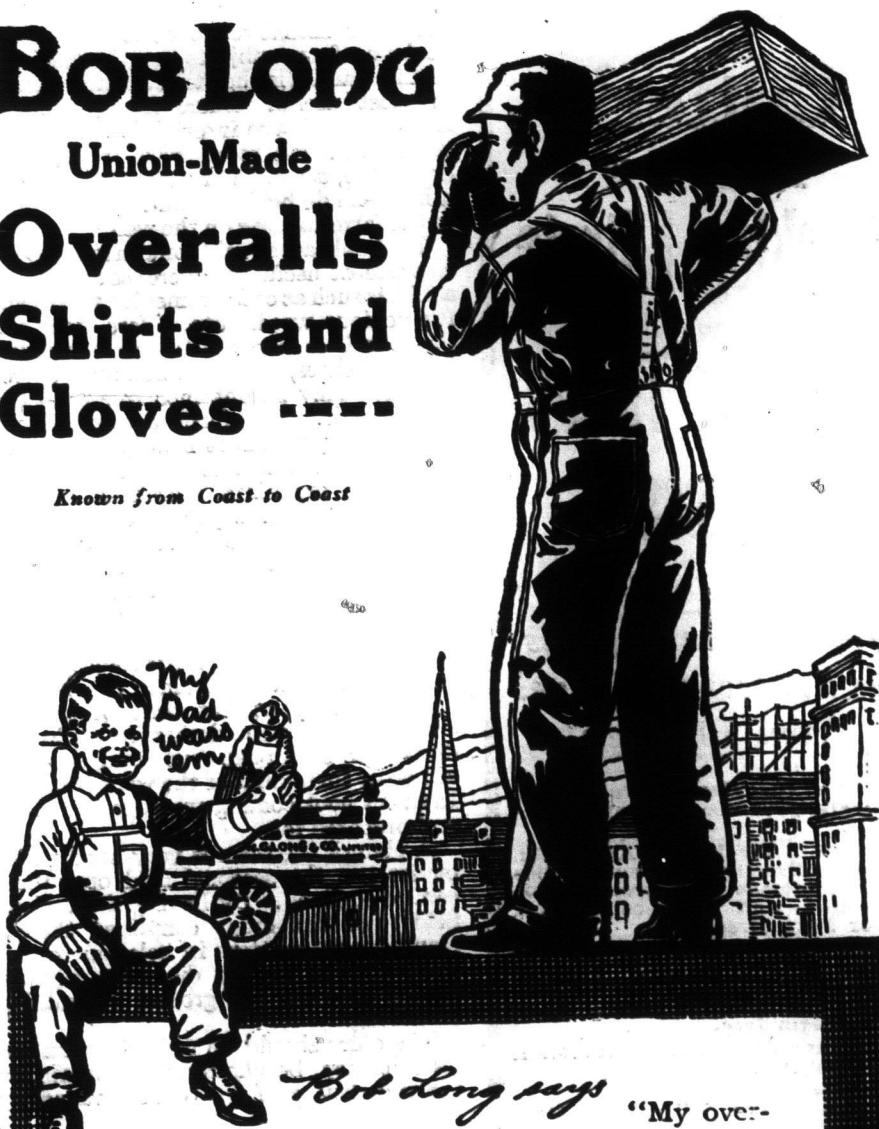
All big concerns have their headquarters and the farm is certainly a big concern. A spare room of the farm house used exclusively as an office will be found to be a most serviceable addition to the farm organization. There are times when the farmer needs a room where business conversations may be carried on without interruption, at other times pen, ink and paper will be wanted at a moment's

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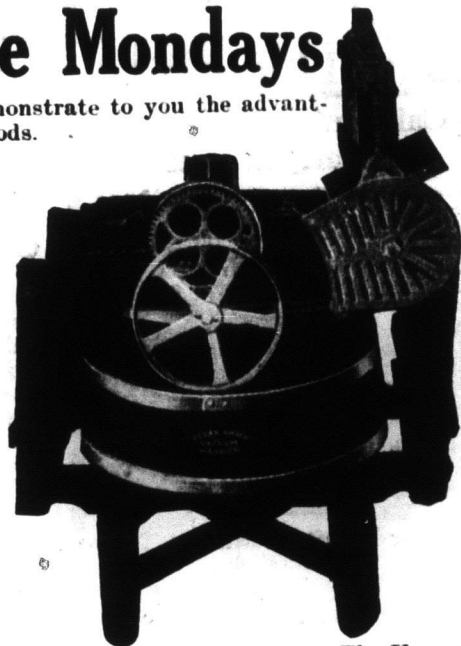
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