

many diseases were perpetrated through countless generations by this practice there is no means of estimating. It has been recently only that men in their daily duties have hesitated to drink from the same cup as their friends, enemies, and neighbors. Physicians have been expatiating upon the wisdom of using any but your own drinking vessel, for a longer time, it is true, but it takes a long time for a medical theory to become a popular prejudice.

Even now there are many lands in which it would be the height of discourtesy to refuse to drink from a proffered cup already used by thousands of the healthy, the diseased, the rich, the poor, the halt, the lame, and the blind. Even in this country there are thousands of factories and shops where working men and women in all conditions of health and sickness drink from the same vessels, and certainly the majority escape untainted, but not a huge majority.

The system installed by the Reporter Press Company, of Chicago, is a notable digression from this rule and a most satisfactory one. Above the tank of filtered water are hung as many cups as there are employees in the particular room or department. In the case here shown there are thirty-three. These cups are numbered, and upon the printed list which is posted besides the cups is given the name and number of each drinker on the force. Assuming that every one drinks water, each man, by such an arrangement, may have the unique satisfaction continually of using his own cup and of knowing that if he is absorbing anybody's diseases they are his own.

There is a certain false courtesy to which men are addicted when they invariably protest that they do not mind drinking after their neighbor at the spigot. While it may be a compliment to the neighbor's physical condition, as a matter of courtesy it is so full of menace that one can afford to forego it and at least go through the formality of washing out the receptacle.

R. G.

Improving the Farm Home.

Sir: Few things will contribute more to the comfort and "sanitation" of a home

than an ample supply of running water. This is one of the substantial attractions of the city home. That it is found in comparatively few farmsteads is a reproach to the thrift of the owners, as well as to their characters as husbands and fathers.

A supply of running water is not only a household convenience, but it is a money-saver in numerous ways. In the mere matter of watering cattle, it will not only make a large saving of labor, but it will increase the flow of milk in dairy cattle and cause fattening beeves to lay on more flesh than when their drink is limited.

The economies it will effect on even a moderate-sized farmstead will amount to a good deal more each year than the interest on an investment of \$500 and only rarely would the outlay for its installation amount to so large a sum as that. Forest Henry, in a recent article, figures that—a well being already available—the cost may be kept within \$200; which includes a \$100 windmill; 100 feet of 1¼ inch pipe, connecting with house and barn, and cost of laying same; the building of a cistern; a small stock-tank; float valves and sundries. The interest on \$200 at 6 per cent. is only \$12 a year. It is safe to say that any farmer, with an ordinary "bunch" of cattle, losses several times that amount, in butter or beef product alone, from the limitation of the amount of water which is inevitable where much labor is involved in watering the animals. All this without taking account of the conveniences, the improved healthfulness, and the saving of labor in the house, which accompany the introduction of running water.

The farmer should realize that it pays better to put profits into farm improvements of his own than to loan it at 5 per cent. or 6 per cent. to improve some other man's farm.

The question with farmers should not be whether they can afford an equipment for running water, but whether they can afford to go without it. Those who have installed such an equipment are usually prompt in answering this question with an emphatic negative.

C. R. B.