

FARM.

A Model Modern Barn.

The commodious modern barn of Mr. E. D. Tillson, of Tilsonburg, may well be rated as the model building of its kind in Canada. It was built in 1893, when no pains nor expense were spared to make it the best possible structure for convenience and durability. The farm upon which it stands is a choice 400 acres, most of which is in a high state of cultivation. The fields are of convenient size and each provided with hydrants connected with an excellent waterworks system. All sorts of grains and fodders are grown, and a considerable acreage is devoted to test plots of different crops. During our visit there we saw Soja beans, Kaffir corn, and other new varieties of fodders growing side by side. We were much interested in a field of lucern clover sown alone this year, which on June 17th was about a foot high and very thick on the ground. There is no doubt but a good yield of hay will be taken from that land within a month. The second crop of lucern was well forward on a field of two years' standing, from which four cuttings were taken last year. The main business of the farm is that of dairying, for which a well-equipped creamery is kept in operation. The herd comprises over 50 herd of excellent cows, mostly Holstein grades.

The barn, which is slate roofed, is of white brick, having two-foot walls up to the very peak. The main portion, which stands east and west, is 125 feet long by 60 feet wide. Joining the southwest is a 45 x 45 addition, which is to all intents and purposes a portion of the main structure. The accompanying plans show clearly the lay and dimensions of the various compartments. The entire flooring of the basement is of cement, which has gutters, 14 inches wide by 8 deep, behind each row of cattle. The mangers are 2½ feet wide, the back board of which projects a few inches into the passage to receive the feed. The cut shows the position of the water boxes and salt boxes in each stall. Each water box is of iron and supplied with a pipe leading up through the bottom. There is a continuous stream running through these which cannot reach higher than within a half inch of the top of the boxes. By turning a certain stop-cock and opening another, the whole of the boxes can be emptied in five minutes. By this means the pipes are flushed and kept clean.

Mr. Tillson seems to have mastered the question of ventilation. The fresh air is drawn through an underground pipe which leads out a few rods, where it opens in the shape similar to that of a blow pipe of a steamboat. The mouth of this pipe is provided with a tail, which keeps it facing the breeze. The entrance of the fresh air is shown in

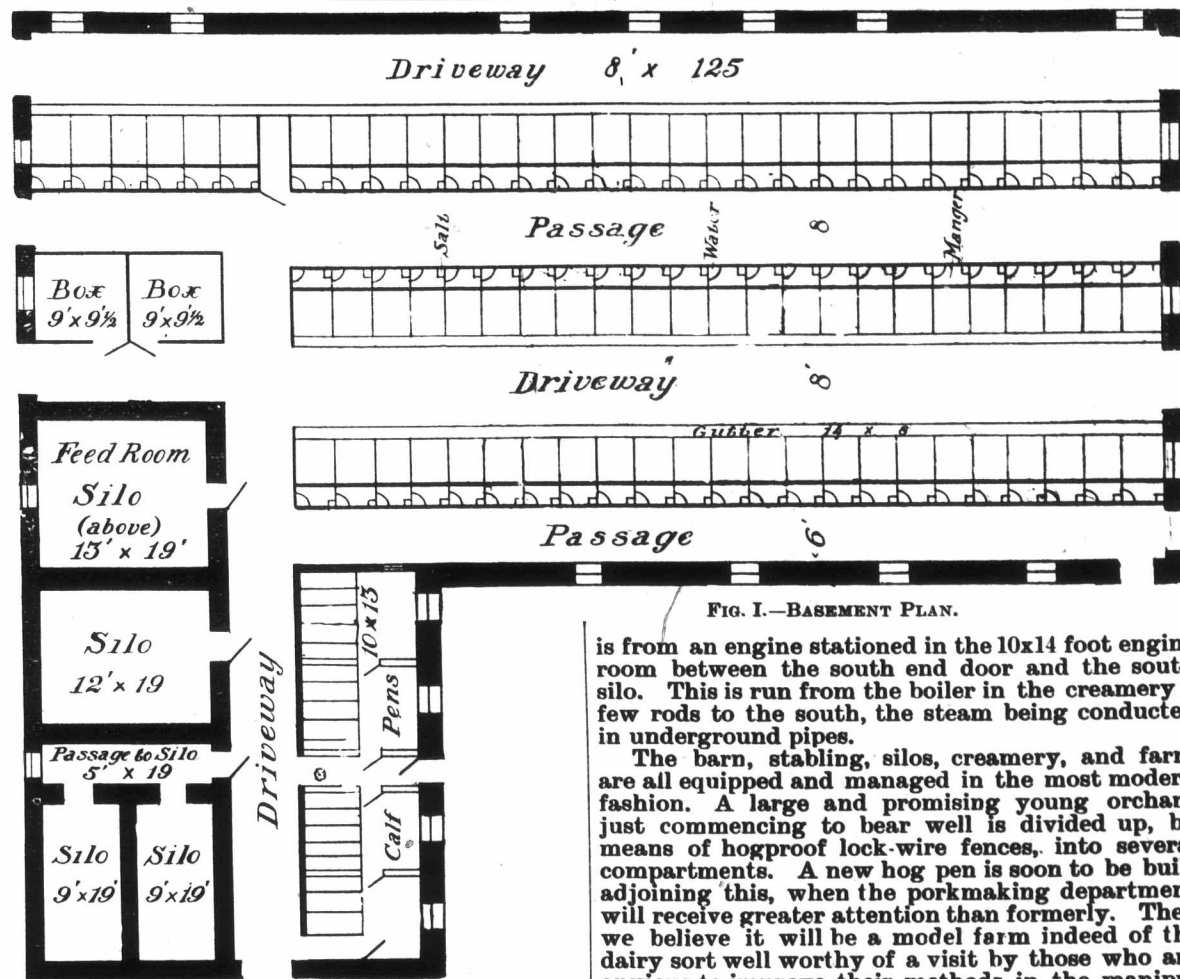


FIG. I.—BASEMENT PLAN.

is from an engine stationed in the 10x14 foot engine room between the south end door and the south silo. This is run from the boiler in the creamery a few rods to the south, the steam being conducted in underground pipes.

The barn, stabling, silos, creamery, and farm are all equipped and managed in the most modern fashion. A large and promising young orchard just commencing to bear well is divided up, by means of hogproof lock-wire fences, into several compartments. A new hog pen is soon to be built adjoining this, when the porkmaking department will receive greater attention than formerly. Then we believe it will be a model farm indeed of the dairy sort well worthy of a visit by those who are anxious to improve their methods in the manipulation of a like business.

Cutting Grain.

Millers like wheat cut before it is dead ripe, because the skin is thinner than when it has stood longer, and it is said that the proportion of gluten is greater. On the other hand, it stands to reason that seed grain should be fully ripened, so that the germ will be well developed, and the starch upon which it will feed also. It appears reasonable to suppose that the development of the germ takes something from the flour-yielding quantity of the grain, and that this is one reason why millers like wheat cut before it is dead ripe. There is a great lack of exact knowledge upon this point and a capital opportunity for investigation. Barley cut when not quite ripe is of a better color and realizes more money than when left till it is dead ripe, but for malting, a mature, healthy germ is important. By cutting grain, and especially oats, before it is dead ripe, farmers secure themselves against the risk of heavy loss from shelling. If they do not begin to cut when the grain is a little under ripe they cannot finish before some of it is over ripe, and then the chances are that they will lose a great deal of grain. Except for malting barley, then, the advantages are greatly in favor of cutting a little too soon rather than too late. Any experienced farmer will say that while he has rarely had reason to regret having been too quick in cutting a wheat or oat crop, he has often suffered from being too slow. Especially is this true with oats when the straw is so largely used as fodder.

Salt and Wireworms.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—I see in your valuable paper of 15th inst., a communication from one, Mr. Glew, stating that salt is a remedy for the destruction of the wireworms. I have also seen the same recommended in several newspapers. Now, I know a farmer named Brooks who read of this remedy in some paper, and was preparing to purchase two tons of salt and sow a field accordingly. But before going to the city to make the purchase next day he thought he would experiment, and he gathered up a handful of the worms and put them right in a salt barrel on top of the salt, and the next morning he found the worms all alive. It is useless to say Mr. Brooks did not purchase the salt next day to apply to his land.

London Tp., June 17th, 1896.

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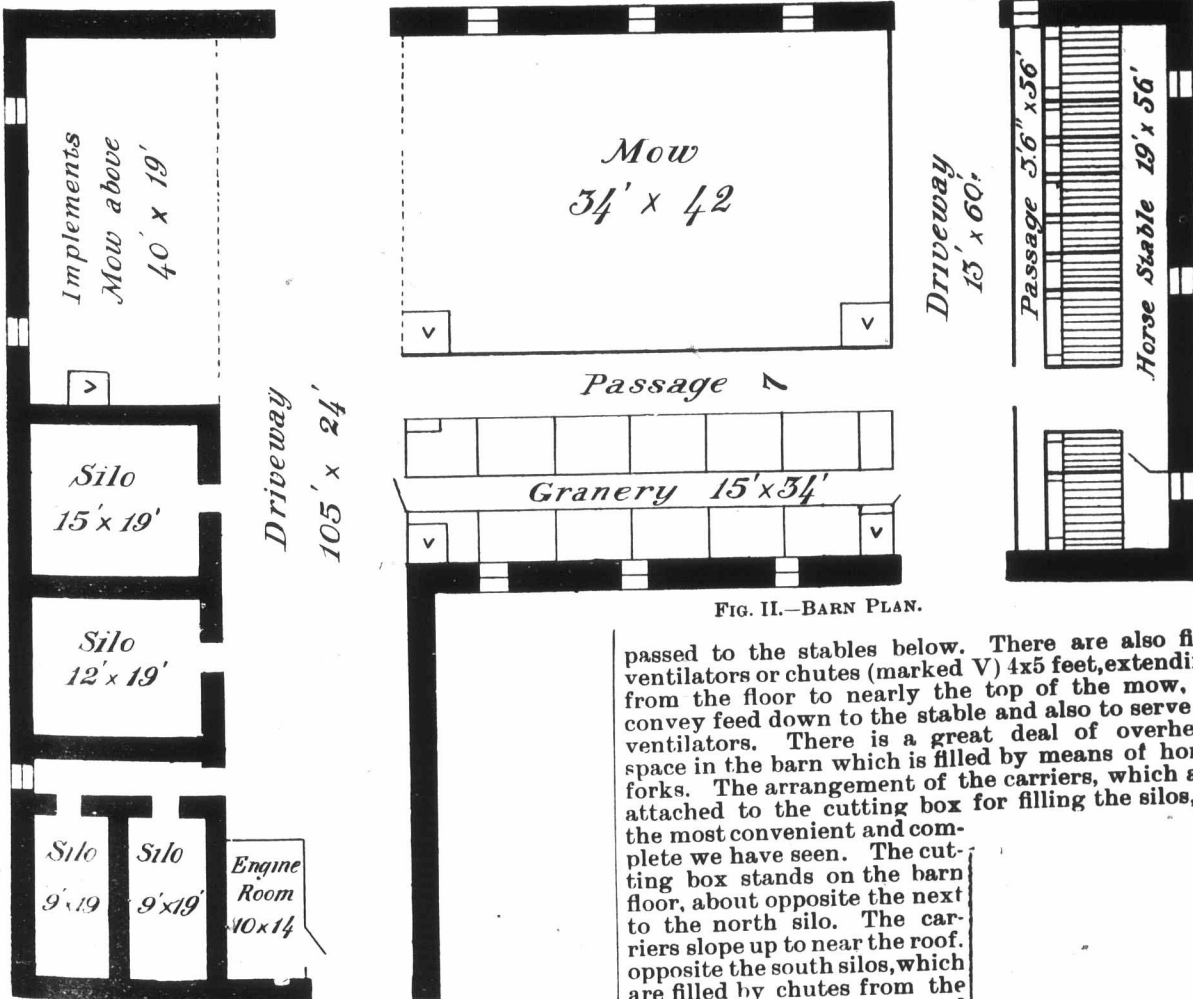


FIG. II.—BARN PLAN.

passed to the stables below. There are also five ventilators or chutes (marked V) 4x5 feet, extending from the floor to nearly the top of the mow, to convey feed down to the stable and also to serve as ventilators. There is a great deal of overhead space in the barn which is filled by means of horse forks. The arrangement of the carriers, which are attached to the cutting box for filling the silos, is the most convenient and complete we have seen. The cutting box stands on the barn floor, about opposite the next to the north silo. The carriers slope up to near the roof, opposite the south silos, which are filled by chutes from the carriers. From the upper end of the carrier runs another carrier north, parallel with the top of the silos. This has movable bottoms opposite each silo, which are each removed in turn as a fresh silo is desired to be filled. By means of this arrangement the cutting box remains stationary while all the silos are being filled. The power used

Fig. 3, showing a side view of stall. The foul air escapes by chimneys in the walls, by openings near the floor, and also near the ceiling. The silos have the floor, and also near the ceiling. The silos have a capacity for about 1,000 tons of ensilage, of which there is a considerable quantity now on hand to feed when the pasture becomes dry. The passage leading through between the silos is itself used as a silo, being filled last and fed first. The north silo, 13x19 feet, is a feed room in the lower flat. The silo above it is supported by strong iron posts. The silos are like the barn walls, of white brick lined with cement.

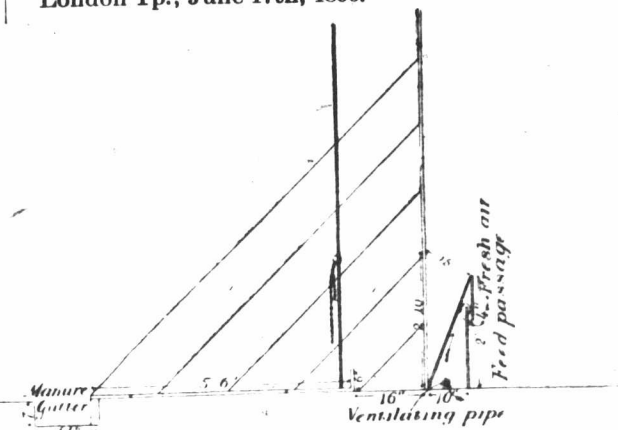


FIG. III.—CROSS-SECTION OF STALL, SHOWING THE PLAN OF VENTILATION.