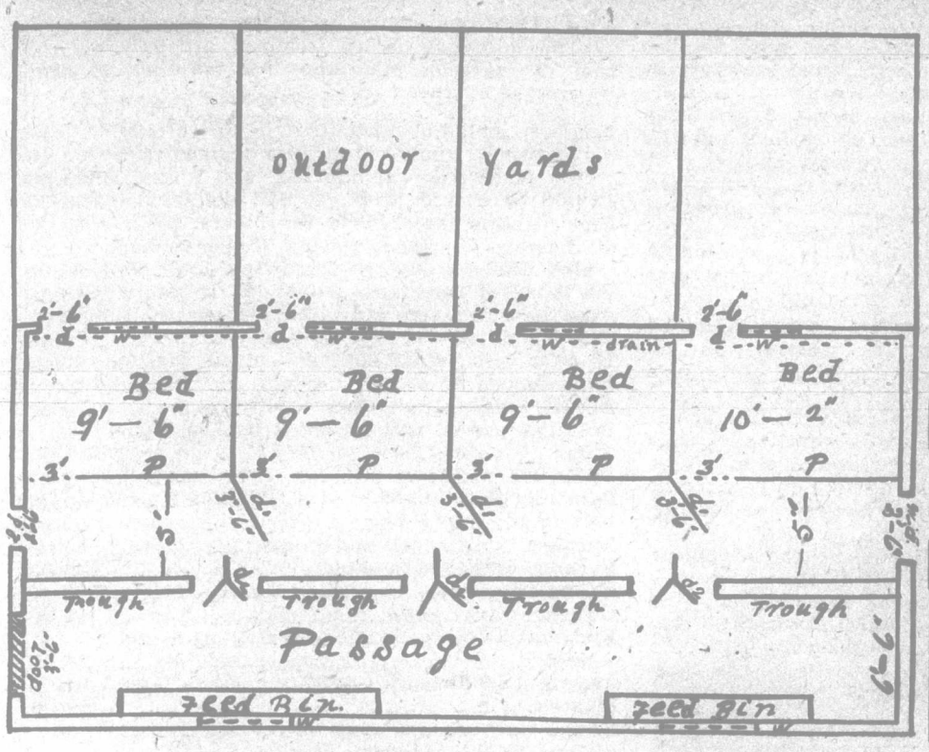

Fig. 1.—A practical plan for a small piggery.

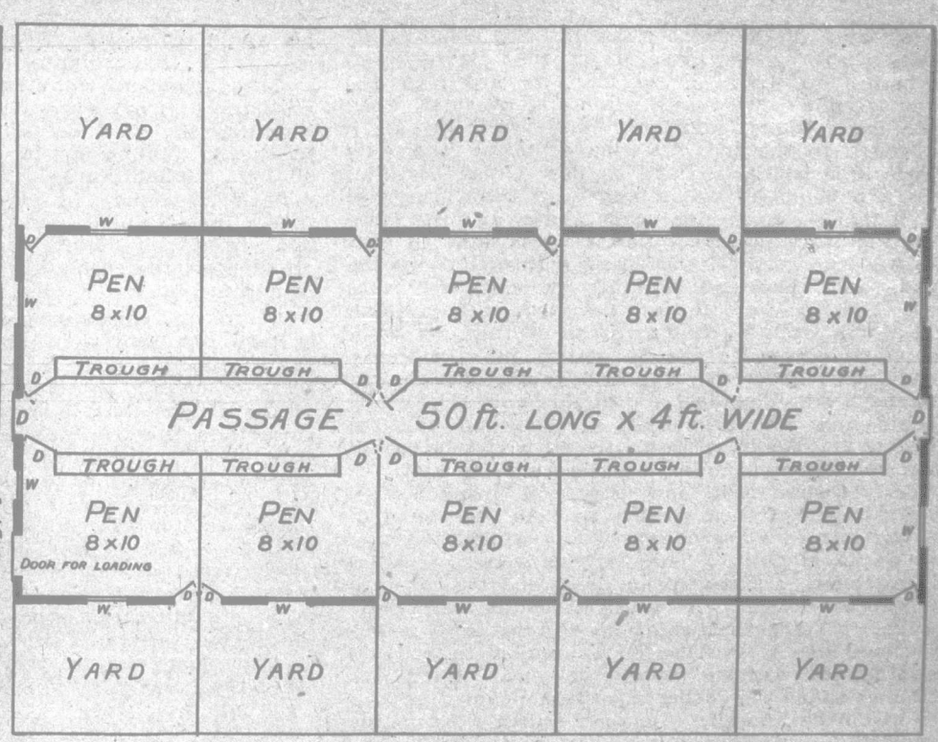

Fig. 2.—A plan showing two rows of pens.

Plans for a Piggery.

Several requests have been received of late for plans of modern piggeries. While it is not possible to publish a plan that would be suitable under all conditions, yet we hope, by presenting several, to offer suggestions that may prove useful. No one plan probably of those submitted will be adequate in every regard, yet they are all capable of being modified to almost any extent, and the desirable features of them can be adapted to suit various conditions.

A small piggery is illustrated in Figure 1. This plan, recommended by Prof. G. E. Day, in his "Bulletin on Swine," very largely explains itself. The building suggested in this illustration is 40 feet long and 20 feet wide. The pens, and outdoor yards, are on the south side. The important considerations in any building of this nature are ventilation, light, freedom from drafts, reasonable warmth, convenience, and dryness which might have been mentioned earlier, but this quality depends to a large extent upon the light and ventilation of the building. In order to provide light and sunshine and make the piggery dry, large windows marked (w) should be placed on the south side. In the centre of the building should be air-shafts to carry off the impure atmosphere, and at the sides should be inlets for pure air. It will be noticed by the drawing that the feeding pen and sleeping quarters are separated by a partition, marked (p). These should be approximately 3 feet 6 inches high, in order to prevent drafts and keep the bedding in place. The doors, marked (d1), are 3 feet 6 inches wide, and when opened back they close the passage between the sleeping quarters and feeding pen. This makes a continuous gangway, where manure can be taken out or bedding brought in. The loading chute can also be arranged at one end of this passage. The feed passage indicated in the plan would require a width of about 5½ feet. Less space would be sufficient were it not for the feed bins. There is a slight waste of space here for in a wider building the passage 5½ feet wid would be sufficient to serve for two rows of pens; one row on each side of the passage.

A modest building with two rows of pens is illustrated in Figure 2. In this building, 50 feet long, there is sufficient room for ten pens, with a row on each side of the feed passage. As will be seen in the illustration, there is no division set apart for sleeping quarters. However, a small platform could be arranged in the corner of each pen, and so constructed that it might be lifted up or removed altogether, when it was necessary to clean out or disinfect the building. Probably, with this number of pens, one might be used in which to store and mix feed, as the passage is none too wide for that purpose. A building of this kind would naturally be set east and west, and the majority of the light would enter from the south side. The pens on the north side would consequently be less comfortable than those on the south. This objection could be partially overcome in such a building as is illustrated in Figures 3 and 4.

If one desires a piggery with two rows of pens, and would have them uniformly lighted, the plan as set forth in Figure 3 might be adopted for use in a building of almost any size. This is a plan of a piggery on the farm of J. E. Brethour, Burford, Ontario. A cement wall 8 inches thick rises 3 feet above the floor, and on top of this wall the frame is built. The walls are built of two by four-inch studding, boarded on the outside with cheap lumber, covered with building-paper, and tightly clap boarded on top of the paper. On the inside the walls are lined with matched lumber, so as to form a dead-air space inside the wall. The lining also extends over the lower side of the rafters, giving a dead-air space to the roof as well as the walls. The cross section of this building, illustrated in Figure 4, shows the general plan of construction. On the south side the frame wall is 5 feet high, and on the north side it is 8 feet high. The roof has the same pitch on both sides, so there is a drop of 3 feet from one section of the roof to the other. In this space between the two roofs windows are inserted to throw light and sunshine into the pens on the north side. The windows are hinged at the bottom, and can be opened at any angle according to the amount of ventilation required. Windows are also placed in the south wall. The floor is cement throughout, and the part (a b) in Figure 4 is 6 inches higher than that part marked (c d). The pen (a b) is used as a sleeping pen, and (c d) for feeding. There is a fall from a to b and a fall from d to c. Thus concentrating all drainage at the one part of the pen. A slight fall in the building from one end to the other, along the line c would assist considerably in keeping the pens dry. The partition between the feeding pen and feed passage is of wire. The doors marked d in Figure 3 can be opened and closed in such a way as to

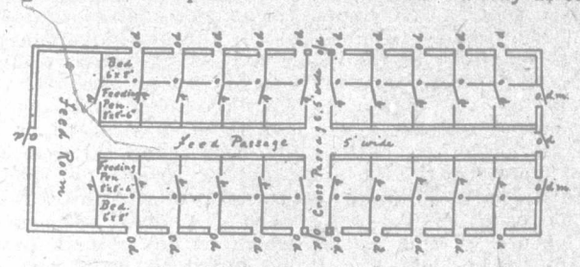

Fig. 3.—A design for a large piggery. A new building could be erected on a smaller scale. That is, with less length.

confine the hogs in the sleeping quarters and make it convenient to change pigs from one pen to another, or clean out the building. They are 4 feet wide. The doors marked (o) are 2½ feet wide.

The feed passage is 4 inches lower than the feeding pen. It was arranged in this way in order to show the pigs to better advantage.

From these few drawings and sketches farmers should be able to gather sufficient ideas in order to construct a piggery suitable for their own requirements and conditions. Modifications could be made quite easily, and certain features of each one might be adapted in buildings of different designs.

For flooring, cement concrete is now almost universal. In farrowing pens it is wise to install a sleeping platform made of plank. In any case it is not good practice to

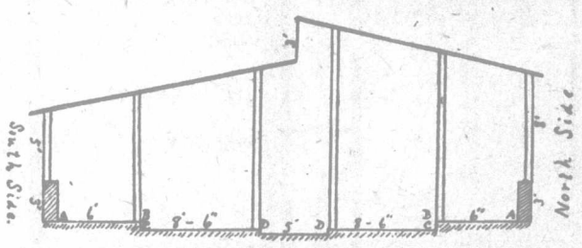

Fig. 4.—End view of a piggery. This is an end view of the building illustrated in figure 3.

have farrowing sows housed with other pigs in a large building. If this is necessary, the chief difficulties can be overcome by building a tight partition between the sows and other pigs. One can economize space and make the pigs comfortable by equipping the pen with an elevated sleeping platform. This is usually placed from 3 to 3½ feet from the floor, and leading up to it is a cleated board stairway. This fixture in the swine pen has given satisfaction in many cases. Rats or mice will not harbor under it as they sometimes do under the platform on the floor.

A good wall can be built of two-by-four-inch studding, stood on end, covered on both sides with lumber, and finished on the outside with tar or building paper and some kind of finished boarding. If a loft is desired, it should not be less than 8 feet from the floor. A loose flooring overhead would be sufficient, and straw placed in the loft would absorb moisture and tend to keep the building dry. The straw should be changed once a year. If left longer, it would become laden with dust, and become a harbor for vermin or disease germs. Ventilation was discussed in our issue of January 27th. The principles therein laid down could be adapted to the piggery. Sunlight is a great health promoter. Many large-sized windows should be placed in the wall, especially on the south side. It is well to have the piggery warm, but ventilation should not be sacrificed for this purpose. A cool pen, but well-ventilated and free from drafts, would be more conducive to good health and thrift in pigs, than would a building in which the air was warm but stagnant and polluted.

THE FARM.

Favors Conscription in Canada.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

We have been as usual much amused and interested in Peter McArthur's description of his symptoms when suffering from La Grippe,—not that he usually suffers from La Grippe, but that his descriptions of anything are usually amusing. On one question he seems to be quite serious, i. e., the heavy drafts upon the manhood of the country to support the drain of the war. When Canada entered upon such a war, in support of the Motherland, and knew that she was up against a foe who would bring every scientific invention to his aid, she might have known that in fear of what might happen, the sooner the whole power of the entire British Empire was brought to bear in the conflict, the better. Instead of that, as one paper puts it, "The British Empire went slouching along to defeat." Lord Kitchener among his first speeches said that 675,000 men, or 30 divisions, properly supported and kept at full strength would be sufficient as Great Britain's contribution to bring the war to a successful issue. That estimate has been quadrupled. According to Lloyd-George, the British military heads pinned their faith to rifles and shrapnel shells up till the spring of 1915. The Germans put theirs in high explosives and machine-guns.

Germany is fighting for her life and knows it, and with unlimited determination she makes a thorough investigation of the most effective means of destroying her enemies, and then without delay or hesitancy employs it with scientific effectiveness. The results we can see. Part of France and all of Belgium held; Poland overrun; Servia conquered; Turkey relieved and England threatened in Egypt—all because the whole might of the German Empire was brought to bear on the business of war, as though ruled by the will of one man, as indeed was the case. In democratic countries not in immediate danger, it is impossible to make their strength tell so quickly. Every faction has to be placated. Even yet the labor men of England are discussing a strike in revolt against conscription; a large part of Ireland has to be left outside the operation of the compulsory law; while Lloyd-George can scarcely get the Union men of England to consent to work at munitions alongside of non-union men. It makes one question whether such a Democracy is worth fighting for. If they will not work and fight in the presence of an overwhelming danger, who can pity them if they go down under it?

The colonies, not being so directly interested, could scarcely be expected to spring to arms unanimously in behalf of peoples 3,000 or 4,000 miles away, and nothing but the most exalted attachment to the British connection, and deep resentment at the brutality and domineering attitude of the foe, could have made them go to the