

# FARM AND DAIRY

## & RURAL HOME



We Welcome Practical Progressive Ideas.

Trade increases the wealth and glory of a country; but its real strength and stamina are to be looked for among the cultivators of the land.—Lord Chatham.

Vol. XXXIV

FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 19, 1915

No. 33

## Building the Dairy Barn

With Special Emphasis on Stable Arrangement and Construction

SAM Slick once remarked that big barns and small houses on the farms of a new country were indicative of good business management and coming prosperity. Sam Slick, in public life was the genial old Judge Halifax of Nova Scotia, was not a farmer, but he reasoned that the barn is a part of the farmer's working equipment and should help to earn the money to build a good house later on. This reasoning applies to almost any live stock farm. The dairy cow is a live stock where the dairy cow is more poorly equipped to resist severe climatic conditions than is her beef bred sister. The latter uses most of her food to cover her ribs, and incidentally affords protection against the coldest weather. The good dairy cow, however, delivers her food into the stall and trusts to us to provide adequate shelter. The most successful dairymen are those who live up to their end of the "deal."

A good dairy barn is a source of pride to its owner. It is also a wonderful source of comfort and convenience in getting the work done; it makes the difference between interesting work and chore drudgery. The writer has been in many stables that no one could be expected to take a pride in. Every owner of a barn with good stables will testify that his barn investment is a profitable one from every standpoint. A barn does not need to be unduly expensive; if it is sanitary, comfortable, and convenient it



**Cow Comfort, Sanitation and Convenience, Are All Provided for in this Barn**

A one-story barn like this can sometimes be built and properly equipped at less cost than to remodel the old barn. Note that there is a stall with swinging steel stanchion for each cow. This photo shows the interior of the barn at Lacombe Experimental Station in Alberta.

meets every requirement of the modern dairy barn.

### Selection of Site

The selection of the site is important, and the drainage is the most important item in the selection. We do not want the barn so situated that there is drainage from the barnyard to the house or toward the well. On the other hand, we do not want the barn in a low place where the surroundings are damp and the barnyard a mud heap. There are few situations so favorable that

it will not pay to lay tile drains every 15 feet. It is most advisable to run the barn north and south, where the stables occupy the entire basement, with windows on both sides; the stables then get a maximum of sunlight. This arrangement also preserves the roof, as where one roof slopes to the north snow or moisture will remain there, being protected from the sun, and tend to rot the shingles or rust the steel roofing. On the other hand, a roof facing the south gets too much sun.

Place the barn so that it can be seen from the road. There may be reasons in the city for having the barn as much out of sight as possible, but any farmstead is improved in appearance by the addition of a well-built, well-painted barn. Have the barn about 200 feet from the house, but not much further. A good barn is an advertisement, and to many looks more attractive than a showy house.

### Rectangular Barn is Best

The rectangular barn is the best. It can be built more cheaply and arranged more conveniently, both for the storing of fodder and the doing of chores in the stable. The ideal width is 36 feet. This allows for two rows of cattle with ample space both before and behind them. Many of the best stables visited by the writer are of this width, and many of the new dairy barns built at the agricultural colleges are 36 feet wide. When practical and professional agri-



**Barn of Mr. Innes, Near Winnipeg. See How the Sunlight Floods This Stable. Mr. Innes Receives 12c More a Gallon for His Milk Than Is Paid to Most Dairymen Shipping Milk to the City of Winnipeg.**