

on every farm in this country where colts are raised and be used regularly in keeping the feet of all the horses on the farm in proper shape, which adds not only to their comfort, but to their personal appearance and value as well for there is no horse that is not as poor as his foot.

The wall of the hoof is that portion which surrounds the foot, and is alone seen when this is placed on the ground. It is fibrous in structure, the fibres passing from above to below, as they grow from where the skin terminates. Externally, the fibres are dense and resisting, but those nearer the interior gradually become soft and spongy. The growth of the wall is indefinite, it being the part which has to sustain wear through contact with the ground.

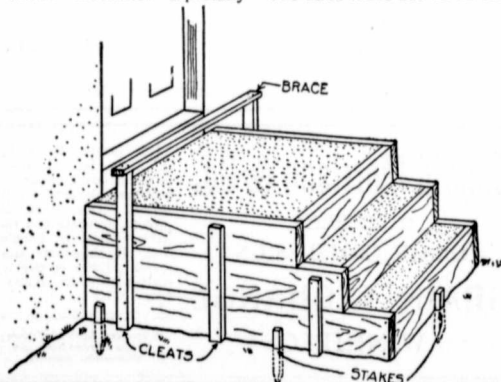
When the foot is lifted, the sole and frog are seen on its lower or growing surface. The sole is usually more or less concave in a healthy foot. It is fibrous like the wall, its fibres passing in the same direction, but they are much softer and their growth is definite, breaking off in the form of flakes when they have reached a certain length. The frog is a triangular mass of somewhat soft and elastic fibrous horn, situated at the posterior part of the sole. Like that part, its fibres are also of definite growth and flake off in large patches from time to time. The wall sustains weight and wear on all kinds of ground; the sole is adapted for sustaining weight on soft ground more particularly, while the frog has a most important use in acting as a cushion to support the powerful tendon which flexes the limb, in diminishing jar and in preventing slipping.

Simple Concrete Step Construction

Steps are not only subject to hard usage, but when constructed of wood with the lower part in contact with the ground and subject to alternate wetting and drying, decay is very rapid, making them unsafe and dangerous. Steps at the rear or kitchen entrance of the house encounter especially

hard usage, but it is a very easy matter to have them durable and safe by constructing them of concrete. A simple method of doing this is shown in the accompanying drawing. The three forms consist merely of that many boxes open at top and bottom and also at the end adjoining the door-sill.

A rise of 8 inches and a tread of 10 inches will be found convenient. For this reason the height of each box should be 8 inches, since every box will form a step. All of the boxes should be of the same width, but each one is 10 inches shorter than the one beneath it, thus forming the tread of the step. If the steps are few in number and not too wide, 1-inch boards will be stiff enough to hold the concrete without bulging, but if there is any doubt about this it is better to use 2-inch plank. The concrete for the steps should be mixed in the proportion of 1 bag of Portland cement to 2½ cubic feet of clean coarse sand to 4 cubic feet of crushed rock or pebbles. The earth beneath the steps should be excavated to a depth of 6 inches below the surface, the excavation being the exact size of the bottom of the steps. Make sure that the earth is level and compact at the bottom of the excavation. Place the largest box in position around the edge of the excavation, staking it in place at two or three points to prevent shifting. Level the first box very carefully by means of a carpenter's spirit level. The concrete, mixed rather dry, should be deposited in the box and thoroughly tamped and compacted until moisture rises to the surface. Work or spade the concrete thoroughly along the sides of the forms so as to produce a smooth surface. At the front end of the box, where the concrete becomes the tread, the surface of the concrete is carefully leveled off and smoothed with a trowel for a distance of about twelve inches from the outer edge. Immediately after this is done the second and smaller box is placed on top of the first one, being fastened thereto by a few nails through the upright cleats shown in the drawing. The nails must not be so long as



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Old Dutch



The milk in the pail the cow kicks over is lost forever

AND the butter-fat that goes into the can through the skim-milk spout of a cheap, inferior or worn-out cream separator is just as surely lost as the milk in the pail the cow kicked over. If you are trying to get along without a cream separator, or with an inferior or worn-out machine, you are losing butter-fat right along and butter-fat is money.

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