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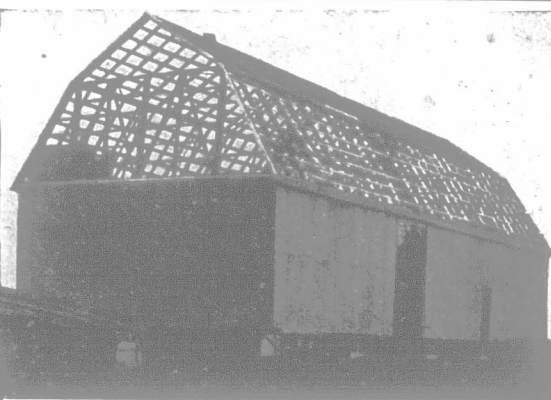
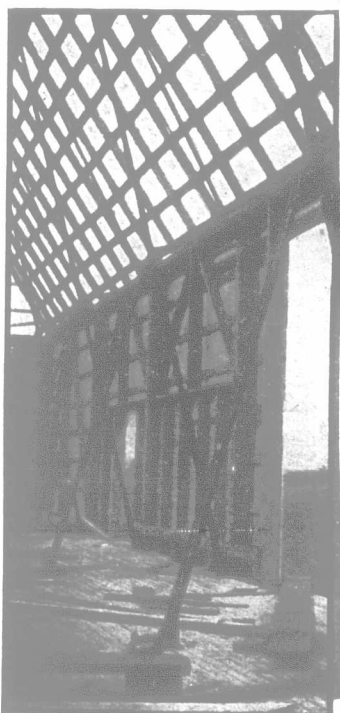
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Farmer's Advocate.

Questions and Answers Miscellaneous.

Plank Frame Barn.

I have been taking out logs to get cut for a plank-frame barn, and have been following diagrams of plank-frame given in "The Farmer's Advocate," December 5, 1912, by A. A. Gilmore. There are a few things I do not understand, so thought I would write.

1. The timber in the end bent calls for 18-foot posts, and for interior bent 19-foot posts. Is this a mistake, as I can't understand how it is built, if not?
2. I can't understand the meaning of diagram of top view of end bent, when there is a full showing of end bent shown above. Mr. Gilmore does not say what size to get the rafters cut. Would 2 x 5 inches be strong enough, or should 2 x 6 inch be used? Also length of rafters.

F. P.

Ans.—1. The side posts and corner posts for barn should all be the same length. The end purlin post and side purlin posts, though, may be slightly different in length, those in the end being shorter than those in the side. This is to allow the side posts to extend down through the cross sill in order to secure the lower end, while the end posts do not need to extend through the cross sill, because it is securely tied by the girths which are nailed across the end of the building.

2. The diagram of top view of end bent shows the section of the barn across at the main end beam. This gives you an idea of how the end beam is trussed with two planks running from the side plates into the center of the end beam. It means that if you were standing on the end beam and looking down you would see the view shown. Cut your rafters 2 x 6 and place them at 3-foot centers.

A. A. G.

Materials for a Basement Wall.

1. We intend building an addition to our barn this summer. Of the foundation there will be three walls, a total of 147 feet by 11 feet high, 12 inches thick. How much cement, stone and gravel will it take?
2. What proportions would you advise?
3. Would stone be better? We have both stone and gravel of our own handy. Which would be the cheaper?

R. R. A.

Ans.—1. This length of wall would require 162 bags of cement and 11½ cords of gravel. These amounts do not take into consideration the doors and windows. It will be an easy matter to calculate the amount that will be rendered unnecessary through the presence of these openings. Furthermore, it is advisable and quite customary to use small stone in the concrete structure, but they should not come closer than two inches to the surface of the wall. The amount of stone used as a filler will also decrease the amount of gravel and cement required. It would also require some reinforcing around the windows and doors. A good system of reinforcing for the windows is to place vertical rods up and down by the window, and across below and above. In a wall 12 ins. thick, two rods, ½-inch, on each side should be sufficient. Shorter rods placed diagonally across the corners would help to bind the cement. The rods should be about two or three feet longer than the sides of the opening. Doors and large openings should be reinforced with one-half inch rods.

2. One to nine will make a good mixture, and one that should be quite strong. The gravel should be from 20 to 30 per cent. fine, sharp sand. These calculations are based on a mixture of 1 to 9, but a stronger mixture is sometimes recommended. Many reliable builders use 1 to 9.

3. One cannot recommend a concrete wall over a stone wall properly constructed. As to the cost, it would be impossible to say. Up to a short time ago \$1.50 per cubic yard, or 5½ cents per cubic foot was considered a fair price for building cement wall. Owing to the cost of labor, etc., at the present time, this may be slightly increased. The mason you intend to employ could give you figures on the cost of constructing a stone wall.

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