

### It Pays to Paint Farm Buildings

F. E. Ellis, Wellington Co., Ont.

The prosperity of the farmer is generally reflected in his farm buildings. These can and should be attractive to the eye. It must be confessed, however, that in most cases barns and out-buildings are a blot on the landscape. This is not as it should be. Paint would right matters. Farm buildings neatly painted are a source of pride to their owner. And this extra touch adds substantially to the value of the farm.

All agree that buildings look much better when painted. The question we want answered is, "Does it pay?"

It may not pay, directly, to paint our barns. In fact, its preservative effect on ordinary rough siding would scarcely pay for the paint. On new smooth siding it would pay. Indirectly it does pay, however, no matter what the siding. Well painted buildings add to the value of the farm, a sum far in excess of the cost of a coat of paint.

Let us look at it in this way: Consider two communities in close proximity to each other. They are equal in every respect, save that in one community the buildings are all painted, while in the other they are not. Farms in the former instance will invariably command more money. Prospective buyers cannot but be attracted to such a section. The business man knows the value of attractive surroundings.

There are several brands of ready mixed paints on the market which are satisfactory. These should be used by those who have had no experience in mixing paints. Those who plan to mix their own paints should heed the following suggestions: Avoid cheap oil. Use good pale-boiled oil even if it costs a few cents a gallon more. If raw oil is used, dryer must be added.

#### THE SPRAY PUMP FOR PAINTING.

When we have decided to paint, the question arises, "How shall we apply it?" The ordinary method of hand application is familiar to all. In recent years, the spray pump has been recommended as a cheap and efficient means of painting outbuildings. It proves quite satisfactory. The spray covers the surface well, though somewhat unevenly, and it is necessary to brush it if a good job is desired. This brushing is easily accomplished by means of an ordinary whitewash brush to the side of which a long handle has been attached.

The advantages of the pump as a means of painting are that the paint is applied quickly and cheaply. This practice has its disadvantages in that fully one-half more paint is necessary and one does not get the fine gloss possible when the paint is applied by hand and well rubbed in.

Where a pump is to be used for applying the

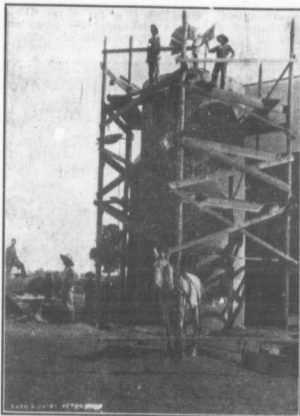
paint, the cheap, cold water paints are probably preferable on account of waste. For purposes of whitewashing, the pump is always ahead of the brush.

When selecting a color, it is well to remember that red will look well longer than any other shade. A coat of paint every eight or 10 years will keep the buildings looking well.

### A Small Cement Silo

John Jackson, Lincoln Co., Ont.

The accompanying illustration shows a round cement silo on the farm of Geo. W. Nicholls of Lincoln Co., Ont. Following are the details of cost of construction. The size is 10 ft. 6 in. inside by



Cement Silos Continue to Grow in Popularity

The silo illustrated, although a comparatively small one, has given the best of satisfaction. Mr. John Jackson, Lincoln Co., Ont., who took the photo reproduced above, gives the cost of construction in the adjoining article.

27 ft. 6 in. high. The wall is 8 in. thick at bottom, 5 in. at top. The cost of construction, not counting teaming, the material or board of men, is as follows:

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| 4 loads of sand at 25c.....                           | \$1 00 |
| 500 ft. gravel (crushed stone) at \$3.00 a cord ..... | 11 70  |
| 25½ bbls. cement at \$1.30 (cheap)....                | 32 82  |
| 1 extra man three days at \$1.50.....                 | 4 50   |
| Contractor 5½ days at \$5.00 .....                    | 27 50  |
| Iron for reinforcing (a load of small                 |        |

field stone) .....

Total .....

Of course if everything were paid for, the cost of this silo would run up quite a few dollars more; but even then in the long run it would be cheaper than wood, and a farmer can do the teaming at slack times without feeling it, nor does he mind board for the men.

This silo was built and fitted last year and has proved entirely satisfactory; in fact, I think it a first-class job. The cement silo has long since passed the experimental stage, and a silo of some kind is almost indispensable to successful dairying.

### Home of a Well Known Ayrshire Breeder

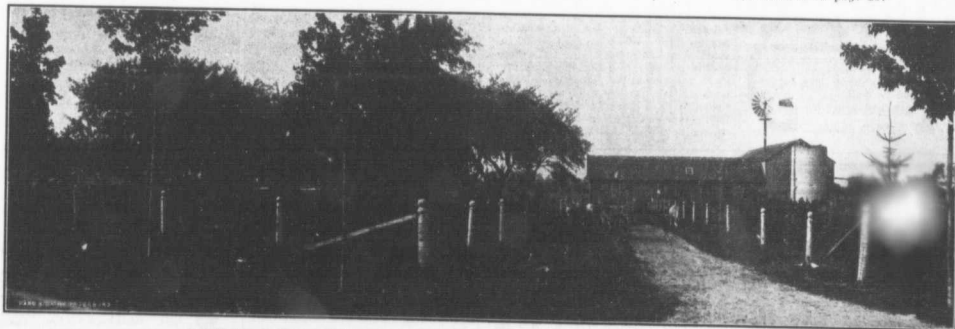
Had Mr. W. W. Ballantyne of Stratford, Ont., entered his farm in the prize farms competition last year, it would have been a hard farm to beat. This is the opinion of Mr. D. Drummond of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, who has judged farms both in Quebec and Ontario and is also the opinion of an editorial representative of Farm and Dairy, who visited Mr. Ballantyne's farm recently. Mr. Ballantyne is a director and past president of the Dominion Ayrshire Cattle Breeders' association. He was chairman last year of the Dominion Swine Commission, which visited Europe; he is a director of the Canadian National Exhibition, and holds other offices, not the least among which is the fact that he is also the president of The Rural Publishing Co., Ltd., which owns Farm and Dairy.

The farm is unusually well balanced, being strong in practically every department. It contains some 200 acres, of which 165 are under cultivation. The fields are laid out for the most part in 20-acre blocks. The house and buildings are so located that they are convenient to the rest of the farm. A stream runs through the center of the farm, the land on both sides of which slopes towards the stream, giving excellent drainage. The soil is rich. Such a thing as a crop failure has not been known on the farm. There is a large and valuable wood lot.

#### SOME FINE AYRSHIRES.

A four-year rotation is followed, namely, corn and roots, oats seeded down, clover hay, wheat and pasture. This rotation is adhered to as closely as possible, although varied occasionally to meet special circumstances. A feature of the farm is the unusually fine herd of Ayrshire cattle. It is possibly unexcelled in Canada, as a working dairy herd of Ayrshires. The animals are large and have good backs, strong constitutions, large, well shaped udders and their full share of the

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It is Well Worth While to Make the Inexpensive Improvements such as Have Been Made Around This Farm Home

The far-reaching influence of an improved, well-kept farm home is little short of marvellous. Let one farm in a neighborhood be improved, and soon the neighbors will take note and commence to improve their homes. Does your home exercise this influence for good? The home illustrated is that owned by Mr. George Laithwaite, Huron Co., Ont., a prize winner in the Dairy Farms Competition conducted by Farm and Dairy last year.