

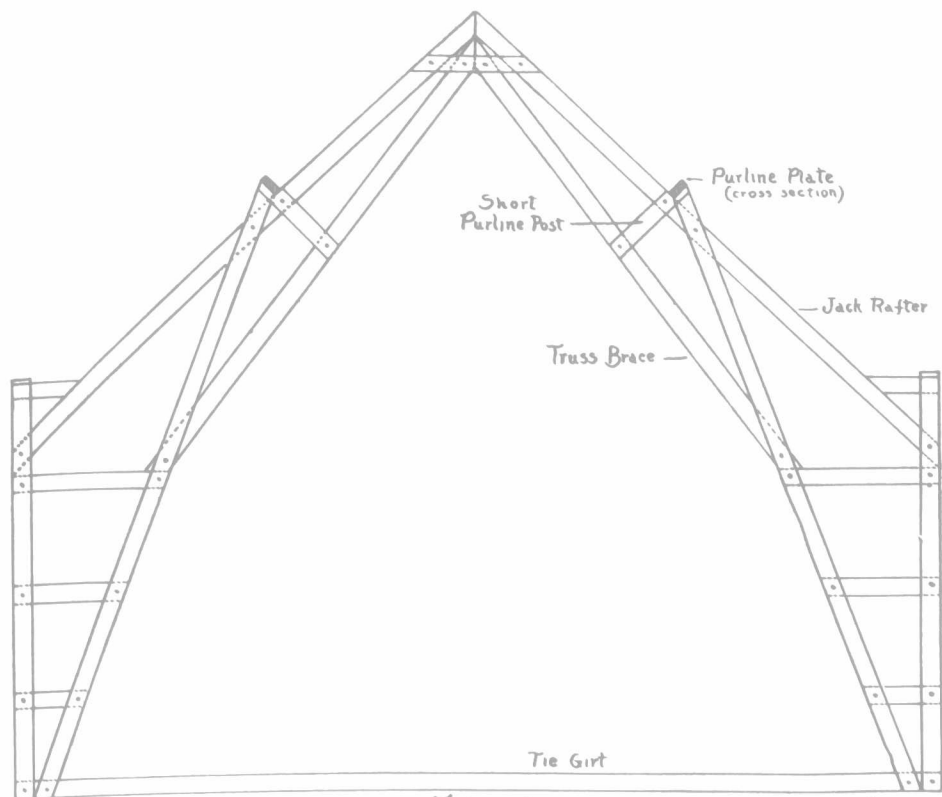


Fig. 2
One of the Middle Bents.

a hundred other products, the origin of which we'd be surprised to find in the gentle bossy.

There is not another dumb animal for which we have such reason to thank God, and yet, be it to our shame, taking the country over, there is not an animal on the farm which receives such indifferent and frequently cruel treatment as the cow.

When she chews her cud she is working for us. Let us give her something good to ruminate over. When she takes a drink, she is drinking that we in turn may drink her milk. Let us give her plenty of pure water. When she is contented and comfortable she gives her largest returns. Let us give her suitable quarters, and in the morning, as we sit down by her side with the pail, let us pat her on the back and say, "You dear good creature; God bless you."

Wide-awake creamerymen and cheesemakers realize that, to keep in touch with their patrons in the best and truest sense, they must keep in touch with the subjects in which their patrons are interested. "The Farmer's Advocate" is the only agricultural journal in Canada that covers the whole field of agriculture in a thoroughly efficient manner. Read "The Farmer's Advocate," and you will be in a better position to help your patrons and co-operate with them for mutual advantage.

POULTRY.

A Woman's Success with Poultry.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

One of the most successful poultry-keepers who has ever come under my notice is a neighboring farmer's wife, who, by careful study and attention to her flock, has made them a paying investment, almost beyond what most people will credit, but to the truth of which I can positively affirm, as we run a semi-co-operative egg-and-poultry plant, buying all the eggs and poultry from all the farmers for miles around, paying them a better price than it is possible for them to get elsewhere, under ordinary conditions, for the reason that they deliver their eggs and poultry to us every week in a strictly fresh and up-to-date condition, thereby increasing the value of their product to themselves, and also to the consumer.

The lady in question keeps a flock of 40 laying hens (pure-bred White Wyandottes), and never misses a week during the entire year of delivering her egg-case at the door, containing a greater or less number of fresh eggs, being the week's product from her hens. During the year 1908 she has sold in eggs \$3.96 per hen, at a cost for feed of \$1.20 per hen, leaving, in actual profit, for eggs alone, \$2.76 per hen. Over and above this, she sells from \$200 to \$300 worth of chickens every year, according to the number hatched, as she has a 220-egg incubator, in which she runs off either two or three hatches each season, realizing on an average of about \$100 per hatch.

As I mentioned before, I can affirm the truth of these figures, as we have handled every egg and chicken from her flock during the last six or seven years, and have paid her the amounts stated in cash.

Now, this lady has not found out any new

secret, but has simply had the advantage of having been brought up on the land, and has cultivated her powers of observation in connection with all live stock, enabling her, as it were, like an expert pianist, to touch the right note at the right time, blending feed, conditions and birds in perfect harmony at all seasons of the year. Her hens or chickens are never neglected for one minute when in need of attention, yet she is a very busy woman, doing her own housework for a large farm. She has sometimes said to me, "I do not know but what I feed my birds too well; they never know what it is to be hungry." I say, "Don't say 'too well,' but just right; look at the results!"

During this last summer she sold all her hens, keeping 40 of her first hatch of pullets, which were hatched April 1st. On October 15th, from these 40 pullets she had sold 720 eggs, or an average of 1½ dozens each.

Such results as this cannot be obtained by those who have made a failure of everything else, and, as a last resort, try poultry-farming, then say that poultry does not pay, if the revenue from their unskillful handling and befuddled brains will not pay for all their excesses. Poultry, probably more than any other branch of farming, requires intelligence and sober, careful attention, which, when given, is bound to give satisfactory results.

Brome Co., Que.

A. P. HILLHOUSE.

Profit from Geese.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I keep three geese and one gander. To have more geese with one male is not profitable, as we get too many infertile eggs. The geese are pure-bred Toulouse, fine and large, but the gander is not; he is a common gray one. But we find, since crossing him into our geese, we get a larger percentage of fertile eggs. Of course, our goslings, when matured, are smaller, but still they average, when dressed ready for market, from 11 to 15 pounds.

In winter, I let them run in an open cattle shed in day time; at night they are housed in a warm part of the cow stable.

When laying season comes on, which is about April 1st, I have them moved to an old log stable, about 12 x 20, where I have large nests, made on ground bottoms, and here they are not disturbed by anything. A trapdoor allows them to enter when they will.

I fill their nests with, first, a layer of beaver or some such soft kind of hay, then fill up with fine, clean straw. Once they start to lay, I never meddle with their nests.

During winter, I find good oats and barley mixed a fine feed—just enough twice a day that they will eat it up clean. I keep plenty of fine gravel for them, but, as for water, they eat snow, and when it thaws they get what they want from the drippings off buildings. When laying season approaches, I increase the grain feed, and give free run to all puddles of water found on the fields surrounding the buildings (we have a river running within ten or twelve rods of our barns, but I keep them away from it till the ice has gone out, and until it has regained its banks again).

Last spring they started to lay on April 1st, and laid 57 eggs, all of which proved fertile, except 7. Of these, I set under each goose 11 eggs, and the rest under hens. Some hens I gave 3 eggs, and others 4 eggs. I

only succeeded in raising 33 geese, as we had a very cold and backward spring. Some goslings broke the shell all right, but died soon afterwards. What was the cause?

When goslings are hatched, for first 48 hours I give no feed. Then I give bread and milk three or four times a day, always keeping plenty of good clean water before them, and let them run on the grass. I afterwards feed some corn meal and shorts, dampened, but they soon leave all feed, and feel satisfied with the grass; they come in at nights filled to the bill.

Once their feathers start to appear, I give them a feed of grain, as I think it helps them over this trying period. I only fed a gallon to those 33 geese each feed. Once they get large enough so that muskrats or minks won't kill them, I let them to the river, and I count my trouble ended till marketing commences. They come home every night. When October 1st comes, I start then to feed a little, some pulped mangels, with a little grain; carrots they are very fond of.

I start to market them any time after October 15th. Prices we get are 9 or 10 cents per pound, but I generally sell by the piece, from \$1 to \$1.50. Quite a few we sell to our neighbors, to keep over for young stock. We averaged this year about \$1.10, without feathers considered. The feathers I got must have weighed 20 or 25 pounds, for which I could get as high as 60 cents. All told, I think my three geese paid me well, for all the trouble I had. I consider no fowl so easily raised or so profitable as geese.

Carleton Co., Ont.

SAMUEL NESBITT.

GARDEN & ORCHARD.

Apples for Simcoe County.

There is no doubt but that a poor selection of varieties for planting is responsible for disappointments in many apple orchards. Certain soils and certain districts are adapted to the production of different varieties. In Simcoe Co., Ontario, great numbers of sorts maturing in all seasons, from summer to late fall, are found. The question of varieties best suited to that district was discussed with G. C. Caston, director of the Simcoe Fruit Experiment Station, a short time ago.

"Speaking from the standpoint of supplying the local market, New Ontario, and the Canadian Northwest," said Mr. Caston, "I would recommend a fair supply of fall apples to extend the season, but at least 90 per cent. of the orchard should be Spies. In summer varieties, for commercial purposes, the Duchess is popular. Peerless, a seedling introduced from Minnesota, is slightly later in season, and is an excellent cooker. It will keep until December in an ordinary cellar. It is of fine appearance, and never is blemished by scab. St. Lawrence and Snow are the best fall apples, but they are very liable to be damaged by scab if not sprayed. Alexander and Wolfe River both are good cookers, and the latter will keep until Christmas. Baxter, also, is desirable for cooking purposes. It is a regular bearer, but very subject to scab.

"Northern Spy easily stands at the top of the winter varieties. It does best in our district when top-grafted onto some hardy stock. With us it does not color highly, but the quality is good. Baldwin is inclined to winter-kill, but can be grown with fair success when top-grafted.

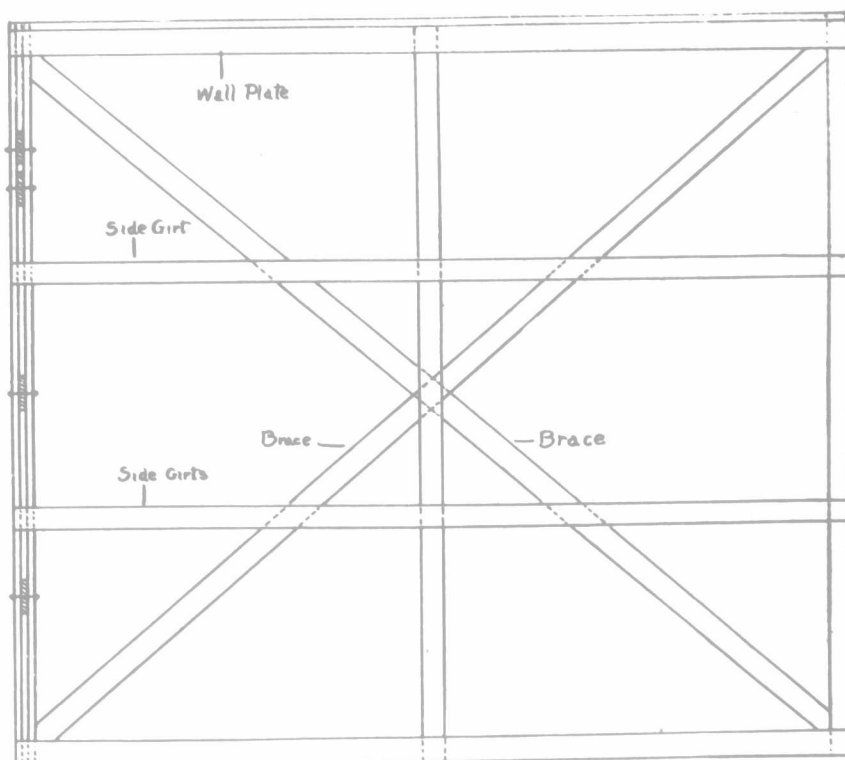


Fig. 3
Side Elevation.