BUILDING PLANS FOR FARMS

New Series Prepared by College of Agriculture Staff, Co-operating With the British Columbia Government.

COMBINATION BARNS FOR PRAIRIE FARMS

By A. R. Greig, Professor of Agricultural Engineering, and A. M. Shaw, Professor of Animal Husbandry.

Combination Barns & Mixed Farming

IS a combination barn practical? Is it a popular type among western farmers? The answer is plain when one considers that there are more barns of the conbination type than any other in use at the present time. They are practical, economical to build, lessen the labor costs in caring for stock during the winter, and in many ways appeal strongly to the avergae farmer.

What is meant by the average farmer is not the man who is raising pure bred stock exclusively, not the dairyman or the rancher, but the man who owns and works a quarter or half section or three-quarter section as the case may be, grows some grain, keeps brood mares for doing his work and raising colts, raises some cattle probably of a dual purpose type, milks some of them and allows others to raise their own calves, keeps some hogs, sheep and poultry, and does thegreater part of his work within the circle of his own family. He is not a specialist. He is not engaged in one line of endeavor exclusively, but combines many lines and by so doing has a regular income derived from various sources. He practises mixed farming.

Farmers of this type are almost invariably successful. As a rule they own their farms, have them well fenced, well equipped with modern buildings and are in easy circumstances generally. Where they locate in large numbers we find a prosperous community, a settlement of homes, vastly different from the appearance of the districts where the bonanza farm and the one crop method of farming is in vogue. In fact the most permanently prosperous districts of all agricultural countries are those on which the majority of the farmers are engaged in mixed farming.

While the practice of mixed farming

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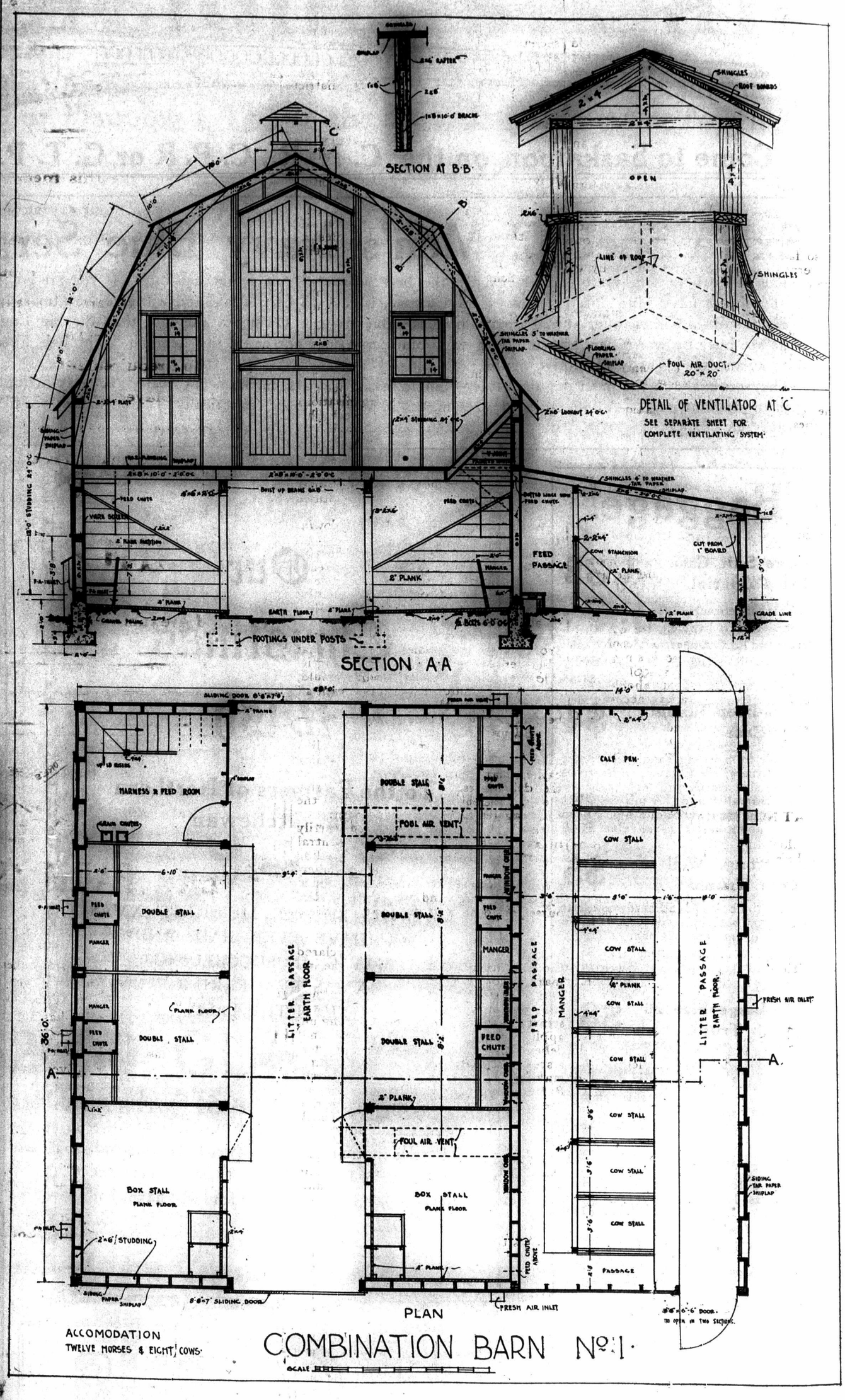

Fig. 1—An economical general purpose barn for the average farm. Fig. 2—The main barn is used for horses, the lean-to for cows. Note the arrangementfor lighting the main barn over the lean-to roof. Fig. 6—It is preferable to have the sides of the cupola entirely open rather than c ered with slats..