

it was better to have as an aim the production of beef first and to get with the beef animal as much milk production as possible. Whatever was desired, however, must be determined on and stuck to and every effort made to succeed and success will follow. Another rule for success is to take good care of what you have and weed out the poor ones. There were two ways of starting a herd. One was to buy several good cows. This would be too expensive and after a few years we would be where we started. But if we spend a smaller amount for a good bull we could start with ordinary cows and build up. And it is very possible for farmers to combine to purchase a superior bull, one which has a splendid record of production behind him. A majority of his heifers will be at least as good as the average of their sire and dam. Then, if he is a very valuable bull, breed him to his heifers and the average will be raised and his heifers' calves have three-quarters of his blood. Then, if possible, get another bull of the same line, but not too closely related, and we will take another step forward, and so on, until we attain a very high standard. Violent crosses are rarely successful in improving a herd.

Another important factor in breeding is after you get your well-bred calf keep it going by feeding well. A rule that sounds paradoxical, but is nevertheless true, is that the higher the price offered the better it pays to feed well. These well-fed calves will make big cows and the bigger the cow the more feed she will take and the more she will produce. The raising of superior stock will also have its beneficial effect in keeping the boys on the farm.

The report of Dairy Superintendent McKay was very encouraging. The butter made during 1913 was 50 per cent. better than in 1912 in quality. He recommended the establishment of a few large cream-gathering creameries in large centers, rather than a number of little ones, as cream can be carried by rail and enough gathered by this means to ensure steady operation. He stated, in his opinion, that there was no better place for dairying in America than Nova Scotia.

Miss Jennie Fraser, superintendent of Women's Institutes, gave a very interesting address on the work of Women's Institutes, drawing a distinction between housekeeping and homemaking.

P. J. Shaw, of the Agricultural College, Truro, gave a practical talk on the renovating of old orchards, while soil cultivation was dealt with by W. W. Baird, of the Experimental Farm, Nappan.

The president, in his address, outlined the agricultural year in Nova Scotia, eulogizing the Dominion Government for their encouragement to agriculture in that Province, and discussed the various fairs and exhibitions, all of which pointed to progress.

Salts Hogs in Winter.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Perhaps one of the greatest difficulties that the hog raiser has to contend with in winter is feeding the hogs so they will thrive and do well all winter long. Sometimes they will do well at first and then, just as spring is nearing, they will begin to go back, and other times and oftener they will do poorly at the beginning of the winter and never do well during the entire season. When the winter weather sets in hogs that are fattening and other hogs too will appear drowsy and will cough. They will lie around the pens and put in the time sleeping and coughing. They eat well and are always hungry, but they get thin and gaunt and grow worse daily. The feeder thinks that they are not getting enough to eat, as they are always hungry and squealing every time he goes near them, but, of course, pigs often squeal even when they are full. But they are thin and you could count every rib on their spinal column, and you say, "My, those pigs are doing poorly, we must give them some more feed." But this will not do. The whole trouble is that the pig is getting too much feed in accordance with the amount of exercise and fresh air it gets, which causes indigestion. And as it is impossible, in most cases, anyway, to increase the amount of exercise and fresh air for the hogs, we have to find some other means to make them thrive. The best remedy that I can find is Epsom salts given along with their feed every day, either once or twice, depending upon the condition of the hogs, and the amount you feed at a time. I mix the salts about three double handfuls of salts with two pails of meal, ordinary meal that we feed them, and four pails of water in a barrel, and make a good slop. Then feed this slop on top of their ordinary feed. I would say night and morning. However, if you wish to feed it only once a day then put more salts in the mixture in the barrel.

If this feeding is continued for a while you will soon notice how well the hogs will get, and how they will pick up and show results for the feed you give them. Perhaps you would say that salts are too dear to feed to pigs—well, I don't think so, not while pork is worth more a pound than salts, as it is right now. When I

first bought salts for my pigs I went to my grocer and asked him how much he wanted for Epsom salts, and he offered eight pounds for a quarter, but I went to another grocer where I got ten pounds for a quarter, and the next time I went back the grocer was quite willing to give twenty-five pounds for a half dollar, and I found that that fifty cents was the best investment that I made in 1913.

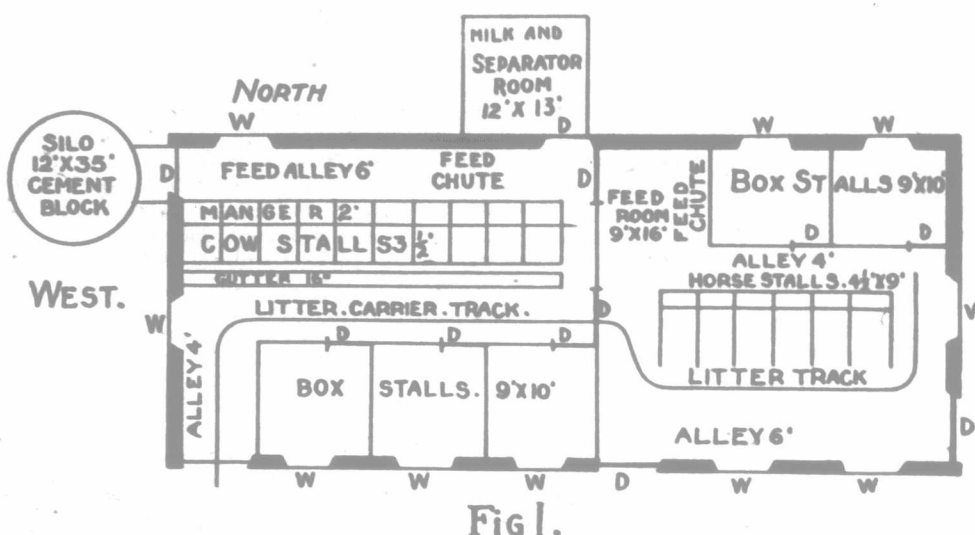
Peel Co., Ont.

A FARMER'S SON.

Another Barn Plan.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I am sending you a stable plan of a barn 75 feet by 32 feet outside dimensions, with a two-foot stone wall nine feet high, which is used on a 75-acre farm. The barn was remodelled and made handier. The floor is of cement and the cattle stalls are steel throughout. Box stalls have iron corner posts with woven-wire partitions, also iron columns that support the overhead floor, which do not obstruct the light very much. The animals are placed so as not to have the bright sunlight shining in their eyes.



A Good Plan of Barn for an Averaged Sized Farm.

Water is in front of every cow, and in the box stall in the cow stable. The plan explains itself.

P. E. I.

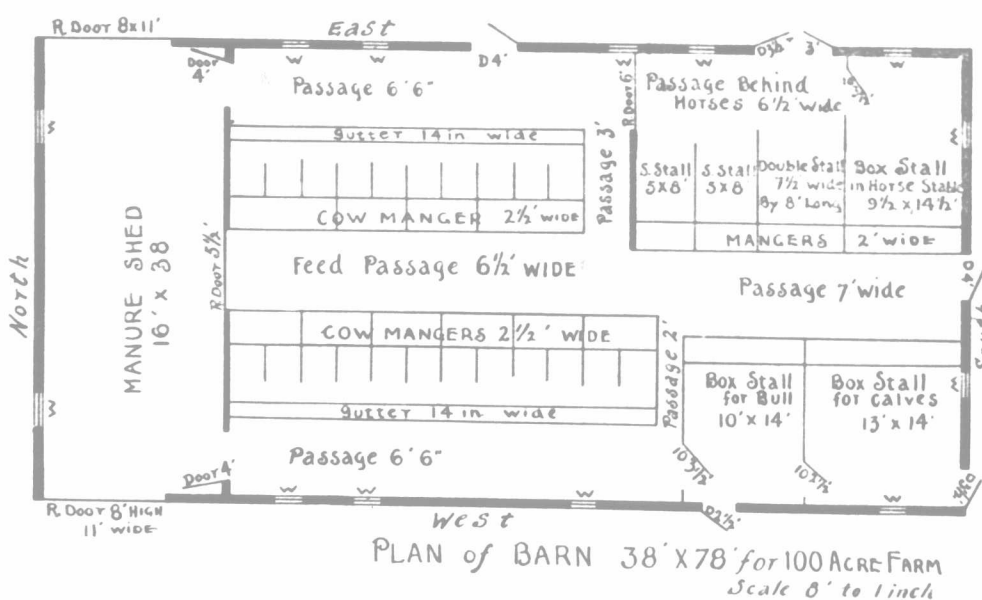
SUBSCRIBER.

A Handy Barn.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I am sending you the plan of my barn which I built last summer, hoping it may be of use to somebody intending to build. This barn is 38 feet by 78 feet. The side walls are 24 feet high, that is allowing 8 feet for stable wall and 16 feet for barn. It has a high roof, covered with corrugated iron, the side walls being of dressed pine.

The manure shed is 16 feet by 38 feet and is boarded off from the stable with tongued and grooved lumber; the swinging doors are 4 feet wide from stable to shed. There is a roller door 5½ feet wide at end of feed passage. This



stable will accommodate 22 cows, 10 on one side and 12 on the other. The cow stands are 4 feet 11 inches and 4 feet 10 inches; each cow has 3 feet wide of floor space, the gutters are 14 inches wide. There is a drop of 7 inches behind cows and 5 inches drop at wall. The feed passage in front of cows is 6½ feet wide, mangers 2½ feet wide at top, and the walls behind cows are each 6½ feet wide. There are two box stalls, one for bull and one for calves, as shown in plan. The horse stable is boarded off by itself with one ply of tongued and grooved lumber, there being two-foot trap doors, the width of the stalls, for feeding. A six-foot roller door opens into the cow stable, which makes it handy clean-

ing. The stable will accommodate six head of horses. Each horse has eight feet of a stand. The wall behind horses is 6½ feet wide; box stall is 9½ feet by 14½ feet; each single stall is 5½ feet wide and double stall is 7½ feet wide. The windows each have four panes 12 by 24 inches, and as there are 18 windows there is certainly plenty of light. There is a window in each gable end the same size. I use the windows for ventilating, which can be raised from bottom or lowered from top. The feed chutes are provided with slides, which can be opened or closed as desired, which lets out the bad air into the barn. This barn has cement floors throughout. It is also equipped with steel stalls and stanchions. There are two big roller doors, one on each side of manure shed, 8 feet by 11 feet, which make it handy, as one can drive through from either side.

Carleton Co., Ont.

LESTER SKUCE

A Time for Repairs.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

For some time my cream separator had been taking more elbow grease than I cared to expend and than I thought was necessary. It occurred to me that the machine was worn out, and I had concluded to apply to the agent to supply me with a new one. As the stringency of the money market was affecting me considerably, I decided to see what a little overhauling would do. Accordingly I took the separator to pieces, following the directions of the manufacturer in so doing. When I discovered the amount of hardened oil and dirt and other accretions that had adhered to the running parts, I was not so much surprised that the machine had run heavily as that it had run at all. I soaked each bit of gearing and each bearing in coal oil, and rubbed and polished each part till it shone like the proverbial silver dollar. One or two parts had become somewhat worn, and these I replaced at a trifling cost. When the parts were assembled and oiled with a high-grade brand of oil I was delighted to find that the separator was as good as ever. I have no intention in the world of purchasing a new machine. Naturally, my next move was to look over some other machinery with similar surprising and happy results.

Why should not every farmer make it a part of his year's work to go over his farm equipment with a view to cleaning up and making repairs? The average piece of farm machinery is far too short-lived. Some say that the average binder does but little over ninety day's work. This should not be the case. However, it must be remembered that the average binder is not well protected against the dust, either during the summer or during the winter. All the greater, therefore, the necessity for at least an annual cleaning. Harrows, plows, rakes, drills, hay ropes, everything overhauled in detail. All these weaken or dull with use, and with the weakening or dulling is sure to come loss and danger. Every day has its story of accidents that ensue upon defective farm equipment.

It is no unusual sight to see the thrifty "rag and old iron man" taking on to the junk shop the remains of the farmer's implements. Meanwhile the farmer is replacing the old and misused with the new and costly. "It's all for the good of trade," smiles the manufacturer and the agent. Imperfect or defective machinery means for the farmer loss of power, loss of time, worry and disappointment. A binder going wrong at an inopportune time has frequently meant practically a ruined field of grain. A defective hay rope has endangered life as well as involved loss.

The moral of it all is that the farmer should make during the winter months a thorough survey of his equipment, watching for missing bolts