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If, in face of this, Canada still prefers a market for her store cattle, then she will be wise in looking for it elsewhere, for store cattle stand very little chance of entering the British Isles, either now or in the immediate future.

Man.

W. H. BARNLEY.

FARM

Topics for Discussion

In recognition of the fact that valuable hints always are obtained from men engaged in actual farm work THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE has adopted the "Topics for Discussion" column, in order that our readers may see an open channel through which they may inform their brother farmers as to practices that are worth adopting and warn them against methods that prove unprofitable. Not only do we wish our readers to discuss the topics announced for the various issues, but also we desire that they suggest practical subjects on which it would be well to have discussion.

This notice appears under the "Farm" department, but the questions dealt with cover all branches of the farming industry. Letters should not exceed 600 words and should reach this office 10 days previous to the date of issue. They are read carefully and a first prize of \$3.00 and a second prize of \$2.00 awarded each week. Other letters used will be paid for at regular rates to contributors.

June 29.—What do you consider to be the farmer's place in politics? How can he best use his influence for the good of agriculturists in particular and the people in general? Please do not discuss the parties now striving for power or the relations of certain organizations to the policies of either party.

July 6.—What advice have you to offer on cutting and curing hay? At what stage of maturity do you advise cutting grasses or clovers with which you have had experience, and how can they best be made ready for and put into stack or mow?

July 13.—What has been your experience in handling a flax crop? How can it best be cut and threshed? Have you any advice to offer as to the best stage of maturity for harvesting this crop?

July 20.—How much per pound, live weight, did it cost you last year to produce pork—a year in this case being from July 1, 1909, to July 1, 1910? At the going prices for hogs what profit is there in the business? Are you going in more extensively for hog raising? If not, why not?

Housing Farm Implements

In the contributions on the subject of building a farm implement shed, some valuable suggestions are offered. One of the writers has gone to considerable trouble in procuring illustrations for his article, which adds greatly to the value of the same from the reader's standpoint. We would appreciate it much if readers in discussing the topics week by week, would, wherever possible, make a sketch or send in a photograph of the thing or some particular part of the operation being discussed. No description, however lucid, makes a thing so clear as does an illustration. The prizes are awarded in the order in which the articles appear.

Building an Implement Shed

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Very few farm machines wear out from actual service. Most of them rust out from exposure to the elements. Occasionally one hears of a binder being pounded to pieces in its first season, probably in cutting a field of flax on new breaking, but only a small percentage of the binders sold go to the scrap pile via this route. And it is the same with other farm machinery. The sun and rain rust and blister out of service each year farm machinery worth more money by far than would be required to adequately shelter all the implements in the country. Our machinery bills run into the millions annually in Western Canada, and while a good share of these

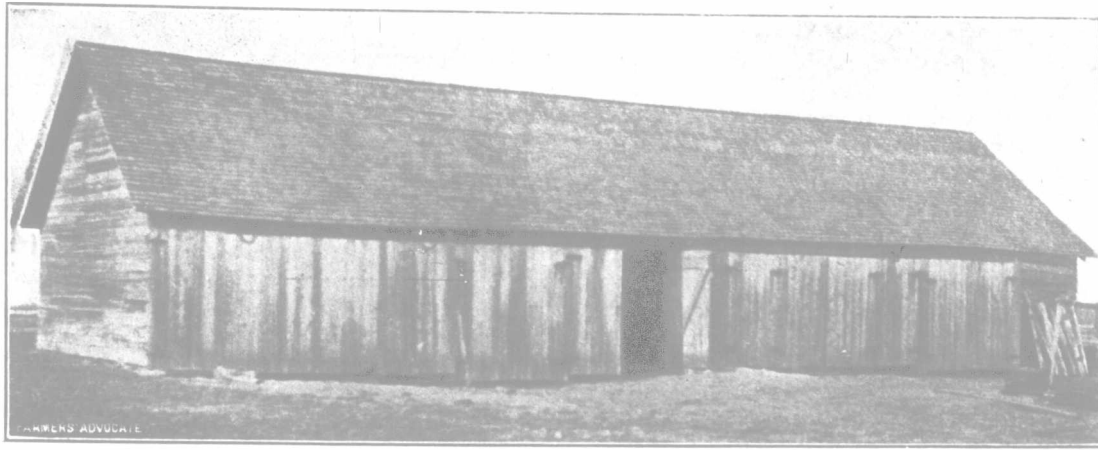


FIG. I—AN ALL-DOOR-FRONT TYPE OF IMPLEMENT SHED

may be attributed to new settlers starting up in business, a large proportion is due to purchases to replace machinery that has been worn out by exposure. Western Canadian farmers are squandering their money in machinery by the tens of thousands of dollars annually.

No farm should be without an implement shed large enough to conveniently accommodate all the machinery about the place. This shed should be conveniently located, where it will be as convenient for the hired man or boy to drive or back the seeder, binder or other machine into as it would be for him to unhitch in the yard. It need not be an expensive structure. Posts set in the ground, at a sufficient distance apart

A good idea of what the front of a convenient implement shed should look like is shown in Fig. 1. In this case the building is more substantially constructed than the one we are describing, but the all-door-front principle is well shown. Fig. 2 shows a shed with two double doors in front, a stone foundation and matched siding. The builder spared no expense to have the best shed money could build, so far as material and workmanship was concerned, but it always seemed to us that he might have scraped up another twenty-five dollars and given the shed a coat of paint.

Fig. III. shows a good vehicle shed, or one that would do as an implement shed for a small farm.

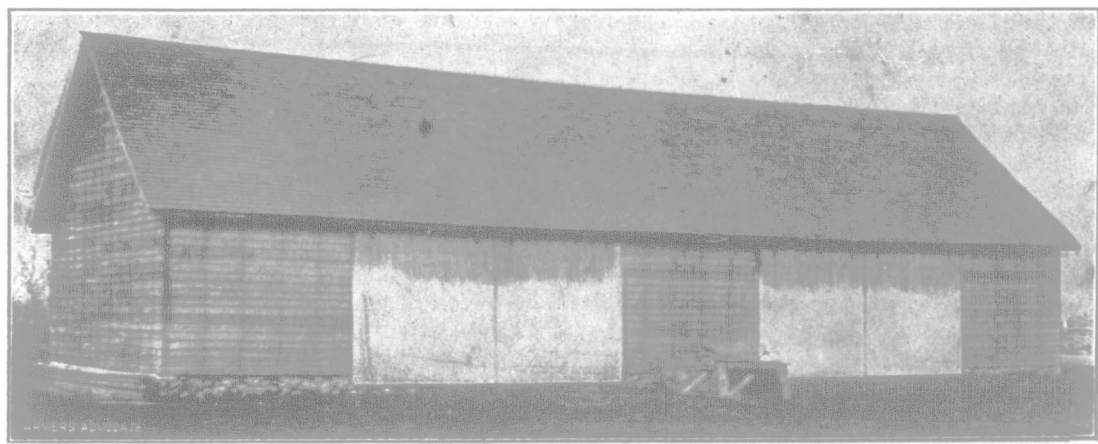


FIG. II—A SUBSTANTIAL SHED, WITH TWO SETS OF DOUBLE DOORS ON THE FRONT

to leave space between for the widest implement in use to be backed between them, do very well as framework for a cheap implement shed. Two by four scantling are notched into or nailed to these posts within a foot of the ground on all sides of the building except the front, another two by four run around at about half the distance from the ground to plate, and two by fours spiked to the top of the posts as plate. Rough lumber is then nailed up and down on these and the cracks battened. Put on a shanty roof. The posts for the front wall should be longer than those for the back or ends, either longer or else a framework will have to be erected on the plate to carry the roof. This is not desirable, as good height in front is desired. The front should be all door.

The owner had just had the building freshly painted before the photograph was taken and preceding the taking of the picture his farm had been looked over and placed first in the good farming competition carried on by the local agricultural society. Here then is tangible evidence of the value of good farming competitions.

Figs. 4 and 5 show an implement shed and farm workshop of a type we have never seen in this country and never built, but which is used to some extent in the Central States and is very convenient. This shed is merely a great umbrella with posts one way thirty feet apart, the other way twelve or sixteen feet, no side to it at all, so there is nothing in the way of driving into it at any point. Putting the main machinery:

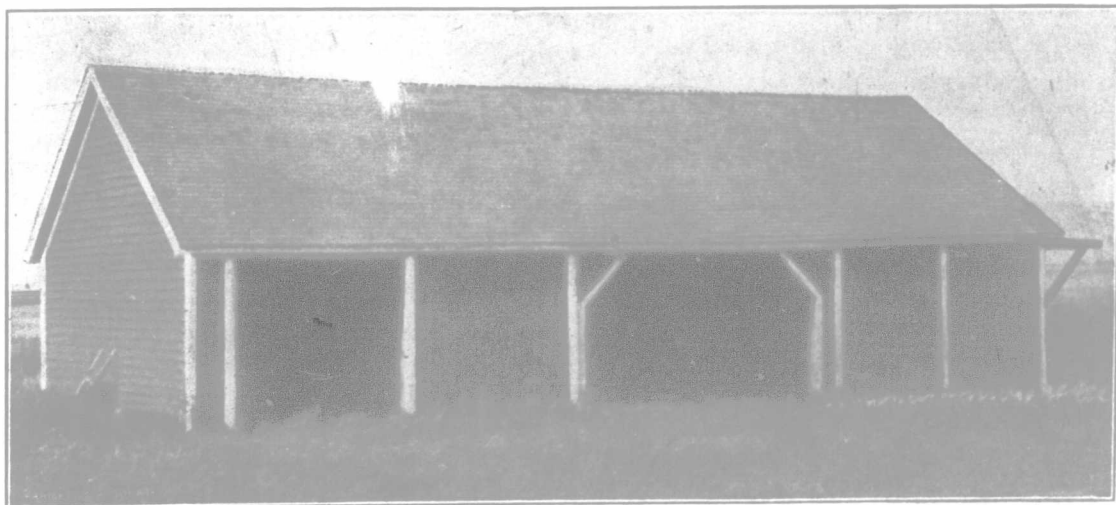


FIG. III—IMPLEMENT SHED ON ONE OF THE PRIZE FARMS OF MANITOBA