

Some of Our Interesting Utility Articles

MY Summer Cistern
Mrs. Robt. McFarland, Lanark Co., Ont.

IN winter time my cistern in the cellar was a great comfort to me, but when spring came and we moved out to the summer kitchen, it meant taking a great many more steps to get soft water. I had often read of the galvanneal tanks and decided that if I could earn the money in some way myself to have one put in my wood shed.

We live on a large town, so I put in more garden vegetables than I knew our family needed and as we went to town every week, I made arrangements with some of the grocers to supply them every Friday. In this way, the only extra work was a little in the garden, keeping it clean and bunching up the vegetables and I had soon enough money to put in my cistern.

My husband built four stone pillars high enough that the bottom of the tank was the same height as our sink in the kitchen. When the tin-smith came to put up the water spout around the back of the woodshed for filling the tank, I wanted him to put a pipe with a tap on it from the tank into the kitchen beside the sink, and a branch from this pipe with a tap into the woodshed beside my tub, where I washed my clothes. In this way I had the water supply much handier in summer than in winter, as I have no pump to work or get out of order and could get the water out in two rooms. To clean it out or empty for winter, all I have to do is to put a pipe in for the purpose under the woodshed top and the water goes out into the garden.

Brains That Worked Overtime

"Gertrude," Essex Co., Que.

MOVING from town to a farm 10 years ago, I found the only convenient article on the place was a pump in the back yard. There seemed a thousand things lacking to make life comfortable and my work easier.

Can you imagine carrying water into the house, heating it on top of the stove and jumping into a wash-tub for a bath? Well, that's where my brain got busy working overtime. First I planned a bath-room 8 x 10 feet (by the way that is large enough to do family washing in too). The next question was where was a tank to be placed? The house being a cottage there was no spare room overhead, so I suggested to the carpenter that I lower the bath-room ceiling two and one-half feet. Then a tank the full size of room and two feet deep was placed overhead, and as it holds 28 barrels of water, it lasts quite a long time.

Taps were placed in a sink in the kitchen and bath-tub. This same tank supplies enough water to flush our toilet also. The plumber also added a hot water tank near the stove in the kitchen and so I have hot and cold water all the time.

You will wonder what I do for water when the weather man fails to send along his supply. Well that did put my wits out of business a bit, so I called in my partner and his answer to the problem was, "gasoline engine." The engine is about 50 feet away from the house in a shed, so a pipe was put from it to the well and rubber hose from the engine to a tap the kitchen sink and water is forced up into the tank again. A cesspool drains all pipes and is easily kept in good condition by dissolving a can of lye once a month and pouring down the toilet and sink. Chloride of lime can also be used and is very necessary where a sewer is out of the question.

Still you may wonder if I use the

water in the tank for everything. No, I should not think the tea would taste quite as good if I did that. A small force pump costing \$2.50 was put in, just over the kitchen sink with four lengths of pipe, three elbows and a foot valve on the bottom in well. I can get all the fresh water I wish and by the way, this never freezes up either. Now for the waste paper basket.

"GERTRUDE"
Learmonth, Ont. Box 540.
Note—Will "Gertrude" kindly send us her full name and address so

Our Next Contest

SINCE we have had such a hearty response in connection with our Utility Contest, we are going to conduct another of a decidedly different nature, but one of great importance and interest on the dairy farm. This time we want letters from Our Women Folks, giving their experiences and methods in making butter on the farm. What we desire are the methods followed through the process, right from the gathering of the cream until the butter is ready for marketing, and something about the marketing also where a good private trade has been established. For the best letter received we will extend the contributor's subscription to Farm and Dairy for one year, and for all other letters published, will give a six month's renewal subscription. Let us have your contributions as early as possible as this contest will close Jan. 20th.

that we may extend her subscription in consideration of the splendid article she has contributed to this contest.

Our Dog "Carlo"

Mrs. Jos. Lawrence, Huron Co., Ont.

THE utility contest announced in Farm and Dairy of November 28 attracted my attention and my first wish was, "O, for the pen of a ready writer," that I might tell something that would do somebody good. Several things presented themselves; for instance, my kitchen stove with its beautiful warming closet, a convenient washroom, pantry and dumb waiter, but finally I decided to tell about our dog "Carlo."

Carlo is not a pretty dog to look at, but when it comes time for him to help us, he is "Johnny on the spot," and fulfills the saying "pretty things do come in handy." He was for some years before we found him to be very useful. When we wanted him to chase the cattle, he would give a yell or bark and then would play with them. When we called him off, he would scamper away in another direction.

Such were the conditions when we thought Carlo was no good and might as well be killed. However, before this resolve was put into action, the boys tried to teach him to drive a pump handle (a sort of tread wheel)—in this he soon became quite proficient. They made a large wheel in which he ran, with a long handle, and he turned the wheel, which in turn was attached to the pump handle. The dog is able to pump all the water we use for threshing, barn, and house. All we have to do is to let Carlo on the pump or if not in sight give a little whistle and he is right "on the job."

He waits for no one or anything but runs to "O, for the pen of a ready writer," that I might tell something that would do somebody good.

washing and churning, so that we are relieved of the strenuous part of house-keeping. We have wondered if we could make use of him to house-clean. We have not yet experimented.

Carlo is also a very excellent chicken dog. He will not let a hen come into our house yard, nor will he let cattle graze on the road-side directly from off our lawn. But the best of all Carlo is "Johnny on the spot." He scarcely ever is away from house or barn.

When strangers come (and he knows them), to our house, Carlo likes very much to lead them to his wheel to show them what he can do. He will look up into your face with such an asking expression on his little brown face, as much as to say "shall I show you what one of God's dumb animals can do?" He loves to "show off" to strangers. It seems to me Carlo has a great deal more brains than many people. The boys have quite often done chores after dark and Carlo always helps them.

There is great economy in having a useful dog like Carlo for he does the work of a servant and is much more easily recompensed.

Much Appreciated Convenience

Mrs. A. H. Pratt, Simsbury, Conn.

JUST a few words to tell the readers of Farm and Dairy of my two greatest conveniences. They are what every woman who does her own laundry work should have, a washing-machine and wringer. You can put out two tubfuls of clothes for one in the old way, with less work, and as the machine is covered the steam cannot escape, which is one of the essentials in cleaning the clothes quickly and thoroughly. Just think of the amount of rubbing saved in washing socks and stockings alone. Then the wringer presses the clothes out smoothly instead of all those creases which wringing by hand causes. And the wringer takes out more of the water also which allows the clothes to dry quicker.

The cost is small when we consider how precious our time is. There are many other things in life on which we can spend our time instead of drudgery. I have these conveniences, because not being strong, and having two small children to care for and help hard to get, I could not spend the time and strength. When we think of some women who are continually slaving to keep things done up spick and span, and who do not have time to seek to improve either their children or themselves, or to have recreation, it is time we who have improvements should seek to show those who have none, their worth. When we have improvements, work is a pleasure, instead of drudgery and it is not as it should be, for we should work to live, not live to work.

I might say also that I have the above mentioned convenience and the promise of more, through the thoughtful generosity of the donors of the washing-machine and wringer was only \$11.75 and they are worth much more in the time they save in doing the weekly washing.

Hints That Make Work Easy

Mrs. Walter Edwards, Compton Co., Que.

UTILITY hints that have helped me—Buy your laundry soaps by the box, for best results.

In winter warm water attaches pins thoroughly before hanging out the clothes. Your fingers will not be so cold and the pins will rub better.

A little Bon Ami rubbed on soiled shirt bands will clean them easily. Salt in cold water will remove blood stains from linen. A weak solution of chloride of lime will remove mildew. Keep a card and a pencil in the kitchen to set down the "things wanted" on next market day.

Have brass hooks, not nails over the sink, in the pantry, etc., to hang utensils on, and they will not always be tumbling down.

Have your sink, kitchen range, work table, etc., arranged the proper height, so that you can work with your back straight and without drooping shoulders.

If the top of the kitchen range requires polishing, first wash it with strong soap suds, and mix your "blackening" with soap suds and it will remain black for days.

If your aluminum saucepans become stained, boil a few stalks of rhubarb or pie plant in them and they will look like new.

The woman who lives in a small cottage and is obliged to do her own sewing, will find a large oblong clothes-basket a great convenience. When obliged to pack her sewing out of the way quickly, it can be packed into the basket in a few minutes and slipped out of the way, and when needed again it will be a great comfort to find everything in one place.

On ironing day, see that your ironing board is the proper height, and have a heavy rug to stand on for comfort your aching feet. That is if you must stand, but many a woman sits on a high stool while she does her ironing.

Have all the cupboards in the kitchen and pantry painted or enamelled inside, and have the shelves covered with white or marble oilcloth that can be wiped off clean in a few minutes once or twice a week.

When I house-clean, I cut a dozen or more sheets of clean paper to fit, and place them on top of my high cupboards. It takes but a minute to remove a sheet, dust and all and burn it once a week.



First Price Baby at Cookeville Fair.

This is Harvey E. Beamish and his little sister, Gladys Mary. Harvey was the first prize baby at Cookeville Fair this year, and he is certainly a healthy looking little fellow.

Making Putty and Other Hints

(Continued from page 13.)

When making ice-cream in the winter, use snow for packing freezer, instead of ice. It is much less work, and does quite as well. Mix salt with the snow, pack then pour a little water over the mixture to hasten the freezing process and the freezing of the cream as well.

Before cleaning the stove, in place of wearing gloves, cover hands and arms with newspaper or old paper. On you will be surprised how easily the black will wash off the hands. This method does equally well for any work in which the hands are likely to become grimy.—A.A.F.