

The Best Room in Our House

Mrs. Alex. Smith, Durham Co., Ont.

Words can scarcely express the appreciation that I have always had for the complete water system that has been installed in our farm house for the past 15 years. It is a great convenience and saves many steps that would otherwise have to be taken each and every day in any home, be it on the farm or in the city.



Mrs. A. Smith

The bath room, especially, is a great comfort. I claim it to be the best room in the house. The old adage, you know, says that cleanliness is next to godliness, so those having a bath room, always warm and comfortable should bathe often and that has a great tendency towards good health—the greatest blessing we all can enjoy. Health gives contentment; and the Good Book says: "A contented mind is a continual feast".

Having the water both hot and cold in the bath room is much appreciated by friends or guests who happen to be staying with us over night. The work of entertaining them is greatly simplified where there is a bath room in the house.

Our force pump is placed in our winter kitchen. Another pump is located in the summer kitchen and thus water is always handy where it is needed for any work in the house.

Of all things we have about our home in the way of comforts or conveniences, our water system and bath room stands first. It is the last thing that we would want to be without. I am glad that so many others in rural homes are coming to see the great advantages to be had from good systems of plumbing and are having them installed.

A Horse for the Women Folk

Miss C. A. Adamson, Peterboro Co., Ont.

What a pleasure it is for those who live on farms to have driving horses. And yet so many farmers have no regular driving horse. There should be a horse on every farm that the women can drive; then the women folk do not have to wait until the men are at leisure to take them wherever they wish to go. A horse on the farm that women can drive often saves men a lot of time away from their work in busy seasons of the year. Every day or two there will be some business to do in town or some message to take to a neighbor's a couple of miles away; if there is not a horse that the women folk can drive—the men have to stop their work and it may be just at the busiest times and hitch up and go themselves.

It has always been our privilege to have one or more good driving horses on our farm. "Black Beauty" our old standby, is now getting up in years. When automobiles first came along we had some little trouble with him. A little education given him by the men folks soon got him used to them and there was no more trouble on that score.

We have never had to wait for some one to hitch our horse for us. We are able to hitch it ourselves. Some women who have a driving horse always require that the men folk get the horse ready to go on a trip, and then when they return, we go hand again and put the horse away. And that is why the driving horse for the women is not as popular with the men folks as it used to be when women could hitch and unhitch the horse themselves. It would repay many of us who like driving to be more independent on this score, then we would be more certain of always having a driving horse.

There are invariably a number of horses on most farms that in slack seasons of the year are not needed for farm work. One or more of these horses could just as well be broken to drive single

and be kept in condition so that the women could use them. A horse to drive should be the privilege of all farm women. The farm affords a place where there is plenty of feed available, and horses can there be kept at a minimum cost.

Driving is very conducive to health; it has many benefits as well as being convenient in the matter of getting about from place to place. We should not allow the fear of meeting autos or any other minor reasons to deprive us of the privilege



One of the Privileges of Farm Life

A horse—a good one—is a source of continual delight. The women folk of our farms should take every advantage of the pleasure of driving and not allow autos or other excuses to keep them from it. The illustration shows Mrs. J. J. Irwin, of Lincoln Co., Ont., and her well-broken (educated) driving horse.

of driving, which should always go with life in rural communities.

An Elevating Influence in the Home

Mrs. A. G. Pettit, Lincoln Co., Ont.

Aside from the pleasure and profit there is in cultivating flowers, they afford one of the most elevating influences of the home. From the time of the first preparation of the soil in the spring until the ground is covered with a mantle of snow, one may have a constant bloom of floral beauty in the farm flower garden.

First in April come the bulbs. These continue with their bloom throughout the month of May. During May, while these are blooming, comes the time for the sowing of seeds of annuals. In June the rose, that "Queen of Flowers," may be enjoyed and from that time on until frost, we have perennials, annuals, dahlias and gladioli in succession, so that we have a constant bloom the whole season through.

For the amateur, I would recommend that fall planting of perennials and shrubs, bulbs and roses, be given attention. These plants if set out now will be forming roots and will have a much better chance to progress next season than if they are not planted until early spring.

There is not an inordinate amount of work connected with the care of a flower garden such as cures. At times when the weeds become conspicuous, the men lend their assistance and the garden is cleaned and put into shape. I have a great many perennials and roses. Altogether the flower garden is to me a constant pleasure the whole season through and well worth any amount of labor that it requires.

How to Get Winter Eggs

Mrs. John Newton, Labelle Co., Que.

I find work with poultry to be both interesting and profitable. I keep between 50 and 60 hens over winter. The Barred Rock is the only breed I have ever had. I am well satisfied with hens of this breed. My hens are particularly hardy and healthy. I can boast of not having a sick hen during the past two years. I have no trouble with egg eaters and very rarely find a soft shelled egg.

My poultry house is very cheaply and simply built of two ply of rough boards with paper between. It is 30 feet long, 11 feet wide, 5½ feet high in front and 5½ feet at the back. It faces south. It is divided into two parts. One half is used as a scratching shed where the hens live all winter long, except when laying or at night.

THE SHED OPEN IN FRONT

This shed is completely open in front. It may be closed however, by means of large canvas doors that are hinged at the top and hooped up to the ceiling. These doors admit both light and air, as well as keep out the storm. Owing to unusual fine weather, these doors were only closed twice last winter.

The scratching shed is cleaned out weekly. About one foot of litter is kept on the floor of the shed. I prefer uncut straw for litter as it seems to give the hens more work than cut straw. All the grain fed is completely buried in this litter.

I have curtains made out of old bags to drop before the roosts, during the cold weather, which makes the hens comfortable even when the weather is very cold. In this part of the house, I have both glass and canvas on each window. I am therefore ready for any kind of weather.

I feed wheat and buckwheat in the morning. At noon a small pail of boiled potatoes, mashed with the water left in and thickened with crushed oats is fed well warm. In the evening, corn is fed. I also keep some green vegetables, such as turnips, pumpkins, or any other kind I may have, hung up by a wire; also a piece of frozen liver of cheap meat. The hens seem to enjoy these foods and when fed in this way it helps to give them exercise. In the shed there are two



A Glorious Farm Garden That Blooms All Through the Growing Season

The illustration reproduced herewith affords Farm and Dairy readers some idea of what a pleasure is afforded a visitor to peep into the flower garden cultivated by Mrs. A. G. Pettit, Lincoln Co., Ont. The garden is planted mostly with perennials, gladioli and so forth along with some choice annuals. Read the adjoining article by Mrs. Pettit. Photo by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

small hoppers for grit, nailed to the wall high enough that the litter does not get in; one is supplied with oyster shells, the other, grit. A load of very gravelly sand is placed in the shed in the fall. This furnishes good grit all winter.

I find skim milk a splendid thing for laying hens. Pure water is very important. I do not find it any trouble to take out a dipper of warm water when I go to feed or gather the eggs. My hens therefore do not have to drink water at the freezing point. They repay me in eggs for any extra trouble this practice may entail.