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### Wintering Farm Machinery.

Wintering farm machinery means more than protection from rust and rot. It means, in addition, a preparation for next season's severe service, at which time there is frequently little time for oiling, to say nothing about repair relays. It means putting the machines into such a perfect state of repair that they will go through the season's work without further repairing. When this is not possible, it means the stocking up with parts likely to need replacing, so that only a few minutes' delay is caused and the machine is back into service.

This state of repair and the resulting efficient service from farm machinery may be secured in a number of ways.

The author has found it convenient to go over each machine when in storage. He takes his kit of tools and a supply of bolts and nuts, spring cotters and shipping tags with him. All the repairing that can be done, without ordering repairs, is done. Loose nuts are straightened, missing nuts or broken and lost bolts are replaced and bent braces straightened. Wood parts are also replaced or repaired as necessary.

This done, the repairs that need to be ordered, or repairing that cannot be completed at this time, are noted on a shipping tag and the tag attached to the machine. Thus the tag attached to the gang plow might read as follows:—"Bearing for rolling coulters, Nos. M. 392 and M. 393. 1 M. bolt 1 2x5 inches tongue. Sharpen sheares." The machine

income, and in the second place it furnishes by-products that are almost as important as the direct results of the work. In the successful management of any manufacture, the use of the by-products often spells success. Frequently the income that is derived from them is sufficient to carry on the overhead expenses of the plant. The fact that one man realizes on these by-products and another fails to, distinguishes between the successful and the unsuccessful manufacturer. Likewise on the farm the fact that one man appreciates the importance of the industries that dairying makes possible while his neighbor is blind to all of this great profit marks the difference between the successful and the unsuccessful dairy man. Everywhere we hear about the necessity of conserving natural resources. No line of farming makes it possible to foster these resources more successfully than dairying. Where a dairy herd is kept and only the butter-fat is sold from the farm, the land may be built up in productive capacity with every season. Experiments have shown that abandoned farms can be put into the profitable class merely by using the fertility provided by a dairy herd. The fertilizers then is one of the first by-products of importance. If men are going to hand down to posterity land that will yield a living for forthcoming generations they must study how best to replace the elements of plant life that were taken out of the soil by each drop that is harvested. The dairy cow is the solution. This one by-product then makes it possible



A typical prairie farm house.

bolt was not in box, so would have to be ordered. Each machine is gone over in this way. When through, the tags attached are inspected and repairs noted. These are ordered or made, as is necessary. As soon as the repairs arrive, or are made, they are put on the machines and the tags checked.

For some machines a stock of duplicate parts should be ordered. Take, for example, mowing machines on an alfalfa ranch. There should be on hand at all times extra knives, sections, rivets, wearing plates, ledger plates, guards, guard bolts, pitman, and crank boxes. If the machines are old, perhaps a crank shaft gear and pinion should be had also. A similar list could be prepared for a combined thrasher, self binder, steam or gas tractor, as the case might be.

Sometimes the weeding process is necessary and some machines should be scraped. Machines doing ineffectual work, inconvenient to handle, or of excessive draft, may be profitably discarded and the more up-to-date machine purchased. But while this is true, the need of repairs is little excuse for the purchase of a new machine.

Some plan of securing the same dependable service from the used farm machine, as from new machines, is necessary, if the crop producer is to win. Begin now to put your machinery into trim for a winning season's work.

### Dairy By-Products.

There are two reasons why dairying is the most profitable line of farming. In the first place it provides a steady

to take land that is depleted and restore its fertility or to retain the fertility with each crop that is harvested, always leaving a little more plant food in the soil than is taken out. In other states where it is necessary to buy commercial fertilizers the bills for these have eaten a big hole into the profits, sometimes leaving nothing for the man's work. This first by-product of dairying then is of sufficient importance to establish the industry regardless of anything else. The second income that may be realized by the dairy farmer comes from the sale of young stock for breeding purposes. A man who has a registered herd of any of the dairy breeds can, if he will handle the business right, find a ready sale at long prices for anything that he wishes to dispose of. Even grade heifers and cows are bringing very flattering figures in every section where dairying is followed. With a herd of 10 or 20 good cows it will not be impossible to realize an income from the young stock that would be several times as large as the entire earning capacity of the average clerk or office employee. The third by-product of importance is skim milk. A well managed dairy farm will keep practically all of this for home use. It makes it possible to raise and develop calves, pigs, and chickens. The profit from the pigs needs little explanation at this time. Everyone who has had any experience in raising and marketing hogs knows the value of skim milk, and he also knows how useful the checks from the market hogs are. From this on down one may estimate the various possibilities of the farm. Poultry can be