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THE IMPLEMENT SHED

Should be an Important Feature in Farm Buildings.

Have It Centrally Located—How to Make Cement Posts for Foundation—Not Only Have Implements Under Clean Cover, But Keep Them Ready.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

The storage of tools and machinery in a general barn is not always economical. Frequently the barn has to be cleared out during haying or harvest storage, necessitating the removal of the implements for a long period of exposure. A building designed and constructed for implement storage is to be desired on every farm. The size of an implement shed can be determined by measuring the implements and then determining the space required by each. Wide buildings are not usually satisfactory, since such will incline toward a storage system that requires the removal of several implements in order to get the one wanted. Narrow buildings just wide enough to protect the largest implements and wagons are to be preferred.

Should Be Centrally Located.

The implement shed should be located as a central feature in the farmstead group of buildings at a point midway between the house and barn, in such a position as to be convenient to teamsters going to and from fields and roads. Concrete floors are highly satisfactory, but not always necessary; gravel and dry earth floors are generally satisfactory. The walls need only to protect from wind and sun, while the roof, if it will keep out the rain and dust, is satisfactory. This means a cheap structure, made up of 2 x 4 to 2 x 6 inch boards and prepared roofing paper. The wall framework can be constructed of 3 x 4 or four-inch poles set on 24-inch centers. Sheds planned to be 16 feet or more in width should have 2 x 6 rafters if the roof is of one slope. Rough board sheathing and battens well nailed will make a desirable and strong wall, quite good enough to shelter the farm machines and tools.

How to Make a Good Foundation.

The foundation should be firm, and can be easily made by setting half barrels in line and level, and then filling up with cement concrete. Such make excellent foundations. An inset of 2 x 4 in the cement to spike the sills to is very essential in windy localities. Implement houses may be built with one side open, or one side may be made up of doors, half of which are hung on an inside track and half on an outside track. This double track arrangement for door hanging permits the opening of a

door at any point, which is an important feature.—L. Stevenson, Secretary, Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto.

ARE THE IMPLEMENTS READY?

A Question That the Prudent Farmer Will Keep in Mind.

With tillage and harvesting machinery in idleness during the winter period and with farm men not as busy as they are during the spring season, it is good management to see that all implements and tools are put into the best condition possible. Odd hours of the day during the winter on many farms are always available for such repair work. Such spare periods can be very profitably used in going over all machines and making good any wear and tear, tightening bolts and rivets, putting in new parts where needed; painting to protect against rust and weathering, have done much to prolong the usefulness of farm tools. Many hours and many dollars are lost each year through tools and implements being neglected. Ploughs, binders, mowers and rakes left in the fields or in the farm yard or along the fence row or in the orchard have worn out or rusted out years before their time. Fifty per cent. efficiency is too low for any implement or tool in which we have invested capital. One hundred per cent. efficiency from farm implements and tools comes only to those who take care of their implements. Provide protection from weather when not in use and keep them clean, sharp and tight. The rush of spring work is seriously hindered by the ploughs being rusty, loose or out of adjustment, by the harrows being dull, by the grain drill and the roller being out of repair when such should be in the field and in use. A little attention to the implements during February and March will save hours and dollars in April and May.—L. Stevenson, Secretary Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto.

Keeping Celery.

At a constant temperature of 32 degrees Fahr., celery can be kept for several months, and placed on the market as fresh looking as the day it was cut. Recent experiments at the Ontario Government Cold Storage Station at Brighton, bear out this statement, which knowledge will prove of immense value to growers.

To obtain the best results from cold storage, celery should be well grown, partially bleached, cut with part roots on, with a little roughage left for protection; and finally, cut, hauled and placed in cold storage the same day.

BUYING A FARM.

Some Very Practical and Timely Hints to Would-be Purchasers of Farm Property.

The most important decision that a farmer is called on to make is the selection of a farm on which to live and earn a living. The judgment used in making the selection of a farm may make or break a man, may tie him up for life to poverty or to wealth. In districts where the soil is uniformly good over a large area and where prosperity is evident on all sides the task is not so great and risky. But in districts where various types and grades of soil exist a poor farm and a good farm may lie side by side. The good farm will no doubt help to sell the poor one, which, by the way, is always for sale.

See Your Prospective Farm in July.

Farm purchases are most frequently made during the winter when the opportunity for close examination is least. This should not be so. If farms were purchased on the basis of the crop showing during the month of July there would be fewer regrets. If a man contemplates purchasing a farm in a district where he has lived for a long period, he will know the soil and district conditions. Knowing conditions the purchaser will hand over his money with his eyes wide open; if he does not know conditions in the district he will be handing over his money with his eyes closed and must depend upon the honesty of some one else. Purchasers of farms are advised to live and work in the district of their choice for at least a year before investing heavily.—L. Stevenson, Secretary Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto.

Fix Harvesting Machinery.

A rainy day spent in putting that mowing machine, hay loader, binder and other harvesting machinery into shape is a mighty good investment of time. This is more true this year than usual for two reasons—first, labor is much scarcer, and therefore the loss of any time wasted will be greater; and, secondly, the parts may be harder to get than usual, due to a shortage of supplies in many lines. Forethought may save some after-worries.

If home-made lime-sulphur solution is to be used, make it now and store till needed.

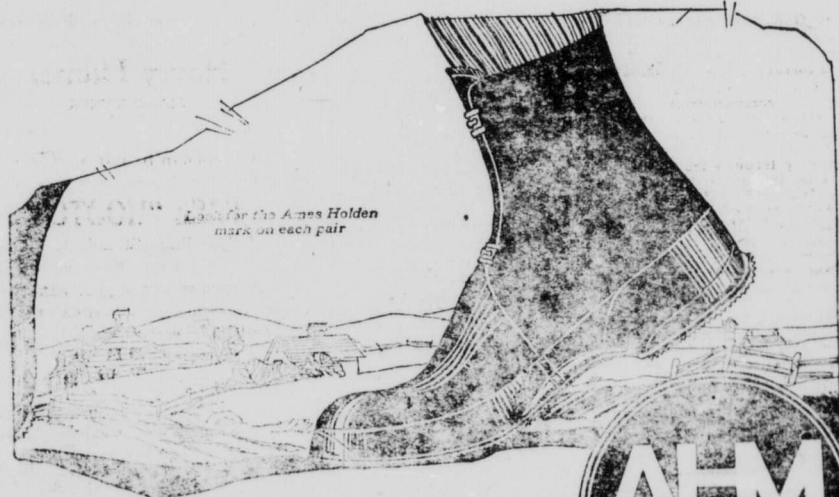
Insects that eat the foliage must be kept in check by spraying with a poison they will eat, like Paris green or arsenate of lead.

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