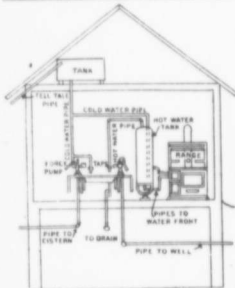


## Greater Home Comforts

### A Water Service Yields Large Returns in Conservation of Women's Health and Strength

Only two and one-half per cent of the 400 farmers visited in connection with the Agricultural Survey of the Commission of Conservation in 1915 had the complete service of water on tap, bath and toilet in their houses. Five per cent had automobiles; 38 per cent had pianos, 32 per cent had organs,



Cut 101 Running hot and cold water in the kitchen removes much of the drudgery of housework for the farmer's wife. A plan for installation is shown above.

and 22 per cent had gasoline engines on the farm. While it is well that 70 per cent possess sufficient musical interest to have either a piano or organ in the house, it is regrettable indeed that 39 out of 40 have not installed the water service and bath.

No investment yields more in conserving the women's health

and strength, in creating greater home comforts, and in elevating the general tone of the material side of living than the installation of water service and the sanitary conveniences in the home. Thousands of farmers who could well afford to do so have not put in the service for various reasons—because they have not thought of it, or because they do not know how to go about it, or because they think it too expensive. The cost is not so great as many imagine. A bath tub can be purchased for \$10.00, a sink basin for \$3.00, a closet for \$16.00, a 30-gallon hot water tank for \$10.00. Various means are employed in obtaining pressure at the taps, such as a force pump to elevate water to a tank in the attic or the pneumatic tank in the cellar, and the cost of piping and installation will vary according to circumstances.

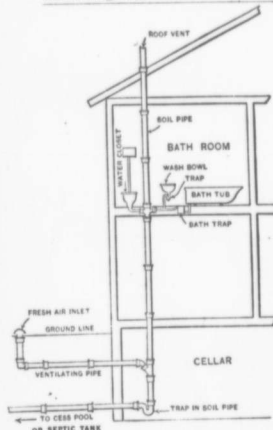
One farmer had the hot water attachment, tank, bath and dry closet installed for \$50.00, the farmer himself helping the plumber to do the work. The complete service, which would be used 365 days in the year, can be installed on the average farm for less than the farmer pays for the binder he uses for a few days at harvest time and which stands idle for the balance of the year. The man on the farm thinks he cannot get along without the many labour saving devices. How about a labour saver for the farm women? It is unquestionably a common-sense business proposition to have the water service and bath in the house as a comfort to every member of the family and a constant labour saving convenience for those who do the daily recurring work of the household, the farm women.

The diagrams in connection with this article are used by courtesy of Carleton J. Lynde, professor of Physics, Macdonald College, and author of "Home Waterworks."—F. C. N.

### MAY CANCEL INSURANCE

Unless some better fire protection is given in Northern Ontario, several insurance companies will withdraw from the country. In fact, some have already withdrawn. This is the intimation given *The Northern Miner* by the manager of one of the largest insurance companies operating in Northern Ontario, who has been surveying his company's loss from the big fire. It is possible that some insurance on plants and buildings of mines in the outlying districts will be cancelled, as the insurance companies are privileged to do, on notice.

The insurance men state that, until the Government puts the fire ranging on an efficient basis, the situation will not change. They claim that their losses have been so great that it will take many years of premiums with no further losses to catch up.—*The Northern Miner*.



Bathrooms for farm homes are just as necessary as for city homes, and the cost is not prohibitive. The above diagram shows plan for installation.

## Commercial Fertilizers

### Resultant High Crops Secured by Germany Through Its Use

The extensive use of commercial fertilizers has been a primary cause of the relatively high crop yields in Germany, and an important factor in maintaining the food supply of that country during the war. The following table shows the comparative yields of certain crops in various countries:—

Country and Year.	BUSHELS PER ACRE				
	Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oats	Potatoes
Germany, 1913.....	35.0	30.4	40.9	61.0	235.4
Russia, 1912.....	10.1	14.3	16.1	23.6	121.3
Austria, 1912.....	22.3	23.2	29.7	36.1	148.7
Hungary, 1912.....	18.8	18.4	25.8	28.9	125.3
France, 1912.....	20.5	16.4	26.9	35.9	142.7
Canada, 1913.....	21.04	19.28	29.96	38.78	165.88
United States, 1914.....	16.6	16.8	25.8	29.7	109.5
Argentina, 1912-13.....	13.8	.....	.....	39.2	.....

In comparing the crop yields in Germany and France, the statistics show that thirty years ago these

immensely, without placing an additional acre under cultivation or employing extra help.—W.J.D.

### Painting of Farm Implements

The painting of farm implements for their protection and preservation has apparently received very little consideration by Canadian farmers, if one may judge by the information secured by the Commission of Conservation in the survey conducted on 100 farms in each of four counties in Ontario. In Waterloo, not one farmer who painted his implements, was found among the hundred, in Carleton only one, in Northumberland three, and in Dundas eleven.

The use of paint on both the wooden and metal parts of machinery gives a protecting cover against deterioration by use and weather, apart altogether from the general improvement in appearance. The cost of prepared paint for the purpose is very small, and experience in the work is unnecessary.

The initial cost of farm implements means to the farmers a large outlay. This investment should be protected. Depreciation from rot and rust is rapid, when once these conditions are established. For the more prosperous appearance it gives to the farm and farmer, the regular overhauling and painting of the farm implements should be a recognized part of the year's work.—D.

### Cats as Bird Destroyers

In an address on the protection of bird life, delivered recently before the Commission of Conservation, attention was directed to the fact that the domestic cat is one of the most destructive enemies of wild birds. This contention is supported by the following quotation from a report by the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture.

"Most people do not realize how destructive cats are to bird life because their attention has never been called to the facts and because most feline depredations occur at night. In my investigations much evidence has been secured which is convincing. In the year 1903, at the instance of the secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, an inquiry was undertaken regarding the decrease of birds in Massachusetts. As a part of this investigation a questionnaire was sent out to some 400 correspondents, which was filled out and returned by more than 200. In response to a question regarding the effect produced on birds by their natural enemies, 82 correspondents reported cats as very destructive to birds. This was a much larger number than those reporting any other natural enemy as destructive. Nearly all who reported on the natural enemies of birds placed the cat first among destructive animals."