

AGRICULTURAL NEWS



Your Neighborhood Made Progress Like This One?

This year marks the consolidation of schools and the erection of a new brick school building, an improvement to our community and the benefit of our hearts. Instead of going to school through mud, our people are taken in busses to school. Indeed our enrollment is fast becoming a net-
work of asphalt highways. Our church we have tried to put on to the best of our ability to purchase a piano to take the place of the old ashmattie organ. We have an improvement association going to meet at 10 o'clock and plant a number of shade trees which will in time replace the

old ones fast dying out. I shall plant a willow oak, because they are the most beautiful of all shade trees and fast growers. These simple improvements will abide, for after all of us are sleeping in the cemetery our trees will be things of beauty and a joy to all who worship in our beloved church. — The Progressive Farmer.

READ THE POLK COUNTY NEWS.

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NOTARY PUBLIC
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POULTRY

FEED LAYING HENS IN COLD WEATHER

In feeding laying hens, only one-half to one-third as much of the scratch feed should be fed in the morning as in the evening, according to the instructions accompanying a list of rations for laying hens recently compiled by T. A. Bittenbender of the poultry husbandry department, Iowa State college.

He states that the mash feeds should be left before the birds at all times. It should be fed in self-feeding hoppers. It has been found that mash moistened with hot water or buttermilk fed in the middle of the morning will increase the egg production noticeably during the winter months.

The green feed should be fed at noon or soon after. Sprouted oats, steamed alfalfa leaves, cabbage, beets, mangels or a small amount of fresh silage will answer the purpose. Green feeds and mash are very essential, according to Mr. Bittenbender, for the highest possible production of eggs during the winter months.

Some scratch formulae which Mr. Bittenbender recommends are as follows: 200 pounds of corn to 100 pounds of oats; or 200 pounds of corn, 200 pounds of wheat and 100 pounds of oats. For a mash formula the following is recommended: 100 pounds bran, 100 pounds middlings or shorts, 100 pounds ground oats, 100 pounds ground corn, 50 pounds tankage, 5 pounds salt, 20 pounds bone meal and 20 pounds of ground limestone. To this as much liquid buttermilk, sour skim milk or paste buttermilk as the birds will consume should be added. Forty pounds of dried buttermilk can be substituted for the liquid milk.

Cheap, but Ideal Floor for the Poultry House

Eight inches of cinders, gravel or crushed rock covered with about two inches of rich cement will make a cheap but ideal floor for the poultry house. The porous material under the cement will tend to keep the floor dry. The filling should be tamped until it forms a solid base for the concrete.

Hollow tile forms perhaps a more satisfactory base for the cement, and only one-half inch of cement is needed to cover a carefully laid floor. It is more expensive than the other filler. It should be laid on a layer of sand and then covered with rich cement to make a smooth surface which is more easily cleaned.

Nebraska Station Gives Ration for Laying Hens

The ration for laying hens should have yellow corn as its basis and also contain mineral, animal protein, and a green feed. Cracked yellow corn as a scratch feed and sprouted oats for a succulent feed, plus a self-fed dry mash made up of 150 pounds of corn meal, 150 pounds of shorts, 100 pounds of bran, and 100 pounds of meat meal or tankage is recommended as Ration No. 1 by the new Nebraska Station Circular 38. Three other rations are listed on the back page and the circular as a whole deals with principles and methods of feeding for an average of above 150 eggs per hen per year.

BEAUTIFUL RUGS AT PRICES FURNITURE STORE

DAIRY FACTS

HOME-GROWN FEEDS ARE THE CHEAPEST

Corn and oats, both home-grown feeds are still the cheapest source of digestible nutrients and should be used as extensively as possible in the dairy ration this winter; it is pointed out by O. S. Rhode, University of Illinois. Unfortunately, these two feeds do not put enough protein into the ration, unless the roughage that is being fed is good legume hays only, and consequently it is necessary in most cases to buy some feed that is high in protein to supplement the corn and oats. At present prices gluten meal and cottonseed meal are the two cheapest feeds for this purpose.

When silage and legume hays are being fed as roughage, a good grain mixture can be made of 500 pounds of ground corn, 250 pounds of ground oats and 100 pounds of ground soy beans. Another good grain mixture for use with silage and legume hays can be made from 500 pounds of ground corn, 500 pounds of cottonseed meal and 50 pounds of gluten meal. Both of these grain mixtures should be fed at the rate of 2 1/2 pounds for each gallon of milk produced.

When no legumes are being fed, the grain mixture should be made of 100 pounds each of gluten meal, ground corn, ground oats and linseed oil meal. Another good grain mixture to use when no legumes are being fed can be made from 100 pounds each of ground corn, wheat bran and linseed oil meal and 50 pounds of cottonseed meal. These two should be fed at the rate of 2 1/2 to 3 pounds of grain for each gallon of milk produced.

When legume hays supply all the roughages, the grain mixture can be limited to 100 pounds of ground corn and 100 pounds of ground oats. A second grain mixture that can be used when legume hays supply all the roughages can be made from 600 pounds of ground corn, 300 pounds of ground oats and 100 pounds of linseed oil meal. These two grain mixtures should be fed at the rate of 3 to 3 1/2 pounds for each gallon of milk produced.

ROAD BUILDING

FIRM FOUNDATION IS BIG ESSENTIAL

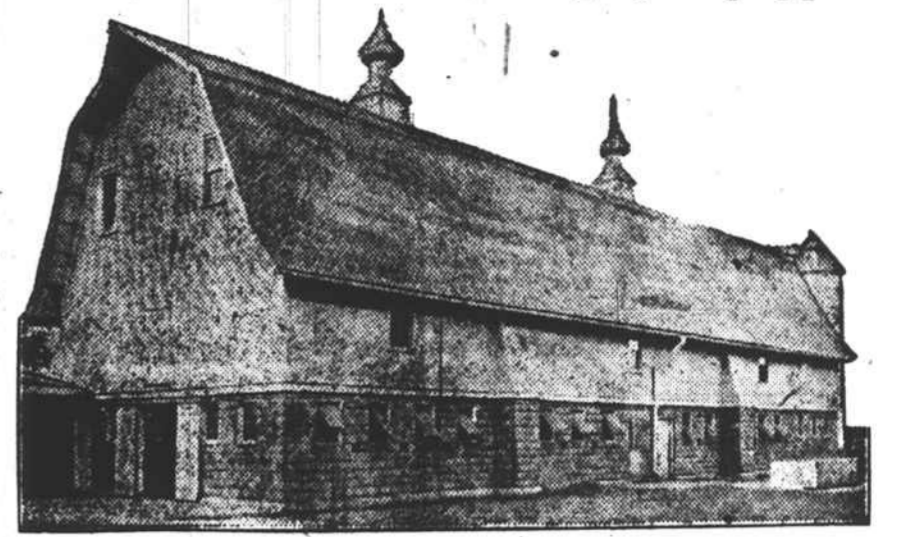
A firm foundation and a hard, tough-wearing surface are primary essentials of a good road. Whatever surface is selected, the foundation of the modern highway must be able to stand up under heavy motor-truck traffic. Foundation materials must be so firmly bound together that no amount of pounding will be able to loosen them. The old gravel and macadam foundation stood up well enough under horse-drawn traffic. Heavy motor-truck and automobile traffic, however, simply pounds it to pieces. Unless made of a hard, tough substance the impact of modern traffic will loosen up the entire bed, and drive the loose gravel or stone into the mud beneath.

A hard base, at least six inches thick, is required on all roads subject to frequent motor traffic. Such a base will successfully withstand the destructive impact of heavy trucks. The aggregates are so firmly bound together by the cement that they cannot be loosened. With a solid base, the wearing surface will have a firm, even foundation, which will insure a "top" that will not be full of holes due to the foundation being broken and rounded into the subgrade.

An inspection of the 1917 report of the state highway department of New York reveals the fact that road maintenance costs depend upon the character of the base. All the bituminous or asphaltic concrete pavements laid on a macadam base show very high maintenance costs, while those which are laid on a concrete base show very much lower maintenance.

That modern traffic requires at least a six-inch concrete base is recognized by almost all road builders. The superiority of concrete as a surfacing material as well as a foundation material is evidenced by the increased yardage of hard pavement laid annually. Road builders realize that the additional cost of other surfacing material is unnecessary. Concrete has stood the test, and its supremacy as a road building material for both wearing surface and foundation is well established.

Dairy Barn Must Be Properly Planned, Well Built and Thoroughly Equipped



By WILLIAM A. RADFORD
Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all problems pertaining to the subject of building work on the farm. For the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as editor, author and manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on the subject. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 1837 Prairie avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only inclose two-cent stamp for reply.

A dairy barn need not be elaborate in order to serve its purpose most effectively, but it must be properly planned, well built and thoroughly equipped. Attention to these three points will usually determine the difference between a profitable and unprofitable dairy herd and all are of equal importance.

A well planned barn is one in which the arrangement is such as to afford the required space with the least expense for building and to make possible the care of the herd with the least expenditure of time and effort. A properly built barn must afford protection against cold and dampness, give first-class ventilation and admit an abundance of sunlight. A well equipped barn must be provided with these pieces of equipment which effect a real saving of labor, and thereby expense, and enable the best of care to be given to the stock. They must be of first-class quality, but should never include elaborate devices of doubtful practical value.

Such a barn is shown. First, as to construction, this barn has the lower floor walled with concrete block, and the floor is also of concrete. This affords the necessary protection against cold and dampness and adds to the fireproof qualities of the building. The upper portion is of well-built frame construction and the roof is covered with fire-resistant composition shingles. Ample ventilation is secured by means of ventilators in the side walls and four foul-air shafts which carry off all the foul air

a cement floor is, of course, unsuitable for cattle to stand on.
In the litter alley back of each row of stalls there is a litter carrier which provides for the disposal of manure with the least expenditure of time and labor.

At the end of the barn toward the silos, one side is divided into two pens, a bull pen and a calf pen. At the opposite side is a double feed room with doors from the central alley. Broad double doors admit to the barn at the far end and similar doors open from the barn into the silage chute. There is a smaller outside door into the silage chute, and other smaller doors into the main part of the barn at convenient intervals. The four foul-air shafts are placed at regular intervals along the two long sides of the building.

Wood Register Replaces the Old Cast-Iron Type

The old-style cast-iron register for furnace heating is rapidly being put into the background and its place is being taken by a neat, wooden grille, which forms almost a part of the floor itself.

Wood registers serve inlet needs very satisfactorily. They are suited for floor installation, or in the baseboard, and are fully as strong as the cast-iron variety.

Being made of oak or any other wood, these registers can be made to harmonize with the wood finish of the room and color scheme. In base board, stair riser, floor, wall, window seat, closet door, pulpit or stage front, the square, rectangular, triangular, round or curved wooden register fits in logically and attractively.

The wood used must, of course, be thoroughly kiln dried, and the meshes uniform to insure strength. Installation is simple. By boxing, wood registers can be used in places where metal radiators would be difficult to place, and the cost is reasonable.

Hints on the Proper Care of Waxed Floors

In order to keep waxed floors in good condition, frequent dusting with only occasional washing is necessary. If the dust is allowed to collect on the floors, it will soon be ground into the waxed surface, giving it a rough and dingy appearance. After the dirt is once firmly attached, scrubbing will be necessary to remove it, and of course the wax will be removed at the same time.

With a daily dusting, scrubbing is not needed. Instead, the floor can be cleaned by simply wiping up with a cloth wrung out of a lukewarm suds. A mild soap will not affect the waxed surface. If the floor is allowed to become very wet, of course repolishing will be necessary, but with a cloth which is only moist, the dust and dirt can be gathered up just as effectively without harming the surface.

Fresh wax need not be applied—a soft, dry cloth rubbed briskly over the surface after washing will renew the original appearance of the wax.

Kitchen Rack Improves Utility of This Room.

Little additions of improvements in the kitchen are a good thing to keep in mind. Take a rack, for instance. It can be made in a short hour, yet it will be used every day. Those long, ungainly forks and spoons, the egg beater and potato masher never seem to mix well with the cutlery in the kitchen cabinet drawer. Their proper place is on this rack.

Three pieces are required, each a scant inch thick. Two five inches long, two inches wide; the other two inches wide, sixteen inches (or a foot) long. The pieces are dressed down and the short blocks fastened with screws through the back to the long piece. These are then fastened to the wall with screws and a number of galvanized nails driven in a row along the front of the horizontal piece.

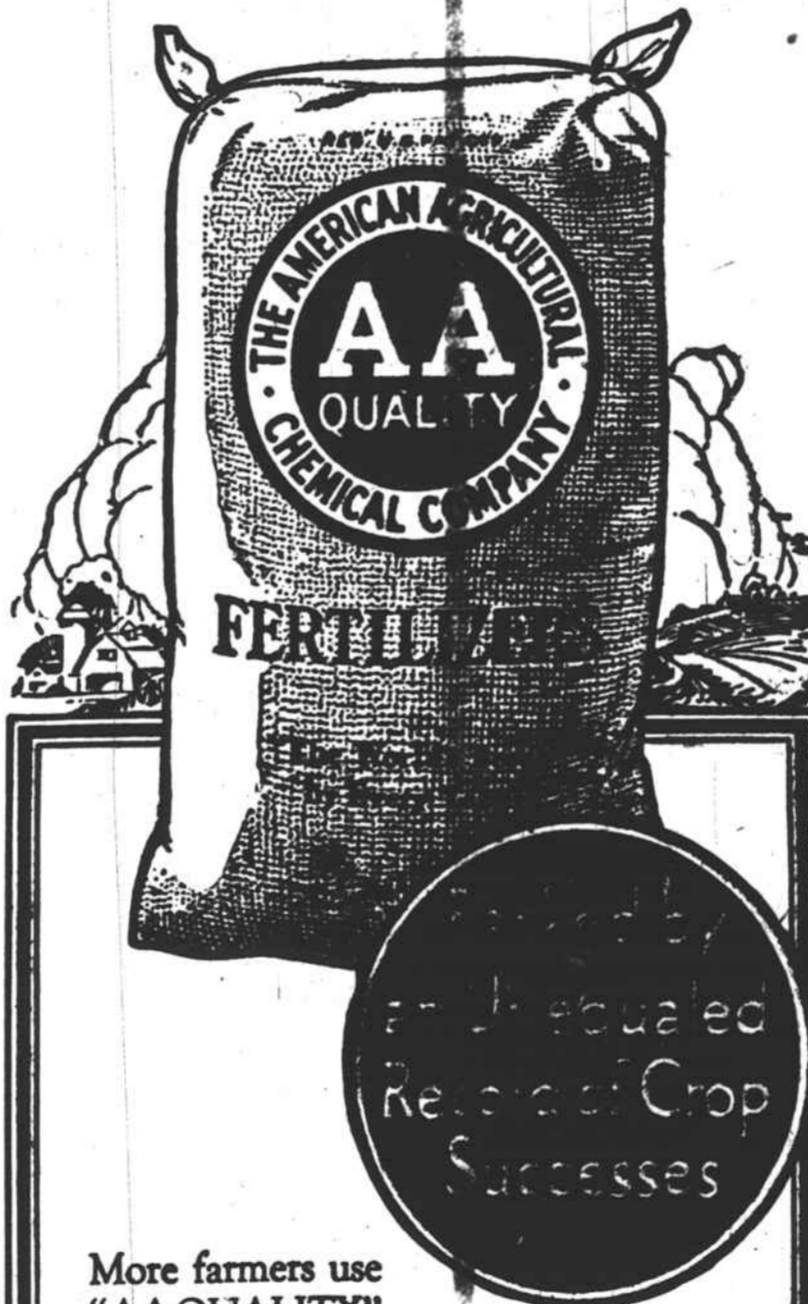
This should be placed over the sink drain board high enough to be out of the way, or wherever it will be the handiest.

Fireplace Damper

The housewife wants a fireproof damper which will prevent soot falling into the room. From her point of view this is as important as or more than the smoke problem. When it is realized that the fireplace is used only a few months the need for protection against falling soot the rest of the year is apparent.

Speeds Up Work

Partitions and ceilings that are easily installed and decorated, enable the builder to speed up on the work of completing exterior finish.



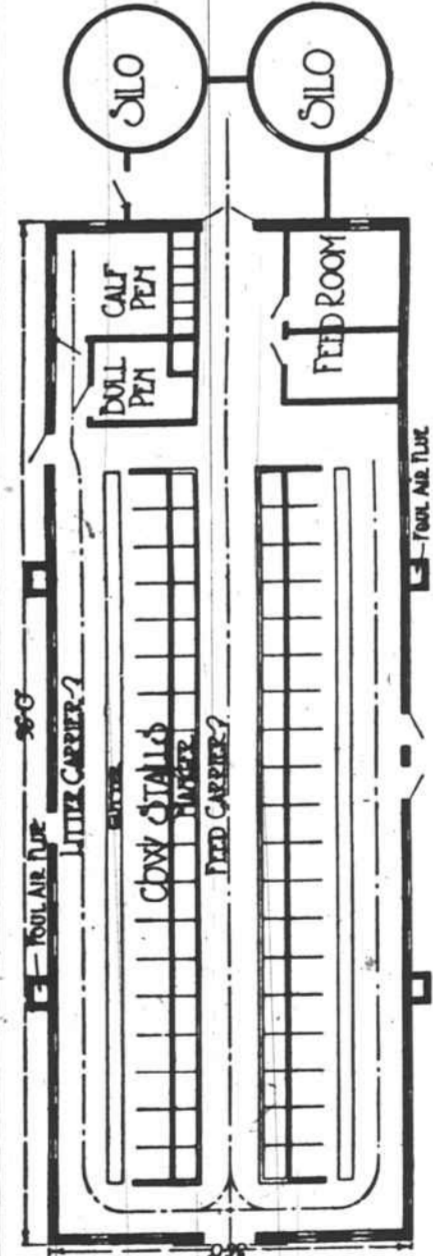
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through two large roof ventilators. Windows spaced closely along the walls afford an ample supply of the sunlight which is necessary for healthy cattle.

The plan of the barn can hardly be described without, at the same time, covering the description of the equipment. This building is rectangular in shape with two rows of cow stalls extending through the greater portion of its length. In this particular barn there are 20 stalls in each row, to provide for 40 cows, but the same arrangement can be used as well for whatever number of stalls are required.

The two rows of stalls are separated by a feed alley and a feed carrier extends down this, serving both rows. One end of this carrier terminates in the silage chute which connects two large silos with the barn proper. Back of each row of stalls is a cement gutter which makes it possible to keep the stalls clean and perfectly drained at all times. The stalls themselves are floored with wood as