

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

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## LET'S MAKE OUR FARMS REAL HOMES

"YES, Jones is a good farmer, one of the best around here, in fact," one of his neighbors told us, "but you know, everything he makes he puts right back into his place. Last year he painted his house and built a new barn, this year he put in waterworks, and next year he says it's going to be an electric light plant. He may be a fine farmer, all right, but I don't see how he's ever going to get anything ahead the way he's doing."

It was on the tip of our tongue to give Jones' neighbor a piece of our mind in regard to the real meaning of "getting ahead." We felt like telling him that Jones, in his efforts to make of his farm a pleasant, comfortable, happy home equipped with the modern conveniences that every home should have, had, in our opinion, a very sound conception of the proper goal at which his efforts should aim.

We firmly believe in hard work and saving every cent possible, for industry and economy are the sure stepping stones to success; but at the same time let's never forget that making and saving money for money's sake is a mighty poor sort of business. Money is useful only as it goes to make our lives and the lives of those about us happier and better; only as it goes to make of the farm a place where the highest type of manhood and womanhood may be developed. This fall, in most sections of the South, high prices for farm products are going to mean more surplus cash than for a number of years, and the farmer must determine the wisest use to which his surplus cash shall be put. We here offer three suggestions:

1. **Paint the farm buildings.** Purely as a matter of economy in saving our buildings from rotting, paint is a splendid investment. As the Ohio Experiment Station points out, our annual losses from the decay and deterioration of unpainted farm buildings is actually greater than



THE OLD WAY; OTHER PICTURE SHOWS THE NEW

the loss from fire. And not only is the use of paint true economy, but the landscape dotted with painted farm buildings impresses residents and visitors alike as a neighborhood that is proud of itself and its

achievements.

2. **Put in waterworks.** As a means of easing the burdens of the farm woman and making farm life more attractive, a system of waterworks is simply a wonder worker. Elsewhere in this issue different types, from the simplest to the more elaborate and expensive, are discussed in detail. Study these plans, decide on the type that best suits you, and then put it in.



CITY FOLKS HAVE NO PRIOR RIGHTS ON THIS. FARM WOMEN LIKE THIS METHOD AS WELL AS ANYONE ELSE

3. **Install a lighting system.** After the house has been painted and a good waterworks system put in, the next step in home improvement should consist in putting a good lighting system. Electricity and acetylene gas are both excellent, and in their convenience and the real satisfaction afforded very soon repay the cost of installation.

We must come, Brother Farmer, to know that the town has no right to a monopoly of the conveniences and improvements that make of a place a home, instead of merely a house. Our boys and girls have gone to the towns because they have thought they would find better things there, life more worth the living. Isn't it time that we were showing them, and all the world as well, that a farm home with modern equipment is the best of all places to live? Paint, waterworks and lights in every farm home will do this as no other agencies can. How about them on your farm?

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