STURDY HOGHOUSE MEANS GOOD HOGS

Experienced Stockmen Know Winter Swine Must Be Well Protected.

NOW IS BEST TIME TO BUILD

Plan Described Here Has Been Tested Under Rigid Conditions and Has Proved to Be One of Best Designs Known.

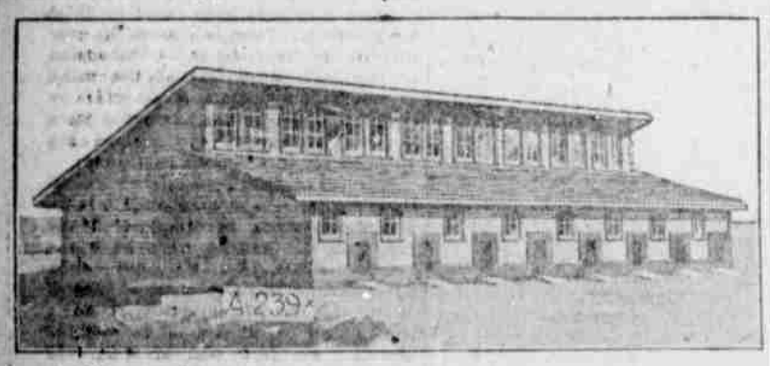
Mr William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building work on the farm, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 1827 Prairie avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only inclose two-cent stamp for reply.

By WILLIAM A. RADFORD.

Nearly every winter there are a large number of farmers and stockmen who become convinced that the profitable raising of swine requires a well designed and carefully constructed winter hog house. The spring following a hard winter finds these men planning for the construction of such a building, which they erect during the warm weather in readiness for the next winter.

Fall pigs must be carried through the winter to get the money value out of them. A few pigs may be left to root around the straw stacks, but raising good hogs to make money requires careful planning to breed two litters a year, at the right time to fit in with the seasons.

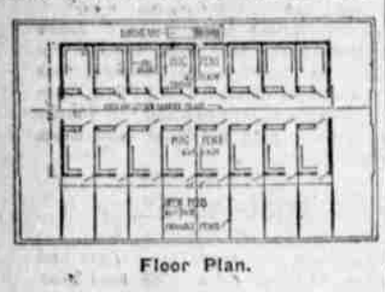
The breeding plan on most well-conducted stock farms divides the farrowing between April for spring pigs, and October for winter pigs. October farrowing gets young pigs along to the shoat age during the early part of the winter. Just when they should be growing their best is when the extremely cold weather is coming on and a good house is necessary to induce them to make proper gains in weight.



With a well designed and carefully built house, any farmer can raise purebred stock and sell the best animals at high prices. Hogs for fattening should be made to weigh from 180 to 200 pounds when they are eight months old. This is generally the most profitable age and weight and it is the age and weight wanted by the packers. In order to attain this standard, each pig must gain nearly a pound per day from birth to market time. This is a very profitable average gain for the hogs to make and it is reasonable to expect such a gain when well-bred hogs are well fed and properly cared for in every way.

In the accompanying plan it will be noticed that the pens are small. In practice it has been found better not to nest more than five or six pigs together. They are better in small lots, even if the pens are made quite small.

When a house is narrow and built with a double set of windows, it is easier to get the sun into every part of the house than it is when the house is wider. The length, of course, makes no difference in this respect.



Floor Plan.

The foundation of the building is concrete and a concrete floor is spread over the entire surface with proper gutters formed along the length of the building on each side of the central passage. Troughs shown on the plan may also be built of concrete, the forms required for their construction being exceedingly simple. A concrete floor in a hoghouse is almost an absolute necessity, but it is too cold for hogs to sleep on. For this reason, the nests are placed on loose, wooden floors which may be moved about for cleaning. These floors are about half the size of the pens. There should be a ridge around the edge of each floor to hold the bedding.

The upper windows are pivoted so any number of them may be pulled open for ventilation. With five shoats in each pen, the house will be warm enough to have some of the windows open most of the time. Of course, hogs need ventilation just as much as any other animal in order that they may maintain their good health.

The pens are divided with solidly constructed fencing, space between boards being sufficient to allow a free circulation of air. Strong gates with sliding bolt locks are placed at the corner of each pen next to the central passage. The remainder of the front of each pen is taken up with the trough, above which a swinging gate is hinged to swing into the pen, a sliding rod stop being dropped down against the inside edge of the trough to hold the gate open while the trough is being filled. The same slide rod locks the gate shut when it is dropped down against the outside edge of the trough.

This building is framed in a simple yet rigid manner. The roof is supported by the two outside walls and by two inside bents which define the central passage. The extension of one of these bents forms the wall in which the pivoted windows are framed. A vertical post is set at the inner corners of each pen. The plate surmounting these posts supports the rafters. Lateral bracing is spiked to the posts and to the outer wall studs and also to the two rows of posts immediately beneath the plate below the pivoted windows. The foundation under the two rows of posts is not continuous, but consists of a concrete pier carried down to a solid footing under each of the posts. These piers are placed at the time of building the floor. One very good method consists in embedding metal sockets of suitable size in the soft concrete above the piers in the exact location of the posts which will then be held firmly in place in the finished building.

The floor plan illustration also presents a suggestion for the fencing and open pens which might be used in connection with this building. The open pens are formed between the south side of the building and the main inclosing fence, which is 11 feet from the building on this side. Movable fences are set up to divide off the pens. On the opposite side of the building the inclosing fence is built close to the wall to form a runway, near the center of which it is intended that a dipping vat be constructed. This illustration also shows a feed and litter track installation. The track is continuous through the building and out at each end, across the inclosure to the gates in line with the end doors of the building.

There are hundreds of farms where larger animals wearing thick hairy coats are carefully housed through the winter, while the hogs with practically no hair to protect them, are left with only a loose board roof over them. There are farmers who seem to believe that a hog is tough and that a certain amount of abuse is good for them. Hogs are the most abused of all domestic animals and yet they are the most profitable when handled intelligently.

IS THE PRESIDENTS' CHURCH

Many Prominent Men Have Worshiped at St. John's in National Capital.

Historic St. John's Protestant Episcopal church, just across Lafayette square from the White House, in which more presidents and men prominent in Washington official life have worshiped than in any other church in the national capital, has celebrated its centennial anniversary. The present rector is Rev. Roland Cotton Smith.

St. John's was the first building to be erected on Lafayette square after the White House, which was completed in 1800, the Christian Herald observes. The presidents of the United States who worshiped here were John Quincy Adams, Madison, Monroe, Van Buren, William Henry Harrison, Tyler, Taylor, Fillmore and Arthur, and in more recent times the White House was represented by Mrs. Roosevelt and Mrs. Taft, who made St. John's church their church home.

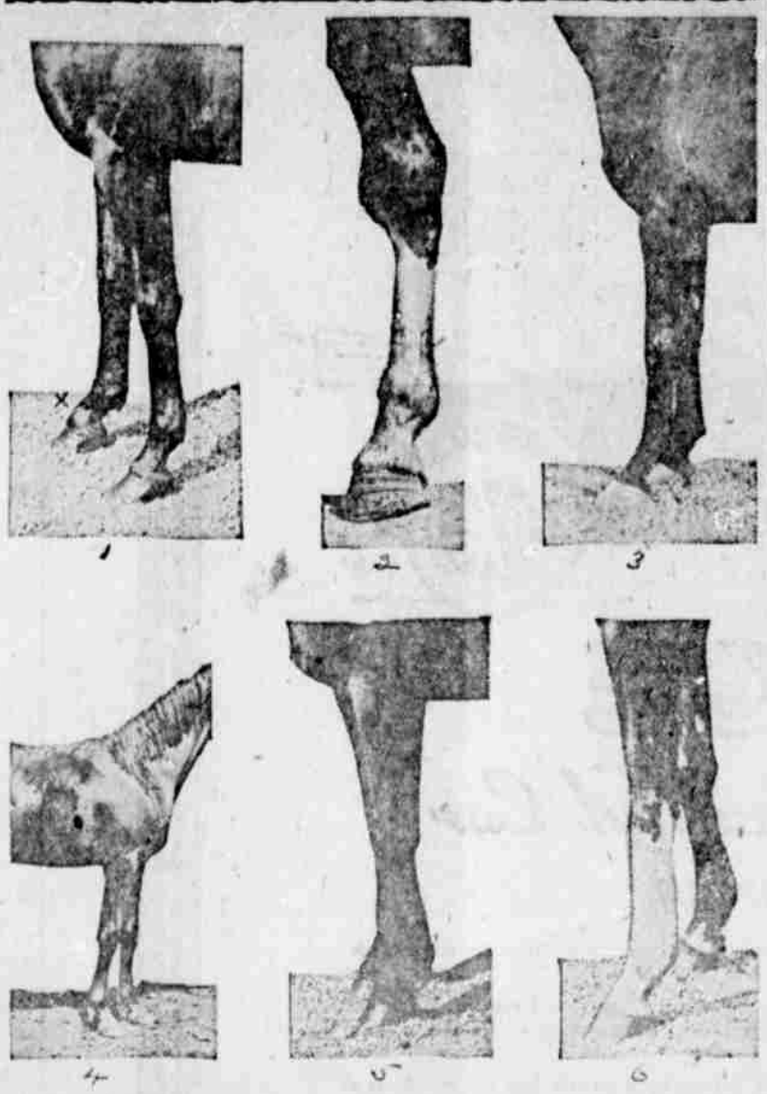
Other prominent people were regularly seen in the congregation, including Stephen Decatur, Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, Chief Justice Fuller, Salmon P. Chase, Benjamin F. Butler, Lewis Cass, George Bancroft, Winfield Scott and George Dewey. Its rectors officiated at nearly all of the early White Hou weddings, many notable ones having taken place within its sacred walls.

The denominations have been pretty well represented in the presidency. Grant attended the Metropolitan Methodist church, McKinley the Foundry Methodist church; Benjamin Harrison and Cleveland attended the Presbyterian church; Wilson is a Presbyterian and, like Cleveland, the son of a Presbyterian minister; Garfield was a member of the Disciples' church and Roosevelt attended the Dutch Reformed church.

Large Families for the Poor.

Dr. G. W. Kosmak of New York opposing family limitation ideas, is quoted as saying that "the poor must have large families to recruit the upper classes and to furnish men and women to do the rough and unpleasant work of the world." In his opinion, quantity as well as quality is needed in the production of children.

HINTS ON CONFORMATION OF SOUND HORSE



No. 1—Ringbone at X. No. 2—Bog spavin. No. 3—Forelegs with desirable conformation. No. 4—A fault of conformation known as "out out" below the knees. The subject is apt to become kneesprung. No. 5—Enlarged fetlock joint. No. 6—Bowed tendon.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

A wide chest provides abundant room for the heart and lungs, consequently a horse with such conformation would be likely to have a strong constitution. Excessive width in the chest, however, with the forelegs set too near the outside is liable to cause the horse to paddle with his front feet. On the other hand, a narrow chest is generally associated with a weak constitution and forelegs set too close together, predisposing the horse to strike these limbs together when moving. Scars on the chest are not generally any more objectionable than their disfiguring appearance.

The structural examination of the forelimbs begins with the forearm, which should show strong muscular development on the outside just below its junction with the shoulder. For speed it should be much longer than the cannon. The kneecap should be broad. Scars on the inside of the knee show that the horse hits these members in moving. The cannon in which the tendons and bones show prominently beneath the skin will stand hard wear, because the tissues are of a dense, tough character. The fetlock joint should be large enough to denote strength without being coarse. Pasterns that are moderately long and that slope at an angle of about 45 degrees with the ground aid in producing elastic, springy action which absorbs concussions or jars much better than short, upright pasterns. Pasterns too long and too near the horizontal are weak. The foot that is not too wide or too narrow and long, but which is fairly concave, with the frog and bars prominent will have durability. Low or contracted heels are more liable to become unsound than are fairly deep and open heels. Cracks and many nail holes indicate poor quality of the hoof.

The following are unsoundness and blemishes of the forelimbs: Shoe boils, which are classed as blemishes, are caused by the horse lying down cow fashion, thus pressing the elbow with the shoe. The elbows are sometimes irritated by the girth, which can easily be padded or properly placed, thus avoiding a continuance of the trouble. The forearm is usually free from unsoundness, but it may be blemished by injuries such as wire cuts. Scars on the front of the knees would lead one to suspect a stumbler.

Bony prominences known as splints, found on the inside of the cannon just below the knee, may cause lameness when first developing or when close enough to the knee to interfere with its movement. Splints frequently disappear from young horses. The front of the cannon may be full, or the tendons at the back may be enlarged; these are conditions brought about by training and racing and are known as bucked skins and bowed tendons respectively. They incapacitate a horse for fast work. The scars often associated with these conditions are due to the firing room. Wind puffs are due to fast or continuous road work, and while they do not decrease a horse's immediate usefulness, they show that the animal has had considerable use. If the fetlock joint is unduly large it is more or less unsound. This enlargement may be permanent, from an old injury, or it may be due to hard or fast work followed by a lack of exercise, or to disease. The slight fullness that promptly disappears with exercise is about as objectionable as wind puffs. Interfering when associated with forelegs set close together or with toeing out considerably depreciates the value of a horse, especially for anything other than slow work, and it is to be suspected when scars are found on the inside of the fetlock joint.

Ringbone is an unsoundness characterized by bony enlargements on the front and side of the pastern, which cause lameness when developed to sufficient size to interfere with the action of the joints and tendons. These bony prominences can be detected by passing the hand over the pastern if they are not large enough to be seen when in front or at the sides of the forelimbs.

Side bones can best be seen from the front. They occur on the sides of the coronet. When they are prominent enough to be noticed by the eye their presence may be detected by grasping the back of the coronet between the thumb and fingers and pressing. If healthy it will yield to pressure; if unsound it will be hard and rigid. Side bones on the forefeet interfere with action and may cause lameness.

Scratches is the name given to a cracked condition of the skin at the back of the pasterns and over the heels. This trouble is not serious but is hard to heal unless the horse can remain inactive for some time. In animals of a pacing gait the quarters may show scars from cross-firing or hitting this region with the hind foot on the opposite side. Scars resulting from barbed-wire cuts are objectionable only on account of their ugliness.

Pick up a foot and note the willingness with which a horse lets you hold it. This should aid in discovering a subject difficult to shoe. The feet should be free from diseases such as thrush and corns, which hinder action. Navicular disease is to be suspected when a horse stands with a forefoot extended and with the toe only resting on the ground. This disease impedes the gait and usually causes lameness. Slight ridges on the walls of the hoofs parallel with the coronary band may result from stomach and intestinal disorders, while more pronounced ridges close together at the toe and far apart at the heel, if accompanied by dropped sole, would indicate a previous case of founder, a disease which usually leaves a horse sore and stiff in his forefeet.

The conformation of the barrel has much to do with a horse's health and appearance, as it determines to a considerable degree the size and strength of the vital organs. The back should be short and straight, the ribs well sprung from the backbone and of sufficient length to form a deep barrel. The distance between the last, or floating, rib and the point of the hip should be short. The last rib should not be sunken, but should be prominent, giving a smooth coupling. With a short, well-muscled loin and a deep flank (together with a smooth coupling) a horse should be an easy keeper and should not look tucked up or gaunt after a hard day's work.

As regards unsoundness or blemish in these parts, hernia or rupture occurs on the abdomen at or near the navel. Small hernias are merely unsightly, while larger ones depreciate a horse's value in direct proportion to their size. The barrel should be free from sitfasts or saddle and girth sores. An enlarged sheath is generally due to disease. Mature stallions should have two prominent testicles; ridglings have one testicle that has not descended into the scrotum and are very annoying to handle because they have the desires and actions of a stallion. They can be completely castrated only by a severe surgical operation. Mares which have produced colts have well-developed teats.

HAT AND NECKWEAR

These Two Items of Apparel Should Be in Harmony.

Fact That They Should Be on Good Terms With Each Other Is Not Always Recognized.

It is not a generally recognized fact that neckwear and hats ought to be on very good terms with each other. There is nothing that so affects the appearance of a hat as the collar it is worn over. Maybe that is why the new hat, which you liked so well the day you bought it, does not satisfy you now; maybe it is the collar which you wear with it.

The collar should follow more or less the outline of the hat, that is, a neat tailored stock like the one shown with the buttons should not look so well with the flaring sailor with the tassel trimming. This sailor tops a double collar effect, which is stunning, indeed. The tabs of the flare collar coming down through slits in the cape collar and ending in rather long ends take away from it the awkward look which a round collar is apt to give. This is a splendid model for organdie. The tassel trimming on this sailor is a simple and very stunning trimming for a sports hat of this type, says the Milwaukee Sentinel.

A medium-sized turned-up hat, with indications of the tricorne about it, uses an anchor of silver braid to embellish the caught-up left side. These patriotic emblems promise unusual vogue in the millinery world. The collar and cuff set used with this set suggests a soft sports silk or wash satin. The ball-weighted ends hold themselves in place through the slots in collar and cuffs, though snap fasteners might prove a helpful addition here.

Trig, indeed, is the stock and cuff set under the snug-fitting turban. Pique is the material of which these are made, and their tailored trimness is more fitting for the sports blouse of handkerchief linen. The black cravat of moire ribbon, and cuff ribbons of the same, give that finishing touch of black so effective in combination with plain white neckwear.

Trio of Smart Combinations.

CAPES FOR EVERY OCCASION

Models of All Kinds Which Are Being Turned Out by Designers Promise to Have Definite Vogue.

Short coats are once more subject for experiment and capes promise to have a definite vogue. Already there are attractive capes of many kinds on view, and word comes from Paris of more and more cape models, short, long, frivolous, severe, capes for sports wear, for morning wear, for afternoon wear, for evening wear.

One shop is showing delightful, full, enveloping capes of charmeuse, brocade on one side, plain on the other and reversible. A frock of dark blue and beige block check silk has a very clever short cape of dark blue cloth collared and lined with the silk.

Another short dark blue cape is of gaberdine and has a good-looking high collar of biscuit cloth. Long circular capes of sports materials are many, blue burella model lined throughout with fine white serge, being a case in point, and thinner materials such as jersey are made into full, long capes shirred to yokes. The collar is often the distinguished feature of an otherwise very simple cape, and designers are exhausting their ingenuity upon this detail as they have upon the collar for the topcoat.

One designer sends out a sports cape of white serge with girdles and yoke of blue and white block check and another provides a full cape of violet djersa lined with gray and hugely collared in gray jersey in most original fashion.

Egg Gives a Finish.

To make kid gloves look like new after they have been cleaned rub over with white of egg.

SPIRIT OF DAY IN FASHION

No one looks to military styles to find prettiness. But here is a military cape that is as attractive as can be. It bespeaks the material spirit of the day. It is made of French blue broadcloth and is smartly trimmed with black velvet and silver braid and buttons. The hat too, is a remarkable one. It suggests both a shako and a helmet and the "spikes" embroidered on it rather emphasize the latter. The pom-pom and the tiny American flags in front give the hat the patriotic touch of the times.

HOW TO WASH SUMMER FROCK

Various Ingredients Should Be Added to the Water, According to the Color of the Goods.

When washing colored summer frocks at home, remember these hints: To prevent the color running, add to the rinsing water a little vinegar for mauve or heliotrope, oxgall for brown, alum for green, methylated spirits for all shades of lemon or yellow, and salt for blue.

A handful of salt in the rinsing water nearly always acts as a preservative for any shade or color.

Brown holland frocks always present a better appearance if washed in bran water, without any soap being used. Boil a pound of bran in two quarts of water, strain this into two quarts of clean warm water, and wash the dress in as many lots of water as necessary.

Rinse through cold water, and, when half dry, iron on the wrong side with a hot iron.

Silk summer blouses want washing quickly and carefully, one at a time. Do not wring the blouses, but squeeze through two bowls of soapsuds, then rinse through clear warm water. Pale-colored silks improve by being given a second rinsing through blue water. Roll in a towel, and iron before quite dry with a fairly hot iron, keeping a piece of muslin between the silk and the iron—a good tip this latter. So many home-laundresses ruin silk blouses, making them yellow, by washing them in very hot water.

The Distinctive Touch.

It is not so much a question of what color predominates in your dining room, for there is some shade or tone of almost every color which is possible for almost any room, but unless you have a quiet background in your walls, and hangings of medium color value, so that you are free to use different contrasting colors in your minor accessories, you will find yourself committed to one fixed and narrow color scheme the year round, and, as flowers are as necessary on the well-furnished table as salt or soup, this may prove monotonous and expensive when your chosen decoration is out of season. In all these little touches, as well as in the larger ways, is that subtle thing which we call distinction given to a room.—Ladies' Home Journal.

Scotch Plaids.

It is rumored that one of the great designers in Paris is making an exhaustive study of the plaids worn for centuries by the Scottish clans, and that he will incorporate these in a large output of new materials. If so, there is no doubt that women will come back to the fashions which the French tried to exploit during the first year of the war, and which only a few women took up—the short, plaited Scottish skirt with the velvet jacket, copied exactly from those worn by the Scottish regiments now in France. The dark colors will be taken up instead of the light ones, it is said, and in this way women who are doubtful about plaids may be able to adopt the fashion.