

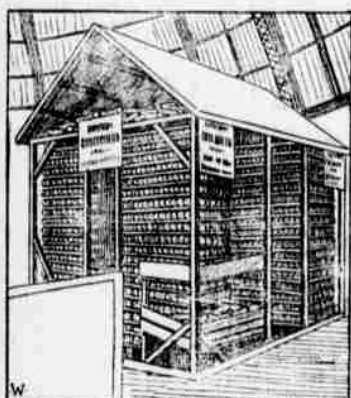
FARM & GARDEN

SEED CORN STORAGE.

A Western Corn House Constructed on New Lines.

A full sized model of a seed corn storage house that is in constant use on a Scott county (Ill.) farm was displayed at the 1905 Illinois state fair. It is depicted in the cut from the Orange Judd Farmer, which says in regard to the method of construction:

The house is 18 by 30 feet and measures nine feet under the eaves. The frame is made of 1 by 6 uprights, and the slats for holding the ears of corn in



MODEL SEED CORN STORAGE HOUSE.

place are 1 by 1 1/2 inches, placed three and a half inches apart, up and down. This house holds 500 bushels of ear corn in the racks, and there is space for saving 150 to 200 bushels in the attic, so to speak.

The house is three feet above the ground and set on posts ten inches in diameter, surmounted on the top by tin, so that it is mouse proof. It is covered with weatherboarding on the outside has a window in each end, a door and two windows on each side, with a window in each gable. In the floor there are three or four openings made by taking up three boards. These places and the lower windows are covered with wire netting to prevent the entrance of rats and mice. A cupola on the roof, with slats in the sides, completes the ventilating scheme.

Particular attention is called to the necessity of having a free circulation of air. This is accomplished by the openings in the floor and windows. With that arrangement Mr. Grout, on whose farm the house is built, states that he has had no trouble in securing a complete drying out of his seed corn. He especially emphasizes the necessity of having the openings in the floor, as these induce perfect ventilation.

Should the weather be warm and wet during the harvest period or later, before the corn is thoroughly dried, a small stove may be used to heat the air and cause circulation. Around the base a twelve inch board is placed. This completes the house and makes it one of the most effective in Illinois.

If your seed is dried out thoroughly in this way before the cold weather sets in the percentage of kernels that will not germinate is reduced to the minimum.

Wintering Cabbages.

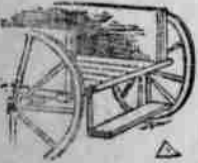
A method for wintering cabbages for spring use is to stand them, roots up, in rows upon the ground in a well drained spot and cover them with ridges of earth. If you want to keep them from freezing, so you can get at them any time during the winter, another method must be employed. Leave the cabbages outdoors as long as safe, then put them into a barn or other outbuilding and let them get thoroughly chilled, but not frozen through; then cover them with straw, hay or chaff enough to prevent them from freezing solid, or you may put them in a heap outdoors, cover them with a roof of old boards, straw and earth. The sides of the structure may be simply stuffed with plenty of straw or dry forest leaves.

Fattening Hogs.

A number of experiments—in fact, nearly a hundred—show that to produce 100 pounds of gain on the hog in the fattening pen it takes an average of either 485 pounds of corn, 529 pounds of kafir corn, 472 pounds of oats, 439 pounds of peas, 452 pounds of wheat or 432 pounds of mixed grain. This shows that hogs make a more profitable gain on a ration of mixed grain. The above figures are from pens where nothing but grain was fed—no pasture or green feed was given. In the Kansas station an acre of alfalfa has produced 770 pounds of pork without grain. This shows that pasture has an important part to play in the ration for hogs and that gains can be made more economically on dry lot feeding.—Exchange.

Handy Addition to Farm Wagon.

Here is a handy addition to a farm wagon, figured by Farm Journal—a step added to the rear end of a farm wagon by means of two stout iron supports. This step will prove a great comfort. It saves a lot of strain in getting in and out of the wagon when unloading, and when one is lifting boxes, baskets or bags in or out it is a halfway place on which to rest. Then, too, one can tip a box or barrel over on edge against the step and then lift the other end and tip it into the wagon. One person can easily load boxes and barrels in this way and not lift much more than half the weight at any time.



WAGON STEP.

DURABLE FENCE POSTS.

Good Points That Are Claimed For Re-enforced Concrete.

There is a constantly increasing demand for some form of fence post which is not subject to decay. The life of wooden posts is very limited, and the scarcity of suitable timber in many localities has made it imperative to find a substitute. A fence post to prove thoroughly satisfactory must fulfill three conditions: First, it must be obtainable at a reasonable cost; second, it must possess sufficient strength to meet the demands of general farm use; third, it must not be subject to decay and must be able to withstand successfully the effects of water, frost and fire. Although iron posts of various designs are frequently used for ornamental purposes, their adoption for general farm use is prohibited by their excessive cost. Then, too, iron posts exposed to the weather are subject to corrosion, to prevent which they should be repainted from time to time, and this item will entail considerable expense in cases where a large number of posts are to be used.

At the present time the material which seems most nearly to meet these requirements is re-enforced concrete. The idea of constructing fence posts of concrete re-enforced with iron or steel is by no means a new one, but on the contrary such posts have been experimented with for years, and a great number of patents have been issued covering many of the possible forms of re-enforcement. It is frequently stated that a re-enforced concrete post can be made and put in the ground for the same price as a wooden post. Of course this will depend in any locality upon the relative value of wood and the various materials which go to make up the concrete post, but in the great majority of cases wood will prove the cheaper material in regard to first cost. On the other hand, a concrete post will last indefinitely, its strength increasing with age, whereas the wooden post must be replaced at short intervals, possibly making it more expensive in the long run.

In regard to strength, it must be borne in mind that it is not practicable to make concrete fence posts as strong as wooden posts of the same size, but since wooden posts, as a rule, are many times stronger than is necessary this difference in strength should not condemn the use of re-enforced concrete for this purpose. Moreover, strength in many cases is of little importance, the fence being used only as a dividing line, and in such cases small concrete posts provide ample strength and present a very uniform and neat appearance. In any case, to enable concrete posts to withstand the loads they are called upon to carry sufficient strength may be secured by means of re-enforcement, and where great strength is required this may be obtained by using a larger post with a greater proportion of metal and well braced, as is usual in such cases. In view of durability concrete is unsurpassed by any material of construction. It offers a perfect protection to the metal re-enforcement and is not itself affected by exposure, so that a post constructed of concrete re-enforced with steel will last indefinitely and require no attention in the way of repairs.—Farmer's Bulletin.

Homemade Ladder.

The accompanying illustration shows how to construct a convenient ladder to be used about the farm buildings and in the fruit orchard, where the trees are low. It can be made any desired height, and the construction is not at all difficult. It is too good a thing to be without. Use strong material, hickory being admirable for the crossbars.—American Agriculturist.



FARM LADDER.

Alfalfa in the South.

In the great bottom of the Zargo Delta region of the Mississippi, from Vicksburg on the south to near the Ohio line on the north, along the line of the Southern railway the greatest crops of alfalfa in the south are raised. It is only during the past few years that southern farmers could be induced to cultivate the crop, but it has proved very successful where proper methods have been employed. In the Delta region last season one planter made five cuttings from a single field of alfalfa, securing over a ton per acre each cutting, which is worth from \$16 to \$18 per ton in that region, says Country Gentleman.

Hillside Farms.

The hill lands of Georgia are not permitted to wash away down the steep hillsides. Around such hills there are bands or terraces thrown up with great care to stop the downward rush of water, and thus the washing tendency is checked as soon as begun. These belts of firm sod land are most effective. They rise one above the other in steps of five or eight feet in vertical height. The rows bend around the hill, conforming strictly to these terraces. This is a most excellent system and one badly needed on many farms of the new southwest.—Exchange.

To Eradicate Burdock.

If merely cut off at or near the surface, burdocks will sprout again. The only sure way to get rid of them forever is to pull them up, roots and all, or to cut them off near the ground and pour a small quantity of kerosene, turpentine or sulphuric acid upon the root left in the ground.

THE GRANGE

Conducted by J. W. DARROW, Chatham, N. Y., Press Correspondent New York State Grange

INCORPORATING GRANGES.

Advantage Obtained by Incorporation Over Association.

The question often arises among members of the grange. What advantage is there in incorporating a grange under the laws of the state? A grange that is duly organized under the authority of a charter from the national grange is an unincorporated association or society of individuals. The association of its members is governed by their constitution or bylaws formulated in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the state or national grange. Nevertheless such an association has a well defined legal status under the laws of the state. To change this association into an incorporated body gives it the same status virtually as a person and having all of the powers and privileges of a single person in so far as these powers and privileges do not go beyond the scope of the charter of incorporation. What powers and privileges, then, are gained by incorporation? The broad principle may be laid down that the chief advantage which a corporation has from incorporation lies in the fact that the members of the corporation are relieved from personal liability for the debts of the corporation.

In Pennsylvania and in some other states corporations are known as corporations for profit and those not for profit. The grange is a corporation not for profit, and as such its members are not personally liable for any debts of the corporation. A creditor seeking to recover a claim would be confined to the property of the corporation and could not proceed to sell the property of individual members, as he could if it were a partnership. In an unincorporated grange the property of the association is the property of all the members, and upon dissolution of the association the property must be divided among the members in just proportion. In a word, then, it may be stated that the subordinate or Pomona grange gains no powers by incorporation, but the members thereof gain the advantage of exemption from personal liability for the debts of the association, and it is deemed advisable for any grange that intends entering upon commercial transactions or into any mercantile business to become incorporated.

THE POMONA GRANGE.

Duties of the County Lecturer Defined—Pomona Grange Programme.

Mrs. F. D. Saunders, the efficient lecturer of the Michigan state grange, points out some of the requirements for a successful Pomona grange meeting in the following extracts, which we take from an article in an agricultural paper:

"Strictly speaking the Pomona grange is a fifth degree body, though much of its work is done in the fourth degree. In fact, the business of any grange is transacted in the fourth degree. Pomona grange officers preside and wear the regalia of the fifth degree. When working the fifth degree the assistants shall in taking up the work require, first, the Pomona annual; second, the fifth degree work; third, the fourth degree annual; lastly, the fourth degree work.

"It is the duty of the Pomona lecturer to prepare the programme and announce the same to all granges in the county at least ten days before the meeting. In most counties this is done through a little printed slip or folder programme, a copy of which is mailed to each subordinate lecturer, who upon receipt of same will promptly present it to his or her grange. A copy should also be sent each member whose name appears on the programme. In addition, the Pomona lecturer should arrange for publication of the programme in all the local papers in the county. We may say that the first requirement toward a successful Pomona grange is for the lecturer to prepare a good programme and then advertise it well. As the jurisdiction of the Pomona grange is the entire county, let the meetings be widely known throughout the county."

About Grange Speeches.

Of all the errors that a grange speaker can commit we believe that to make a too lengthy address is about the greatest. The speaker must be intensely interesting and have a very important message if he attempts to hold the attention of an audience at one of the field day meetings or any other for an hour. Better far to speak thirty minutes and have the undivided attention of the audience than to talk an hour and have the audience rejoice when you close. It will be well for most speakers to remember what the old Scotchman had to say about the preacher. Coming out of church before the service was ended, his friend accosted him and asked, "Is the preacher through?" The old Scot replied, "He was through a half hour ago, but he hasn't stopped yet."

A Business Grange.

Pomona grange in the town of Hancock, Me., runs a general store. It has done so for eighteen years. Its business last year amounted to over \$28,000, with a net profit of over \$4,000. Goods were sold to members 6 per cent less than to outsiders, and 6 per cent dividends were paid on the capital stock. After dividends and running expenses are paid the balance goes into the grange treasury. About \$10,000 worth of goods are kept on hand.

TREES AT ROADSIDES.

Valuable in Prolonging the Life of the Road.

Now that the work of road construction is in full progress it seems a proper time to consider what to do with the roadside, says Good Roads Magazine. The advantages of setting out trees along the highway, the planting of shrubbery and flowers and the elimination of features which do not tend to make attractive have been frequently dwelt upon in these columns.

In some of the states the question is looked upon as much a part of the system as the roadbed itself, and laws have been passed providing for planting trees and cutting noxious weeds, while in others the subject does not appear to have been given the consideration it deserves.

Many farmers believe that nothing but grass should be allowed to grow along the roadside. The reason for this is no doubt due partly to the fact of their conservatism in following in the footsteps of their ancestors, and this prevents them from looking at the subject in any other light than that it is the proper thing to do to make a clean sweep of everything in the shape of trees and shrubbery.

Among their arguments are that the trees cause drifting during the winter



ONE OF JERSEY'S GOOD ROADS.

season and their shade produces a dampness in summer which is undesirable. The building of macadam roads has materially changed conditions. Trees do make moisture, and that is what is wanted to preserve and prolong the life of the stone road.

The highways of France are noted for the beautiful trees along their sides and the French road builders recognize their value in affording shade and moisture, the latter being considered an essential element in maintenance.

Fruit trees and walnut or other nut bearing trees can be made to yield a profitable income as well as to furnish shade and add beauty to the landscape. Flowers in the yard close to the roadside are always attractive. How to beautify the roadside is certainly a matter that cannot be given too careful consideration.

STUPID ROAD WORK.

Piling Weeds in Center of Highway Worse Than Nothing.

There is no more familiar sight in Missouri these days than to see men in all parts of the corn belt working on the highways with graders building up the center of a road with a mixture of weeds, sods and soil, says the Farmer and Stockman. In a recent drive of nine miles the roads on more than half the distance had been operated on some weeks before and the center piled high with the mixture named above—that is, weeds, sods and soil.

The plan of going over the roads in the county with a heavy grader annually is stupid beyond any power of description. When this is done the work of one year simply means the undoing of the previous year's labor, and as a result such roads are usually in a constant state of unfitness for traffic. Our knowledge of good roads has come through practical experience and, incidentally, through the loss of much perspiration. Our conclusion as the result of this experience is that road-makers should aim to build a perfect piece of earth road each year. We realize that it is often necessary to employ makeshift methods in order to really make all roads in the county passable, and because of this it is not expected that the labor of the year will be put on a few miles of road.

It is impossible to imagine a poorer kind of road material than weeds and sods, and yet, as stated above, you will often see the center of highways piled high with this mixture. When it becomes necessary to pile dirt in the center of the road those doing the work should take the time to mow, rake and burn all rubbish before starting the graders.

When this is done it is then possible to make some kind of a decent job of leveling the surface when the work is completed; otherwise the traffic center simply becomes an ideal mudhole. Weeds soon decay, and as the result one has almost ideal conditions for the absorption of water.

You have, in other words, humus making material on the center of your road, and such material, as every one knows, retains moisture with a remarkable degree of persistency.

Motor Cars and Good Roads.

It is announced on behalf of the American Motor Car Manufacturers' association that a department will soon be provided that will have in charge all matters connected with the making of better highways in all parts of the United States, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer. The officials say that investigations show that not 10 per cent of the roads in the United States have been improved and that the showing is one of disgrace for America as against the proportion of good highways found in other parts of the world. It will be the business of this department to not only aid legislation where possible, but also to arouse public opinion.

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