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URGE CONTRACT PRACTICE

Doctors Discuss Proper Medical Attention for Wage Earners. Atlantic City, June 8.—Eminent physicians advocated "contract practice" by physicians before the American Academy of Medicine at their closing meeting in consideration of the problem of securing proper medical attention for the wage earners at small cost.

The plan favored, proposed small monthly payments by the client to the physician, who is to attend them in case of illness without extra charge. Dr. Benedict of Buffalo claimed that under the present system the poor, unable to pay doctor bills, often delay calling a physician until the disease is beyond easy cure. He claimed that the contract physician plan would also secure the doctor against loss by unpaid bills and guarantee the young physician a living income.

James H. McBride of Pasadena, Cal., was elected president.

ELECTRICIANS ON STRIKE

Walkout Affects Omaha, South Omaha and Council Bluffs.

Omaha, June 8.—The electrical tradesmen are out on a strike here. The strike also affects Council Bluffs and South Omaha. The strikers demand 50 cents an hour without graduation. They were formerly getting from 37½ to 45 cents.

The action of the electricians is thought to be the first move toward a general strike among all building trades. A meeting of the contractors in the three cities is being held daily at noon here for preparation in the event of a general call out.

The effect of the strike, it is thought by the contractors, will be limited, as they claim no work will be held up unless all trades are called out. Most of the spring contracting is said to be complete and now business is at a standstill. The strikers say they will stick to their demands.

DR. HAYES IS NEAR TO DEATH

Sixth Victim of Pig Killer May Succumb to His Wounds.

Somerville, Mass., June 7.—The death of Dr. Daniel C. Hayes, who was stabbed by John Murphy, the hog butcher, who ran amuck with his razor-edge knife in the North Packing company's slaughter house and driving his 300 fellow employees before him, slew five men and seriously wounded three others, is expected hourly. John Cheevas and Joseph Chicosk, who also were stabbed, are in a critical condition. Their recovery is considered doubtful.

In a padded cell at the Somerville police station Murphy allowed no one to approach him and after hours of raving he began to pray.

Murphy formerly lived in Ottumwa, Ia., where he was married sixteen years ago.

CUDAHY FINE IS \$82,000

Packing Concern Pleads Guilty to Federal Violation.

Topeka, June 7.—That the Cudahy Packing company has paid \$82,000 to the government, this being the amount due under the indictments secured against the company for alleged violation of the internal revenue laws, was announced by United States District Attorney H. J. Bone here. Indictments on 695 counts are now pending against the company. The company was charged with putting a one-fourth revenue stamp on oleomargarine that required a 10-cent stamp. The paying of the amount due does not end the case, however, as under the law the company is subject to a fine of from \$1 to \$1,000 on each of the 695 counts.

Bacon May Succeed White.

Paris, June 8.—Private advices received here from Washington state that Robert Bacon, ex-secretary of state, has accepted the ambassadorship to France, and that he will succeed Henry White at the end of the year.

Home Course In Modern Agriculture

XVII.—The Farm Home

By C. V. GREGORY,
Agricultural Division, Iowa State College

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THE farmer is more important than his farm, and the most important crop he raises is not corn nor hogs, but boys and girls. The success of a farmer is not measured so much by the money he makes as it is by the happiness he brings to himself and to his family. One of the surest ways of accomplishing this end is by making the home surroundings attractive.

There is no place on earth where it is easier to have an attractive home than on the farm. Yet in spite of this too many farm homes are located in the middle of a weed patch that is hidden behind such a thick jungle of trees that it is impossible to see in or out.

The first thing to consider is the house itself. It should be situated on the highest part of the hill on which the farm buildings stand. A house need not be expensive to be homelike and convenient. Indeed, the most expensive houses are often the least homelike.

The starting point is the cellar. With but little additional expense this can be made the full size of the house. In this case the foundation walls should extend to the bottom of



FIG. XXXIII—FARM HOME BARE AND DESOLATE FROM LACK OF TREES, SHRUBS AND LAWN.

the cellar. The first course should be of hollow brick, laid end to end, and connecting with a tile drain on the lowest side. In this way seepage water will be kept out of the cellar. A cement floor is a great advantage and is inexpensive, since the cement need not be more than two or three inches thick.

The cellar should be divided into about four rooms. Hollow brick make good partition walls and at the same time help support the floor. One of the rooms may be used for vegetables, one for laundry, milk and butter, one for a laundry and the fourth cemented on the inside and used as a cistern. If the furnace is used another room will be necessary, or the cistern can be located outside.

For an ordinary sized family a hundred barrel cistern is about the right size. A partition of a double layer of filter brick, with gravel and charcoal packed between, should extend across it. The water is drawn out from the opposite side of the filter from that to which the pipe from the roof empties. In this way the water obtained is pure enough for cooking or drinking. A plentiful supply of soft water is a luxury that can be obtained so cheaply that no one can afford to do without it.

Wood is still the cheapest and most satisfactory building material. In building the house the two extremes of size should be avoided. If the house is too small it will be crowded, while if too large it costs more and is harder to keep clean.

In arranging the rooms, convenience and ease of keeping in order are the chief considerations. The large and solemn "spare room" which was opened only on state occasions, has largely given way to the bright, cheerful living room with its bookcases and work and reading tables, which is used every day and evening in the year. This room, together with the dining room, kitchen and bedroom, with a wash and bath room if possible, will comprise the first story.

A wash room, with a sink and a place for overshoes, coats and hats, is a great help in keeping dirt out of the kitchen. A bathroom is also a great convenience.

A cupboard in the wall between the kitchen and dining room is handy, as the dishes can be reached from either side. A spring door between the two rooms keeps out the flies and at the same time opens easily. A bedroom on the ground floor is almost a necessity, especially in the case of sickness.

The upstairs will of course be largely devoted to bedrooms, although it is often convenient to have one small room fixed up for a library. The attic makes a good storeroom for seed corn.

Probably the most satisfactory way to heat the house is by a furnace. This is cheaper and cleaner than stoves. If the furnace room is made large enough to hold a load of coals and several tons of coal the work of fire building will be greatly reduced. A register in the hall upstairs will be enough to take the chill off the sleeping rooms. It is a good plan to have a furnace pipe run to the kitchen, too, and use a gasoline or kerosene range for cooking. This is cheaper, handier and cleaner than a cook stove, and the kitchen can be kept much cooler in the summer time.

Most farm homes are very poorly lighted. A kerosene lamp is dirty, smells bad and does not give very much light. A gasoline lamp is much better. Best of all is the acetylene gas system. After this is once installed it can be operated cheaply and will furnish an abundant supply of light.

The water system is another thing in which farmhouses are behind those in the city. There is scarcely a house in a town of any size but that is provided with water and sewage systems. In the country these are the exception rather than the rule, yet they can be put in at a small cost.

An air tight tank in the cellar is sometimes used to supply the pressure for a farm water system, but is rather expensive. The water can also be drawn from the elevated tank at the barn, if one is used there, the only disadvantage in this case being that cistern water cannot be used. On the whole, the most satisfactory plan is to have a small galvanized tank in the attic. A little covering in the coldest weather will keep it from freezing, and a few minutes work with the cistern pump each day will keep it filled.

By having a heater attached to the furnace or to the kitchen stove and making the proper connections hot and cold water can be supplied to the bathroom, the wash room and anywhere else that it is wanted.

The laundry room downstairs is the place where the convenience of such a system will be appreciated most. In this room the washing machine, tubs, wringer and other utensils can be kept. An opening in the floor connected with the tile drain will carry off the waste water, and hot and cold water from upstairs will be always on tap. Such a room, together with the entire water system, can be fitted up for less than \$100.

Another convenience that can be installed at small cost is a sewerage system. This can be connected with the bathtub and sink, and with a small additional expense another luxury that is seldom found on the farm, an indoor closet, can be added. Drain-pipe well cemented at the joints should be used in constructing the sewer. The cheapest form of outlet is the "septic tank." This is a small underground tank divided into four compartments, so arranged that when the first of these becomes full it will overflow into the second, and so on. The tank should be covered and provided with a ventilator. The action of bacteria in the septic tank will destroy all the solid matter, so that the water which flows out the lower end will be clear and have no objectionable odor. With an occasional cleaning out such a tank will last forever.

The house should be provided with plenty of porches. These increase the expense somewhat, but also add much to the comfort and appearance of the house. Vines trained up over them to keep out the sun and screens to keep out the flies make them still more comfortable.

Nothing adds more to the external appearance of the house than a neat lawn of ample size. Do not make it



FIG. XXXIV—A CORNER OF A NEATLY ARRANGED LAWN.

too large, however, or the work of mowing will be likely to be neglected. A lawn is not hard to make. A little work leveling and preparing a fine seed bed and a liberal application of blue grass seed that will grow will almost certainly result in a good lawn.

Do not make the common mistake of planting trees too close to the house. They detract from the appearance and make the house close and stuffy. The opposite extreme should be avoided also. A few trees about the edges of the lawn furnish grateful shade and provide a flanking for the picture of which the house is the central figure.

The decorative value of shrubs is often not appreciated as much as it should be. A climbing rosebush over the porch or a few dwarf varieties in out of the way corners will add to the color and beauty of the yard. There are many other flowering shrubs, such as snowballs, syringas and lilacs, that can be used to fill in empty spaces and corners.

A row or two of hard maples or elms along the driveway, with a thick evergreen windbreak to the north, will furnish the supply of necessary trees unless there are corners or bare spaces about the yards that will be better for a tree or two.

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