

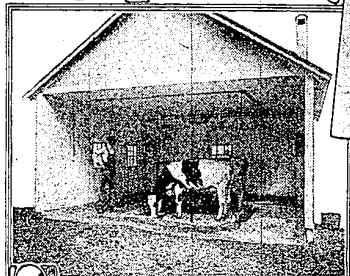
# Electricity on the Farm



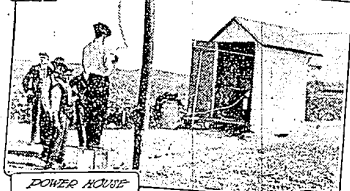
**E**LECTRICITY for lighting and power is rapidly advancing in the favor of the American farmer. Whether he be one of those adventurous individuals who stake their all on the prospect of developing a paying farm in the arid districts of the west and southwest, or in the swamp lands of the south or whether he be of the class that is turning its attention to the great rewards of truck and dairy farming in the east, the modern farmer has caught the scientific spirit of the time and is getting practical results from his realization of the fact that methods must accommodate themselves to changing conditions.

At the annual convention of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers held recently in Boston, the electrical farm was considered in a paper by Putnam A. Bates. He discussed in some detail the work now being done by farmers who are developing the arid districts of the west, showing that irrigation and electricity are the two factors that promise most for the future where natural conditions are for the most part against the farmer. Irrigation came first and then the advantages of electric power pumping were realized. The so-called electrical farm has been in existence for a dozen years or more, but it is only recently that there has been an organized effort to disseminate knowledge on the practical use of electricity in agriculture.

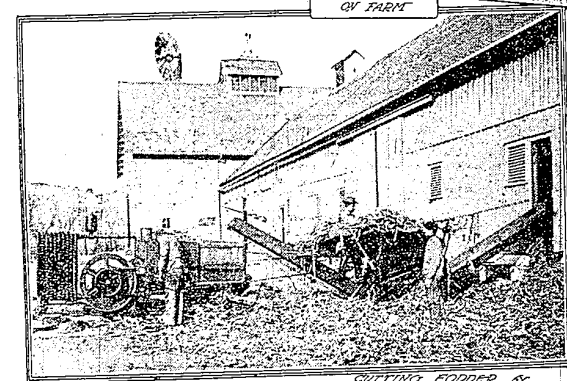
Referring to the southwest and to the electric farm as he found it, Mr. Bates says: "In some sections of that wonderfully fertile country, well protected by the high mountain ranges, practically every farm is an electric farm. This is to say, the buildings are lighted by electricity and many of the laborious operations are accomplished by the use of electric power. These really were our first electric farms; the period of their establishment corresponding with the development of the water powers of the



MODERN DAIRY IN WHICH ELECTRICITY IS USED



POWER HOUSE OF FARM



nearby mountains. "On the majority of these farms irrigation is practiced and quite naturally electricity was first made use of for pumping purposes. Then under the influence of progressive local central station operators, it was almost universally adopted for light.

"I can recall seeing electric lights and the electric motor in use in the farm home on the Pacific coast eleven years ago. The people were content to enjoy the advantages which these improvements made possible to them, but did not seem to regard their conditions as unusual. Their farms were in fact electric farms and their industries, dependent upon the produce of the land, were as they are now, practically all operated by electricity.

"A brief summary of the work accomplished shows that construction is under way or has been completed on twenty-nine projects, involving an expenditure of \$15,750,000. In the eight years of actual work there have been dug 7,000 miles of canals and more than nineteen miles of tunnels, mostly excavated through mountains. The total excavation of rock and earth amounts to 77,000,000 cubic feet. There have been built 570 miles of roads, 1,700 miles of telephones, and there are now in operation 275 miles of transmission lines, over which surplus power and light are furnished to several cities and towns.

"These small farms and villages grouped about these developments give the effect of suburban rather than rural conditions. The cheap power developed from the great dams or from numerous drops in the main canals is now utilized for the operation of trolley lines, which reach out into the rural districts, bringing the farmer in close touch with the city. It runs numerous industrial plants for storing, handling and manufacturing the raw products of the farm. The same power is used for lighting and heating in the towns, and for cooking in the homes. "On several of the projects the farmers are applying for electrical power, and in many farm houses electric power is utilized for many domestic purposes.

"More than a million dollars has been invested in the development of power on the Salt River project, of which the farmers have voluntarily raised \$500,000. The sale of the power up to the beginning of the present year amounted to \$144,000, with the plant only partially constructed. This revenue will contribute materially toward lessening the cost of operating the irrigation system.

quality is rigidly maintained, is evidence that there must be advantages in using electricity in such an installation.

"The total acreage of the farm is nearly 1,200, and at present about 70 per cent. is under cultivation. Electricity is generated by steam power and distributed at 220 volts. The generating equipment at present consists of one 25-kilowatt direct connected unit, steam boiler, etc.

"This is not a large generating plant, to be sure, but it assures cleanliness of lighting equipment and safety from fire risk in the barn, bunk houses and outbuildings. It also makes possible a convenient source of power in any part of the farms or outbuildings, which of necessity are widely distributed, and cost of generating the current, including interest and depreciation charges, is probably not over four cents a kilowatt hour.

"Scientific milk production is more and more coming into prominence and the necessity for perfect cleanliness, immediate cooling and keeping the milk at a low temperature compels such dairy farmers to adopt devices that will be most helpful in obtaining these results. There is a milk dairy in Morristown, N. J., where the walls, ceilings and floors of all rooms in which the milk is handled are washed down daily, both morning and evening—the electric lighting fixtures being entirely water tight.

"Dairy and stock raising are usually followed where land needs upbuilding in fertility, and in either the silo is a necessity, cutting up succulent forage crops and storing them in the silo for later use being the accepted method of preparing the feed. To do this the farmer must have power, but a ten horsepower electric motor with its capacity for momentary overload will do the work that would stall a gasoline engine rated at twelve to fifteen horsepower. "The farmer can easily recognize the advantage of the electric motor for this operation and when once adopted he soon wants to use the current for grinding feed, baling hay and other purposes.

STIRRING MILK BY ELECTRICITY

more progressive farmers. The up-to-date farmer is very much aware of the fact that the regular grooming of cows increases the supply of milk and counts strongly for cleanliness. He now has an electrical device for doing this.

One of the most interesting electrical devices on the modern farm is the telephone. In the old days the men and women were called from the fields for dinner by the blowing of a horn or by sending the small boy striding across the field with the good news. The modern farmer's men take to the fields with them a telephone which can be rigged up near where they are working and receive messages from the house by that means.

With the installation of these electrical devices much of the romantic side of life on the farm passes away. Even a modern poet would have a hard time netting anything lyrical out of an electrical milker, and the beauty of a load of hay somehow fades when a motor track goes chugging across the fields with it. But the American farmer ceased to be romantic when the telephone took the place of the wheezy old organ and when his wife that front porch that always used to be such a shamble place. He is out to make money now and electrical machinery opens up a way for him to do it. When he goes away he gets into his automobile and goes elsewhere to find what will appeal to his idea of the romantic.

## To Burn New Home

Former Fire Chief of New York Plans Unique Demonstration.

Former Fire Chief Edward F. Croker of New York city is planning a unique yet highly impressive object lesson on the prevention of fires in dwellings. He recently purchased ground for a new house in the suburbs, and now he announces that when his \$30,000 home is completed he will demonstrate its fire-proof qualities by attempting to burn it. His grim experience while fire chief of the metropolis in seeing so many lives sacrificed each year to the demon of flames feels that in the buildings and their furnishings, in lack of his commendable plan to effectually prove that there is a safer and saner way.

"The house will be completely furnished at the time," explains Mr. Croker. "With rugs, draperies and furniture of artistic pattern. But everything in the place will be proof against fire. We shall fill each room with wood shavings and cotton waste on which kerosene has been poured. We have such confidence in the material employed in the house itself and in the fire-proofing qualities of the furniture that we are sure they will come out of the ordeal unscathed.

"The building itself will be constructed of fire-proof block, which can be worked up into most artistic effects. During its manufacture it was subjected to excessive heat. The exterior will be in the Italian villa style—the first story in white, the second in red, with a red tile roof.

"Not a particle of wood will be used anywhere. Inside or out. Doors, window frames, sashes and trim will be of fireproof material. The floors will be of a substance that looks like wood, but which is chemically impregnated with resistant materials. The furniture will be of fireproof substances, on which fire has absolutely no effect. In parts the Edison concrete furniture will be used.

"The sanitation will be perfect. The corners of every room will be rounded, there will be a vacuum cleaning system and to the dwelling will be added a fireproof safe. Cigarettes will be fitted like incinerators, with all the fixtures in stamped metal, and lined with tile. The different appliances in them will work on ball bearing rollers. Kitchen sinks and drain boards will be of aluminum.

"There is now no fireproof house in existence, and many lives are lost through the burning of private houses than through fires in factories or other buildings.

Agents Wanted.  
Mr. Goveit—I am going to join the Society for the Prevention of Crime.  
Reggy Riverside—Great Caesar! What for?  
Mr. Goveit—So that I can paint the town and have my expenses paid—Puck.

Had a Tender Heart.  
Mr. Catley—I thought both your girls played the piano?  
Mr. Harley—Mamie does, but Carrie never could stand to make others unhappy.

## BEST FLOOR COVERING

RUGS AND MATTINGS COME IN MANY DESIGNS.

Housewife Has a Wide Variety to Select From for Use in the Summer Months—New Patterns Are All Artistic.

Prettiest of all the mattings to be laid down when the carpet is taken up for the summer is the Japanese kind, which comes in flower and lattice patterns and in an extensive variety of colors and shades. Next in favor and practicability to these mattings are the carpets of a vegetable fiber printed in conventional ingrain patterns and, like the old fashioned ingrain, reversible.

If the floor of the living room is of hard wood and can be polished, it will be more sanitary if not wholly covered. Instead have a number of small and easily shaken rugs. All of the new patterns in woven rag rugs are artistic as well as abnormally cheap, and there are also attractive looking rugs of braided woolen strips which will stand any amount of abuse.

Palm leaf and Nacajo blanket designs are among the rugs of Dutch or palm fiber, which are just the thing for a summer living room floor, and in woven grass there are rugs in two colors—yellow, with blue, green, tan or white, and tan with rose or green. Others are in natural tone with a color stretched border. Bright hues band the braided rush mats—which answer equally well for the living room or the veranda of the summer home, and in either place may be used the rugs of Japanese cotton, which are prettier in white and blue, but which come in other colors.

If, however, the housekeeper wishes to put on her floor a rug which harmonizes with her printed cretonne, draperies and furniture coverings, she should have one of the Eastern rugs of cloth woven in a rag fashion, with a white warp, patterned with colored flowers.

### Practical Bed Spreads.

Practical housekeepers who believe in saving themselves unnecessary work are using the "rotting" type of bedspread in lieu of the old fashioned and more expensive materials like Marseilles and Irish linen. Really artistic are the bedspreads of English printed cotton showing a white ground and a pattern in quiet shades of various standard colors. And truly American are the blue and white spreads in Kentucky designs which are said to be non-fadeable and equally enduring. are the natural linen covers which have plain centers and colored borders. Rather more unique and just the thing for a summer sleeping room are the covers in German linen in Riemer design showing an all over connecting pattern in gold, white and black; green, white and black or blue, black and white. Any of these covers may be finished at top and bottom with fringe or a valance or one of the plain colors may be attached to their sides.

### Cucumber Fritters.

Peel and grate three full grown, tender cucumbers. Press all the juice out of the pulp and add to two cups of the pulp one-half cup of cream, a cupful of flour, one teaspoonful of melted butter, a level teaspoonful of salt and half a teaspoonful of white pepper. Beat four eggs, yolks and whites, separately, very light, and add to the batter, which should be thick. Have ready a kettle of boiling fat and in the place will be the juice of two removing as soon as crisp and brown. Serve as you would fried oysters, which cucumber fritters greatly resemble.

### Biscuit Dough Pudding.

Beat three eggs with one cup of sugar; add three tablespoons of cornstarch or four of flour, one and one-half tablespoons of butter, the grated rind of one lemon and the juice of two in four cups of water. Line pudding pan with biscuit dough, put in mixture, cover with another piece of dough; prick with a fork, sprinkle with sugar and bit of butter and bake for 20 minutes in a quick oven. Got hot or cold with milk or cream.

### Pilgrim Salad Dressing.

Break three eggs into a porcelain lined bowl; mix into them a teaspoon of salt and a tablespoon of sugar; beat vigorously together with a wire egg beator for four minutes and add one cup of good mayonnaise. Beat thoroughly and add a cup of sweet milk and beat again. Roll until it assumes the consistency of cream, then remove from fire and beat into it nearly half a cup of butter.

### Pepper Sandwiches.

Three green sweet peppers, three hard-boiled eggs, small cupful of mayonnaise, slice slices of buttered bread. Run the peppers and the eggs through the meat chopper or chop them finely in a chopping bowl. Cover the chopped material with sufficient mayonnaise to give it the proper consistency for spreading. Trim the crusts from the buttered bread and put in a substantial layer of the filling.

### Rhubarb Custard.

Stew about 1½ pounds rhubarb and 1 cup of sugar. Make a soft custard of 1 pint milk, 2 eggs, ¼ cup sugar and 1 tablespoonful cornstarch in a double boiler. Let both cool, then add custard over the rhubarb. Rhubarb is much better stewed in double boiler, too, using no water.



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Chicago



Lives on It.  
Margaret—They say that Mrs. Baker made a fortune out of a cure for obesity. Katherine—Yes, she lives on the fat of the land—Life.

What He Bought.  
A Syracuse business man living in one of the suburbs decided to give up his spacious big yards to the raising of currants as a profitable side issue. So, wishing to absorb all the information he could acquire on the subject of the currant industry, he went down town one Saturday afternoon recently and returned with his armful full of books.

"Well, Teddy," inquired his enthusiastic spouse, as he dumped the volumes on the table, "did you succeed in getting what you wanted?"

"Sure, I did!" he replied, proudly pointing to the books. "I bought a whole year's edition of a standard work on current literature."—Life.

### In the Meantime.

There had been a row at recess time, and Miss Martin had called in all of the pupils, and had a sort of a school court, which lasted until time for school to be dismissed. The trouble had started with some of the other boys on a misunderstanding over a game. After hearing both sides of the question, she decided proper punishment for the contestants, and told them to remain in their seats after the others had gone home. She remembered something she wanted to say to a little boy who did not take part in the fray, so she turned to him and said:

"Now, in the meantime, Guy—" "I wasn't in it, Miss Martin," Guy interrupted hastily.

"Wasn't in what?" asked Miss Martin.

"Why, in the mean time," said the eight-year-old.—Mack's National Monthly.

## A Triumph Of Cookery—

# Post Toasties

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