HOME,—Comfortable, Convenient and Attractive

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Every farm home should be comfortable and most farmers aim to add conveniences as fast their means will allow. One of the first essentials to comfort is running water. Almost any system is better than none at all. The kitchen should be supplied first, then a hot water tank and water plumbing extended to a bath room as soon as it can be afforded.

A lighting system is the next step for comfort. A good bright light to read, work, study or play by, will be one of the best ways of keeping the boys on the farm. There is nothing more depressing than a smoky kerosene lamp, nor have we statistics to tell us how many young people have been driven from home by the lack of cheer from a good light.

Lastly but by no means least in importance comes the heating plant. A hot air furnace warming the the whole house gives splendid service and is not prohibitive in price. The more expensive vacuum water system are most highly satisfactory. In fact there are any number of splendid systems varying in price from a hundred and twenty five to four or five hundred dollars. However one may have a good plumbing, heating and lighting plant in the farm home and have left a hundred dollars or more above
the expense of a Ford auto. This hundred might be used to great advantage in a Victrola or Edison to entertain and develop a musical taste not only in the family but the entire neighborhood. The season for the enjoyment of an auto is short but music will be enjoyed the year round. They who find the greatest happiness in life are those who give of what they have to promote happiness in others. We are learning that the most successful life is not measured by the bank account.

The best inheritance a parent may give his child is the memory of a happy comfortable home and an education broad enough to give him a larger capacity each day for enjoyment—an education not only from books but from "God's great out of doors." Such training is ideally given each child in the country, for there is no place where individuality, originality and character can better be developed than close to nature.

The farmer who is at all progressive (and all Wisconsin farmers are,) has up-to-date machinery to help him do effective work on the farm. The housewife should be as progressive and provide herself with the modern conveniences, so necessary to efficient work in the farm home. Women are too prone to follow in beaten paths and do as mother did, they are rather slow to take up new things. It is usually the man of the house who urges these conveniences and is more than willing to buy them to make his wife's work lighter. A good power washing machine for example is a great labor saver. The same power which turns the cream separator, pumps the water, grind the feed or saws the wood may be used to operate the washing machine, the wringer the mangle, sewing machine, and the ice cream freezer. The Wisconsin woman is beginning to appreciate the bread mixer, the meat grinder, vacuum
cleaner and the oil mop. We are learning to plan to save energy, time and material. The woman who is fond of statistics tells us that she walked ninety eight unnecessary miles last year in her kitchen and in a family of five washed three and a half acres of dishes. If in the washing of dishes just one motion may be eliminated, note the saving of time and strength. If she is able to set the wiped dish from her hand on the shelf she cuts out two motions. Stove, sink, table and cupboards should be placed closely together to save steps. The table and sink should be of the height to allow the worker to stand in an easy, natural position.

All wood work all over the home should be easy to dust and wash. Walls in the kitchen should be washable and the floor one that will not need to be scrubbed. It is better to buy few kitchen utensils and have them of good material, than to be embarrassed with a large supply of cheap ones that take time to care for.

Even kitchen ware may be attractive and it certainly seems right that the place in which so many hours are spent should have thought given to its furnishings. Finally no one may give a rule to govern all conditions. Each house mother must work out her own problems for herself. There are always things which enter in to complicate the best laid plans; but the up-to-date thinking, reading, woman is mastering these difficulties and because of home conveniences has more leisure to give to the important things of life, such as keeping in touch with her children and the events of the day. With such women on the farms of our state many of the questions that have been unsolved will be settled and the boys and girls will stay on the farm because they will be satisfied and happy.

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Types of Butter and Cheese made in the Wisconsin Dairy School.