

PROVIDE SHELTER FOR STOCK BY ERECTING COMMUNITY BARN

Work Farm Building Will Give Aid to Burned Out Farmers By Caring For Stock

Shelter for the livestock of the fire swept area of St. Louis county is being promptly and efficiently provided, and all the stock that was made homeless by the disastrous fire on Oct. 12 will be comfortably housed before winter seriously sets in. The fire was hardly past when on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 13, the board of county commissioners met in emergency session to obtain all necessary authority and to arrange for priority orders on materials needed to give shelter to the cattle. The next morning this emergency movement was knitted into the general plan of fire relief work and given the endorsement of the Red Cross society and the public safety commission, and the assembling of stray and barnless cattle to community live stock centers was begun.

Plan For Shelter.

Plans for shelters were immediately drawn and lumber requisitions computed, and in one week after the fire four 85-foot barns were in process of actual construction and last Sunday a crew of carpenters, some hired and most of them volunteers, built in one day the barn as shown above and complete the farmwork of another. Every night last week the county commissioners had met in special session to arrange for and direct the details of emergency road work and live stock shelters, for they realized that whatever was done must be done speedily.

Yesterday the seventh of the group of barns for the live stock centers was started, and the cattle will not be long in the cold. At each center where buildings large enough are not available, two temporary structures are erected. First there is a simple stock barn to house the dry cows and young stock, and as soon as this is under roof a dairy barn for 36 milch cows is built. The dairy barn is of the most

approved type and of as cheap construction as is possible without sacrificing comfort and sanitation. The general stock barn is of the same dimension, 30 feet wide and 71 feet long with a 14-foot feed room at one end. Both barns have walls and roof of shiplap covered with roofing paper.

These live stock centers are built for the purpose of housing the cattle temporarily until the individual farmers are prepared to take care of their own stock on their own farms. Care and feed as well as shelter is free to all that need the accommodations, but no farmer is under any obligations to use the community shelters in preference to a barn at home. Each community live stock center is in charge of a competent herdsman with as many assistants as are necessary. The milk, of course, becomes the property of the county to offset expenses in part, but each family whose stock is kept at the centers will be given milk enough for the family needs.

Centers Established.

Centers at present are being equipped or established as follows: Commissioner Swanstrom's toolhouse, Commissioner Little's toolhouse, Commissioner Beck's toolhouse, Widge's barn, Adolph, Munger, county work farm, Twig, Pike lake, Brookston, Sunset lake, county poor farm, Woodland dairy and Culver, and others will be made ready as needed whenever considerable stock has no shelter at home. Horse barns are also being provided, one being conducted already at West End livery and another at the Morgan Park company barns. The entire movement is in the interests of live stock conservation and is perfectly co-ordinated with the plans of the reconstruction committee of the northern Minnesota fire relief commission.