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Wayside Gleanings

By W. G. Orvis, Field Repre-
sentative, Farm and Dairy.

The Storekeeper

EVERY farmer needs and uses the local store for many things during the year. He may live near a town or city and do the bulk of his buying there, but there are many things for which he must depend upon the local store to supply. How convenient it is in these times of hurry to be able to say over the telephone to the storekeeper, "Bring me out five pounds of nails (or some other commodity) when you come for the eggs." The farmers in the Oakwood district in Victoria Co., Ont., believe in standing behind their local merchant in this way. The story of their successful egg circle was told in last week's issue. Mr. Deyman gives, as evidence of the harmonious spirit existing between them, the fact that his business, notwithstanding war conditions and high prices, has increased 10 per cent. during the last year.

Fastening Down the Fanning Mill.

The season is fast approaching when farmers will be cleaning their grain for sowing. Consequently the fanning mill will soon be heard in the granary or barn. One of the recollections of this operation that comes clearly to mind is that of an unsuccessful attempt to keep a shanty mill from straggling over the floor. Some people have cleats nailed on the floor, to keep it in place. Others drive nails through the corner standards, thus endeavoring to hold it down. Among the best contrivances that has ever come to my notice to overcome this difficulty was seen not long since in an up-to-date granary in Prince Edward County. The owner had evidently had trouble like many others in keeping his machine stationary, so he had iron rods made with an eye at one end and pointed at the other. This rod was attached to the standards of the fanning mill by means of a bracket through which it could be screwed up and down by means of a thread on the rod. This meant that when the fanning mill was in use the weight of it itself standing on these four iron points held it stationary on the floor.

Alfalfa and Corn Silage.

In the October 26th issue of Farm and Dairy there appeared an account of a man mixing alfalfa and corn in his silo. Recently I visited this man and enquired about the experiment. He seemed perfectly satisfied with the results obtained. The alfalfa came out in good condition as ensilage and when fed gave a much stronger food to the cows than could be had from corn alone. The man remarked that corn silage in a silo green as it was necessary to have it so in last autumn was improved by the semi-cured alfalfa. It would seem from the results obtained by his experiments that corn in the green state should have with it some material like alfalfa or clover to prevent the waste of the juices and to improve its quality. Further experiments will likely be carried on next year by this farmer in treating his corn and alfalfa for ensilage. Where practical it might be wise if others would follow his example and thus improve the feeding qualities of these two fodder crops.

One of the most common mistakes in feeding dairy cows is the failure to feed high producing cows enough feed to allow them to produce to their full capacity. This is the poorest kind of economy, since, after maintenance is provided for, the remainder of the ration is used entirely for milk production.

This is the time of year when an IDEAL GREEN FEED SILO

would pay big returns

Rich, juicy silage would give you 25% more milk and cut a big slice off your feed bill into the bargain.

Grain is expensive, and cows fed only on grain and hay will not begin to produce as much milk as cows on a silage ration.

A cow's milk yield falls off during the winter months simply because under the dry feeding system she does not get the stimulating green feed that she has during the summer. Silage supplies this green feed and reproduces, to a great extent, the conditions that make her give a big yield of milk in the summer months when she is out at pasture.

Silage is the cheapest feed and the greatest milk-producing feed known. While it is especially valuable in the cold winter months when dairy products are bringing their highest prices and cows ordinarily give less milk, it is hardly less valuable during the dry summer months when pasture is scarce. Many cow-owners find that it pays to feed carried-over silage when pastures fail, because by so doing they prevent the falling off in the milk yield that is never fully restored, even with the return of good pasture in the fall.

A good silo is the best investment you can make—an investment that will return you 100% every year you have it. No other equipment you could add to your farm will give you as great returns. Make up your mind now that you will not let another winter find you without an Ideal Green Feed Silo.

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