

laid and the one you are putting down. I do not use any sills in building a log house, but make small columns of cement say six inches square and four inches high to set the posts on and put the bottom nail tie six inches or more above the floor. We make the floor of the hog house first, and let it harden a week and then put up the building. After the floor is laid protect it from the sun if the weather is hot and sprinkle it with water twice a day for a week. One barrel of cement (580 pounds net) will lay one hundred square feet of floor. I make all of my hog houses eight feet wide and then make an outside floor of the same width as long as the house and from ten to twelve inches lower, to throw out the manure and soiled bedding on, and this practically doubles the size of the house, and in all good weather the hogs will prefer the outside floor to the house. I find that a room twelve feet long and eight feet wide will be large enough to fatten ten large hogs comfortably or twelve pigs that will weigh 180 pounds each. I am intending to make a house this summer and shall make the trough of cement."

A Successful Alfalfa Grower

Growing alfalfa has received more attention in the Western States than any other part of the Union. The Kansas

feet long. With this we thoroughly crush and level the ground, and follow immediately with a disk harrow, going over the land as many times as may be necessary to perfectly pulverize it, with the wheels set straight in order to pack the soil as much as possible. I am so particular about the preparation of the soil that in some instances the land is disked five times. After disking, the land is dragged thoroughly, using four horses on a twenty foot harrow at least once a week on the average or after each rainstorm. This is done to prevent evaporation of the moisture which is so necessary to the growth of all vegetation, and especially this plant.

SEED PER ACRE.

Based upon the result of many tests, I invariably use twenty pounds of seed to the acre, sowing with a Cahoon seeder, ten pounds each way; that is, ten pounds to the acre is sown crossing the field in one direction, then re-seeding the same land with ten pounds to the acre, crossing the field at right angles to the first sowing. I never sow oats or other grain with the alfalfa seed now, as my experience has been that the alfalfa plant requires all the moisture available in this section, and cannot afford to share this very necessary requisite to its growth with any nurse crop. The seeding is completed between April 10th and May 15th. As experiments I have seeded every month



WHAT KINDNESS WILL DO.

Department of Agriculture has given special attention to this subject, and has recently issued a press bulletin giving the experience of a large alfalfa grower of Nebraska, who has 2,800 acres sown to this wonderful clover. His experience is condensed as follows:

PREPARING THE SOIL.

Our land is invariably plowed in the fall, in such a manner as to leave no back or dead furrows, and as deeply as possible, using a subsoiler on all land, the surface of which is more than fifteen feet above the sheet-water that, I am told, underlies the greater portion of Nebraska. The land is left in furrow until all the frost is out of it in the spring. We then go on to it (sometimes as early as February) with a float—an implement made of oak plank. Mine is sixteen

in the year, and found that the best results followed early seeding, as the young plants then receive the benefits of the spring rains.

About the middle of June, or sooner, if the weeds are large enough to shade the ground (with us the sunflower and redroot are quite rank by that time), I mow the land, leaving the weeds to dry where they fall, as they make a very fine mulch for the alfalfa. In four or six weeks more, according to the growth of the weeds, I mow again, leaving the weeds on the ground as before. This has given me in two instances a crop of alfalfa in September of the year of seeding, although generally I have got no hay crop until the second year.

My first seeding was in alternate strips of eighty acres, one strip with one bushels of oats to the acre and the next