

factory of the future. And perhaps all those gentlemen who are now so eager about their patent rights in pressure chains and pressure apparatus generally will be able to take less comfort than they imagine out of the prophecy. For it is quite upon the cards that silo stacks may ultimately depend on their own pressure only for their safety; and that topping up a heap of green grass with the coarser and less valuable portion of the swath may give all the pressure ultimately found necessary. The first yard in thickness of a lofty silage stack may, indeed, be spoiled, and find its only use to be in the mere pressure which a load of any kind can give; but the first yard wasted in the dung yard, if it has four yards of good solid food under it, may be a cheaper pressure apparatus than any that has been patented.

Eng. Ag. Gazette.

We would repeat our advice to farmers not to sleep in the same undergarments worn during the day. It is more than worth the trouble to take off the undershirt as soon as day's labor is finished, rub the body thoroughly with a harsh towel, and put on underclothes which are perfectly dry. (1)

R. Y. N.

Prepare for sowing Rutabagas. Large crops are secured by sowing in drills 18 inches apart and thinning out. One pound of seed to the acre. 15 July. (2)

R. N. Y.

Corn, by far our most important cereal crop, promises a large yield per acre; but it can hardly be as large as the phenomenal output of 1,936,000,000 bushels last year. Then the yield was 26½ bushels per acre on nearly 74,000,000 acres—the first full average in the rate of yield since 1880.

Last year the oat crop was the largest ever grown—629,000,000 bushels on 23,000,000 acres. On a slightly increased acreage, the crop will be much less this year—probably not over 600,000,000 bushels—as it has been seriously injured by drought and insect pests in many parts of the country, but especially in the west.

R. N. Y.

COSTS AND VALUES.—Prof. I. P. Roberts finds it cost him 1½ cent per quart to produce milk on the Cornell University farm, and the value of the manure he estimates at 16½ cents a day per cow. This was in an experiment to test the value of the manure by special feeding for the purpose. Only the manure of well-fed milch cows could be so valuable, and to secure or retain this value, the manure must be carefully housed. There ought to be profit in producing milk at 1½ cent per quart, even in these times of low prices.

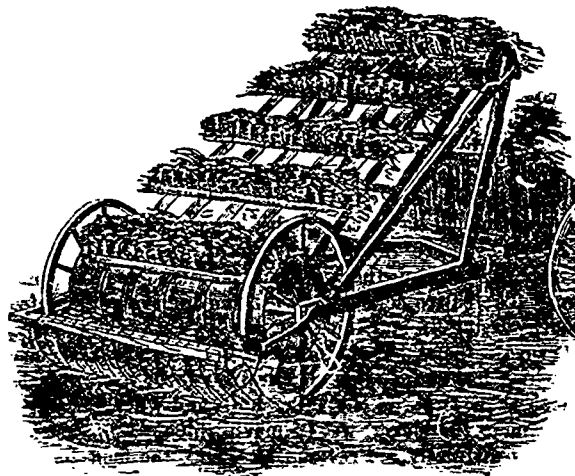
HAY LOADER.

This hay loader collects the hay from the ground, raises it to a suitable height, and discharges it upon the hay rack of the wagon. The wheels are rigidly attached to the axle, to which, or to the spokes of the wheels, is secured a large drum. The ends of the axle revolve in bearings near ends of side bars of a frame, the forward part of which is provided with a staple to engage with a hook attached to the rear end of a hay rack. To the upper ends of inclined and properly braced standards secured to the forward ends of the side bars, is journaled a small cylinder. Around the two cylinders are passed endless belts united by cross bars, to which are attached teeth having their outer parts curved forward

slightly, so that they will take hold of the hay more surely, and carry it up the elevator and discharge it more readily at the upper end. Upon a cross bar uniting the rear ends of two bars pivoted to the ends of the axle are held the rake teeth, which are bent forward and then downward, and their lower parts are curved forward until the lower ends are near the ground beneath the axle.

As the machine is drawn forward, the rake teeth collect the hay, and the carrier teeth carry it up over the small cylinder and discharge it into the hay rack. In the rear ends of the side bars of the frame are holes to receive a pin, by which the rake teeth can be raised more or less from the ground. When detached from the rack, the forward end of the machine is supported upon a hinged leg.

This invention has been patented by Mr. B. D. Spilman, of Fort Meade, Dakota.



SPILMAN'S HAY LOADER.

REARING RABBITS FOR PROFIT.

[In Answer to the Inquiries of W. J. B., Milton, Ky.]

EDS. COUNTRY GENTLEMAN—The rearing of rabbits for sale may be made a profitable employment—no more difficult to manage than the breeding of poultry, and with even better pecuniary results. These animals are hardy, exceedingly prolific and are cheaply fed. They are not subject to any serious diseases, and when kept in a manner consistent with their natural habits, are very little trouble—requiring only room enough in a safely enclosed place on dry ground, and convenient nesting places, to thrive in a satisfactory manner. The flesh is quite as good as that of poultry, and is quite as salable in the markets.

The choice of variety is important, because the flavor of the flesh and the weight depend much upon the selection. The Belgian rabbit is considered the best for market purposes, and grows to a large size. If one should desire to go into the business of rearing these animals for profit, this breed would be the first choice; but as few are kept in this country, it would be necessary to import the stock from England, where it is largely kept by fanciers, or from its native country.

Our northern hare, which grows to the weight of eight or nine pounds, and the English hare of about the same size, might also be kept with profit. The English hare would be preferable, as having long been used to the feeding which would be most conveniently provided, and being already domesticated and kept for the supply of the markets. This animal has been brought to this country for sale during the

(1) In what country do farmers sleep in their flannels? A. R. J. P.

(2) Fancy! Prepare to sow swedes in the middle of July