

obliged to go four miles or more to get their mail, which entirely excluded us from taking a daily paper before we had free delivery. It seems to me that it must be paying or nearly so, thus far, and, in my opinion will pay better after it is once permanently established. It is considered just that we should have free mail delivery once a day, as we contribute our share to the general expenses of the Government, and should receive some direct benefits. People in the cities have free mail delivery four or five times a day. We are content with once a day."

Walter D. Eastick.

Tipton Cheese Company, Secretary's Office,
Tipton, Lenawee County, Mich.

"Rural free delivery is of great benefit and pleasure to us. We would feel almost as bad over losing it, as we would to lose our homes. It is a step in the right direction, and surely our Government can never make a retrograde movement. Though it may require a slight addition to the funds, I think the service should be extended to all the thickly settled portions of the country. I am satisfied that there can be a saving of at least one-third made in handling the mail of our township, and yet have the service extended nearly one half, by letting the handling of all the mail to the lowest possible bidder."

William A. Beebe.

of daily papers taken, for you have seen the reports sent in from time to time by the postmaster; but I wish to call your attention to a few of the things which the free and regular delivery of mail in this section has accomplished.

First. It has enabled us to take daily papers, and thus keep posted on the markets, and, as a matter of fact, the farmers through this section have better prices for their commodities, simply from being posted on what the articles were worth in New York or Boston.

Second. This section has a great many cented farms, and many of the tenants change in the fall. Since the rural delivery went in to effect it makes it a better place to live in; in other words, we are not so isolated, and the results are that a better class of tenants are coming into the community—men who read, and are better citizens generally.

Third. Since the rural delivery went into effect, the value of land has increased, which can be traced directly to that as a cause. I am an administrator of an estate, and had to sell a farm situated on the second route, and the man who bought it, told me that it was one of the strongest inducements to buy the farm, because it was located on one of these mail routes. On route 2, in this town, prior to May 1, only four daily papers were taken, and now there is hardly a house on the route, so the carrier tells me, which

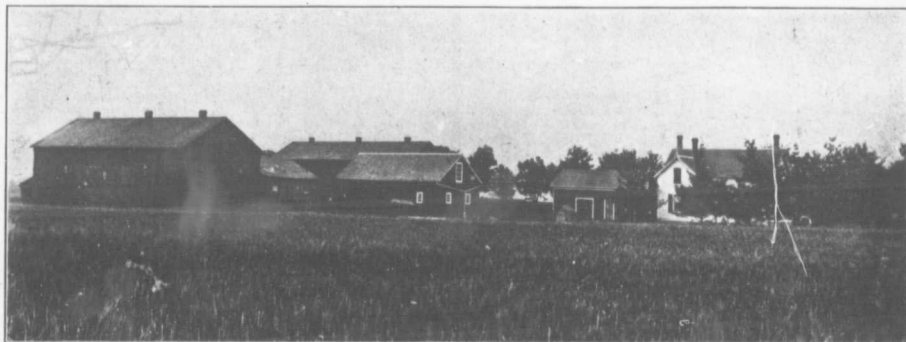
Ice Harvesting

R. M. Loveless, York County, Ont.

It is up to us as dairymen to strive to place our dairy products on the market in the best possible condition. Excellence of quality should be our motto. In order to attain the highest degree of excellence there are many details demanding attention. In milk production, two very essential requirements are: the judicious care and feeding of our cows, and the careful handling of their milk, particularly during the summer. When the thermometer registers 85 to 90 degrees in the shade, or during the close, sultry, muggy days of fall, the milk producer who is without a supply of ice is seriously handicapped.

A CHEAP HOUSE

A very simple and inexpensive ice house may be built thus: Having secured as shady a spot as possible, on ground that will allow water to drain away, place four corner posts with one in the centre of each side to which boards may be nailed. The posts on one side should be about four feet longer than those on the other side, and those between should be cut so as to allow for the slant of the roof. Scantling should be spiked from post to post across the ends at the top, and other scantlings laid crosswise to support the roof, which may be made of inch boards laid so that cracks are covered. For a door, place an extra door post in side where door is needed,



The Farm Home of Mr. R. M. Loveless, Agincourt, Ont., Fourth Prize Winner in our Recent Dairy Farms' Competition

Mr. Loveless' farm is conveniently arranged and can be worked to good advantage. When the judges visited the farm in July, the crops were in excellent condition. Upon the second visit, made in January, stock was looking well and everything about the stable was in a neat and sanitary condition. The buildings are not as large and expensive as those owned by some of the competitors, yet they are neat and well kept and sufficiently large in proportion to the size of the farm. By winning fourth prize Mr. Loveless secures \$20.

NEW YORK

Baldwinsville, Onondaga Co., N.Y.

"The general sentiment of the people is very much in favor of the continuance of free rural delivery. Nine-tenths of them would be badly disappointed to have it discontinued, and the other tenth is composed of chronic kickers, and people who have scarcely any mail, and have no interest in the world outside of their little shell. The amount of mail matter delivered has increased since the establishment of the service. There is only one class whom free mail delivery hurts in the least—that is the saloon keepers. There is now no excuse to come to town for mail, so the farmers stay at home and read, and our streets are quiet."

Martin Harrington, Postmaster.
Highland, N. Y.

"Not in my life has the Government at Washington, enacted any legislation which is so thoroughly appreciated as the free rural mail delivery. I need not speak of the increase in the number of letters written and received by the rural population, also this increase in the number

does not receive a daily paper. The same is true of magazines. Can you estimate the educational value of the system to the rural population? I say to you in all sincerity that, next to the public school, and the church, the free delivery of mail to the rural districts will, and does, do more for education than any, or all, other agencies now at work. We prize it for its true worth, and would deem it a great hardship to be deprived of it. The route has been recently changed, and now accommodates about 25 per cent. more people than at first, with no increase in the distance travelled by the carrier. The system is working well, and gives entire satisfaction, so far as I have been able to ascertain, and anything that I can do to make it more so, and to extend its influence and usefulness, will be cheerfully done."

George A. Fuller.

Thousands, yes, hundreds of thousands of letters similar to the foregoing, and all from farmers, could be published, were it necessary. Those given will serve to give some idea of what the farmers of the United States think of free rural delivery.—H. B. C.

utilizing centre post for the other door post, then cut inch boards to fit inside of posts. These may be placed in position as the ice house is being filled, and removed as the ice is taken out. Inch boards will be sufficient for the sides, and nails will be required to hold them.

For 20 tons of ice build the house 12 feet square. By utilizing 10 feet square for the ice, a space one foot wide will be left between the ice and walls which should be filled with sawdust, packed as firmly as possible. Cover the ice with sawdust at least one foot deep, and make sure of having ventilation over the ice, otherwise the sawdust may heat, and the ice will waste rapidly.

With plenty of sawdust, good drainage and good ventilation ice may be well preserved in such a building as here described, at a very moderate cost. As dairymen, let us be loyal to our calling, and do all in our power to raise the standard of our dairy products, and to that end PUT IN ICE.

It is of the greatest importance to adopt a definite system of rotation and stick to it.