at 75c.—$7.50 ; 325 pounds ⅜-inch round iron for reinforcing—$8.00 ; excavating and building silo, complete, including floor and cement washing, $78.50 ; about 13 days with man and team, say $35.00 ; total, $187.80, which, with roof yet to be put on, would bring the total cost to about $200. Material mixed 1 cement to 7 of gravel. It would take, he estimates, about 8 acres first-class corn to fill it. Six acres filled it 25 feet up last year. The silage kept fine right to the wall, though there was a little trouble with snow, wet and frost on the north side. There was no drying out of the silage at wall. When roofed, Mr. Jackson will be entirely satisfied with his silo. Three barrels of the cement were used to wash the inside.

Wm Brown (tenant on Jas. McNiven's 200-acre farm).—Silo 16 feet inside, by 40 feet high, erected in 1910, completed a couple of weeks before filling ; 2½ feet (one ring) in ground ; base of wall, 18 inches; at ground, 10 inches, tapering up to above one-half way up, where it continues 6 inches to top ; five openings for silage, bottom one 3 ft. x 2 ft. 6 in., top one a little smaller ; opening 12 inches square for blower pipe about 7½ feet from top. Cement work at $3 per foot, including floor and cement washing inside; also men boarded at 20c. per meal. About two rings per day put up ; Portland cement used, with good sharp gravel ; excellent wall, hard and smooth, without a flaw ; no roof ; held about 25 acres of well-matured White-cap corn, but one-third to one-half of it was short. Mr. Brown thinks on an average of about 20 acres of corn would be needed. No trouble elevating with blower and steam engine; silage kept well right to wall; no trouble with frost so long as kept down level, especially at wall ; none spoiled through large surface ; fed 35 to 40 head ; mature cows got about two bushels per day with cut straw. This heavy silage feeding was because of shortage of other foods, but no beast went off feed; about three feet, covered with six inches of straw, left for summer feeding. Mr. Brown thinks probably 14 x 40 ft. would have been large enough. Stuff from blower should fall in center of silo ; large silo requires relatively less tramping ; had three men tramping and levelling. The materials used were 57½ barrels cement, at about $1.45 ; 13 cords of gravel, at 75 cents ; hauling gravel in summer by gravel man, $61.75 ; building wall, etc., at $3.00 per foot, $120.00 ; reinforcing rods, ⅜-inch, $10.25 ; fence-wire stays used, $3.00. Total cost, over $300.00. Two courses were laid per day, and each evening on the top of wall an old horseshoe was bedded about half way in, prongs down, every five feet, to form an extra bond with the bottom of next course, laid the following morning. Mr. Brown, who has had to do with two cement silos, advises using as much water as possible in the cement-concrete to make a hard, strong wall. The old silage was uncovered on July 5th for summer feeding dairy cows, pastures being short owing to dry weather. Except a little next the wall, the silage had kept in good condition, and was fed about half a bushel twice daily.

Benj. Holtby has a fine-looking silo, roofed, which he likes so well that he would hardly care to try to farm without it. The size is 14 x 37½ feet ; foundation wall, 18 inches thick, 12 inches at ground, to 6 inches at top ; four openings for feeding out, 2 x 3 feet ; cement bottom, 4 feet in ground below bottom of first window, the site being naturally well drained ; cement-washed inside. Not including teaming and roof, the cost was some $210. Mr. Holtby does not begin feeding out of the silo early in the winter, as he aims, especially, to hold a good supply for summer and early fall, when pastures are short and meadows suffer from close cropping. This season he opened it the first week in July, having 16 feet of sound, solid silage ; fed mature cows half a bushel each night and morning. Some younger stock were fed in wooden boxes in the yard, and all ate it greedily. "In fact," observed Mr. Holtby, Jr., "we have to shut them back in the fields to keep them away from the barn." He does not expect to have it all fed out before there will be new-corn fodder.

On the day that several of the slop-wall silos were visited, three built of hollow cement blocks were also seen, owned by A. Gracey, Thos. Harris and Henry Harris, which presented a very fine exterior appearance, and the silage was reported to have kept well, with no trouble from freezing next the walls in winter. They are plastered inside, and it seems a little difficult to erect the block walls entirely free from checking, though, being well reinforced, no future trouble is anticipated. In the absence of the owners at the time of calling, details as to cost were not available.

Experience with summer and autumn sowing of timothy and clover to thicken poor stands on newseeded fields, is specially invited. Tell when you sowed, quantity of seed, cultivation given, and results.

A Substantial Country Home.

Among the most satisfactory evidences of rural prosperity are substantial, tasteful and well-planted modern country homes. Examples of such are purposely published in "The Farmer's Advocate" from time to time. This week we have the residence of Geo. B. Webster, of Perth Co., whose farm consists of 100 acres, all cleared and under cultivation. Mr. Webster follows a system of mixed farming, including dairying (sending cream to the creamery), hog-raising, and poultry, and also tries to raise some Clydesdale horses every year. He feeds all the coarse grain produced on the farm, and also grows corn for silage and alfalfa for hay.

"Aldersyde."

The comfortable farm home of Geo. B. Webster, Perth Co., Ont.

The house was built in the year 1900, and cost $2,500, exclusive of his own labor for teaming, etc. It is fitted up with modern conveniences, heated with a furnace, and the bath-room and wash-room are supplied with hot and cold water.

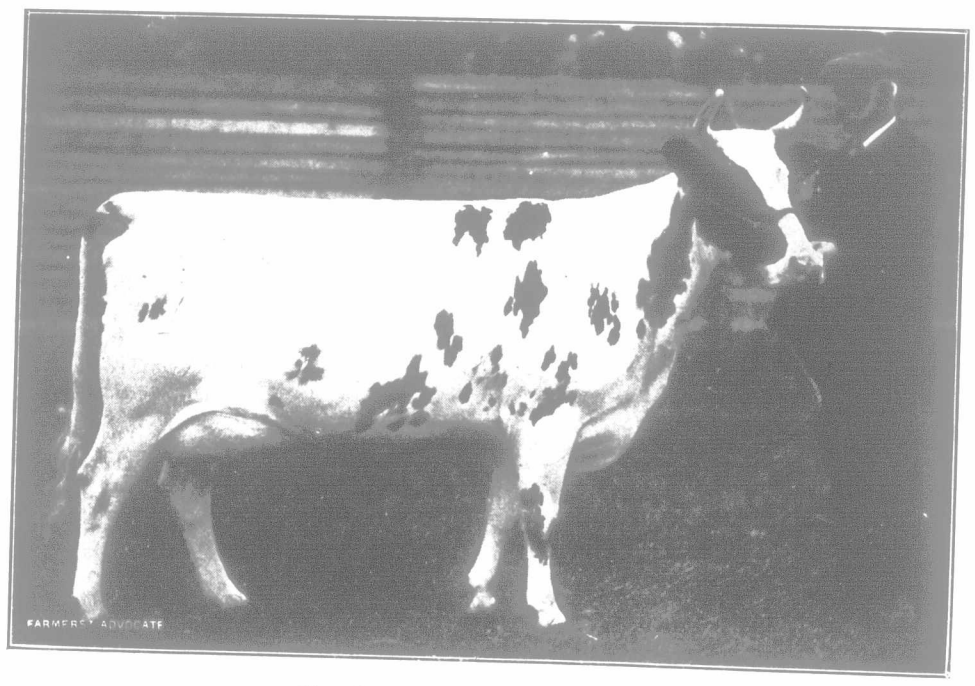
Thorough Surface Cultivation.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Our method of spring cultivation does not differ materially from that of other farmers in this vicinity. For oats and barley, the ground (clover sod and corn stubble) was fall plowed to the depth of six inches. Before sowing, the disk and spring-tooth cultivator were used until the land was thoroughly pulverized, the drag harrow not being forgotten. The latter implement is a favorite with us for putting land in condition for sowing. Two or three days after the grain was sown, the land was seeded to clover and received another harrowing. At the present time the soil is loose on the surface, though the last day or two it is getting rather dry. Straw is of good length, and headed out well, but the grain will probably be rather light, no rain having fallen here for nearly three weeks. I may state that a field of Joanette oats is quite heavy ; a storm of wind and rain would lay them flat. This field was sown on May 4th, receiving the same cultivation as two others sown April 28th and May 6th, respectively. There are some tile drains in these fields, but more are needed.

A storm of hail has passed through since writing the foregoing, spoiling the appearance of the fine crops, threshing the barley and oats, and riddling the corn. JONATHAN AUSTIN.

Norfolk Co., Ont.



Dewdrop 1st of Old Graitney.

First-prize Ayrshire at the Royal Show, Norwich, 1911.

After-harvest Cultivation.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Harvesting operations are now general in Ontario, and will be over in the course of a week or two. While fair yields of grain are being harvested in many localities, the yields generally are not large, but the weeds seem to have put forth a special effort to reach maturity in good condition, and are quite up to the standard numerically, as well as in quality. This is especially true of wild oats and thistles.

The early harvest this year affords the farmer a splendid opportunity of ridding himself of at least a number of these troublesome pests by cultivating the fields just as soon as possible after the crop is drawn in.

This may be done in several ways, the most common of which are by using a disk harrow, cultivator or gang plow, but I much prefer the latter method, especially if you wish to kill thistles. The gang-plow has at least three advantages over other implements in doing this work most efficiently. The shares of a plow miss cutting few weeds, while the best cultivators miss many. The plow also inverts the surface soil to any required depth, placing all weed seeds lying on the surface under the soil, where they are almost sure to germinate, while the best that cultivators and disk harrows can do is to mix them with the soil, leaving many uncovered and others too near the surface to grow.

The plow levers should not be set to cut too deep a furrow. About three inches is the most suitable depth to plow.

Plant life does not make nearly as rapid growth during the latter part of the season as it does in the spring, even though the temperature may be the same, or warmer, and all other conditions seemingly as favorable. This is true of wild oats, as well as many other weed seeds ; so the earlier they can be started to grow, the better, as the percentage which will germinate falls off rapidly as the season advances, and the middle of September is about the latest date that cultivation is of much use to germinate weed seeds.

But weed destruction is not the only advantage of after-harvest cultivation. By bringing the surface soil to a fine tilth, the moisture already in the soil is largely retained, and what falls before fall-plowing commences is not nearly so easily evaporated from the soil, and when the plowman goes out to his field to turn the soil for the last time before the winter sets in, he will have some pleasure in having his plow run evenly and steadily along, turning up moist soil, and not have to be constantly dancing along in his effort to hold his plow in the ground, as is the case in