House and Barn on Farm of R. A. Penhale, Elgin Co., Ont.

took place on Wednesday. They averaged £47 7s. 8d., the 41 cows and heifers making £49 13s. 2d. This herd was founded with Bates cattle, which were subsequently crossed by an Uppermill bull, Wanderer's Prince, and the result was singularly happy. The cattle have Bates style and Cruickshank fleshiness. This is undoubtedly the cross, but it is not easily made, and seldom have results so satisfactory been secured as at Buscot Park.

HORSE SALES.

Clydesdales have had their turn at Perth, where 84 pedigree animals of all ages and both sexes made the substantial average of £54 5s. The highest price was 200 gs., paid for Favorite Queen, a two-year-old filly by Royal Favorite. The highest average made by a single stud was £120 19s. 8d., got by Mr. J. Ernest Kerr, Harviestown, for nine out of his noted stud. At Seaham Harbor, the usual autumn sale was held a week ago, when 15 filly foals made an average of £39 6s. 8d., and eight colt foals made an average of £48 11s. 3d.

Hackneys have also been sold in great numbers during the last few weeks. At Thornhome, the home of Mathias, and the place where his son, the 2,000-gs. gelding, Radiant, was bred, forty-seven head, including many old mares and their foals, made an average of £31 3s. 6d.; and at Gowanbank, the largest Hackney stud in Great Britain, good prices were got for good animals. A pony stallion named Ruby Rival made 205 gs. to Miss Langworthy, from Maidenhead, and a yearling colt named Maclure, by Mathias, made 135 gs., to Mr. J. W. Adamson, Duncrieve, Perthshire. This is a phenomenally great colt. But good as are these prices, they are nothing compared with such figures as have been paid for Thoroughbred yearlings at Newmarket during the past week or two. A colt by Persimmon made 2,900 gs., a filly by Gallinule 1,800 gs., and a filly by Rocksand 1,950 gs.

"SCOTLAND YET."

FALL CARE OF FEEDING CATTLE.

Cattle intended to be fed this winter for the beef market, or any other stock, for the matter of that, should not be allowed to lose flesh by reason of short pasture during the late fall months, as weight so lost will have to be made up later on before any gain can be made; and, as gain cannot be made without cost, there is economy in planning to hold what one has. Even though late fall rains may freshen the pastures for a while, the tender grass so started has not the nutritive qualities of that of summer growth, and especially is it lacking in nourishment after being frostbitten. It is, therfore, good practice, where practicable, to supplement the pasture by giving the cattle a feed once or twice a day of hay, ensilage, cured cornstalks, and a little meal, to enable them to maintain their weight. The same suggestion, of course, applies to milking cows, and perhaps with greater force, since the milk flow is sure to shrink rapidly when the feed is lacking in nutrition and the animals are chilled by cold winds and frost, and for this reason milking stock should be stabled nights and fed extra when cold weather comes.

In the case of beef cattle, early stabling is not necessary or desirable, provided they are fed in the open something more substantial than frosted grass, as nature provides them with a heavier coat of hair for protection in such a contingency, and the animals are healthier for living in the fresh air, so long as they are sufficiently nourished by suitable food, especially if they have access to shelter from cold rains or snow storms. This fact has been abundantly proven by experiments in cold countries, where cattle have been successfully fattened in the open, with no other protection than that afforded by hills or woods. A notable instance of this is found in the report, published in the May 28th issue of "The Farmer's Advocate," of a trial conducted at the Dominion Experimental Farm, at Brandon, Man., last winter, in which two lots of steers were fed, one lot in the stable, and the other out of doors, with no protection from the weather other than the hills and scrub woods, the latter, even in that cold climate, making practically as good gains, and showing more profit for their feeding than those comfortably housed. Instances such as this may well afford food for thought as to whether serious mistakes have not been made in housing fattening cattle in warm, ill-ventilated stables, breathing contaminated air, to the impairment of their health and robustness of constitution. From the temporary wooden sheds and stables of earlier years came strong, robust and well-finished beeves, as a rule, showing more vigor, and better enduring the vicissitudes of shipping than those coddled in close, over-heated stables. While the elaborate basement stabling so generally provided in these days for cattle have much to recommend them in respect to convenience of feeding and the care and handling of manure, there is reason to fear that the question of providing for abundance of light and fresh air in such structures has been neglected, to the loss of health and vigor in the animals so housed. But this difficulty may be largely avoided by planning for plenty of ventilation and light when building, and may be remedied to a considerable extent in cases where the mistake has been made. In the case of fattening cattle, at least, the maintenance of a high temperature is wholly unnecessary, and a wholesome condition may readily be supplied by means of open windows and top doors.

The feeding of dehorned fattening cattle loose in sheds or roomy box stalls, in lots of five to ten in a group, has been satisfactorily practiced by some feeders, and would appear to commend itself, especially were stanchions provided for keeping the animals in place while feeding. Devices for opening and closing a row of stanchions by means of a lever at one end of the row are on the market, and would seem to be practicable and desirable under such conditions.

THE FARM.

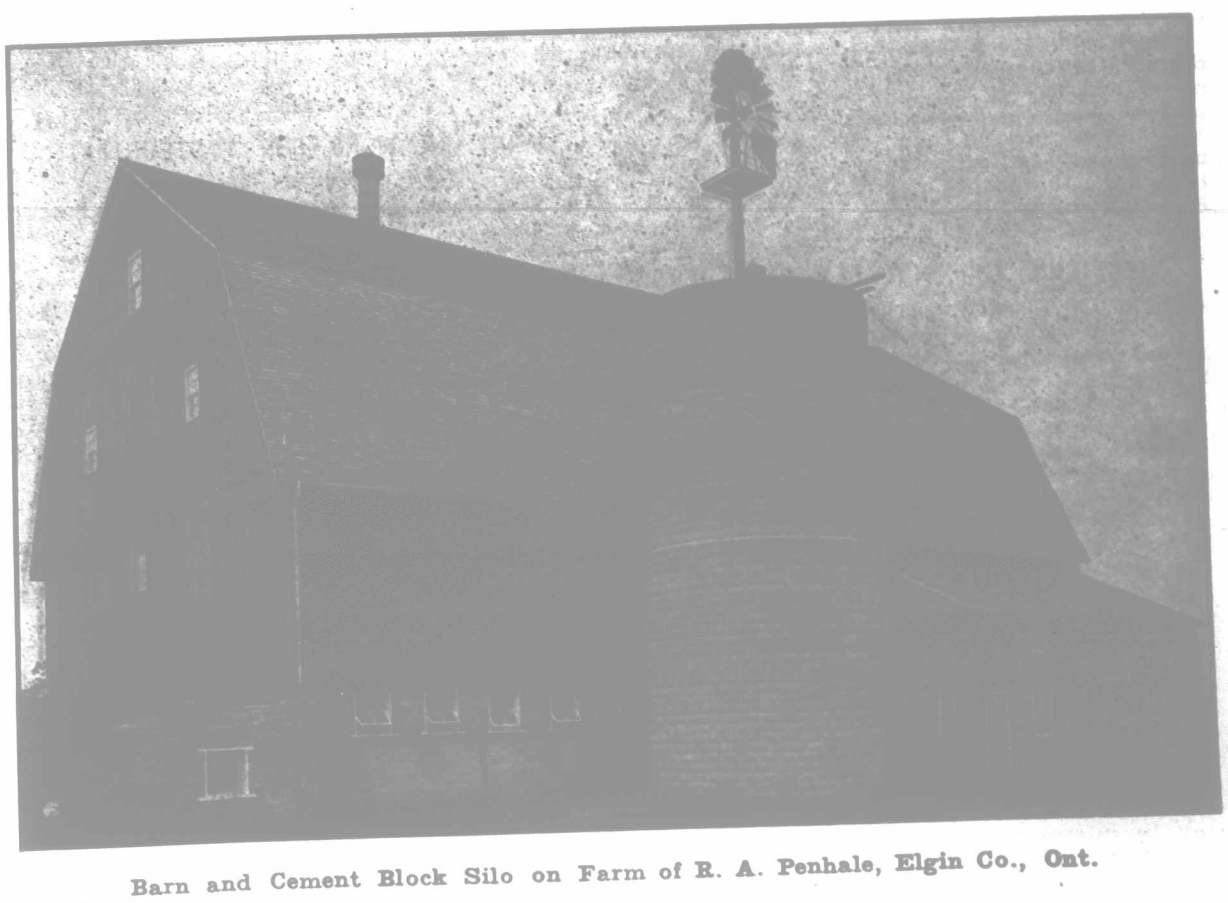
CEMENT BLOCK SILO IN ELGIN CO., ONT.

The accompanying illustration of buildings on the farm of R. A. Penhale, Elgin Co., Ont., are remarkable not only for the palatial scale and character of the residence, and the commodious barn, but more especially for the large, round cement-block silo shown plainly in one of the views. Monolithic, round concrete siloes have become a familiar feature of farm steadings in Western Ontario, and have given first-class satisfaction as regards durability, ultimate economy and serviceability; but cement-block siloes, though coming into use in some sections of the United States, are as yet unusual in Canada. Though probably somewhat more expensive than the monolithic structure, the air-space in the blocks improves the insulation of the wall, i. e., it is less likely to freeze through. While the freezing of a foot or two of silage does not necessarily spoil it, freezing is undesirable, and in this respect the hollow-block silo has an advantage. One might anticipate that the cement-block silo would lack sufficient strength, and that the bond where the blocks join would not hold well. This, it seems, may be overcome by imbedding in a groove purposely made near the outer face of every third row of blocks, a reinforcing rod or wire. The fact that Mr. Penhale's mammoth silo has successfully stood a season's use, keeping the silage perfectly, and giving number-one satisfaction in every way, is very encouraging.

We want to learn more about cement-block siloes in Canada, and will thank our readers to supply us with descriptions and illustrations of as many as possible. Meantime, we publish the following particulars concerning Mr. Penhale's silo, supplied by the owner on request.

* * *

The dimensions of this silo are sixteen feet diameter on the inside, and forty feet in height, the estimated capacity being 200 tons of silage. The material used was sixty barrels of cement, fifteen cords of gravel and sand, one thousand feet of reinforcement, and ten bushels of white lime. Three men spent 12¼ days making blocks with a concrete-block machine. The cost of laying up the blocks was $123, the masons charging 40c. per hour, and the helpers 20c. per hour. I cannot give you the exact time it took, but the cost was as above. The size of the blocks from foun-



Barn and Cement Block Silo on Farm of R. A. Penhale, Elgin Co., Ont.