Trade Increases the wealth and glory of a country; but its real strength and stamina are to be looked for among the cultivators of the land — Lord Chatham.

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## Some Suggestions for the Silo Filling Season

The Importance of Maturity—Reducing Hauling Costs—A Word for the Women—By E. L. McCaskey

HAVE been asked to write some suggestions for the silo-filling seesaots, it am at a loss to know just what I can write about. Certainly we all understand the general features of sho-filling, and we all on the work in about the same way—by comparing the configuration. In our own case, we are carrying the configuration of th

The point of paramount importance in deciding the time of silo filling is the maturity of the crop. There is still much corn that is put fato the silo because the time is equivealent, irrespective of whether the corn is ready or not. In the last year or to, with the scarcity of help, the tendency is to lowe the corn is the field too long it anything, but lowe the corn is the field too long it anything, but even last year I saw corn being enabled that would have been much the better of two weeks growth in

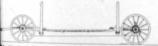
Importance of Maturity,

The best experimental work of which I know to determine the advantage of maturity, was conducted many years ago at the New York Experimental Station and the results are reported in Yuli in Henry's Peeds and Peeding, a book to which I have already had occasion to refer more than once in Farm and Dairy. In this experiment corn was weighed and sallyaed on live different dates—in the tasset, silk, milk, gives and ripe states. From the time that the corn was in the milk, until it glazed, which latter is about the proper stage for silo filling, the total weight of green stuff, decreased from 32,860 lbs per acre to 32,35 lbs. The dry matter, however, and that is what really matters, increased in that period from 4,643 hg, to 7,203 lbs., an increase of almost a total as half. The sah increased from 222,15 lbs. to 302,48, the albuminoids from 45,85 to 64,358 lbs. The dabuminoids from 45,85 to 64,358 lbs. the carbohydrates from 2,441,29 to 4,238,52 lbs. and the fat from 23,39 to 25,39 lbs.

These figures speak for themselves. Corn grows meet rapidly during the last fet beeks of the growless essent. This explains who war green corn, and the state of the growless are supported by dairy cown, soldom increases their milk flow, and it also explains the unsatisfactory results gotten from silage in the early days when it was thought that corn must be put in the sila very green. Now, I like to she the corn well dented and showing signs of ripening before we start to fill the ello. These New York figures prove that to fill the glass disage is at least fifty per joint more nutritious than corn that is utill in the milk. Corn ensetted too green is ant to be sour and widely on the other hand, if the corn is allowed to become

and the corn cannot be properly packed in the silo.

I can remember when we considered that if the
corn were caught by frost, it was almost spoiled
for silage. We know better now. Our preference has the silil for corn that has glazed nicely without frosting.



Method of Placing Long Corn on Wagon where Two Men are to Unload Starting at the Centre of the Rack.



A Convenient Rack for Handling Sliage Corn.

but we would much rather risk the frost than cut immature cora. Once core has been frosted, however, it cannot be gotten into the sife too quickly. In frosted corn the plant tissues have been killed or injured and moisture is no longer conducted up from the soil into the phants. Consequently the corn dries out rapidly and has not sufficient moisture content to make good enslage. If it is not convenient to fill the sile immediately the corn is frosted, we always add water running a half inch stream into the blower. This stream is carried into the blower at the base of the elevator shaft and our included of feeding the water is to mount a barried on a platform close to the custing box and siphon the water out. One man is delegated to keep the barrel filled with water. This metter of frosted corn may be one of particular importance this year as so much of the corn, in this section, at least, is of Mamimoth Southern Sweet or similar varieties. This corn stands very little chance of maturing to the point where its nutritive valie is the greatest, and we will probably all let it grow as long as it will and take the first frost.

One point where I believe general improvement is possible in our sito filling methods is in the size of load hauled. According to my observations the favorite corn wagon, in Eastern Ontario at least, is

the ordinary hay rack with the sides removed. These racks are seldom mounted on low trucks and the size of the load is limited, not by the ability of the horses to draw it, but by the ability of the men working in the fields to throw the body of the men working in the fields to throw the body of the men working in the fields to throw the mounted on a very low truck. The bottom of the mounted on a very low truck. The bottom of the mounted on a very low truck. The bottom of the fields of the cutting box. With such a rack, simost twice as much corn can be loaded on as with the ordinary hay rack. A couple of years ago, I visited a big dairy farm in Western Outario when out buying dairy farm in Western Outario when out buying dairy farm in Western Outario when the silos. The rooms. On this farm there were three silos. The silos were filled with the regular farm help and the assistance of one or two neighbors. The proprietor informed me that only three racks were used and a big capacity cutting box was kept busy all the time. On this farm they were equipped with the long, such that the silos were such and or three horses. They drew fully twice is much of three horses. They drew fully twice is much or three floores equivalent to six ordinary outfils.

outliks. That sounded to me like good business. In the Western States they have an under-slung corn sounder should be an in the state of the like the state of the like wagon. The size of the load is a mighty impact consideration when the corn is grown on the back and of the farm.

In The Silo.

Another point worthy of mention, because it is so generally disregarded, though generally understood, is the tramping of the corn in the silo. One man cannot possibly tramp the corn properly in a 12-foot silo. It will keep two men on the move. Not only must the corn be tramped, but it must be mixed, which latter end we have achieved by use of the sectional delivery tube. The corn should be particularly well tramped around the sides, and if the doors and frame of the silo are not particularly tight, I would advise that a roll of building paper be purchased and unrolled against the doors as the filling proceeds.

When the silo is finally filled and the neighbors have departed, our work is not done. At least twice a day for three or four days, we climb up into the silo and give it a thorough tramping. Likewise if the corn is the least bit dry, we have poured as much as three of four barrels of water over the surface of the silage and then tramped thoroughly. This thorough wetting and tramping seals the surface of the silage and prevents an undue amount of spoliage.

I would speak a final word for the women folks. Let's cut out the big dinner for the silo-filling gang. I know that it would take as much courage for one would be succeed to the state of the same as against the prevailing style in dress. We men can halp them. Just let it be understood in the silo-halp them. Just let it be understood in the silo-halp them. Just let it be understood in the silo-halp garden that big, pents dinners are a thing of the past, and the women will fall in line. As the editor of Farm and Dairy suggested recently, these big dinners are "contrary to the spirit of the conservation program."



The Value of a Silo in Acres.

By Prof. Grant.

HE silo practically increases the producing capacity of the farm at least 10 per cent, and often more. A 160-acre farm with a silo will produce as much

revenue as one of 180 acres without. Therefore the first cost of a silo—like that of a dwelling house, a barn or a team—should be considered part of the initial investment; and if one's capital is limited, it is better to buy a farm smaller by 10 per cent, rather than dispense with a silo. The producing value of a silo on \$50 idan would be equal to that of 20 acres added to the 160-acre farm, or \$1,000; on \$100 land it would be \$2,000. This is a low estimate, for the stock-carrying capacity of the farm will often be increased fully 25 per cent by the adding of a silo. As compared with its producing value, the cost of constructing a silo is small.