

or moulded for a space of from 4 to 6 inches in from the side, for the first six feet from the top of the silage; below that the waste was confined to a space of about 4 inches around the seam between each two boards.

No particular statement of the expense of the construction of this silo is here made, as it formed a part of the general remodelling of the barn. The expenses charged to remodelling the barn were also augmented by the remodelling of a stone root-house into an experimental piggery, and by making the necessary changes in the water supply, etc., to the creamery to fit it for winter butter-making in connection with the Experimental Dairy, etc., etc.

Sections of the inside of the silo were covered with a painting of coal-tar applied hot; other sections were painted with crude petroleum; other parts were left with the lumber on the inside bare. Since the two substances were applied with a view to the preservation of the lumber, nothing can be said yet, concerning their efficacy in that regard. However the parts, where the crude petroleum was applied, left the silage immediately adjacent to them in a more natural state and with a more agreeable odor, than did those parts that were covered with the painting of tar.

I have no changes to make in the recommendations of the Bulletin in the part on BUILDING A SILO, except to say that it is evidently unnecessary and without apparent advantage to have the lumber tongued and grooved.

FILLING THE SILO.

Two carrying platforms, almost similar in construction to the description in the Bulletin, were provided. They were found to answer the purpose admirably. The three main pieces of timber used as the carriers of the platform need not be heavier than 3" x 6" instead of 6" x 6" as previously recommended. The platform need not be constructed of planks heavier than 1½" instead of 2". In the Bulletin the statement is made,—“The stalks can be loaded most economically direct from the root. If the crop be as ripe as it should be, wilting will be unnecessary.” Further experience has shown us that in the districts, having only a short season for the growth of corn, it is difficult to obtain a crop sufficiently ripe to obviate the need for wilting in the field. Part of the silo was filled direct from the root,—the plants were in the silo within an hour from the time when they were cut in the field; part of it was filled with corn that had been wilted for from one to three days. No analyses of the silage has been made as yet, but an examination of it reveals the fact that to the smell and taste, the silage from the wilted plants contains less and is better preserved. *Three conditions or treatments seem to be essential to the obtaining of the best quality of silage without waste from moulding or decay.*

1. The plants should be grown to a stage almost mature.
2. They should be wilted in the sunlight, until the water which they contain is less than 75 per cent of the total weight.
3. The silage around the sides and in the corners of the silo should be tramped and packed thoroughly while it is being filled.

COVERING THE SILAGE.

On the top of the corn silage, a layer of millet silage was put for preservation; on top of that a layer of rape silage was preserved for feeding to hogs as mentioned in another part of this report. The covering of the silage was a layer of straw about two feet deep. This is quite adequate when put on within two days after the last silage has been put in.

FEEDING THE SILAGE.

The silage from the silo at the dairy barn is being fed to milking cows. None of the tests or examinations into its feeding value are yet in a forward enough state to be reported upon here. When the silage is uncovered for feeding, unless the silo be frost-proof above, it becomes chilled and is thus not in the best condition for offering to cattle. This may be guarded against by the putting of movable poles across the top of the silo and the placing of a layer of straw upon them.