

A Large Cattle Barn.

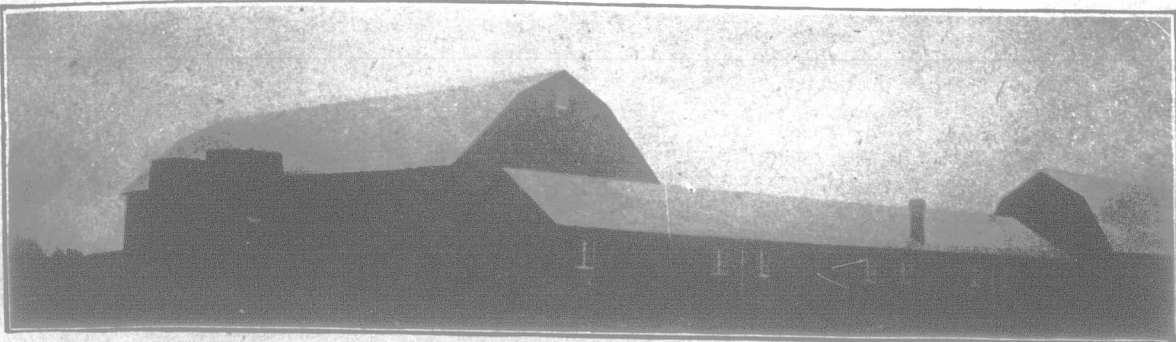
A large stock farm requires a large cattle barn, and such is the barn situated on the 560-acre farm of Col. Sir Henry M. Pellat in Ontario County, Ontario. This barn is 160 feet long and 52 feet wide, and the stable is devoted entirely to cattle, as shown by the plan. The floor is of cement, as are also the walls. There are, as shown, 78 single cattle stalls, where the cattle stand tied with stanchions facing the light. The passage behind the cows is 6 feet wide, those in front 5½ feet wide. Mangers are of cement, with a rounded bottom to prevent dirt sticking in the corners. They are about 3 feet wide on top and 2 feet 6 inches high in front. They are washed out regularly with water

from alfalfa. Having six acres of corn that could not be got off the field on account of the wet in time to put in silo, I cut about four acres of alfalfa and stacked at cutter the same day. The next day we filled the silo, keeping one man on stack to fork the alfalfa on to the corn as it went through the cutter at the rate of about one ton of alfalfa to six or seven tons of corn. There were four men in the silo all the time tramping and the silage is turning out in perfect condition. We opened the silo, which is 14 x 30, on Nov. 10th. There were about four inches of waste on top. After that we did not lose one pound; there was not a mouldy spot in it, and the cattle seemed to relish it even better than the corn alone. I consider that the two articles mentioned have more than paid for the subscription

advantage in the month of July on a summer fallow, providing there is sufficient moisture for good germination. This is a good system to follow, providing the land produced a crop of grain or was a sod in the year previous to the sowing of the alfalfa seed.

It is nearly always wise to leave the alfalfa undisturbed the first autumn. If there are weeds, however, which are likely to go to seed, or if the crop is so heavy that there is danger of smothering in the winter, a mowing machine can be run over the field so as to cut the tops of the plants, which could lie as a mulch on the field.

The alfalfa should be cut just as it is starting to blossom, and great care should be exercised to cure the alfalfa so as to retain the leaves.



A Large Cattle Barn.

Showing also implement shed and part of horse barn.

and the cows are watered from them. The whole is equipped with feed and litter carriers. Box stalls of good size, as seen by the plan, are situated on the north side and east end. A root cellar is conveniently placed between two feed rooms, each leading to a cement silo 16 feet in diameter and 30 feet high, which are placed one each side of one of the barn approaches, as seen in the illustration. Ten windows are placed in the south side, three in the east end, seven on the north side, and two in the west end, ensuring plenty of light, as they are 3 feet by 4 feet in size. They are hinged so that the top half may be let down to admit fresh air, but there are no ventilation outlets. The drop behind the cattle is eight inches and the gutter is 18 inches wide. One of the calf stalls as shown has a manger which projects into the passage. This is fitted with galvanized partitions, which may be pulled up by weights so as to be out of the way when cleaning the mangers. —All fittings, including stall and box-stall partitions, are metal. Study the plan carefully, as it has some very good features.

of the paper alone, and wish you a very prosperous New Year. I might tell you more of the benefits I have received from reading your paper. I might mention that I took first prize in farm competition for the best kept farm in the county, the success of which I count to "The Farmer's Advocate" and other agricultural papers Wright Co., Que. George Riley.

Time and Method of Sowing Alfalfa.

Under average conditions in Ontario, said Prof. C. A. Zavitz, of the Ontario Agricultural College, discussing alfalfa in a recent address, the seed should be sown at the rate of about twenty pounds of seed per acre, and the seeding may take place at any one of three different times of the year as follows:

1.—Alfalfa seed may frequently be sown on winter wheat in the early spring either on the old snow or on fresh snow of one or two inches, and no harrowing or cultivation is necessary. When this method is followed the soil should be free of grass and weeds, and the wheat should not be very thick on the land.

2.—On a suitable seed-bed, and as soon as the land is sufficiently dry in the spring, alfalfa seed may be sown from the grass seed box placed in front of the grain drill. About one bushel of barley or spring wheat per acre sown from the tubes of the drill makes a very good nurse crop. After the seed is sown, the land should be harrowed lightly. This method usually gives very good results, providing the land is in a good state of cultivation, and is in a clean condition.

3.—Alfalfa may usually be sown alone to good

Growing Alfalfa on Loamy Soil.

In the frequent addresses upon alfalfa growing which he is called upon to make, Prof. C. A. Zavitz, of the Ontario Agricultural College, continues to emphasize strongly the importance of securing a hardy strain of alfalfa for sowing under Canadian conditions. While the common alfalfa produced from Montana or European seed often gives excellent results under particularly favorable conditions—as, for example, on hard clay hillsides—under less favorable conditions it frequently kills out in a short time, its place being taken by blue grass. On loamy soil this very commonly occurs. Time after time we have seen alfalfa on rolling fields kill out first in the hollows, then on the loamy crowns of the knolls, while on the clay slopes it would last ten, fifteen, or twenty years. At the Western Dairy-men's Convention in Woodstock lately the point was brought out that many farmers in Oxford County have experienced difficulty in maintaining a good stand of alfalfa. No doubt, the loamy character of Oxford County soil has considerable to do with it. Choose clay hillsides for alfalfa. Why this is so we cannot say, but that it proves true about nine times out of ten in Ontario, we know by experience and wide observation. This is not to admit the unwisdom of sowing alfalfa on other soil than clay, because if we had no clay we would try it on almost any kind of well-drained land—first getting the land very clean and being careful always to leave a big top for winter protection. Leaving the third crop of a season uncut and ungrazed will often preserve a stand successfully through the winter. If one will then, on summer-fallowed land, sow alfalfa alone in July, choosing a hardy strain, he should have good chances of profitable returns. It is well to have the field enriched with manure applied for a previous hoe crop. But beware of using dirty manure just before sowing the alfalfa. Inoculation is worth trying where one is sowing alfalfa for the first time on a farm, since it costs very little. If you still fail, try again, using lime and, perhaps, phosphorus. Do not give up. Keep on trying till you get on to the know-how.

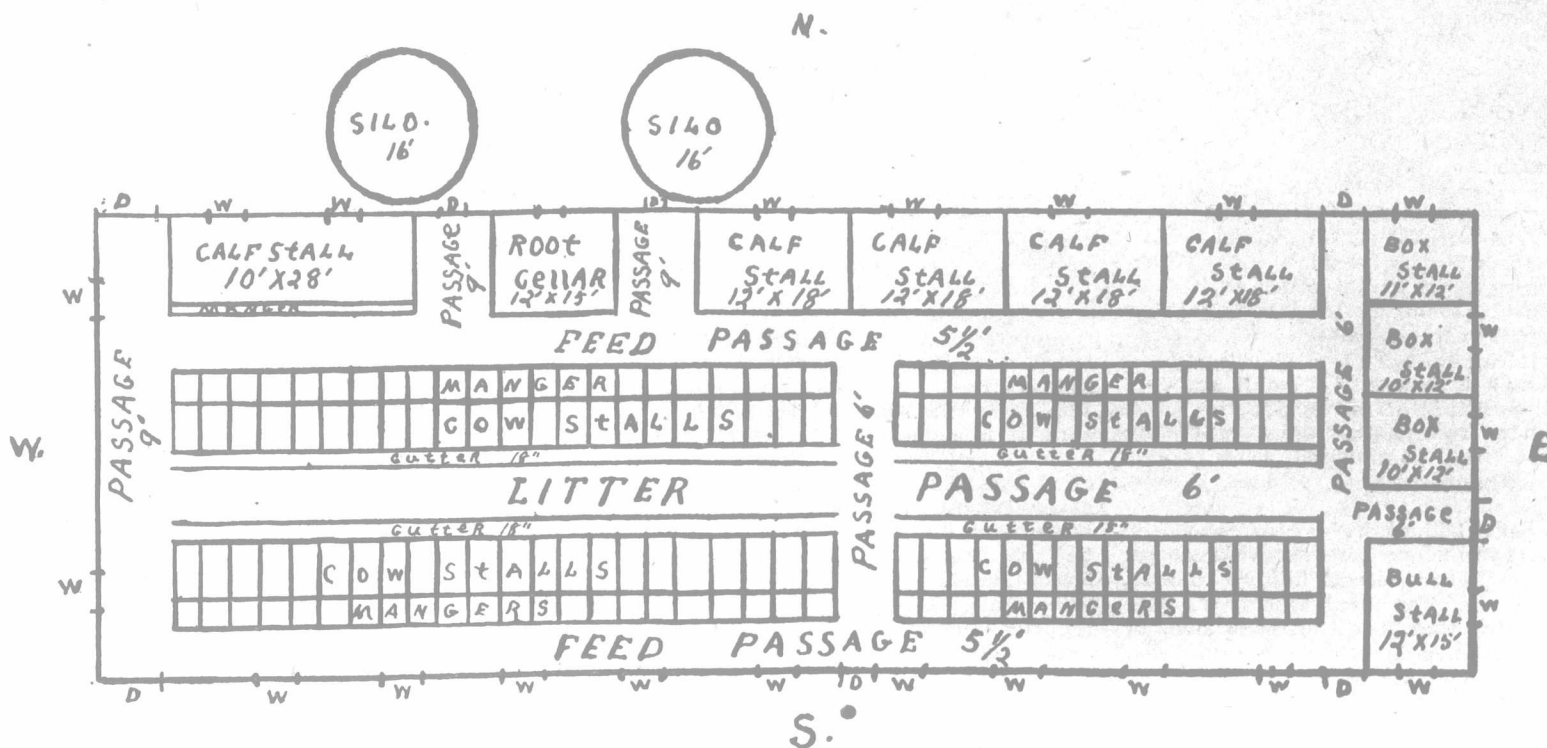
"The Only Paper."

I have taken your journal only one year, but I am highly pleased with it, and my wife thinks it is the only paper. Waterloo Co., Ont. F. Brown.

Mixed Corn and Alfalfa Silage.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Please find enclosed P.O. for \$1.50, subscription for "Farmer's Advocate" for 1913. Might say that I take great pleasure in reading "The Farmer's Advocate," particularly the practical part of it, and am indebted to the publishers for at least one very good contrivance—viz., the hood and pipe for distributing ensilage corn in the silo. I procured the galvanized iron and made the pipe according to directions in "The Farmer's Advocate," and it certainly worked to perfection. I also profited by another article on making ensilage



Sir Henry M. Pellat's Cattle Barn.