

farmer sign them, and the Government cannot refuse. I am sure "The Farmer's Advocate" will do all it can to help us in keeping the roads we have built for our own use. If the city folks don't like to ride behind horses, let them use the railroads. I have twenty-four years of "The Farmer's Advocate" bound, and in all that time I don't think there has been a weed that needs eradicating as much as the automobile nuisance.

A BRUCE CO. FARMER.

LATE AUTUMN AND WINTER FILLING OF SILO.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

When building my barn, ten years ago this coming summer, being somewhat ignorant regarding construction of silos, I made the mistake of building up in one corner a square silo the height of the basement wall (9 feet), and of the same material. Upon this wall was continued a wood structure of double inch lumber, with tarpaper between, nailed to two-by-eight-inch studs, which were well framed in by barn timbers every five feet. This silo was never very satisfactory, from the fact that the air could and would get in at the junction of wood and stone, no matter how I might try to plaster it up. Eventually an idea came to me to strip with inch pieces the upper part, running them down one foot over the joint, and lathing the whole thing. I then filled up the space behind with lime-mortar, and continued on stone wall to the bottom. When this dried, a coat of cement-mortar was put on one-half inch thick, and well trowelled down, so as to make a hard, smooth finish. Now I have a capital silo, with no joint for the air to come in and spoil the silage around the wall, and from there up. The corners of this silo were cut off about two feet, so there are no right angles. The cost of lathing and plastering was near \$50.00, exclusive of my own work.

It might be interesting to you and your readers to know my experience regarding late fall or winter filling of silos.

My line of farming is the fattening or stall-feeding of export and butchers' cattle; and, realizing the possibilities along this line of feeding a greater number by growing more corn, I increased the acreage in 1906 to ten acres, and the same in 1907. In the fall of 1906, on October 28th or 29th, we had a heavy snowfall, and I put my cattle in (38 head), and kept them in continually after. I started feeding from the silo at once, and the corn being well matured, fed a large quantity right along. My idea was to feed the silage up, and fill again, as we had nearly five acres out in the stook, and I considered it would be much less work to have the machine a day and refill them than be continually drawing in and cutting every day, which would be not so bad with a reliable power, but with a windmill (which is the only power I have), it is simply impossible to keep a supply on hand. We had the silage pretty well down, and refilled on December 10th. The corn that year was, as I said before, extra well matured, so there was very little sap in the stalks, and, thinking it might heat without sufficient moisture to cool it within itself, and consequently mould or fire-fang, we attached a long piece of hose to the tap, started the mill (the wind happened to blow on that day), and had a continuous stream of water to dampen it. This proved to be as good ensilage as we ever had, and a much more expeditious manner of handling the crop than the daily hauling-in I have mentioned. Again, this year we had a bumper crop of corn, but not so well matured as last year. We filled the silo when the cutter was going the round of neighbors, and had over half the crop to stook. As the cattle did not go in to feed so early this fall (November 27th, 40 head), and the corn was not as well matured as should be, we saw it would be impossible to feed enough out to refill until very late on in the winter. I therefore decided to put up another silo—a stave one—which we filled on November 23rd. This corn had been stooked about two months, and had cured somewhat, or, at least a great deal of the sap and acidity had dried up, but was still damp enough to do without the addition of water. I consider this almost first-class ensilage, not being sour and acid, as green, immature corn would make, if the silo were filled early, or when the regular filling time came. The cattle can eat a large quantity, without any scouring or bad results whatever; consequently, it has a greater feeding value. The point I wish to make is this: When the corn is not well matured, from any reason whatever, such as late season, late sowing, or late variety, it will pay, and pay well, to stook it for a month, at least, before filling the silo. I consider it a very grave mistake to put a lot of green, soft corn into the silo, and expect to have good feed. Hoping these suggestions may be of benefit to you, and wishing "The Farmer's Advocate" the success it deserves.

Oxford Co., Ont.

A. L. CURRAH.

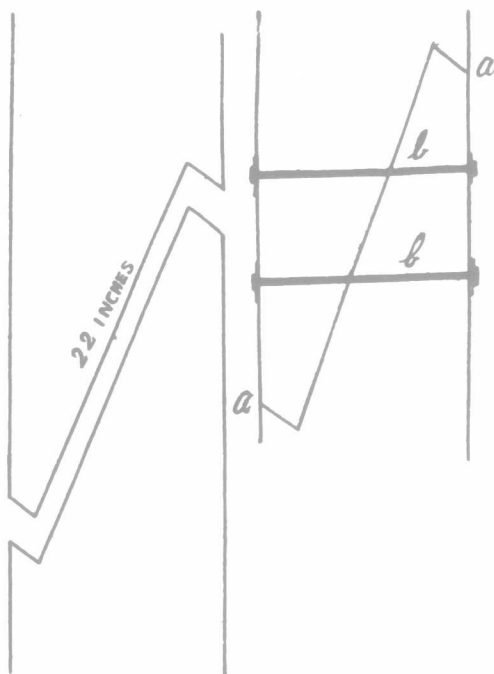
INCREASING THE SIZE OF THE BARN.

This problem confronts many farmers whose barn space is insufficient to store the products of their farms, and many dollars are annually lost to individuals and the country generally for lack of this accommodation.

I had the misfortune, two years ago, to have a barn 45 x 74 ft. burnt by a spark from a railway locomotive. Having another barn 50 x 60 ft., I decided to raise it higher, as the most efficient and economical plan to increase the barn space. The original of this barn was 36 x 60, with 18-foot posts, and to this had been added a lean or overshot for the stable doors, of 14 x 60, as is commonly seen throughout the country. These leans hold very little, as they are usually, by the slope of the roof, only about 10 feet high on the low side; and, being low, are a veritable catch-all for dust at threshing time.

I faised this barn, lean and all, 6 feet, which has added one-third to its capacity. Some are sanguine enough to believe that its capacity is doubled, on account of the increased pressure on the mows from the greater height.

It is not a difficult matter to raise a barn from its foundation, and anyone with a little ingenuity, 8 or 10 good jacks, and same number of



strong chains, can accomplish it. For blocking, I used railroad ties, which the section men had taken from the roadbed and helped us load on the wagons. The plan is to attach false sills to the foot of the posts, let in about two inches at the side, and well chained, the chain being made tight by wooden wedges. Now raise by placing jacks under the false sills. This leaves the old sills in their place on the foundation, and the new short posts are made to fit into the mortises vacated by the other posts. All the timber required will be 8-foot posts to come under the old posts of the barn, and a row of girts around building to nail to when boarding in. The short timber required will not be hard to find in any bush. I took mine to a sawmill, and it was all made in one hour and a half, at a cost of \$3.50 for sawing. The posts are spliced, as in cut. The building is raised slightly higher than the short posts. Then the posts and girts are placed in position, one by one, commencing at a corner. The jacks are then lowered to let the building settle onto the posts. The ends of the posts are then bolted together, and it is ready for boarding in. The cost of raising barn 50 x 60 in this way was less than \$100, and has many advantages over old methods of pulling down and building greater.

D. M. NAISMITH.

Grey County, Ont.

DEPENDING ON OUR FORESTS.

The Paper Mill and Wood Pulp News is quoted as saying, in a recent issue: "The wood situation to-day is a very serious matter. There is not a mill in the United States manufacturing paper and pulp that is not to a very large extent depending on Canada for its wood, and there is no basis to work upon, for the reason that there is no established price for wood either in this country or in Canada, and, owing to this fact, there is no basis for the paper manufacturer to work upon to establish a price for the finished product."

A recent deputation to Ottawa waited upon Sir Wilfred Laurier, to urge upon the Dominion Government the imposition of an export duty on pulp wood, and the taking of other steps to conserve the forests of the Dominion. This is sound policy. Canada should not require the example of the neighboring Republic to warn

against the policy of prodigality and neglect of her national heritage. Canadian resources for Canadian people, should be the motto henceforth. Export duties on raw material are the best means of securing the result without burdening the consumer for the advantage of the producer. This country is ready for an export duty on pulp-wood. Its advantages are that it will tend to the development of a valuable industry within our borders, meanwhile turning into the national treasury a considerable legitimate revenue on what pulp-wood may be exported.

PUT YOURSELF IN HIS PLACE.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In the January 9th issue of your interesting and instructive journal, is a letter on imported horses and boys, signed "Subscriber." But it is imported horses and men vs. Canadian horses and boys he really criticises. Now, I am an Englishman, and came across the big pond he mentions about eighteen months ago. I am now asking you to kindly grant me space to compare notes with "Subscriber." First, has he some animus against Englishmen and imported horses, or is it overdone loyalty to his own country and animals? Does he think that we come across here without an invitation? If immigrants are not welcome to this country, why does the press generally deplore the shortage of labor? Also, why does the Government send agents to our country to enlist all the men and women possible to come and assist in the opening up of this great country? Nothing can exceed the glowing and tempting picture placed before the English public by the different agencies for both shipping and Government, offering every inducement to come, promising a warm welcome here. If we are such a useless lot as "Subscriber" describes us, is it not time to stop all that sort of thing? Does he really mean that he would prefer one Canadian boy to six of us, or is it possible that less than two per cent. of that three hundred he seems personally acquainted with are worth their salt? They cannot come from amongst our rural population. I wish "Subscriber" would visit England, and travel through some of our agricultural counties, say just Suffolk, Norfolk and Essex, three adjoining counties, and note the class of work on the different farms, also the neat, pretty flower gardens round the cottages, and the well-kept and cultivated quarter or half-acre allotment plots, with the straight paths and edges, and every variety of vegetables and grain growing on them, done in overtime, after half-past 5 p.m.; also note the two-hundred-pound pigs in the sties in the autumn, chiefly fed on the garden refuse, with the wheat and barley grown on allotment to finish them. I think "Subscriber" would begin to think they were not such a helpless lot as he would have you believe. In our towns there are a class of people no use there or here, but it is difficult to believe that 300 of them could settle in one locality, and not six be any use. I should like to hear someone else's experience of the immigrants. It may be that this particular 300 are not Englishmen. If so, it would not be fair for me to say that accounts for it. I was not brought up exclusively to farming, but I should not be afraid to go side by side with "Subscriber" for a month at all-round work, or to put my boy of 14 beside his Canadian son, if he has one. The Canadian people generally have been very nice and kind to me and mine, but the snub "Subscriber" gives to all from the Old Country hurts a bit. Will he come out of his shell, and tell us who he is?

Again, as to horses. Coming over the big pond does not make an animal better, but if "Subscriber" could see a few bunches of our good-looking, clean-legged, chestnut Suffolk horses, or the fast-walking, alert Norfolk farm horses and their high-stepping cobs and Hackneys, and, again, the big, powerful Shires, used in the towns for heavy-draft purposes, and compare them with the motley throng I have seen standing outside Canadian cheese factories, I think he would conclude some imported blood might not be a bad thing, after all.

Your note, Mr. Editor, takes Subscriber's sting away a bit, but don't you think that, if matters were reversed, and the Canadian taken across the big pond and dumped down in the Old Country, amongst strange people, strange ways, strange hours, he would feel a mere nobody. The standard of manhood you mention would seem, for the time, to forsake him, and he would wonder why he thought he knew everything and everybody; but if the hand of friendship was extended, would not he be only too pleased to grasp it, and in a short time his energies and faculties would return, and he would soon become familiar with everything. Then, with his Canadian experiences behind him, and his newly-acquired experience put with it, would most likely make him a more useful man than the Englishman that had never left his home or country.

A. MOTHERSOLE.

Glengarry Co., Ont.