

CURING.

Depending upon the uses to which it is to be put the corn crop is cured in different ways. Of course that used for soiling purposes is cut green and fed in that condition. If it is to be used for rough fodder for stock it is cured by stooking in the field or in long stooks near the buildings. The crop may also be preserved by means of a silo, which preserves it in as near the natural condition as possible. There are many types of silo, but all of the "above-ground" type are rather expensive and at the present time can only be recommended for those having dairy farms or a considerable number of growing or fattening cattle. The "pit" or "underground silo" is much less expensive and although less convenient, it promises to lend itself better to the conditions that exist on many Western farms than does the more expensive "above-ground" type, which large herd owners may find best.

EQUIPMENT NECESSARY.

When corn is grown for fodder only no equipment other than the hand planter and the one or two-horse cultivator should be secured at first. If after the crop has been tested thoroughly it is found to be satisfactory a horse-drawn two-row planting machine, or a two-horse cultivator, or a corn harvester, or all three may be purchased. Until the value of the crop to the particular type of farm management followed has been determined or carefully estimated these capital expenditures should not be made.

At first the grain drill or the hand planter may be used to plant the seed, the one-horse cultivator to till the crop and the binder or the sickle to harvest it. The other machinery, including a cutting box, can be purchased from any of the leading implement houses as soon as they are needed.

SUMMARY.

Corn is a warm climate crop, one that grows slowly in cool seasons, and one that suffers from even slight frosts. It produces large yields of fodder and but little grain in this climate. It is useful here for soiling, dairy cattle, for ensiling, for "hogging off" and for rough fodder. It is useful also because of its favourable effect upon the soil, the opportunity it affords to control weeds, soil moisture and soil drifting, and the lessening of the cost of producing cereals. It prefers warm, moist, fertile soils in a good state of tilth. The short early native or improved native sorts, such as "Squaw," "Free Press" and "Gehu" are best for grain. The taller growing flints, such as "Longfellow" and the early dents, like "North Western," are best for fodder. The seed should be tested before planting. The crop should be *sown* or *planted* as conditions determine. Planting