

of last year's.—Messrs. W. Montgomery and Co. report that the development of the nitrate of soda trade has continued steadily throughout the year, but in the spring months, owing to the absence of sufficient supplies, a temporary check was experienced, and, as a consequence of such insufficiency, wide fluctuations in prices resulted. Refined quality has been in increased demand during the year, at prices from 2d. to 3d. per cwt. over those of ordinary quality. The outlook for consumption for the coming season is on the whole satisfactory, but perhaps clouded in some quarters by the lower prices which are current for cereals and beet sugar. The low price of nitrate of soda, however, may counteract any inclination to restrict its use for the crops we have named. The visible supply amounts to 730,000 tons, against 703,000 tons last year. The total consumption of the world for the past three years has been as follows:—1897, 1,100,000; 1898, 1,186,000; 1899, 1,330,000 tons; whilst the shipments for the same periods have been—1,000,000, 1,260,000 and 1,360,000 respectively.

LINING FOR A SILO — CLOVER-SILAGE.

ED. HOARD'S DAIRYMAN:—Some of your readers ask about lining for a silo. A friend and myself each built silos three seasons ago. We lined with 2 ply building felt, with a good coat of asphaltum. We used cheap, rough boards for the sides. This was my second job of silo building, and when I build another, as I hope to next season, I shall build the same way.

My next neighbor, Mr. Fairchild, showed me some clover ensilage. It is the finest feed I ever saw. Each season he fills a silo with the second cutting of clover. (1) It needs no chaff-cutter and so there is not a cent of extra expense. I purpose, hereafter, filling one silo with corn, the other with clover.

Your table of feeds-tuffs is just the thing.

Tonganoxie, Tex.

H. V. H.

WOBURN FIELD EXPERIMENTS.

Dr. VOELCKER continues his account of these field trials, earlier parts of which were given in 1897 and 1898, in the new number of the Royal Agricultural Society's Journal, dealing with the

(1) The best thing to do with it. Ed.

results of 1898. The lessons taught by the wheat and barley experiments are much as they have been for years past; but particular attention is called to the failure of plant of both cereals on the plots which have been dressed for years past; but it appears to have become worse than ever in 1898. The cause is supposed to be a drain of lime, in which the soil of the experimental field is deficient, and this material has been tried on some half-plots with excellent results. The greatest yield of wheat in 1898 (the twenty-second season in succession) was 54.8 bushels, grown on a plot manured annually with $3\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. of superphosphate, 200 lb. of sulphate of potash, 100 lb. of sulphate of soda, 100 lb. of sulphate of magnesia, and, in alternate years, including 1898, 385 lb. of ammonia salts, half sulphate and half muriate. The same treatment gave the greatest yield of barley, 43.9 bushels per acre. In the rotation experiments more barley was grown after feeding roots with cotton cake than where maize meal was fed instead of the cake. Wheat, coming after clover, showed no difference in relation to earlier cake and maize meal manuring, the supposition being that the influence of the clover prevented any difference from being manifested. The case was the same in the clover portion of the rotation experiments. Other experiments showed that "perennial" ryegrass is really more permanent than "annual" or Italian; that both sulphate of potash and nitrate of soda greatly increased the yield of lucerne; and that neither basic slag nor superphosphate did any good to a pasture laid down in 1896; while 2 tons of lime per acre slightly increased the yield of grass.

ALFALFA IN NEBRASKA.

ED. HOARD'S DAIRYMAN:—Red Willow county is a great place for alfalfa. It is first to start in the spring, and is green to the middle of November. It yields four to six tons per acre a year. If cut as soon as ready, it makes four crops a year, and pasture six weeks in the fall. Cows on it give as much milk in October as in June, on clover. I had three big loads per acre at one cutting; thirty-five acres made 113 big loads at one cutting.

The hay is \$5 a ton; this year's crop is worth \$20 to \$30 per acre. The worst drought was in '94, and it made four to five tons per acre, without irrigation; eight acres kept twenty-two head of