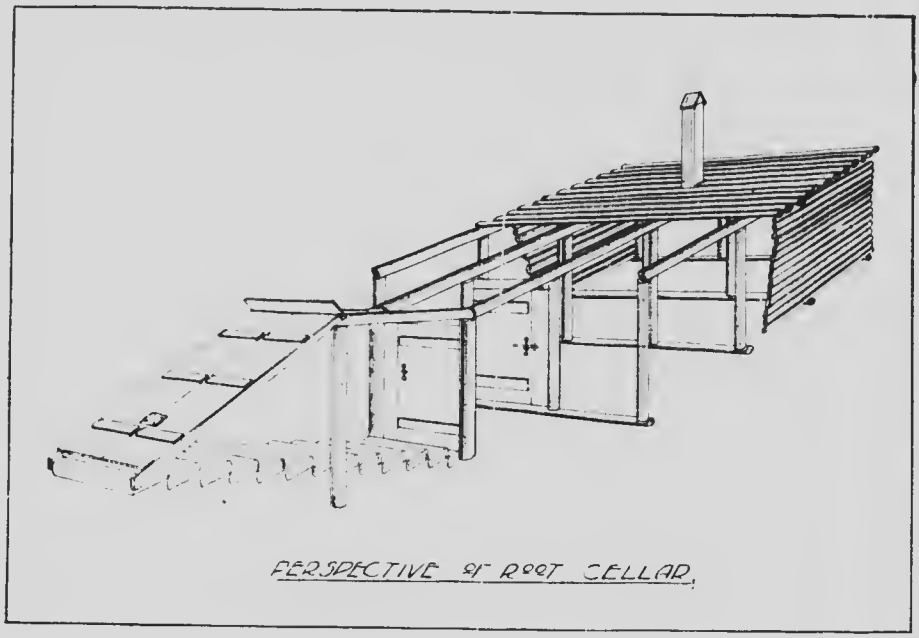
HOW TO CONSTRUCT AN INEXPENSIVE ROOT CELLAR.

That roots are an important adjunct in the feeding of live stock goes without question, but most farmers throughout the west hesitate about growing roots for feed because of the difficulties of winter storage. This also applies to the growing of potatoes. A cheap, and at the same time efficient, root cellar has been in use at the Experimental Station at Rosthern for five years and herewith are submitted the plans.

This important feature is depth. Where water does not interfere, the cellar should be excavated to a depth of at least nine feet and the roof placed at least two feet below the level of the ground. If this precaution is taken there is practically no difficulty in storing the roots without danger from frost.



PERSPECTIVE OF ROOT CELLAR.

The plans submitted call for a cellar twelve feet wide with a row of posts on each side and two rows down the centre forming a passageway three feet wide. The length can be extended indefinitely to meet the requirements of the builder.

The material indicated can all be obtained in the rough directly from the trees except the doors, door-frames and ventilators. The steps used in the cellar at the Experimental Station are made of old railroad ties laid in the soil without any framework whatever. The sides are walled up with poplar poles, but this may not be necessary in the clay formation and in districts where tamarack is available it will be found far superior to poplar.

The plans can be modified to suit the financial capacity of the builder. Gaspipes or boiler flues answer admirably for posts and old railroad rails for stringers to support the roof. The roof may be protected by covering the poles with corrugated iron, thus preventing the moisture from the surface reaching the cellar.

It is important that double doors be placed at the entrance to the cellar in order that a man may pass in or out during cold weather without exposing the contents of the cellar to direct contact with the cold outside air. It is usual to cover the cellar in the autumn with about two feet of manure to add to the protection against frost.