

tells us to give the horse grass, in any part of his daily ration. Nature tells that the only real and proper feed of the horse is the things that he gets in fields and pastures, and while we can not depend upon grass as a feed to give strength to do great work on, we can depend upon it to give tone and strength to the digestive system and to purify and get the blood in condition and bear the heat of the hot season.

Grass is better than condition powders and cheaper than stock food and fully as nutritious. Of course you should be careful when a horse has been on dry feed for six months to not let him have too much the first few days, and he should as much as possible be grassed before feeding him grain.

THE SILO

The wonder is that so few stockmen use silage when it is well established that it is the cheapest form of roughage grown under almost all conditions. The time was when land was so cheap that roughage was cheaply produced. But in most sections that has passed. The farmers must begin to consider a cheaper feed than hay.

The value of silage is not alone in the cheapness of the fodder it contains but it has a value that dry

feed never can have, regardless of land values.

The silo should be as common on the farms of the great stockraising and dairy states as corn-cribs are now. The annual job of filling the silo should be as much a factor of farming as the periodical return of the treshing machine.

Silage is better for cows than hay. It is better for steers than dry fodder. It is excellent for sheep, horses and hogs. It is more economical than shredded fodder.

Before fall comes, we hope many of our readers will determine to build a silo. Begin early to investigate this matter and be sure you know what you are about before you build. Get the valuable experience of others and avoid mistakes. The silo is not a cure-all. It has been boomed in an extravagant manner by some of its enthusiasts. Do not expect too much of it. The silo is a good thing in the possession of a sensible man. The small per cent of gains due to the feeding of silage is worth considering. Prosperity doesn't come so much from great profits as from saving the little losses, stopping the little leaks, and using the small helps. The silo is no marvel or wonder. It is as sensible a building as the corncrib or granary. It is even more economical.

The Illinois experiment station at Urbana has issued a bulletin that tells all about silo building, and the experiment station at Madison, Wis., has one equally as good. We are anxious to have our readers study up on silos before fall so they can have the silo built in time to receive the corn about shocking time.

GROUND AND CUT ALFALFA

The Colorado experiment station has completed an experiment in which a comparison between alfalfa cut in lengths of half an inch and alfalfa ground was made in the fattening of pigs. It required 4.77 pounds of corn and alfalfa, mixed at the rate of three pounds of corn to one of alfalfa to produce one pound of grain, while 4.81 pounds of corn and ground alfalfa, mixed in proportion of three parts of corn to one of alfalfa were eaten for one pound of grain, not counting labor. With cut alfalfa costing \$8 a ton and ground alfalfa at \$16 a ton, the cost of producing 100 pounds of gain with the former was \$2.62, and with the ground alfalfa \$3.12. With corn and cut alfalfa fed in equal parts by weight, the cost of producing 100 pounds of gain was \$2.72. With corn and ground alfalfa fed in equal parts by weight, the cost was \$3.69. These results go to show, says the report

of the experiment, that at the prices quoted cut alfalfa is more economical to feed than ground alfalfa, and that a ration consisting of three-fourths corn and one-fourth alfalfa is cheaper than one consisting of half corn and half cut alfalfa for fattening pigs. Grinding alfalfa is an expensive process, and it is doubtful if machinery can be improvised which will grind it as cheaply as it can be ground by animals.

NOTICE—Send 25 cents to the Independent, Lincoln, Neb., and the paper will be mailed to you each week until after November election. For \$1.00 the paper will be mailed to seven different addresses until after the election. Send in your subscriptions.

Puzzled Pa

The country boy who was going to play on the college baseball team had written a letter to the old folks down home.

"I reckon he's gettin' on all right," drawled the old man, as he scrutinized the page, "but 'pears to me he's doin' some things that a gal ought to do."

"How's that, Hiram?" asked the old lady.

"Why, the other day he says he made two or three muffs."

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