

less loss from the weather. There is less waste in feeding out, and the hay rations can be more easily measured and carted out to the stock. The baling plants in use can usually put through about an acre an hour, and the charge is about £2 per 100 bales weighing 70 lb. to 80 lb. each. The cost of baling is, roughly, 10s. per ton.

Corrugated roofing-iron makes a very efficient cover for a stack, and the loss in a well-built stack roofed in this way is less than 5 per cent., whereas the loss in uncovered stacks is often over 25 per cent. When the iron is placed so that the corrugations run parallel to the slope of the roof, some timbering is usually required to keep the iron in place. Probably as good a method as any is to join the sheets of iron together lengthwise in sections with ordinary spouting-bolts, so that each section is long enough to cover from one side of the stack to the other—the corrugations running parallel with the length of the stack. The iron should be weighted down by kerosene-tins filled with earth.

#### PASTURE MANAGEMENT.

The appearance of abundant rank grass in pastures at the end of November and in early December is frequently followed by a sharp drop in milk-yield by dairy cows. Every endeavour should be made to keep the grass short on dairying pastures, either by mowing the rank growth, or by adopting a definite rotational grazing scheme over part of the farm. Most dairying grassland has an average yearly carrying-capacity of nearly a cow to 2 acres, but during November and December the pasture is capable of carrying at least a cow to the acre. Accordingly in late October, when vigorous grass-growth starts, nearly half the farm should be shut up for hay and ensilage; once a good reserve of hay and ensilage has been built up the number of cows carried on the farm can be safely increased.

During November and December a careful grazing rotation should be practised, and the dairying pastures left closely grazed after feeding off. Under ordinary conditions the best plan is to run the cows in the best grass-growth during the day, and to clean up the partially grazed fields by using them as night paddocks. During November and December the few young stock that are carried on dairy farms are of little use to clean up the pastures when the grass is growing very vigorously. If a field gets away and the growth is quite uneven the field should be mown.

#### CROPPING OPERATIONS.

Roots ridged in October and November will require thinning during the coming month. A proper horse-hoeing preparatory to thinning is very important. Cultivators having three tines should be used—an A-shaped tine to work the middle of the drill and two L-shaped ones to cultivate near the rows. It is not advisable to use long, curved tines near the plants at the early hoeing, as they frequently knock too much earth away from the sides of the drills and leave the roots of the seedlings exposed.

The later sowings of swedes, soft turnips, rape, and other green crops will be made towards the end of December, and care should be taken that the final cultivation of the land does not dry the seed-bed too much. Care should also be taken not to apply too