Layer after layer is placed in this manner, until the whole of the roof is covered. It makes a very effective and tidy cover, but entails much work.

Corrugated galvanised roofing iron is frequently used for covering stacks. Generally, it is used to cover only the top of the stack, coming down the roof sides only a short distance. The iron, about 26in. wide and five to ten feet long, is placed in the opposite direction to the way it is placed on roofs of dwellings. Usually, only three sheets are used to cover each section of the stack—one on top and one on each side of the roof of the stack. The top sheet overlaps the other two.

The sheets or iron are held in position by wires which run over the stack from side to side, and to which are attached weights clear of the ground. The next section of the stack is then covered in the same way, and the sheets then overlap or underlap the sheets covering the first section, depending on the way the crest of the roof slopes. In placing the sheet iron, care must be taken so that it does not shed large amounts of water into one point of the stack.

If the stack settles unevenly the roof must be inspected to see if any of the water is being run by the iron into the stack. If this is occurring the iron should be removed and the hay underneath adjusted, or the matter may be simply righted by altering the overlapping or underlapping of the sheets of iron. The iron costs 2/- to 5/- per sheet, depending on the length. After the iron is put on the remainder of the roof of the stack must be well raked so that the water shed by the sheets of iron will run down to the ground and not penetrate the stack.

Canvas Covers Costly

Canvas covers are most efficient, but are costly. These are held in position by weights in the same way as the sack cover. The weights are attached to the four corners of the cover and along the sides, and should be numerous and heavy enough to ensure that the cover fits snugly down and will not be torn off by gales.

All stacks on which the covers are held in position by weights should be visited from time to time to adjust the weighting as the stack sinks so that they are kept clear of the ground. When covering stacks, ladders should always be used, and care should be taken not to tramp on the haystack and form holes in which water will later collect and cause considerable rotting as it works its way to ground through the material.

Dutch barns for hay are not common in New Zealand, although there is no doubt that they could be usefully employed to a greater extent. They should be erected in positions giving access to two or more fields, so that their constant utilisation does not necessitate the cutting of one field every year. A Dutch barn consists of a gable roof supported either by permanent studs without walls or by wire ropes running through pulleys supported by long poles so that the roof can be raised or lowered. The roof is usually constructed of galvanised corrugated roofing iron on a framework of wood.

The difficulty with the Dutch barn is that it interferes with the hoisting of hay by stackers, the extent de-