



A grading and bagging machine ready for work at the pit.

used for the sides and ends of the pit. The top can also be covered with bales, but care is needed in the placing of them if moisture is to be prevented from entering the pit. Loose hay or straw, if used, should be covered with soil, some of which will be obtained from the drainage ditch around the site. The tubers will not keep satisfactorily if excess moisture is allowed to enter the pit. On the other hand provision for ventilation is also important. Pits covered with straw and then soil are likely to be insufficiently ventilated, particularly when the potatoes



To bind the corners of the pile alternate rows of bales of hay or straw should be arranged as in the diagram. Pits should not be more than four or five bales high.

are stored loose. This can be overcome by leaving a very narrow band at the apex of the pit uncovered by soil. This will provide adequate ventilation and if the apex is well covered with straw and the part uncovered by soil is kept narrow, not sufficient rain will enter to injure the potatoes. The number and size of pits will usually

have to be determined after digging begins. If tubers are to be stored in the standard grain sacks (23in. x 46in.) approximately 90 to 100 cub. ft. of storage space will be required per ton of potatoes, 14 bags being allowed to the ton. Slightly less space will be required if tubers are stored unbagged in the pit.

When bales of hay or straw are used the corners of the stack should be bound by the same methods as the bricklayer employs (see diagram at left).

### Storage in Buildings

In districts where frosts are not severe the use of a well-ventilated farm building is favoured by many growers and undoubtedly has much to recommend it. Such a method allows for the grading of the tubers irrespective of weather.

A woolshed provides ideal storage, and a hay barn not required for storage of hay is also suitable for potatoes. On some farms a disused stable might be available, but a loose-box or similar building is too enclosed. In these types of storage potatoes for eating must be well covered to prevent greening unless the building itself can be sufficiently darkened.

Though adequate and suitable storage space may be provided, serious losses can occur if the crop is inefficiently handled at the time of digging or grading. All digger-damaged, diseased, green, and frosted tubers should be discarded before being stored. Rough handling of the filled bags should be avoided as much as possible.

Attention to the points outlined will save the grower much labour and wastage in the marketing of his crop.

## Radio Broadcasts to Farmers

THE following radio broadcasts to farmers will be given during May:—

### IXH Hamilton

9 May (12.33 p.m.)—"The Wintering of Sows", by O. V. Griffiths, Veterinarian, Department of Agriculture, Hamilton.

16 May (12.33 p.m.)—"Soil Testing Overseas", by E. B. Davies, Department of Agriculture Soil Research Station, Rukuhia.

23 May (12.33 p.m.)—"Trends in the Pig Industry", by D. J. Carter, Federated Farmers, Hamilton.

27 May (8.10 p.m.)—"Current Farming Problems", by panel of speakers.

30 May (12.33 p.m.)—"The Use of Green Crops in the Home Vegetable Garden", by W. Brandenburg, Horticultural Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Hamilton.

### IY2 Rotorua, 7.15 p.m.

12 May—Young Farmers' Club talk, arranged by Eastern Bay of Plenty district committee of the New Zealand Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs.

25 May—"Wintering the Sow and Litter", by H. H. Preston, Supervisor, Bay of Plenty District Pig Council.

26 May—"Feeding and Rearing of Calves", by O. V. Griffiths, Veterinarian, Department of Agriculture, Hamilton.

### 4YA Dunedin, 9.15 p.m.

2 May—"Rabbit Destruction", by J. P. Shennan, Assistant to Livestock Superintendent, Department of Agriculture, Dunedin.

9 May—"Winter Requirements of Bees", by L. J. S. Line, Aptary Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Invercargill.

16 May—"Meat Quality", by I. M. Cairney, Veterinarian, Department of Agriculture, Dunedin.

23 May—"Poultry Feeding", by J. Edmondson, Poultry Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Oamaru, and a poultry keeper.

30 May—"Trials in Winter Feeding of Hogs", by K. H. C. Lewis, Research Officer, Department of Agriculture Invermay Research Station, and I. M. Cairney, Veterinarian, Department of Agriculture, Dunedin.

### 4YZ Invercargill, 7 p.m.

3, 10, and 17 May—"Land Development", by W. Faithful, Instructor in Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Invercargill.

24 and 31 May—Talk by G. Gray, Livestock Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Invercargill.

### Regular Sessions

IXH Hamilton, Mondays at 12.33 p.m. and Tuesdays at 8 p.m. (Frankton stock market report), Wednesdays at 12.33 p.m. (report from Ruakura Animal Research Station), Thursdays at 12.33 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m. (stock sale review).

IXN Whangarei, Mondays at 8.5 p.m., Wednesdays at 8.1 p.m. (Northland stock market report), Fridays at 8.1 p.m.

IYA Auckland, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, 7.45 p.m., and Saturdays at 6 p.m.

IY2 Rotorua, Mondays at 12.33 p.m. (Waikato stock market review), Tuesdays at 7 p.m. (Hamilton stock market report), Wednesdays at 7.15 p.m. (Pig Council talk on fourth Wednesday of every other month), Thursdays at 12.33 p.m. and 7.15 p.m. (fortnightly).

2XA Wanganui, Wednesdays at 8 p.m. (Wanganui stock sale report), Thursdays at 8 p.m.

2XG Gisborne, Tuesdays at 8 p.m., Fridays at 8.2 p.m. (Gisborne stock market report).

2XN Nelson, Thursdays at 8 p.m.

2XP New Plymouth, Thursdays at 8.1 p.m.

2YA Wellington, Mondays at 7.15 p.m., Thursdays at 12.33 p.m., Fridays at 7 p.m.

2YZ Napier, Tuesdays at 12.12 p.m. (Hawkes Bay orchardist session), Tuesdays at 7.10 p.m., Wednesdays at 7.15 p.m. (Hawkes Bay-Poverty Bay livestock market report), Thursdays at 12.33 p.m.

2ZA Palmerston North, Mondays at 12.33 p.m., Fridays at 8.45 p.m. (Feilding stock market report).

3XC Timaru, Mondays at 8 p.m. (Pleasant Point stock market report), Tuesdays (fortnightly) at 8 p.m. (Temuka stock market report), Wednesdays at 8 p.m., and Saturdays at 10.30 a.m.

3YA Christchurch, Mondays at 12.20 p.m., Wednesdays at 7.15 p.m. (Addington stock market report), Thursdays at 12.33 p.m. and 7.15 p.m.

3YZ Greymouth, Thursdays at 12.33 p.m.

4YA Dunedin, Mondays at 12.33 p.m., Wednesdays at 7 p.m. (Burnside stock market report), Thursdays at 12.33 p.m.

4YZ Invercargill, Mondays at 12.33 p.m., Tuesdays at 7 p.m.