The Last Shot

FREDERICK PALMER

business."

older boys.

we know is what is written in our in-

structions, and we shall act on them

in command. Meanwhile, get ready!"

Then the major became aware of a

"This is my place of business!"

"Then you are Miss Galland!" said

cupation at that moment. "Your chil-

dren are very loyal. They would not

tell me where they lived, so we had

"Those who have homes," she said.

with a glance, "have so many broth-

ers and sisters that they will hardly

be missed from the flock. Others

have no homes-at least not much of a

one"-here her temper rose again-

"taxes being so high in order that you

"Now really, Miss Galland," he be

to move the civil population in case of

"After school! You have your duty

interrupted pleasantly, and turned

"Yet you came!" said Marta with a

"It looks pretty bad for peace, but

"My seven disciples-seven!" ex-

seats, but around me on the platform.

"That's grand!" came in chorus

They did not bother about chairs, but

seated themselves on the floor around

The church clock boomed out its de-

liberate strokes through ten, the hour

thinking what a dismal little effort

theirs was, and yet she was very hap-

py, tremblingly happy in her distrac-

tion and excitement, that they had not

waited for her at the door of the

She announced that there would be

ounds of foreboding from the street,

they came in due course to the words

"If an enemy tries to take my

"Children-I-" Marta interrupted

with a sense of wonder and shock.

They paused and looked at her ques-

tioningly. "I had almost forgotten

that part!" she breathed confusedly.

we're doing against the Grays right!"

put in Jacky Werther promptly.

"That's the part that makes all

"As I wrote it for you! 'I shall ap-

Jaws dropped and eyes bulged, for

above the sounds of the street rose

from the distance the unmistakable

crackling of rifle fire which, as they

listened, spread and increased in vol-

"Go on-on to the end of the oath!

It will take only a moment," said

CHAPTER IX.

The Baptism of Fire.

All the landscape in front of Fra-

released a spring in their nerve-cen-

it's the best we can do!"

peal to his sense of justice and reason

no talk this morning; they would only

It will be more intimate."

chapel in vain.

to militancy:

with him-""

infantry.

land-

hand caressingly on his shoulder.

attack. Your children ought-

toward the chapel.

to let them stay there."

SYNOPSIS.

At their home on the frontier between the Browns and Grays Marta Galland and her mother, entertaining Colonel Westerling of the Grays, see Captain Lanstron, staff intelligence officer of the Browns, injured by a fall in his aeropiane. Ten years later. Westerling, nominal vice but real chief of staff, reinforces South La Tir, meditates on war, and speculates on the comparative ages of himself and Marta, who is visiting in the Gray capital. Westerling calls on Marta. She tells him of her teaching children the follies of war and martial patriotism, begs him to prevent war While he is chief of staff, and predicts that if he makes war against the Browns he will not win. On the march with the 53d of the Browns Private Stransky, anarchist, decries war and playedsky, anarchist, decries war and playe out patriotism and is placed under arrectionel Lanstron overhearing, begs high. Lanstron calls on Marta at her hom. He talks with Feller, the gardener. Martalla Talks with Feller, the gardener. tells Lanstron that she believes Feller to be a spy. Lanstron confesses it is true. Lanstron shows Marta a telephone which Feller has concealed in a secret passage ander the tower for use to benefit the Browns in war emergencies. Lanstron declares his love for Marta. Westerling and the Gray premier plan to use a trivial international affair to foment warlitte patriotism in army and people and strike belore declaring war. Partow, Brown this of staff, and Lanstron, made vice, discuss the trouble, and the Brown defenses. Partow reveals his plans to Lanstron. tells Lanstron that she believes Feller !

CHAPTER VIII-Continued.

Now Dellarme disposed his men in fine back of the ridge of fresh earth that they had dug in the night, ready | an appreciation of the irony of her octo rush to their places when he blew the whistle that hung from his neck, but he did not allow them a glimpse over the crest.

"I know that you are curious, but powerful glasses are watching for you to show yourselves; and if a battery jurned loose on us you'd understand," ae explained.

Thus the hours wore on, and the shurch clock struck nine and ten. "Never a movement down there!"

salled the sergeant from the crest to may organize murder and the destruc-Dellarme, "Maybe this is just their tion of property." anal bluff before they come to terms thout Bodlapoo"-that stretch of Af- gan solicitously, "I have been assigned rican jungle that seemed very far tway to them all.

"Let us hope so!" said Dellarme seriously.

Choosing to go to town by the sastle road rather than down the ter- the church tower to get the aerorace to the main pass road, Marta, planes, and there are lots of the little starting for the regular Sunday ser- guns that fire bullets so fast you can't vice of her school, as she emerged count 'em-and little spring wagons from the grounds, saw Feller, garden- with dynamite to blow things upthears in hand, a figure of stone and-" Jacky Werther ran on in a watching the approach of some field series of vocal explosions as Marta batteries. The question of allowing opened the door to let the children him to undertake his part as a spy and drifted into the background of her mind under the distressing and everpresent pressure of the crisis. He was to remain until there was war. She was almost past him before he real- eyed, in loyalty. "We'd come right ized her presence, which he acknowl- through bullets 'cause we said we sdged by a startled movement and a step forward as he took off his hat. sick." She paused. His eyes were glowing like coals under a blower as he looked at her and again at the batteries, seeming to include her with the guns

in the spell of his fervid abstraction. "Frontier closed last night to prerent intelligence about our preparations leaking out-Lanny's plan all blive-the guns coming," he said, his Marta's scirts. shoulders stiffening, his chin drawing in, his features resolute and beaming with the ardor of youth in action-"troops moving here and there to their places-engineers preparing the defenses-automatics at critical points with the infantry-field-wires laidfield-telephones set up-the wireless spitting-the calesons full-planes and dirigibles ready-search-lights in po-

There the torrent of his broken sentences was checked. A shadow passed in front of him. He came out of his trance of imageries of activities, so vividly clear to his military mind, to realize that Marta was abruptly leav-

"Miss Galland!" he called urgently. "Firing may commence at any minute. You must not go into town!" "But I must!" she declared, speak-

ing over her shoulder while she passed. It was clear that no warning would prevail against her determined

"Then I shall go with you!" he said, starting toward her with a light step. "It is not necessary, thank you!" she answered, more coldly than she had ever epoken to him. This had a

magically quick effect on his atti-"I beg your pardon! I forgot!" he explained in his old man's voice, his bead sinking, his shoulders drooping in the humility of a servant who recognizes that he has been properly rebuked for presumption. "Not a gun-

ner any more-I'm a spy!" he thought, as he shuffled off without looking toward the batteries again, though the music of wheels and hoofs was now close by. Marta had a glimpse of him as she

turned away. "He is what he is he cause of the army; a victim of a cult, a habit," she was thinking. "Had he been in any other calling his fine qualtties might have been of service to the world and he would have been happy."

A company of infantry resting among their stacked rifles changed the color of the square in the distance from the gray pavement to the brown of a mass of uniforms. In the middle of the main street a major of the brigade staff, with a number of junior officers and orderlies, was evidently ready and Westerling should throw in forehead running down the bridge of walting on some signal. Sentries were the clutch; waited until the troops his nose. posted at regular intervals along the were in place for the first move before curb. The people in the houses and he hurled his battalions forward. shops from time to time stopped pack- They did not know how the captain at tain's rank, watching the plain ing up their effects long enough to go to the doors and look up and down only heard the note of the whistle, ment of mounted officers to the rear only the sanction of custom, but the ley and his wife was ub-squabblin' dey apprehensively, asking bootless, nervous questions.

'Are they coming yet?" "Do you think they will come?" "Are you sure it's going to be war?"

"Will they shell the town?"

the peppered silhouette that faced Westerling's desk. What they had done repeatedly in drills and maneuvers they were now doing in war, mechanically as marionettes.

"Come on! The bullet is not made that can get me! Come on!" cried the giant Eugene Aronson.

Nearly all felt the exhibaration of movement in company. Then came the sound that generations had drilled for without hearing; the sound that summons the Imagination of man in act when he hears it; the sound that is everywhere like the song snatches of bees driven whizzing through the to get away!" shouted the major. "All air,

"That's it! We're under fire! We're every brain.

There was no sign of the enemy; young weman who was going in the no telling where the bullets came

wrong direction. Her cheeks were from. Whish-whish! Th-ipp-whing! The flushed from her rapid walk, her lips were parted, showing firm, white refrain gripped Peterkin's imagination one knee, his head level with the Aronson were not thinking, only run- war. "Mademoiselle, I am very sorry, but ning, Peterkin was thinking with the unless you live in this direction," be rapidity of a man falling from a high said very politely, "you may not go any building. He was certain only that farther. Until we have other orders he was bound to strike ground.

"An inch is as good as a mile!" He or they attack every one is supposed to remain in his house or his place of recollected the captain's teaching. "Only one of a thousand bullets fired in war ever kills a man"-but he was Marta answered, for she was already certain that he had heard a million opposite a small, disused chapel which already. He looked around to find was her schoolroom, where a half that he was still keeping up with Eu- pawns of the ruling class, who keep dozen of the faithful children were gene and felt the thrill of the bravery us all pawns in order that they may jagged piece of shrapnel jacket. Now gathered around the masculine impor- of fellowship at sight of the giant's have champagne and caviare. Com. there were too many shells to watch tance of Jacky Werther, one of the flushed, confident face reveling in the rades, I'll lead you! Comrades, we'll them individually. spirit of a charge. And then, just



Pilzer Was Shooting to Kill.

would if we wasn't sick, and we wasn't then, Eugene convulsively threw up his arms, dropped his rifle, and whirled on his heel. As he went down claimed Marta as she counted them. his hand clutched at his left breast the red cape of the matador, regarded fusillade. And you need not sit on the regular and came away red and dripping. Dellarme, who hesitated in admiration After one wild backward glance, Peterkin plunged ahead.

"Eugene!" Hugo Mallin had stopped and bent over Eugene in the supreme instinct of that terrible second, supporting his comrade's head.

"The bullet is not-made-" Eugene whispered, the ruling passion strong set for the lesson, and all counted to the last. A flicker of the eyelids, a them-one-two-three. Marta was gurgle in the throat, and he was dead. "Here, you are not going to get out the word!" he said to Dellarme. this way!" Fracasse shouted, in the irritation of haste, slapping Hugo with cynicism. Deliarme still hesitated, his sword. "Go on! That's hospital-

corps work." Hugo had a glimpse of the captain's rigid features and a last one of Eugene's, white and still and yet as if he were about to speak his favorite say their oath. Repeating in concert the pledge to the boys and girls of boast; then he hurried on, his side glance showing other proserate forms. other lands, the childish voices pecu-One form a few yards away half rose liarly sweet and harmonious in conto call "Hospital!" and fell back, trast to the raucous and uneven struck mortally by a second bullet.

"That's what you get if you forget instructions," said Fracasse with no of the concession that the oath made sense of brutality, only professional exasperation. Keep down, you wounded men!" he shouted at the top of his

voice. The colonel of the 128th had not looked for immediate resistance. He had told Fracasse's men to occupy the knoll expeditiously. But by the common impulse of military training, no less than in answer to the whistle's call, in face of the withering fire they dropped to earth at the base of a knoll, where Hugo threw himself down at full length in his place in line next to Peterkin.

"Fire pointblank at the crest in "Fire fast! That's the way to keep down their fire-pointblank, I tell you! You're firing into the sky! I want to see more dust kicked up. Fire fast! We'll have them out of there soon! Marta resolutely. "It isn't much, but They're only an outpost."

Hugo was firing vaguely, like a man in a dream. Pilzer was shooting to kill. His eye had the steely gleam of his rifle sight and the liver patch on his cheek was a deeper hue as he I thought was pretty nice and to meet sought to avenge Eugene's death. casse's company seemed to have been Drowned by the racket of their own on a Sunday. All the men were away. deserted; no moving figures were any- fire, not even Peterkin was hearing And they had duck for dinner." He where in eight; no sign of the enemy's the whish-whish of the bullets from stopped. "Ever carve a duck?" he Dellarme's company now. He did not asked meaningly. "No, neither had I Faintly the town clock was heard know that the blacksmith's son, who striking the hour. From eight to nine was the fourth man from him, lay with deepened. "I never even went to see and nine to ten Fracasse's men wait- his chin on his rifle stock and a tiny ed; waited until the machine was trickle of blood from a hole in his

Young Dellarme, new to his captheir back received his orders; they through his glasses, saw the movewith a command familiar to a trained of the 128th as a reason for summoninstinct on the edge of anticipation. It ing his men.

"Creep up! Don't show yourselves! ters. They responded as the wheels Creep up - carefully-carefully!" he landsmen. The press-gang, an armed goodness, dey dess goes 'round and respond when the throttle is opened. kept repeating as they crawled for party of reliable men commanded by 'round like a merry-go-round, and no-Jumping to their feet they broke into ward on their stomachs. "And no one officers, usually proceeded to such body kin prognosticate which is shead. "There'll be time enough for you a run, bodies bent, heads down, like is to fire until the command comes." houses in the seaport towns as were -Puck.

Hugging the cover of the ridge of | recollecting Lanstron's remain. He fresh earth which they had thrown up pictured Stransky in a last stand in a the previous night, they watched the redoubt, and every soldier was as white posts. Stransky, who had been precious to him as a piece of gold to ruminatively silent all the morning. a miser. was in his place, but he was not look-

"They don't want to fight! They're just here because they're ordered here a breath released from a ball that and haven't the character to defy au- seemed to have come straight from the thought of how he will feel and thority," he thought. "The leaven is hell. The fire control officer of a regiworking! My time is coming!"

the white posts were rising. He was to of the Gray infantry, he seen a figure under fire!" flashed a crooked light- prove by the way he directed a com- on the knoll. "How kind! Thank when the thing starts. Then we are ning recognition of the sound through pany of infantry in action whether or you!" his thought spoke faster than rank. He smiled cheerily. In order The range to every possible battery that he might watch how each man or infantry position around La Tir his slim body erect as he rested on passed the word to his guns.

passion

"Men, stop firing!" he howled thuntake a white flag and go down to meet think as we do! I'll lead you!"

cracking of the rifles working as regularly as punching-machines in a factory. Every soldier was seeing only it was felt. The men knew through his sight and the running figures under it. Mechanically and automatical. of dodging and that their best protecly, training had been projected into tion was an accurate fire of their own. action, anticipation into realization. A man in a hundred-yard dash to stop running, to an oarsman in a race to jump out of his shell.

bent over to keep his head below the hastened toward them.

"Will you get down? Will you take Dellarme.

Stransky laughed thunderously in ed attention to the knoll. scorn. He was handsome, titanic, and still clenched.

of the picture of human force before him. But the old sergeant, smarting place and picked up his rifle. under the insult of the blow, his sandorder. He was ready to act as execu- resolute coolness. tioner.

"If you don't want to shoot, I can! An example—the law! There's no other way of dealing with him! Give Stransky laughed, now in strident

"One ought to be enough to kill me ing at the enemy. Cautiously, to avoid if you're going to do it to slow music," a reprimand, he raised his head to en- said Stransky. "You might as well able him to glance along the line. All kill me as the poor fools that your the faces seemed drawn and clayish. | poor fools are trying to-

Another breath finished the speech; ment of Gray artillery on the plain, For Dellarme the minute had come scanning the landscape for the origin when all his training was to be put to of the rifle-fire which was leaving a test. The figures on the other side of many fallen in the wake of the charge not he was worthy of his captain's words. No need of range-finding! used his rifle, he drew back of the line, was already marked on his map. He

The burst of their first shrapnelteeth, and her black eyes were re- with an unseen hand. He seemed to other heads while he fingered his shell blinded all three actors in the garding him in a blaze of satire or be suffocating. He wanted to throw whistle. The instant that Eugene scene on the crest of the knoll with amusement; an emotion, whatever it himself down and hold his hands in Aronson sprang over the white post its ear-aplitting crack and the force of was, that thoroughly centered his at- front of his head. While Plizer and a blast from the whistle began the its concussion threw Stransky down beside the sergeant. Dellarme, as his It was a signal, too, for Stransky vision cleared, had just time to see to play the part he had planned; to Stransky jerk his hand up to his temmake the speech of his life. His six ple, where there was a red spot, befeet of stature shot to its feet with fore another shell burst, a little to a Jack-in-the-box abruptness, under the rear. This was harmless, as a the impulse of a mighty and reckless shrapnel's shower of fragments and bullets carry forward from the point of explosion. But the next burst in derously. "Stop firing on your broth. front of the line. The doctor's period ers! Like you, they are only the of idleness was over. One man's rifle shot up as his spine was broken by a

"It's all right-all right, men!" Delour comrades and we'll find that they larme called again, assuming his cheery smile. "It takes a lot of shrap-The appeal was drowned in the nel to kill anybody. Our batteries will soon answer!"

His voice was unheard, yet its spirtheir training that there was no use

Stransky had half risen, a new kind spectator might as well have called to of savagery dawning on his features as he regained his wits. With inverted eyes he regarded the red ends of his fingers, held in line with the The company sergeant sprang for bridge of his nose. He felt of the Stransky with an oath. But Stransky wound again, now that he was less was in no mood to submit. He felled dizzy. It was only a scratch and he the sergeant with a blow and, reck had been knocked down like a beef in lessly defiant, stared at Dellarme, an abattoir by an unseen enemy, on while the men, steadily firing, were whom he could not lay hands! Deafstill oblivious of the scene. The ser eningly, the shrapnel jackets congeant, stunned, rose to his knees and tinued to erack with "ukung-s-shreached for his revolver. Dellarme, ukung-s-sh" as the swift breath of the shrappel missiles spread. The guns crest, had already drawn his as he of one battery of that Gray regiment of artillery, each firing six 14-pound shells a minute methodically, every your place with your rifle?" demanded shell loaded with nearly two hundred projectiles, were giving their undivid-

How long could his company endure barbaric, with his huge shoulders this? Dellarme might well ask. He with water, which is allowed to stretching his blouse, which fell loose knew that he would not be expected freeze, thus adding a layer of snow ly around his narrow hips, while the to withdraw yet. With a sense of re- ice. Flooding on small fields may be fist that had felled the sergeant was lief he saw Fracasse's men drop for cover at the base of the knoll and By "overflowing," which consists house will be useful in the hot weath-"No!" said Stransky. "You won't then, expectation fulfilled, he realized merely in conducting water to the er in many ways. It will cool milk, kill much if you kill me and you'd kill that rifle-fire now reinforced the ene- field, or by piercing the ice field here dairy products and meat, and the less if you shot yourself! God Al- my's shell fire. His duty was to remighty! Do you think I'm afraid? Me, main while he could hold his men. and a feeling toward them such as he His eyes in a bloodshot glare, as had never felt before, which was love. uncompromising as those of a bull in sprang full-fledged into his heart as he an arena watching the next move of saw how stendily they kept up their

> Stransky, eager in response to a new passion, sprang forward into

"If you will not have it my way, stone features mottled with red take it yours!" said the best shot in patches, had no compunctions of this the company, as he began firing with

"They have a lot of men down," said Dellarme, his glasses showing the many prostrate figures on the wheat stubble. "Steady! steady! We have plenty of batteries back in the hills. One will be in action soon."

(TO BE CONTINUED.) <<<<<<<<<<

Tells of Tense Moments

Their Causes Were of Widely Different Beginnings.

tell of the two most tense moments laws on the subject were frequently inof his life yesterday, says a corre- troduced. As early as 1563 the naval spondent of the Boston Journal. But authorities had to secure the sanction the tension in each case was differ of the local justices of the peace; in

were big moments.

"The first was when I was in college. I was captain of the baseball team that year. We came to the end tioning impressment are in abeyance, front of you! I saw a couple of men of the ninth. We needed one run to standing up there!" called Fracasse. tie the score and another to win the game. Two men down and two on the sacks when I came to bat. And for once in my career I did it. I lined out a three-bagger, right over the railroad track. When I felt it go -well, that was one occasion.

"And the other." He chuckled, but a slow flush crept over his cheeks. "It was thirty years ago, soon after I left college. I went over to see a girl her folks for the first time. I went before. Nor have I since." His blush that girl again," he added plaintively.

Press-Gang.

The press-gang was an institution which flourished in Great Britain in the olden times when impressment was the mode resorted to for manning the navy. The practice, which had not Bombershay, "dat when Brudder Mauforce of law, consisted in seizing by had it up and down like a see-saw, force, for service in the royal navy, sometimes one of 'em gittin' de best seamen, river watermen and at times of it and den de yudder. But now, bless

Man of Prominence Had Two, and supposed to be the resort of the seafaring population, laid violent hands on all eligible men, and conveyed them forcibly to the ships of war in I heard a prominent Cambridge man | the harbor. Mitigations of the harsh 1835 the term of an impressed man's "I doubt if I ever shall forget either service was limited to five years save occasion," he said, reflectively. "They in urgent national necessity. By that time the system was becoming obsolete, and now the navy is manned by voluntary service. But the laws sancwithout being repealed.

> Woodchuck "Bile 'Em Fust." Horace Kephart once asked old Uncle Bob Flowers, one of his neighbors in the Smokies: "Did you ever eat a woodchuck?" "Reckon I don't know what them

"Ground-hog." "O, la! dozens of 'em. The red

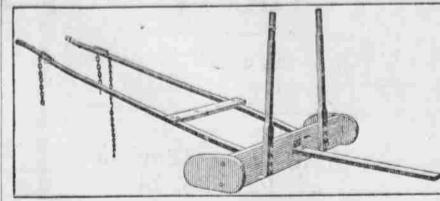
ones hain't good, but the gray ones! Man, they'd jest make yer mouth wa-"How do you cook them?" "Cut the leetle red kernels out from

under their forelegs; then bile 'em fust-all the strong is left in the water-then pepper 'em and sage 'em, and put 'em in a pan and bake 'em to a nice rich brown, and-then I don't want nobody there but me!"-Buffalo

The Change,

"It used to be," declared old Brother

ICE PROPERLY STORED-FARM SNOWHOUSE



Horse-Power Scraper for Removing Snow From an Ice Field.

Ice is a very perishable commodity considered in order to keep ice well. These are as follows:

of surface exposed to the air or to the packing material. This is most of the year, easily accomplished by piling the ice in the form of a cube. A mass of ice 12 by 12 by 12 feet exposes less surface than the same tonnage piled in any form less nearly that of a cube or of a globe.

2. The keeping of good ice depends upon the completeness of its insulation, whereby it is protected from external influences, such as heat and

3. Drainage is important because the lack of it interferes with the insulation.

4. The ice itself must be packed so as to prevent as completely as possible the circulation of air through the mass. The more nearly the mass of ice approaches that of a solid cube, both in shape and texture, the easier, with good drainage and insulation, will be the keeping problem. The keeping of ice, then, depends upon the shape of the mass, its insulation, its drainage and its solidity.

The ease and rapidity with which ice may be gathered depends upon the condition and location of the field as well as upon the tools used for

doing the work. If the ice field is covered with snow the formation of ice will be retarded, as the snow acts as a blanket and raises the temperature, thus retarding the ice formation. If the ice sheet is sufficiently thick and snow falls upon it, the snow must be removed before harvesting can proceed; or if, on the other hand, it is desirable to increase the thickness of the ice after the snow falls, the field may

shown in the accompanying figure.

A Snowhouse for the Farm.

(Prepared by the United States Depart- | house the snow may be kept for a long time and used in the summer in the place of ice. This plan, say field and therefore, certain important prin- agents of the United States departciples must be considered in the con- ment of agriculture, has already given struction of a place to store it. In- excellent results in practice, and is vestigators of the United States de- especially recommended to farmers in partment of agriculture consider that Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and there are four important things to be Maryland. There is, however, no reason why it would not be profitable to construct a snowhouse in any region 1. The ice must have a minimum where there is a likelihood of any considerable snowfall in the course

In Virginia and Maryland success-

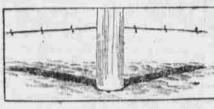
ful snowhouses have been made from a pit sheltered by a gable roof some four feet above the ground. The dirt dug from the pit is piled around the board sides of the house and graded in order to drain the water away. Underground the pit should not be less than 16 feet in diameter and depth with a bottom from two to six feet smaller than the top. This is to prevent the formation of air spaces around the snow as it settles. The pit should be lined with planks two inches thick. Obviously, the coolest place available should be selected, and whenever possible, shade from surrounding trees should be utilized to keep off the rays of the sun. Proper packing of the snow in the house is essential. It should be tramped down with the feet and tamped with a block of wood. After a few days, when the first loads have settled, the spaces between the snow and walls should be filled with more snow piled as high as possible. The top should then be covered first with sacks and finally with two or more feet of sawdust or straw. As fast as the snow melts around the sides, the spaces thus left should be packed with straw in order to prevent air currents. Care should also be taken to fill the snowhouse before the snow becomes wet. In the case of heavy falls the snow should be shoveled directly into the wagon from any clean spot as soon as it has settled sufficiently to pack well. Where there is only a light be flooded and the snow saturated | fall, the snow can be drawn into rows by means of a plank drag and then hauled in wagons to the pit.

Well-packed snow stored in this av in a properly-constructed and there with a bar or auger, to al- housewife can use it freely for freezlow the water to force itself to the ing ice cream or in other ways that surface and gradually to saturate the will add greatly to the comfort of the household. The pit should, of course, Snow may be removed from small be constructed in the summer time fields, when necessary, by means of and be all ready for use when the shovels, but upon large fields it will first snow comes. It is also well to economical to use horse-power remember that as long as the outside scrapers. A simple plank scraper is temperature remains below 32 degrees it is advisable to leave the doors of the storehouse open. As soon as the "Snow well packed will last as long thermometer rises above freezing, as ice," say those who have tried the however, the doors should be shut. experiment on farms where more Care should also be taken after resnow than ice is available in the win- moving snow to see that the covering ter. In a properly constructed snow- of sacks and straw is replaced.

BRACE POST WITH CONCRETE EXPENSE OF FILLING A SILO

Trenches Filled With Broken Stones Distance That Corn Must Be Hauled or Brick and Strengthened With Cement Is Good Plan.

Dig the hole in the usual manner, then in the directions opposite to the pull of the wires dig trenches ten inches wide and two feet long. Put in some broken stones or brick and pour cement over it, first a layer of stone, then some cement, and so on until the trenches are filled. trenches, of course, connect with the



Concrete Around Base of Post Has Two Connecting Concrete Exten-

oost hole and are filled as the post is being held in place by a temporary brace, says Popular Mechanics. After the filling is done, a better brace cannot be had, and the unsightly corner brace is not needed.

Fattening Calves.

The fattening of calves, one after another, on dairy cows injures the latter for use later as milkers. It is better to milk the cows and feed meal and water added for er '1 calf, to one-half of what the cov gives. The addition of the substitute: must be made gradually.

Unsuitable Food.

Impure feed and impure drinking water are never suitable for the dairy cow. Remember she turns this stuff into milk and milk is one of the best of human foods. It is made up very largely of the elements that a cow milk at a temperature of ninety to eats. At the same time a cow must one hundred degrees in proper quantibe kept healthy and it is almost impossible to do it on filthy feed.

Kindness Is Appreciated.

It pays to be kind to a mileh cow: she appreciates kindness and will repay her keeper by increased yields in must be fed to the limit to produce milk. Whatever you do, don't try to the largest profit possible, must abpound milk out of her, with a milk soltnely be provided with comfortable, stool; it does not pay and, besides, it sanitary surroundings or she can not

and Efficiency of Labor and Equipment Determine Cost.

(By J. KELLEY WRIGHT, Missouri Ex-

The cost of filling silos in Missouri varies from 23 cents a ton to \$1.50 a ton, according to conditions and the ability of the man on the job to turn out good work. The average price for filling silos is 60 cents a

In calculating the cost of silage, the cost of growing the corn cannot be considered, because the crop must be grown anyway, whether harvested as From the standpoint of food nutri-

ents it contains, a ton of silage is worth from \$3.25 to \$3.50 a ton. Whenever silage takes the place

of hay it is worth whatever hay sells for. Many men have sold silage in Missouri for from \$8 to \$10 a ton. It costs to harvest an acre of corn (40-bushel yield) from the stalk, from

\$1.20 to \$1.60 an acre. It costs to harvest an acre of corn (40-bushel yield) by cutting and putting into the shock and then shucking it out, \$3.20.

The same acre of corn can be harvested as silage for \$6 (40-bushel yield of corn)-ten tons of silage. Cost of harvesting, \$6. Ten tons of silage at \$3.50 a ton equals \$35.

The distance that the corn must be hauled from the field to the silo the calves. Frequently, also, in these has much to do with the cost of fillconditions two calves may be fattened ing. The greater the distance to haul, together by the use of a little oil- the greater number of wagons that will be required.

The kind and efficiency of labor and equipment will also determine to a very great extent the cost of filling the silo.

Injurious Cold Winds.

The cold, penetrating winds of the early fall are disliked by and injurious to young calves. Provide a clean, dry, warm place for them Feed them ties, and avoid the ealf scours that are usually prevalent during the early winter months.

Comforts for Daily Cow.

A high producing dairy cow that