

THE TREMAINE ALFALFA RANCH

By Lawrence Morris

The Tremaine alfalfa ranch, located 3½ miles south of Mesa on the paved highway between Mesa and Chandler, is a model farm in every respect. The large hay barns are of uniform construction and systematically planned, the fields are arranged for efficient cultivation and harvesting and the houses with their

maine, Jr. These houses inclose a large lawn. On the south side of the driveway is a music room and swimming pool. To one side of this is another dwelling and opposite this is the dining hall and kitchen.

Continuing down the drive one comes to the orchard, garage and storeroom, stables, garden, greenhouse, poultry yard and hay barns.

place into an alfalfa ranch. After spending a second winter on the place, he bought an adjoining 200 acres and set about to put the ground into alfalfa.

During the season of 1923 when the young alfalfa had come into full bearing, it was decided to build more barns and handle outside hay as well. Accordingly five barns were added and



A Typical Scene During Haying Time on the Tremaine Alfalfa Ranch.

green tops and white sides add a domestic touch to the picture.

One approaches the block of houses on the Tremaine ranch over a gravelled driveway fringed with orange and eucalyptus trees. To the north of the drive is Mr. Tremaine's house. On either side and closer to the driveway are two more houses, one a guest house and the other for B. G. Tre-

The business office and scales are at the hay barns which face the railroad track. On every side of the barns are the growing fields of alfalfa.

Mr. Tremaine, a Cleveland manufacturer, bought 320 acres of the present tract in the late fall of 1920 for a winter home. He immediately saw the agricultural possibilities, however, and decided to convert the

the four old ones were enlarged to hold 650 tons each. The nine barns have a total capacity of approximately 6,000 tons of hay. At present all are full. In addition to this the ranch this season will handle 7,000 tons direct from the field to the cars.

Aids Other Growers

This hay comes from all over the
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IMPROVEMENT OF CITRUS ORCHARDS BY BUD SELECTION

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Salt River Valley. The highest market price was paid for it. Thus the Tremaine ranch provides an excellent cash market for other alfalfa growers, keeps prices stabilized and provides an outlet. An alfalfa meal mill is under construction on the ranch now. Mr. Samuels, the superintendent of the ranch, recently made a trip East to study the alfalfa meal business and buy the machinery for the new mill. When completed the Tremaine mill will cost about \$60,000. It will have a capacity of 60 tons a day.

The mill is being put in with the idea of adding grain and molasses to the ground alfalfa and making a balanced ration. If this scheme proves a success, it will open up a new field for the alfalfa growers of this district.

The Tremaine ranch is actively managed by a superintendent. Under him is a manager who looks after the detailed work on the ranch.

There are about 35 men employed at all times. All the common laborers are Mexicans. They live in adobe houses on the ranch and seem unusually contented. No machinery on this model alfalfa farm stands out in the weather. When machinery is not in use it is put in a centrally-located machinery shed.

Haying starts the latter part of April and lasts until late October or November. Six good cuttings are usually obtained. The policy followed on the ranch now is not to irrigate through the latter part of July or August, thus keeping down weeds and grass. When haying starts there are usually five mowers, three or four hay rakes and three or four buck rakes going continually.

Mr. Tremaine is so enthusiastic about the Salt River Valley that he is selling his residence in Cleveland and is coming to his ranch to live.

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