

those entitled to registration, are the only ones the Council of Agriculture allows the agricultural societies to hire or purchase; so it is useless to offer any others for sale through the *Journals of Agriculture*.

ED A. BARNARD,
Secretary of the Council of Agriculture,
and Director of the *Journals of Agriculture*.

Quebec, April 9th, 1891.

Prizes offered for the best ensilage.

To the President of
The Agricultural Society of the County of P. Q.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that the Council of Agriculture offers the following prizes for distribution this year—from the present date, to 15th of December next—to those members of your society who shall, this year, build the best siloes and exhibit the best preserved samples of silage on the 1st December next :

- In the counties in which there is only one society, four prizes \$15.00, \$10.00, \$6.00, \$5 00
- In the counties in which there are two societies, three prizes to each..... \$8.00, \$6.00, \$4.00
- In the counties in which there are two subdivisions, A and B, to each..... \$10.00, \$6.00, \$4.00

Your society will have to name one or two judges to examine the siloes and silage, and to report upon them.

You will transmit to this department, on or before the 15th September next, the name and address of the judge or judges thus appointed, that we may send them a form of the report, in duplicate, that the judges will have to make; one copy for the agricultural society, the other for this department.

On receipt of this report, the amount of the prizes granted will be sent to your society, which will have no expenses to meet except the cost of the judges.

The department hopes that the agricultural societies will bestir themselves to second this enterprise, the usefulness of which is incontestable, and that the results obtained therefrom this year will be such as to encourage still greater efforts on the part of the government in the future.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,
ED. A. BARNARD,
Secretary of the Council of Agriculture,
and Director of the *Journals of Agriculture*.

Competition of Agricultural Merit this year—1891.

THE DATE OF THE ENTRIES TO THE COMPETITION OF AGRICULTURAL MERIT HAS JUST BEEN POSTPONED TO THE 15TH MAY NEXT. Competitors are requested to hasten their entries as much as possible, as, after that date none will be accepted

Nitrate of Soda.

Enquiries are being made about nitrate of soda I know of none for sale here, except it may be at the Hamilton Powder Company, the secretary of which told me that the price was about 2 cents and a fraction a pound. Mr. Wm. Evans will supply it at \$2.25 per 100 lbs. in 200 lb. bags. This is cheap enough.
A. R. J. F.

Copy of the report of a Committee of the Hon. Executive Council, dated April 20th, 1891, approved by the Lt. Governor in Council, April 22nd, 1891.

CONCERNING ARBOR-DAY

No. 231.

The Hon. the President of the Council, in a memorandum, dated 20th April current (1891), recommends that a proclamation be issued fixing the following days for the celebration of Arbor-day, that is to say :

Wednesday May 6th next, for the Western part of the Province, including the following counties :

- Argenteuil, Bagot, Beauharnois, Berthier, Brome, Chambly, Châteauguay, Compton, Deux-Montagnes, Drummond, Hochelaga, Huntingdon, Iberville, Jacques-Cartier, Joliette, Laprairie, L'Assomption, Laval, Maskinongé, Missisquoi, Montcalm, Montreal, Napierville, Ottawa, Pontiac, Richelieu, Richmond, Rouville, Shefford, Sherbrooke, Soulanges, St. Hyacinthe, St. Jean, St. Maurice, Terrebonne, Three-Rivers, Vaudreuil, Verchères and Yamaska.

And Tuesday, May 19th, for the Eastern part of the Province, comprising the following counties :

- Beauce, Bellechasse, Bonaventure, Champlain, Charlevoix, Chicoutimi, Lac St. Jean, Saguenay, Dorchester, Arthabaska, Gaspé, Kamouraska, Lévis, L'Islet, Lotbinière, Matane, Mégantic, Montmagny, Montmorency, Nicolet, Portneuf, Quebec (County), Quebec (City), St. Sauveur, Wolfe, Rimouski and Témiscouata.

Certified true copy.

(Signed) GUSTAVE GRENIER,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

True copy.

(Signed) ED. A. BARNARD,
Secretary of the Council of Agriculture,
and Director of the *Journals of Agriculture*.

A MODEL STEADING.

Several of our readers, desirous of putting up convenient farm buildings, have asked our views and advice as to what constitutes a model steading for an ordinary sized farm of about 100 acres.

When we began farming, some 35 years ago, this problem had to be solved without delay. We gave it then, and have given it ever since, much thought and study. But the more we go, the more numerous the problems which crop up on all sides, where perfection is aimed at in important details.

In all countries where snow does not interfere greatly with stacks and where farm animals can consume root and other crops mainly where they grew, the question of what constitutes a model steading may be greatly simplified. Here, in Northern climes, where most crops must be housed, as well as all farm animals, for a number of cold, stormy winter months, this question becomes very complex. Before launching out into the study of details, it therefore seems best to examine carefully the principles which underlie this very important matter of intelligent farming.

WHAT IS WANTED.—We want our crops housed in perfect safety, where they can be easily reached at all seasons, at the lowest expenditure of time and money. As to our farm stock, it must all be kept in perfect health, and in such a manner that their owners obtain at the lowest cost the largest possible net returns. Such net returns are generally of a complex nature: take milk as an example. This may be turned