

LIGHTNING PROTECTION

The possibility of danger by lightning is perhaps better realized at this time of the year than at any other period. After every electric storm reports are received of houses and barns being burned, animals in the field killed and sometimes men and women are struck and killed by lightning.

The Fire Commissioners' Department for Saskatchewan reports during the third quarter of the year 1915, that is during the months of July, August and September, there were twenty-seven different fires reported as caused by lightning. The loss on livestock killed by lightning reported, but not classified was \$1024.65. The loss on livestock killed by lightning reported and classified was as follows:—Cattle, 11 head; horses, 16 head; Loss, \$2271.50.

There is always a danger present during an electrical storm that the house or barn or animal or person may be in a favorable position to be a conductor, thus assisting the two equal and opposite charges of electricity present respectively in the land and atmosphere to unite and when such object becomes the conductor, a charge of tremendous strength passes thru it and the result in the case of unprotected buildings is usually a fire and with animals or persons instantaneous death.

Lightning Protection Simple

It is a comparatively simple and inexpensive matter to properly protect buildings from any danger from lightning. In a bulletin issued by the office of the Fire Commissioner for Saskatchewan it is stated that lightning rods have proved to be a positive protection and will under proper installation tend to reduce the destruction and loss caused by lightning. Satisfactory conductors can be made of either copper or iron. They should have as few joints as possible, they should never be insulated but should be fastened securely in place, suitable allowance being made for expansion, by clamps of the same material as the conductor. The vertical rods should be carried a sufficient distance from the wall to avoid sharp bends around projecting masonry or brick work. Conductors should also be run as far as practicable from all interior metal fittings, such as piping, hay track, etc. The terminals should extend not less than eighteen inches above the point to be protected. A permanent and reliable ground is absolutely essential. By far the best ground can be secured by connecting to underground metallic water piping. When this not possible, ground plates, driven pipes or the equivalent are recommended. Following are a few suggestions to avoid danger from lightning:—

How to Avoid Danger

Why is it necessary to avoid proximity to water and streams during lightning? Because water being a good conductor, a person standing near it, being also a good conductor, might determine the discharge.

Why is the middle story of a house the safest part to be in during an electric storm? Because lightning sometimes passes upward from the earth; hence it is a mistaken notion of safety to take refuge in a cellar. In instances where houses have been struck with electricity from the earth, the force of a shock has abated as the electricity ascended.

Why is the middle of a room the safest place? Because it is removed from conducting surfaces such as bright mirrors, bell wires, cornices, wall, etc.

Why is it advisable to stand on a thick rug or a hair mattress? Because, being dry and non-conducting bodies, they would insulate the human body and prevent the electricity from passing to it.

Why is it dangerous to approach the fireplace in an electric storm? Because heated smoke, air, vapor and soot are conductors and the metal grate, fender, fire irons, etc., are all good conductors and may conduct the electricity to a person standing near them.

Why is it dangerous to approach a window for the purpose of fastening the shutters during a thunderstorm? Because the iron bolts and bars, the hinges, etc., afford conduction to electricity and may convey a severe electric shock.

Is it dangerous to stand near a lightning conductor? It is not dangerous because metal being a better conductor than the human body, electricity would not leave the metal to pass thru a worse conductor.

When is it dangerous to stand near an elevated object? When electric storms occur it is dangerous to stand near tall objects which are indifferent con-

ductors, because the fluids of the human body are a good medium and lightning would pass thru the body in preference to any worse mediums.

CO-OPERATIVE EGG MARKETING

During the past six months considerable activity has taken place in connection with the organization of co-operative marketing associations in the province of Manitoba. A number of the associations which have been organized are now shipping their eggs co-operatively and others will commence shortly. In contrast to the usual methods of marketing eggs, those produced by the members of the co-operative associations are shipped direct to the larger centres and the members receive a cash price for their produce. This method of marketing has many advantages over the old system of trading eggs for goods at the local store; viz., for the improved quality of eggs marketed a higher price is received; shipments are made more frequently; the quality of a perishable food product is conserved; by means of the "case plan" method of identification the goods are paid for according to quality; and finally, the farmer himself is given, in cash in hand, definite tangible evidence of the magnitude of the returns received from the poultry on his farm.

That the work initiated to date has met with general approval is evidenced by the number of requests for meetings which have been received. These requests have been complied with as quickly as possible, but owing to the inclement weather previous to seeding, there still remains quite a number of places to be visited. Plans are being made to follow up this work immediately and as many meetings as possible have been held during the month of June.

It is proposed, when a sufficient number of local associations have been organized, to federate these and form a Provincial Association which will operate its own warehouse and grading station in Winnipeg.

In districts where a number of producers have expressed themselves anxious to undertake the marketing of eggs and poultry co-operatively arrangements can easily be made to have the whole subject explained. It is customary to appoint a collector or business manager whose duty it is to arrange for the collection, shipment and disposal of the eggs, also to arrange, at the time of the organization, for some system of financing whereby the necessary cases, fillers and other equipment necessary to properly carry on the business may be purchased. Some capital is also necessary in order that the members may be paid with reasonable promptness for their eggs. A certain day in the week is chosen as shipping day, and it is understood the eggs are to be brought in on that day or the day before. The shipper is usually paid on the commission basis, which ranges from $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 cent per dozen, depending upon the season and also upon the amount of work entailed. The shipper also makes returns to the farmers on the basis of the grading statement received, paying the full amount received less his own commission and transportation and other necessary charges.

In districts where, for any reason, it is not possible or convenient to complete a fully organized association, temporary arrangements may be made whereby only a few interested persons may ship their eggs co-operatively and thereby obtain the benefit of direct sale. In this case one of their number should be selected as a shipping agent, or if not convenient possibly the local merchant, elevator manager, express agent or someone else in the vicinity who is conveniently located might be induced to handle this part of the work. There seems no good reason why a large number of the Grain Growers' Associations should not adopt this means of co-operation. Co-operation between these local associations and the organizers under the Dominion Livestock Branch would avoid a lot of unnecessary duplication.

Further information regarding the co-operative marketing of eggs can readily be secured from R. J. Allen, 44 Hargrave St., Winnipeg, the Manitoba representative of the Poultry Division, or with the Assistant Livestock Commissioner, Ottawa, in charge of the Markets Policy of the Dominion Livestock Branch.

There will be fewer scrub horses in the future than there have been heretofore. It is no longer considered good business to breed to diseased and crippled stallions.

LIGHTNING

Western Lightning Rod Co., Brandon

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