

aggregate by about one-fourth. The potato crop in P.E. Island is the best for many years. No blight, rot or disease of any kind, and at this date, September 20th, they are, except the early varieties, quite green. I estimate the total crop on the island this season at 6,000,000 bushels. The price is quite low, only 16c. is now being offered, and the chances for good prices this fall are not good. Cheese is king in P. E. Island this year, and will total very nearly double what it did last year, and that means a good deal. At the last board meeting in Charlottetown sellers would accept nothing less than 11 $\frac{3}{8}$ c. and no sales were made; the week before 11 $\frac{3}{8}$ c. was freely received. That is the highest price ever received here since the dairy industry first started in 1892. But "wait till you see us next year" in the cheese business.

It is gratifying to learn that so capable a man as Mr. F. W. Hodson has been appointed head of the new department of live stock in the Dominion Agricultural Department. Mr. Hodson will bring his many years of experience in Ontario. Now that his position has been widened, I would caution Mr. Hodson, in his new position, to recognize the fact that our wide Dominion comprises more live stock than is found in Ontario. Since Mr. Hodson has been secretary of the Dominion Cattle, Swine and Sheep Breeders' Associations his labors have been entirely in the interests of the Ontario stock breeders, while breeders in the Maritime Provinces and other parts of Canada have never been recognized by this F. W. Hodson. Now that he will occupy a much more prominent position in the Dominion Department of Agriculture, it is to be hoped that he will, at least, stifle his prejudices in favor of the Ontario breeders, and work in the interests of the breeders of every province of Canada alike. Nevertheless, I cannot believe, from his close association with breeders of his native province, that he can do this. Let him take an example from his brother commissioner, Prof. Robertson's, cosmopolitanism in this regard, and let these few words of caution be taken kindly, for they are in his own interest as well as the breeders outside of Ontario.

Kings Co., P.E.I.

J. A. MACDONALD.

[NOTE.—While the live stock organizations of which Mr. Hodson has been the efficient secretary so many years were called Dominion associations they were practically Ontario organizations, and received liberal grants from the Ontario Government to carry on their work. There are no grounds whatever for believing, as our correspondent intimates, that Mr. Hodson, though he has been closely connected with Ontario affairs for sometime, will be at all partial to this province and to Ontario breeders, when he assumes his new duties at Ottawa. In fact during his work here he has interested himself in many ways for the benefit of breeders in the other provinces. His efforts in behalf of inter-provincial trade and the shipping of pure bred stock at greatly reduced rates have been just as much in the interests of outside breeders as of those in Ontario.—EDITOR.]

Prizes for Dairy Exhibits

Prof. Dean Suggests a New Basis of Awarding Them

To the Editor of FARMING:

As this is the time of year when persons are especially interested in prize lists at the fairs, would you allow me to suggest a change in the method of awarding prizes, especially among exhibitors of dairy products? Where prizes are given for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th it means that many exhibitors receive no share of the prize money for their trouble and expense, yet in many cases the judges are puzzled to know which samples shall be awarded the prize. Two samples may be so near alike that it is a "toss up" which shall be placed first. As both cannot receive a prize

the judge or judges are obliged to strain a point in order to arrive at a decision. It would be very much less trouble to do the judging if it made no difference in case two lots were scored alike, as they should be in many cases.

The plan, or at least a form of it, which I would suggest, has been adopted at several American exhibitions and has given good satisfaction so far as I know. We will suppose a case. \$100 is to be given for prizes in cheese or butter in any section. Set aside say \$10 for the exhibit which scores the highest, there is left \$90 to be divided *pro rata* among all exhibitors whose cheese or butter scores over, say 90 points. Suppose, further, that there are scores of 93, 94, 95, 96 and 97. The total points scored above 90 are 30. $90 \div 30 = 3 = \$3$ value of 1 point. The person whose product scored 93 would receive $3 \times 3 = \$9$. 94 score = $4 \times 3 = \$12$. The two 95 point exhibits would receive \$15 each. The 96 point exhibit would receive \$18. The 97 point exhibit would receive $\$21 + \$10 = \$31$ altogether. I feel satisfied that this method would induce a larger number to exhibit and would do justice to many exhibitors who fail by possibly half a point. It would also do away with the necessity of asking for three cheeses or six packages of butter from one person in order to make a creditable exhibit at the fair.

H. H. DEAN.

Dairy Department O.A.S., Guelph, Sept. 25, '99.

Registration of Jerseys

To the Editor of FARMING:

I noticed in last week's FARMING a question asked by Moses Sutton re registration of Jersey cattle. I think by your answer that you are a breeder of A.J.C.C. Jerseys, as that is their explanation every time and appears to be all they seem to know of the case. I will state right here that there is as much chance for crooked work in registering in the Cattle Club Book as in the Herd Book if a member is so disposed. I have been breeding Jerseys for the past twenty years and purchased the first Jersey bull dropped in this part of Canada before, I think, the Fullers and Mrs. Jones commenced. I have had animals registered in both books, but have kept the most of my stock in the Herd Book. I have watched the movements of the Cattle Club Book through its main organ, the *Country Gentleman*, during the last twenty years and the booming it has done to raise its standard while the Herd Book has been doing a steady business. Stock registered in the Herd Book are of superior quality to plenty registered in the Cattle Club Book.

The Herd Book was established in 1864, and all stock registered in this book have to be got by registered sire and dam, and if either of them is not found on record you will not get your calf registered. This is the same law the Cattle Club Book goes by, and how is it that it is so much better than the Herd Book? If it is, Cattle Club breeders have been more honest than Herd Book breeders, and they all seem to know the fact. If you will take the trouble to write to O. B. Hadwen, Worcester, Mass., compiler of the Herd Book, he no doubt will give you all desired information, facts and figures, to publish in FARMING, and no doubt that plenty of Cattle Club breeders will learn something from headquarters. I have registered five head of young stock this fall and got my returns all right and hear nothing of suspension.

BRUCE E. JOHNSON.

Picton, Ont., Sept. 25, 1899.

Note.—By way of explanation we might add that the reply given by us to the question in FARMING for September 19th was based upon information obtained from a gentleman in this city who is thoroughly posted on all matters relating to the registration of live stock. If a mistake has been made we are pleased to spare the space to the above letter in regard to it. We would, however, be glad to hear from others who are posted in regard to the point at issue.—EDITOR.