

APPENDIX No. 1

ture in certain sections of the United States, and how they treat the whole question there.

A. That information would not be difficult to get. Many of the experimental stations in the United States have been working on this subject for some years past—the Chemical Department at Washington has been working on it almost constantly for some years—and a number of reports have been published. The impression left on my mind after going through a number of these reports is that we are quite as favourably situated in Ontario and Quebec, as to the quantity and quality of the beets we can grow as any of the States. They had once a record-breaking season in Nebraska, when beets they sent to Washington for analysis were found to contain over 17 per cent, which has been cited by Nebraskans as proof that their State is to be regarded as the best sugar producing State in the Union. It is said they had a very dry season and that year the roots only weighed a few ounces each, and that the sugar, which ordinarily would have gone into a large root was concentrated in a small one.

Q. Fortunately they did with such a light crop.

A. One can sometimes tell the truth, and yet be misleading if you tell only one side. It is true that they grew beets that year with that large percentage of sugar, but I have not heard of it being done a second time.

By Mr. McEwen :

Q. You have got away from my question regarding the time of planting.

A. At the experimental farm two plantings were made, the first was on May 8, which gave 20 tons 570 pounds per acre ; the second was two weeks later, May 22, and this gave 19 tons 42 pounds per acre. There was thus a difference of about a ton and a quarter in the yield as a result of the delay in seeding two weeks. Vilmorin's Improved, sown on May 8, gave a yield of 19 tons 225 pounds, while that sown on May 22 gave 17 tons 1,495 pounds, a difference of about a ton and a half in favour of the early sowing. We have had a similar experience for several years past and in almost every instance we have found roots to average a larger crop when sown early.

By Mr. Wright :

Q. Does that apply to the Early Rose potato ?

A. That is a somewhat different question.

Q. You said all roots ?

A. Yes, but the potato is a tuber. All the roots we have tested have usually given the larger yield from the earlier sowings, but we have not yet tried many experiments in the planting of potatoes at different dates.

By Mr. McGowan :

Q. Could you get the committee these data regarding the sugar beet ?

A. I could work that up, if desired; what States would you be interested in—Michigan ?

Q. Michigan.

A. If the statements recently made by one of the leading papers in Toronto are correct, it would seem that there are people who are interesting themselves in beet sugar production in Canada who do not want the whole truth to be known. This statement was to the effect that the Ontario government had a deputation wait upon them lately to complain that some speakers at Farmers' Institutes had said that the beet was an exhausting crop, which they contended was misleading and tending to discourage the cultivation of this crop, and they wanted a stop put to these misrepresentations. The Institute speakers were quite right; the sugar beet is an exhausting crop, and they did only their duty, when addressing farmers on this subject, to tell them the whole truth—any objections taken of this character are likely to be regarded with suspicion.