

A. That is the practice in Germany, and the quality of the beets grown much depends on the care taken by the seed growers. While that is the practice of the best growers, there are probably quantities of seed, without taking the trouble of testing the roots in the way I have mentioned. The difference in the results are so important that the managers of sugar factories are always very particular about where they get their seed. The Vilmorin's Improved is grown by the well known seed firm of Vilmorin & Andrieux, of Paris, France. The Vilmorins have for several generations been working on sugar beets with the object of increasing their percentage of sugar, and they have been very successful. When sugar beet growing was begun in France, it is said that six per cent of sugar was about the average proportion in the beets, but by the long continuance of this plan of selection, the proportion has been gradually increased to about 14 per cent. This shows that it is possible, by continued and persistent work along certain lines, to influence nature a great deal, and this is a very striking example of the success which has been achieved by continued experiments through several generations.

*By Mr. Wilson :*

Q. Could you tell us the size of the best sugar beet? They are not the largest generally, are they?

A. The best beets are said to average a half or three-quarters of a pound to a pound, usually, anything much over a pound is considered too large for the best results.

Q. That would not be bigger than your fist?

A. Probably about that thickness, and seven or eight inches long.

Q. They are not a long-bodied beet?

A. No, they are something like the short white carrots, but the beet is not so regular in growth as the carrot, and for that reason there is more labour in harvesting them.

*By Mr. Kidd :*

Q. They have more fibres?

A. Yes.

*By Mr. Robinson (Elgin) :*

Q. In the manufacture of sugar, is the whole of the beet made into pulp?

A. Yes, the whole of the beet. If the crown of the beet has been exposed while growing, the part above ground produces less sugar than the part below the surface.

*By Mr. McEwen :*

Q. What is the best time to plant?

A. We find the earlier plantings always give us the larger crops.

*By Mr. Wright :*

Q. And a larger percentage of sugar?

A. I cannot say as to that; we have not kept the early and later crops apart.

*By Mr. Farquharson :*

Q. Your conditions differ from ours, but if we can have some information from our neighbours to the south, they say that in certain sections of the United States it is a success, and their conditions would be perhaps similar to our own, and if we could know how they treat the whole question and what kind of a beet gives them the best results, it would be of value because it would set at rest a feeling which exists here that we should have the sugar beet, and I do not know that there is very much in it. I would like to know something of the great success which appears to attend beet cul-