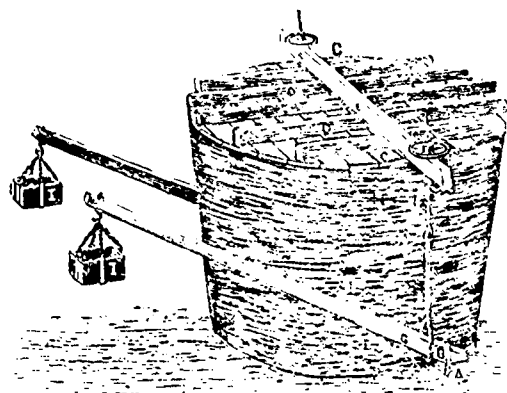


always odds and ends about a farm, grassy corners &c.—which must be mown to prevent seeding, and these, not greatly worth the trouble of turning, &c., might be made into a silo-stack and help the young stock considerably.

Jersey heifers.—See article on.

Potatoes.—Effects of different manures on the crop. Mode of cutting sets.



SILO STACK AND PRESS.

Cheese is up to 48s. per cwt., in England—about 10 cents a pound. Where on earth the profit on exportation lies, I can't see. Our best is quoted to day at 9 cents.

Sir William Hart Dyke, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, has offered any of his labourers at Lullingstone Castle, Kent, small holdings at 5 shillings an acre. A marvellously liberal propine, at first sight, but, unfortunately for the excellent Baronet's credit as philanthropist, I happen to know that he has had *eleven* farms on his hands for the last four years: about 3,800 acres. Sooner or later, though I don't see how it is to be managed, the English labourer will have, at all events, a choice of renting, or not as he pleases, a few acres of land. (This is n't politics M. le Directeur.)

ARTHUR R. JENNER FUST.

COMPETITION OF FARMS.

The following is the first instalment of an article written by Mr. Edward Barnard, the Director of Agriculture of the province of Quebec, at the request of the Directors of the Agricultural Association of the County of Portneuf. It concerns the results of the competition of the best cultivated farms in the above county, and contains suggestions as to the better management of future competitions.

Plans of farms.—We begin to day the publication of the farms inspected by the judges. After a first visit to the twelve farms entered in the competition, it seemed to us impossible to form a correct idea of the system of cultivation followed, without having before us a plan of each of the contending farms, with its divisions, the rotations for several years past, the improvements, &c. We went back, then, over the county, and made, to the best of our ability, the accompanying plans of the prize-winning farms. It seems to us that, for the future, every competitor should be obliged to furnish the judges with a plan of his farm, on which should be inscribed the following description of each one of the fields:

1. Extent and divisions of each field, with the order in which they come.

2 Nature of the improvements, if any made, such as drainage, water-courses, stone clearing, &c.

3. The system of cultivation during the past ten years, and the date of the last application of manure.

A serious objection to the competitions is that no one, not even the competitors themselves, can extract any useful lesson from the contest. But, furnished with the plan we have suggested, the judges would be able to deliver their decision in a convincing form, to render it comprehensible to the parties concerned, and to show clearly what lessons might be derived by the neighbouring farmers from the competition they had witnessed, all of which advantages seem to us unobtainable without the plan we have put before our readers.

By means of a *figure*, corresponding with the different clauses of the programme, and a *letter* (a. b. c.), the judge, could mark on the plan itself the points due to each piece of land as he visits it. Thus, as to the fences, the judge as he crosses the field would make the following mark on the plan. IIIa, which would indicate that clause III of the programme had been perfectly fulfilled (b. would indicate *less* perfectly, and c. badly). And so on for the rest.

CLAUSE IV. DITCHES AND WATER-FURROWS 10 points. This, we think, should be subdivided, so as to give five points to the ditches and five to the water-furrows. The competitor would then see more clearly any defects pointed out by the judges. Thus, we have found many farms where the ditches were kept in good order, but without nearly the proper number of water-furrows.

CLAUSE V. STONES AND WEEDS: 10 points.—It is clear that this clause should be subdivided. It would be very unjust to give as many points to a non-stony soil, as to a rocky one where the stones had been cleared away at a great expense, and the weeds destroyed.

CLAUSE VII. BUILDINGS AND IMPLEMENTS. 10 points.—Here again the clause should be divided, that the competitor may see wherein he is deficient. And, besides, it seems right to us that ten points should be assigned to each of the subdivisions on account of their great importance. On a well stocked farm the implements represent a great part of the capital invested, and it is the same with the buildings.

The programme itself, we think, might offer with advantage distinct points for each of the buildings, for the principal implements, and for the carts, &c. As for instance.

Barns.....	1.00
Cowsheds.....	2.00
Stables.....	1.00
Piggeries.....	1.00
Sheepsheds.....	.50
Fowlhouse ..	.50
Dairy.....	1.50
Dung-pit	2.50

In all..... 10.00

As for the points assigned to the stables, cowhouses, &c., it would be necessary to lay great stress on the *perfect preservation* of both the liquid and the solid manure; and that over and above the *dung pit*, which equally deserves special points.

CLAUSE VI. CATTLE: 10 points.—For the more equal distribution of these points, we have thought right to prepare the table No. 2.

It will be seen that the fowls are added to the other farm stock mentioned in the programme of the Council. We will, hereafter, show that some of the competitors have made good profits out of their fowls, in addition to the quantity used in their households.

We should like to see the Council adopt a formula some-