

at which time only about three-quarters of the sulphur is in combination. Plainly, then, the color change is an indication of completeness of boiling only in the case of those lines which contain a certain quantity of iron or other like "metal."

Sprouting Seed Potatoes.

Many field trials to ascertain the value of sprouting seed potatoes in boxes before planting them, have been recently made in Britain. The results indicate that the method is profitable.

In one experiment, in 1905, the average gain of sprouted over unsprouted seed was 1 ton 18 cwt., per acre. In the following year, a gain of 1 ton 9 cwt. was shown.

On twelve farms, in 1907, the average gain was 2 tons per acre; and on 11 farms, in 1908, the gain averaged 2 tons 14 cwt. In addition, there were fewer small potatoes, and less disease.

THE FARM BULLETIN.

Lambton Co. Notes.

This is one of the most backward springs that have been experienced here for a good many years. After such a dry fall and a nice winter, farmers were in hopes for an early spring, as many had a great deal of plowing to do. The fact of there being but little snow or frost, the ground would soon have been ready for spring operations, but the weather continued wet and cold, until it reached a climax, on April 29th, when a heavy fall of snow, followed by a downpour of rain, caused one of the largest floods in years. The majority of farmers, therefore, have done very little on the ground yet (writing May 1st).

Feed has not been what could be called plentiful, but the most of cattle will go on the grass in fair shape.

Increased interest is being taken in dairying in this county, where beef cattle have held undisputed sway for so many years. Prices for cows ruled high all last fall and winter, from \$10 to \$70. Quite a few farmers are preparing for soiling crops to help keep up the milk flow.

Fall wheat is almost a failure this year, caused by the drouth last fall. It is selling on the local market for about \$1.05 per bushel, which has caused the farmers to take out all their old wheat.

Hogs are a good price now, about 7 cents, but seem to be rather scarce. Horses, also, are commanding good prices, especially heavy-drafts.

We had a terrible wind storm here on April 7th, which did an enormous amount of damage, especially to windmills, both power and pumping. Power mills are rapidly going out of favor here; many farmers are having them taken down.

O. C. R.

Root of the Difficulty.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I am a recent arrival amongst the farmers of this district. I have attended one or two meetings in dairying. The lecturer tells us to get in line to meet the competition of Denmark, New Zealand, etc., by having more modern machines, up-to-date barns, with more windows, etc., but they do not explain how we can get over the fact that all those things cost the farmer here double what our competitors have to pay, and not only that, but their Governments lend them funds to do it with, at 3 or 4 per cent., whilst the farmers here have to pay the banks 8 per cent. The root should be put in order, then the branches can respond.

W. M. BURTON.

New Westminster, B. C.

Lightning Damage.

The number of buildings reported to Prof. W. H. Day, at Ontario Agricultural College, in 1908, as being struck by lightning, was 24, while 31 additional reports were noticed in newspapers. None of the buildings were provided with lightning rods. Nothing definite was ascertained as to whether or not more buildings without windmills than with them were struck. Most of the barns damaged, however, were without windmills. There was nothing to indicate that proximity to railways is a source of danger. The number of persons reported as being struck was 27, and 11 of these were killed.

The next annual meeting of the American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers will be held at Portland, Oregon, August 16th and 17th, 1909. At the same place, and beginning August 18th, will be held the annual meeting of the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations. The Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition will be in progress at Seattle at that time, and no doubt excursion rates, with stop-over privileges, will be granted by the transportation companies.

Meeting of Record Board.

The annual meeting of the National Record Board, held in Toronto last week, was largely attended by representatives of the breed associations whose animals are registered in the National Live-stock Records, at Ottawa. The elaborate report presented by the Record Committee was approved, and the members of that committee complimented on information and details contained. Copies are to be sent to every man in Canada who has pure-bred stock. Particulars regarding registration make it worthy of a place in the stockman's library.

As usual, the question of duty on pure-bred stock coming into Canada came up for discussion. The matter was introduced by the presentation of a letter sent by a farmer of Yarmouth, N. S., to Dr. J. G. Rutherford, in regard to bringing pure-bred Devon cattle from the U. S. The claim was made that, when there are no records in Canada, United States records should be accepted. Similar communications had been received respecting Dutch Belted cattle, Angora goats, etc.

The chairman of the Board, Robt. Miller, said that this matter had been dealt with by the Record Committee, and it was considered that if five men in Canada showed sufficient interest in any breed of stock to take proper steps in approaching the Record Board, the matter of record incorporation should be taken up and assisted. This stand was endorsed.

Major Wm. Hendrie, of Hamilton, sought light on the meaning of the word "domiciled" in regard to registration. The explanation given was that a man was domiciled at the place to which he returned after a temporary absence. Dr. Rutherford pointed out that he had heard of horses being sold to Canadians, and notes in payment being made payable to men in the United States. Other cases mentioned were where big breeders who had farms in Ontario, but whose homes were across the line, had brought in ani-



Iosco De Kol C. Mercedes 7507.

Holstein heifer recently tested officially, at 2 years and 10 months, 434 lbs. milk and over 20 lbs. butter in seven days, claimed to be the champion record for butter for a heifer of her age or under in Canada. Owned by David Caughell, Yarmouth Centre, Ont.

imals duty-free. J. W. Brant, accountant, stated that in the latter case it was necessary to secure a special ruling by the customs commissioner. The regulations state that no animal imported for the improvement of stock shall be admitted duty-free unless the importer is domiciled in Canada, or is a British subject, and furnishes a certificate of the record and pedigree in a list of registers designated from time to time by the Minister of Customs, showing that the animal is pure-bred, and has been admitted to full registry in a book of record established for that breed.

On motion of Peter White, of Pembroke, seconded by Jas. Bowman, of Guelph, the following resolution was carried: In order to obtain free-customs entry of animals of a recognized breed, recorded in books of record other than those of the country of origin of the breed, as laid down by resolution at the annual meeting of this Board, that the Live-stock Commissioner be requested to take the necessary steps to encourage the formation of Canadian records for breeds in question.

Chairman Miller stated that the regulations were satisfactory, and that breeders were being protected. The practice of bringing in animals that were ineligible for registration, without paying duty, had been done away with. He thanked Dr. Rutherford for valuable assistance in helping the Record Committee to arrange details. Those in touch with live stock, he said, admitted that Canada's National Records were ahead of those of any other country.

The following were elected to the Record Committee: Robert Miller, Stouffville, Ont. (Chairman); Wm. Smith, Columbus, Ont., representing heavy horses; John Bright, Myrtle, Ont., light horses; A. W. Smith, Maple Lodge, Ont., beef cattle; Robert Ness, Howick, Que., dairy cattle; J. E. Brethour, Burford, Ont., swine; J. M.

Gardhouse, Weston, Ont., sheep. John W. Brant, Accountant, Live-stock Records, Ottawa, was re-appointed Secretary.

British and Canadian Foot-and-mouth Quarantine Revised.

By an order issued from the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, dated May 3rd, 1909, the importation of hay, straw and other fodder from the States of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Michigan, Maryland and Delaware, except as packing material for breakable goods, was prohibited; and all hay, straw or other fodder imported from the above-named States, as above provided, shall be burned by the consignee immediately on arrival at destination. All previous orders and regulations governing the inspection of live stock for export to Europe, which were in force prior to the passing of the order of November 28th, 1908, are revived and restored. The Chicago Live-stock Report announces that the United States Department of Agriculture has received official notification that the British Government has removed its quarantine (imposed some time since, on account of foot-and-mouth disease) against the importation of live animals from Pennsylvania, but the landing of hay and straw from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Maryland and Delaware is still prohibited. This now removes all bars against the exporting of cattle to Great Britain from the United States, and is expected to result in a broader outlet through export channels.

Plans for Winter Fair Building.

Plans in course of preparation for additions to the Winter Fair Building, at Guelph, show an increased area of 260 feet by 113 feet. The present buildings are 310 feet from end to end, and 118 feet wide, with an additional wing on the south-west corner. In the new part will be a showing 170 feet by 57 feet, with seating capacity at two ends and one side for 1,000 people, and wide promenade encircling the ring. Stabling accommodation will be provided for 160 horses.

Other improvements include more direct access to the lecture hall, and a transfer of the dairy stable to the west end of the new structure, where a model stable, with cement floors and iron fittings, will be equipped. Space for poultry will extend over the second floor of the new part, the area formerly devoted to dressed poultry and geese being added to the sheep department. The area given to judging ring, of course, is not covered by second story.

With the proposed additions and changes, Guelph will be well equipped for winter exhibitions of live stock of all classes, including horses.

Arrival of Farm Help.

That this year's immigrants from Great Britain are of a more desirable class than heretofore, is the assertion of Donald Sutherland, Ontario's Director of Colonization. The number of arrivals is not as high as it has been for a few years, but Mr. Sutherland says that at least 50 per cent. are well acquainted with farm work. A party of about 180, due to arrive in Toronto shortly after the middle of this month, comprise very desirable members, over half of whom have considerable cash, and wish to settle on Ontario farms.

Special efforts are being made by four agents in Great Britain to induce experienced farmers to come to Ontario. City-bred mechanics are not sought. So far, Mr. Sutherland has experienced no difficulty in placing all arrivals, and many more could be located. The tendency on the part of farmers to go to Toronto to see their man, before engaging him, is increasing.

Season in Essex Co., Ont.

What with late frosts, flurries of snow, gales, and a succession of heavy rains during the latter part of April and opening of May, seeding was delayed in some sections, but a good deal of the early-sown grain is growing well. The preparation of corn land has proceeded rather slowly because of wet, though the big municipal and other drains have worked well in swiftly removing the great quantities of water that frequently fell. One tomato-grower in South Essex is reported to have lost by frost several thousand early plants that had been set out. Hogs have been in keen demand through the county, at prices ranging from \$7 to \$7.25.

Please accept my thanks for the knife you sent me as a premium for one new subscriber to "The Farmer's Advocate." It is a splendid one. I am more pleased with and value "The Farmer's Advocate" more highly every year. I certainly think it should be in every farm home in Canada.

ANDREW ROTHWELL.

Arnprior, Ont.