

In the orchard the value of an electric spray to control pests has yet to be determined. This suggests a rich field for experiment, while the beneficial effect upon growth would be undoubted. Again, a system of light-resistance wires run at intervals would ensure against frost.

The possibilities in electricity on the farm are, it will be seen, undoubted, and now that the Ruakura Farm of Instruction has a complete electric installation an excellent opportunity is afforded for experimenting in the directions indicated. The lighting-wires run through a considerable portion of the property. These could be disconnected from their ordinary duty at a pressure of 220 volts and connected to 600-volt wires, and thus be made to supply 30 horse-power from an outside source without difficulty at any pole. Duplicate the wires and that portion of the farm is already equipped to carry a power-supply of the required 50 to 70 horse-power. The lighting of Ruakura by means of electricity is a matter for congratulation. It was particularly desirable from a safety viewpoint. In valuable buildings with a number of youthful inmates candles, oil-lamps, and matches are undesirable. Then, no better place for the development of electricity as a power as well as a lighting medium could be desired. If all the available power from the Waikato River were utilized, as it one day must be, the district from a productive standpoint would be revolutionized. As one stands on the bridge at Cambridge and attempts to realize the amount of money spent on coal and petroleum for power, while thousands of horse-power roll down unused to the sea, the potentialities of the district under electricity made available to the farmer—considering the greater economy of production combined with the increased productivity thereby made possible—are seen to be almost illimitable.

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The establishment of a series of about twelve demonstration farms has been authorized in Kentucky. These will be about 20 acres each. The State University and Agricultural Experiment Station have made arrangements whereby four of these farms, all located in the western part of the State, will be donated to the nation.—*Spokesman Review*.

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FOOD PRODUCTS FROM BANANAS.—In a recent issue of the American Consular and Trade Reports, Consul Dreher, of Port Antonio, Jamaica, gives some interesting particulars regarding the manufacture of food products from bananas on that island. Mr. Dreher states that this industry, which has been established for not more than six years, is rapidly assuming importance, and that a number of factories are being erected to supply the increasing demand. So far, most of the product has been shipped to England, France, Germany, and Austria, and in those countries the demand is steadily increasing, but numerous letters of inquiry recently received indicate a growing interest in the United States.