

PRINCIPLES OF LIVE-STOCK BREEDING.

THE annual report of the Board of Agriculture for the year ended 30th April last states under the heading of "Principles of Live-stock Breeding":—

"During the year the Board has been giving a good deal of attention to this most important subject as a result of a communication received from the Franklin Agricultural and Pastoral Association. Several members of the Board, and the Department of Agriculture at the request of the Board, have collected a great amount of useful information. The papers prepared by the members of the Board, and also a most valuable one read at a meeting of the Board by Mr. W. D. Hunt, giving the results of his experience, have already been forwarded to the Franklin Association, and are attached hereto. At a later date, when additional reports on the subject which the Board is securing from abroad come to hand, it is the intention to prepare and publish a digest of all the papers for circulation to breeders in the Dominion. This will enable those interested in breeding in the Dominion to compare their practice with what obtains elsewhere, and ensure that sound principles are followed. This subject is more particularly interesting to stud-stock breeders, but nevertheless all farmers who are raising stock should have some knowledge of the principles of breeding, and the publication of this data should be of considerable benefit to them. Members of the Council [of Agriculture] and breeders generally are cordially invited to assist the Board in its investigations by submitting papers giving the result of their experience."

The papers referred to are by Sir James Wilson (including letters from the late James Little of Corriedale fame), and Messrs. Edwin Hall, W. Perry, D. Marshall, John Ewan, and, as mentioned, W. D. Hunt. The latter contribution is reprinted elsewhere in this issue under the title of "Breeding of Farm Animals."

EXAMINATION OF FERTILIZERS.

THE Department's Chemist would value the assistance of farmers in examining the quality of the fertilizers on the market. For this purpose a portion of fertilizer should be taken from each of a number of bags and the portions thoroughly mixed together. Finally, a portion weighing about 1 lb. may be put into a clean dry tin, and posted with the invoice certificate or a copy of it, addressed to the "Agricultural Chemist, Dominion Laboratory, Wellington." It is essential that the invoice certificate should accompany any sample sent. Senders of samples will note that under this arrangement the results of the examination cannot be supplied to them unless confirmed by an official sample. If it is possible and the results warrant it an official sample will be obtained by the local Inspector from the vendor's store.

FORTHCOMING AGRICULTURAL SHOWS.

Hawke's Bay A. and P. Society: Hastings, 17th and 18th October.
 Poverty Bay A. and P. Association: Gisborne, 23rd and 24th October.
 Marlborough A. and P. Association: Blenheim, 24th and 25th October.
 Timaru A. and P. Association: Timaru, 24th and 25th October.
 Wairarapa P. and A. Society: Carterton, 24th and 25th October.
 Manawatu A. and P. Assn.: Palmerston North, 30th and 31st Oct and 1st Nov.
 Ashburton A. and P. Association: Ashburton, 31st October and 1st November.
 Wanganui A. and P. Association: Wanganui, 7th and 8th November.
 Canterbury A. and P. Association: Christchurch, 8th and 9th November.
 Waikato A. and P. Association: Hamilton, 20th and 21st November.
 North Otago A. and P. Association: Oamaru, 21st and 22nd November.
 Stratford A. and P. Association: Stratford, 21st and 22nd November.
 Otago A. and P. Society: Dunedin, 28th and 29th November.
 Southland A. and P. Association: Invercargill, 11th and 12th December.
 Feilding I., A., and P. Association: Feilding, 5th and 6th February.
 Clevedon A. and P. Association: Clevedon, 9th February.
 Dannevirke A. and P. Association: Dannevirke, 13th and 14th February.
 Methven A. and P. Association: Methven, 27th March.