



FIG. 5. TYPICAL BLOTCHED STAINING OCCURRING IN CLOSE-PILED UNTREATED STACK.

which represents the largest and deepest type of stain, occurred on 68.6 per cent. of the boards, and is shown in Fig. 5. The stain in these cases was often $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in depth, and the timber was practically useless. Only 0.7 per cent. of the boards were free from stain.

(To be concluded.)

FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE IN BRITAIN.

THE High Commissioner for New Zealand in London cabled under date 3rd February : During January there were 55 outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in eleven counties as follows: Leicester, 12; Derby, 11; Lincs, 10; Staffs, 7; Lancs, 4; Warwick, 3; Yorks, Notts, and Glamorgan, 2 each; Surrey and Hunts, 1 each.

EXTERNAL TRADE OF NEW ZEALAND, 1927.

PRELIMINARY figures issued by the Census and Statistics Office show that exports for the calendar year 1927 amounted to £48,496,354, and imports to £44,782,946, leaving an excess of exports of £3,714,408. Corresponding figures for 1926 were—exports, £45,275,575; imports, £49,889,563; balance in favour of imports, £4,613,988. The result for 1927 is therefore £8,328,396 more favourable to the Dominion than that of the preceding year.

Exports show an advance of £3,220,779, a position due mainly to increases of £2,220,193 in butter and £1,131,556 in wool. Other items showing an appreciable advance over the previous year's figures are: Frozen beef, £71,875; frozen lamb, £418,576; calf-skins, £47,194; hides, £120,094. The most noteworthy decreases occurred in cheese, £356,763; rabbit-skins, £146,507; phormium fibre, £52,470; kauri-gum, £54,133; timber, £50,292.