



Left: The electric gateway. *Right:* Carrying the electric wire overhead. Note the length of old piping. The insulator is attached with a doubled loop of No. 8 fencing wire split pin-fashion.

in the case of young pigs. When newly purchased stock are brought on to the property they are placed in one end of a paddock temporarily fenced off with the electric fence. The milking herd is placed in the larger portion of the field. One day of this procedure educates the new stock to respect the fence. Since last spring the current has been cut off from most of the fences. Although the cows and calves have grazed right up to, and in some cases under, the fence lines, they have not yet attempted to break through.

At first, however, when the power was turned on recently to a new fence line, some calves got under the wire and into the next field. By clipping the long hair off the necks and backs of the calves, a close contact was made next time the calves attempted to get under the wires, and this practice proved a complete success.

With pigs, he finds that a two-wire electric fence is successful with large pigs and sows, but is definitely em-

phatic that it is valueless for small pigs.

Pasture Rationing

Another farmer has used the fence for dairy stock with success. The erection of temporary electric fences to ration pasture feed has proved entirely satisfactory. Three-inch by two-inch timber, 4ft. to 4ft. 6in. long and pointed at one end, is used for posts. The insulator is placed 4in. to 6in. from the top, and the post is simply driven into place with the maul.

One farmer in this district has used the electric fence extensively for wintering pigs, especially stores, on fern country. Along the existing fence line a single wire is placed six inches from the ground. On the new temporary fence lines two wires are used, one wire six inches from the ground and the other six to ten inches above this. Such fence lines require periodical inspection and lowering if the pigs have rooted deeply under the line.

On Demonstration Farm

During recent years the Farm Committee of the Dargaville Demonstration Farm has been faced with the renewal of the whole of the fencing on this farm. By last year at least 60 per cent. of this work had been completed on the whole of the drainage system overhauled. Existing drains have been deepened, and new drains dug. Further extensions to the shelter belts have been planned for the coming year. All this work necessitates a considerable expenditure on fencing. In addition, the development of new pasture areas, the growing of maize crops, and the "rationed" grazing of fields call for the erection of temporary fencing.

To continue and complete the work so that production could be maintained and increased, limited funds were available. Consequently, an electric fence outfit was purchased last spring. The first use made of this outfit was to electrify one wire round the bull paddock. The work was done



Left: A wooden gate protected from bulls by an electric wire. *Right:* Using a lead-covered cable to take the electric fence through a culvert under the roadway.