

### BUTTER AND CHEESE ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN ONTARIO.

The new amalgamated association held its first annual convention at London, Ont., on Jan. 19th, 20th and 21st, 1898. The convention was a very successful one, both in point of attendance and interest. Never, at any previous convention, has there been such a large attendance of cheese and butter-makers. The past season has been a very good one for the maker. The make of cheese has been large, and as the maker manufactures by the cwt., his revenue has been larger than usual. This has enabled many of them to attend the convention this year, who otherwise would not have been able to do so. Besides, the interest in the annual convention has been increasing year after year. The cheese or butter-maker now feels that he cannot afford to remain away from the convention if he wishes to make the advancement in his business that he should. Every man in the business should feel the same way, the man who produces the milk as well as the man who makes it into cheese and butter. One feature of the convention was the comparatively small number of patrons of factories who were present. This is to be regretted, for if there is anyone who needs instruction and education in dairying it is the average patron of the cheese and butter factory.

The president of the association, Mr. A. F. McLaren, M.P., occupied the chair, and in his affable and considerate manner, contributed largely to the success of the convention. The Western Association has always taken the initiative in bringing new talent to its annual meetings. This year Dr. Jordan, director of the Geneva Agricultural Experimental Station, New York, was expected, but at the last moment telegraphed that he would be unable to be present. This was unfortunate, as Prof. Jordan's reputation had preceded him, and the dairymen were consequently disappointed because of his enforced absence. Mr. H. B. Gurler, of Illinois, however, was present and gave a couple of thoroughly practical addresses on butter-making, which were highly appreciated by the creamery men present. Other speakers who addressed the convention were Professors Robertson, Shutt, Dean, Dr. Connel, J. A. Ruddick, A. W. Campbell, Provincial Road Instructor, C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Toronto, and D. Derbyshire, Brockville. As many of these speakers were present at the Eastern Convention and delivered practically the same address, it will not be necessary to repeat what was given in last week's issue. In future issues we will publish in full some of the practical papers read before the convention.

The first afternoon session was taken up chiefly with the reading of the directors', secretary's, and instructors' reports and the president's address. In the directors' report it was pointed out that in March the former secretary, Mr. J. V. Wheaton, resigned, and was succeeded by Mr. Geo. Hately, Brantford, Ont. The instructors during the past year were T. B. Millar, Jas. Morrison, Alex. Clark. The applications for instructors were very numerous, showing that instruction was needed. The appointment of the butter instructor was made by the central

advisory board, and he acted as instructor for the whole Province. The secretary-treasurer's report showed that the total revenue was \$4,657 69, expenditure, \$5,849 15, leaving a deficit of \$1,191 46. It was recommended that efforts be made to have the annual report out earlier, so that it would reach the makers before the factories open, and that efforts should be made to improve the sanitary conditions in many cheese and butter factories. More instructors are needed, but unless the Government increase the grant or the factories pay more towards the support of instructors the association will not be able to do more than it is now doing.

The president's address was full of practical advice to every dairyman. He referred to the amalgamation, and believed that it had been in the best interests of the butter and cheese interests of Western Ontario. Many more factories were now making butter during the winter. He recommended the employment of a butter instructor all the year round. More instructors were needed for both butter and cheese. At least ten instructors were necessary to meet the needs for instruction in cheese factories, and a sufficient number of butter instructors were required to give each creamery at least three visits during the year. More work should be done towards getting a better flavored milk. He believed that no maker should be held responsible for the flavor of his cheese excepting where it could be proven conclusively that he was to blame. Every patron of a factory should be a member of the association. If this could be done the association would have ample funds for carrying on its work. He had during the past year visited every province in the Dominion. Dairymen in other provinces were watching the methods of the Ontario dairymen, and if we did not look out they would beat us in the production of fine dairy products. Canadians must not think that because they export annually 60 per cent. of the total cheese imported by Great Britain that we have nothing to do. Instructor Morrison visited 28 factories during the season, all of which returned the whey to the patron in the milk cans. Many of the factories were reported dirty. Instructor Clark visited 39 factories, two were clean, 19 fairly clean, and the balance dirty. Mark Sprague, butter instructor, besides visiting the summer creameries in the West, had spent the late fall in visiting some of the winter creameries. He had visited 32 creameries in Western Ontario. Though doing fairly well, there was room for improvement. He recommended taking advantage of the cold storage facilities, and that the makers should pay particular attention to securing all the fat in the butter.

During the convention Prof. Robertson discussed several important matters of vital importance to the dairymen. He pointed to the necessity of entire co-operation on the part of everyone connected with the business, and how the Department of Agriculture could co-operate with the dairymen to their benefit. Besides showing the need for cold storage and of adopting the very best dairy methods, which are given in the report of the Eastern Association in last week's issue, he gave particular attention to the short

selling of cheese. In this connection he explained the bill on the subject which will come up for its third reading at the next session of the Dominion Parliament. He showed how it would benefit the cheese industry if no "short" selling of cheese was allowed.

A very interesting talk was given by Miss Rose, instructor in the home dairy, at the Guelph Dairy School, on the methods of conducting an English dairy. In the comparison which she drew the Canadian dairies were in some respects superior to those she had visited in England.

In the absence of the Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture, Mr. C. C. James, Deputy Minister, gave an excellent address on the agricultural wealth of Ontario. A reasonable estimate of the amount of wealth which would be brought out of the gold regions this year in the far West and North would be \$10,000,000 and for this amount the country had gone wild. People never stopped to think what could be brought out of agriculture by a simple development of our resources. In Ontario we had 8,500,000 acres of land cultivated in grain. This gave 150,000,000 bushels of grain last year, worth \$40,000,000. If two bushels per acre were added to the average product, it would mean 17,000,000 bushels. This would be ten per cent. of the yield. If every farmer got the best seed and sowed it in the best way, this could be done. Referring to the fruit crop, he said that there were six million bearing apple trees in the province, and these at present did not average fifty cents apiece. This could be greatly increased by careful pruning and selection. Great increases could be made in the poultry, butter, and other industries, which, if done, would increase Ontario's wealth by at least \$20,000,000.

A stirring address on the subject of good roads in their relation to the dairy was given by Provincial Road Instructor Campbell. By improving the roads the dairymen could reduce the cost of production. Milk could be drawn greater distances and one factory in many cases could do where two are now in operation. The cost of hauling milk was on an average, \$1,000 for each factory. There are over 1100 factories in the province, and if the roads could be improved so as to reduce the cost of hauling a very small amount in each factory, see what a great saving it would be when applied to the whole province. He showed that by saving in this regard the cost of making and hauling the milk might be reduced to \$1 per cwt. The total value of the capital invested in the production of butter, cheese and milk was \$175,000,000, while the total annual production has an annual value of \$35,000,000. In addition to the loss to the butter and cheese industry by bad roads there is a still greater loss when the total amount of agricultural products is considered.

Prof. Frank T. Shutt of the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, gave an instructive address on the pure water supply. It was important that the farmer should have a good water supply, both for his family and his stock. Of 100 samples of well water sent to him for analysis, 50 samples were found unfit for family use, or for stock. The chief cause of pollution of the water was that the well

was dug near the barnyard or stables. The effect of the drinking of water polluted from such sources was a lowering of the vigor and tone of the system, and it frequently produced typhoid fever and such like. Pure water is necessary for use in the dairy. He gave instances where cheese makers could not keep cheese in proper condition owing to the impurity of the water. Impure water was not necessarily dirty looking. It might be bright and sparkling, and yet dirty. The well should not be used for a cold storage. When digging a well it should be put at a distance of ten times its depth from any polluting source.

Prof. Dean, in addressing the convention upon the secretion of milk, pointed out that the cheese and butter makers could make good cheese and butter if the milk were sent them in proper condition. There should be a strong sympathy established between the milker and the cow. The cow should be treated gently and kindly. Milk should not be sent to the factory till four or five days after calving. Pure water was necessary for the cow, as 87 1/2 per cent. of her milk was water. The secretion of milk was partly due to transudation, or part of the blood passing through the cells into the milk glands, and partly by the breaking down of the milk cells. The probable theory is that the water in milk comes from the blood, and the fat from the milk cells. He objected to the use of color in cheese or butter, and believed that the time would soon come when all the cheese and butter made would be white in color. The adding of color was a dirty practice, and was put in in order to deceive the people. He spoke strongly on the point of cleanliness, which should be practised in every detail of the work. In closing, Prof. Dean extended an invitation to the association to hold its next meeting in Guelph.

Mr. H. B. Gurler, Illinois, delivered a couple of thoroughly practical addresses on butter-making, and his own experience in dairying. As we were fortunate enough in securing a copy of Mr. Gurler's address, we will publish it in full in some future issue. We will also at some future date give in full the papers read by Mr. J. A. Ruddick, superintendent Kingston Dairy School, and Dr. Cornell, of Queen's University. These were practical and instructive. On the whole, the convention throughout was a practical and instructive one, and if it were not for lack of space we would like to give a more detailed report.

The officers of the association for 1898 are as follows: President, Harold Eagle, Attercliffe Station; 1st Vice-president, R. M. Ballantyne, Stratford; 2nd Vice-president, A. Wenger, Ayton; 3rd Vice-president, James Connolly, Porter Hill. Directors, John Prain, Harriston; J. N. Paget, Canboro; A. Pattullo, M.P.P., Woodstock; G. H. Barr, Sebringville; A. F. McLaren, M.P., Stratford; J. A. James, Nilestown, and Robt. Johnston, Bright.

One of the interesting features of the convention was the awarding of the gold medals presented to the association by the Windsor Salt Co. to be awarded to the winners of the prizes in the creamery and home dairy classes at the Industrial Fair, Toronto, and the Western Fair, London. Two of the winners were graduates of the Dairy School