

pect any definite pronouncement on the subject. And yet the season is here when farmers are most interested in what to breed and where the best stock for breeding purposes can be procured.

Whether anything special is to be done or not we believe it to be in the best interests of the business that a strong deputation of those interested in horse breeding, especially from the farmers' standpoint, should meet Premier Whitney or the Hon. Mr. Monteith at an early date and discuss the question with them. Already the fruit growers and the dairy-men have sent deputations to lay before the Minister of Agriculture the claims of their respective industries. Why should not the horse breeders do so? Their industry is of as much importance to the country as either of the other two. Besides, there is a possibility that that element among horsemen which is more concerned in promoting the sporting rather than the practical end of the business may get in their way first.

Of course, it would be useless to send such a deputation without some definite plan to lay before the government. However, many horsemen are of the opinion that enough has not been done by the government in the past to promote horse breeding. If so, here is a foundation to work on. Let the breeders and those most interested from an agricultural standpoint get together and present to the government some plan by which further aid can be wisely and efficiently rendered. If more is to be done for horse breeding, and we believe more should be done, it is all important that the work should be started right and directed along lines that will result in the greatest benefit to the industry and the country at large.

There are several questions that have been discussed more or less frequently in recent years, such as the lien act, stallion inspection, syndicating stallions, etc., upon which horse breeders might convey their views to the government. Then the Agricultural College at Guelph has in the past come in for some criticism, because more was not done there in the interest of horse breeding. The chief complaint has been that no breeding horses of any kind are kept for the benefit of the students. At the stock judging school a few weeks ago horses had to be borrowed from a neighboring breeder in order that the lectures to the students might be properly given. This is hardly an ideal condition in an agricultural college. If horse breeders wish it improved upon it is their duty to wait upon the government and express their views upon this and other questions. Nothing has transpired yet to show that the new government lacks initiative. But no matter how progressive a government may be it will be glad to have the advice and the backing, if need be, of those interested in any action that might be taken, especially where the expenditure of public money is concerned. The officers of the various breeding associations should get together on this question. Strike while the iron is hot.

Dairy Instruction Work

During the past two weeks deputations from the Eastern and Western Dairy-men's Associations have waited upon the Hon. Mr. Monteith, Minister of Agriculture, and discussed with him the instruction work to be carried on during the coming season. Both deputations asked that the number of instructors be increased. There are twenty-two employed in Eastern Ontario and ten in Western Ontario. The Minister was favorably impressed with the views expressed and a further increase in the work of instruction may be expected.

Two requests, preferred by the Eastern delegation, seem somewhat contradictory. They asked that their chief, instructor, Mr. G. G. Publow, be allowed greater freedom in dealing with questions arising in his district instead of having to submit a number of them to the department. They also expressed a desire to have the work of instruction and the collection of the fees taken over entirely by the department and that the association be left with a substantial grant to carry on educational work by holding meetings.

These two requests hardly harmonize. But be that as it may, the Minister of Agriculture is held responsible for the monies expended by his department and must of necessity maintain some supervision over the work. In the past considerable freedom has been allowed the associations, and the instructors in prosecuting their work, and this is likely to continue for a time at least under the new administration so long as the work is efficient and well done.

The request that the association be relieved of all responsibility in connection with the work of instruction is worthy of consideration. If the department were held directly responsible for the work of instruction in the factories it might work to the advantage of the industry in many ways. Of course, an arrangement of this kind would have to be carried out in the west as well as in the east. For the present, however, we do not anticipate any changes of this kind for the coming season, and the work will likely be continued as in the past, the department and the association co-operating in promoting the work of instruction.

Price of Cheese-Making Advances

At a meeting of cheese manufacturers in Stormont County the other day it was decided to raise the price for manufacturing cheese from 1 to 1½¢. per lb., exclusive of hauling. A little advance along this line is to be expected. Wages, boxes and nearly everything used in manufacturing cheese have advanced 10 to 15 per cent. during the past few years, and it is only reasonable that a slightly increased charge for manufacturing should be made. The advance asked for by the manufacturers is not out of the way, and should meet with little opposition from milk producers.

This gathering of cheese manufacturers to fix upon a price is the first

of its kind, to our knowledge, ever held in Canada. Heretofore there has been so much jealousy shown between manufacturers, and makers also, that the patron has to a large extent had it all his own way. Because of this competition and senseless rivalry the price for making has been brought to a very low level, so low, in fact, that there has been no profit in the business, factory buildings and equipment have been allowed to get badly out of repair and the furnishings used to become of an inferior kind. Therefore, so long as the manufacturer is reasonable in his request, and does not attempt to take undue advantage of the patron, the latter should welcome a change that should mean better factories, better equipment and better service.

EDITORIAL NOTES

President Creelman reports that already thirty-two Farmers' Institute excursions to the College have been arranged for next June. The total number last year was about forty, which is likely to be exceeded this year.

The Swift Company of Chicago, who a year or two ago bought out the Fowler packing establishment, of Hamilton, Ont., have decided to greatly increase the capacity of the plant and to kill a larger number of both hogs and cattle and sheep. This may be the thin edge of the wedge in the establishment of the dressed meat trade in this country on a large scale.

Elsewhere we refer to the decision of some cheese manufacturers to raise the price for making cheese. The gardeners of Ontario have recently organized. At a recent meeting they decided to advance the price of tomatoes to canners from 25¢. to 30¢. per bushel. Some canning factories have stated that they will shut down if this decision is adhered to. The gardeners also decided to grow no plants for sale to any person not a member of the association. But they had better try one thing at a time.

Canada's wheat exports show a decline, and British politicians have made a note of the fact in their eagerness to seize upon any circumstance that might be used as an argument against a preference for Canadian products. But the decline in our wheat exports is only a temporary one. They are bound to increase, as the great prairie lands of the west come into cultivation.

Argentine Students at O.A.C.

The Argentine Government has lately decided to repeat the work started five years ago, and has made appropriations for sending forty young men abroad to study agricultural and industrial conditions and methods. Twenty are to go to Europe, and twenty to North America. The one special condition is that no more than two shall go to any one university, with this exception: that more than two, but not more than six, may attend the Agricultural College at Guelph. These young men are, during their course at Guelph, required to pay full fees for outsiders, and have to board in town. The College is willing to allow them to receive instruction, but no Ontario students are thereby excluded.