

expert judges were recommended for Toronto, London, Ottawa, and other shows: A. R. McLaren, Aurora, Ill.; R. P. Sterrick, Springfield, Ill.; H. K. Bloodgood, New Marlboro, Mass.; A. J. Cassatt, Philadelphia; John Holderness, Toronto; and R. Gibson, Delaware.

The Clydesdale Association.

The Canadian Clydesdale Association met in Toronto on Thursday, Feb. 4th, with President Robt. Davies, Toronto, in the chair, and H. Wade as Secretary.

The President in his address expressed a hope for better times for the Association and for its individual members in the near future. A recent conference between our Dominion and Provincial Ministers of Agriculture and the American authorities at Washington resulted in giving our Ministers a hope that Canadian certificates would soon be recognized in the United States on equal terms with American registration. The importance of breeding all the good draft horses possible was emphasized. Prices for good heavy draft horses have risen fifty per cent. in the last year and a half. Buyers of horses are plentiful and over claim that the demand is greater than the supply. The need for better shipping accommodation was spoken of, and to bring this about the President and Mr. John Sheridan had waited on the Deputy Minister of Marine and urged the necessity for better accommodation, and received from him an assurance that an Order-in-Council to this effect would be passed as soon as possible. In conclusion Mr. Davies referred to the excellent display of Clydesdales made at the last spring show and also expressed a hope that the coming one would be still better.

Secretary Wade reported that one hundred registrations and thirteen transfers had been made during the year, as against seventy-six registrations in 1895. It was expected that the probable acceptance of our certificates across the line would result in a still greater increase of registrations. The financial statement showed receipts, including balance from last year of \$38.85, to be \$289.85; the expenditures amounted to \$197.18, leaving a present balance of \$92.67.

On motion, it was resolved that \$100 be granted to the Canadian Horse Show for draft teams sired by Clydesdale stallions, and that it be divided into three prizes of \$50, \$30, and \$20.

It was also resolved that a class be made for colts foaled in 1895, and recommended that the prizes, \$25, \$15, and \$10, be subtracted from older classes of Clydesdales.

Officers.—The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Robt. Davies, Toronto; 1st Vice-President, R. Graham, Claremont; Vice-Presidents for Provinces—Ontario, D. Sorby, Guelph; Quebec, R. Ness, Howick; Nova Scotia, Col. Clarke, Blain; New Brunswick, A. S. Murray; Prince Edward Island, Hon. James Clow; Manitoba, J. E. Smith; British Columbia, R. Beith, M. P.; Territories, A. Turner, Calgary. Directors: Geo. Cockburn, Baltimore; R. Miller, Brougham; J. Vipond, Brooklin; G. Clayton, Peapabun; A. D. Dougherty, Ellensmere. Delegates to Toronto Industrial Exhibition: W. Smith, Colburn; O. Sorby, Guelph. Delegates to Western Fair—R. Graham, Claremont; E. G. Charlton, Duncleif. To Ottawa Industrial Fair—John Davidson. To Montreal Industrial Exhibition—R. Ness, Howick. To Canadian Horse Breeders' Association—R. Miller, R. Davies.

The following judges were recommended: Messrs. W. Graham, R. Ness, J. Lee, and R. Miller. Mr. Robert Beith was suggested as judge of Clydesdales at the Canadian Horse Show.

Shire Horse Association.

The seventh annual meeting of the Canadian Shire Horse Association was held in Toronto on Feb. 4th, 1897, with President H. N. Crossley, Roseau, Ont., in the chair and H. Wade as secretary. The President in his address referred to the good work done by the Association, but a great degree of prosperity cannot be expected until the general tide of affairs has improved. Reports from all quarters show that all horseflesh is on the rise, especially those of the draft breeds. During the past year the Shire breed has been well represented at the large shows. Many good draft stallions have been purchased by syndicates during the last year, which cannot but do much good to the sections into which they have gone. The mining boom which is now attracting so much attention will doubtless create a demand for heavy horses to work and transport the ore. The Shire was referred to as the best of draft breeds for heavy work.

The Secretary reported that eleven animals had been recorded, being one more than during the previous year. The Association has now on record the pedigrees of 366 stallions and 115 mares, but the pedigrees of 92 stallions and 7 mares are still lost by the fire. The financial statement showed receipts \$57 and expenditures \$26, leaving a balance of \$11 in the treasury.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, H. N. Crossley, Roseau; Vice-President, W. E. Wellington, Toronto. Directors—John Gardhouse, Highfield; W. Hendrie, Jr., Hamilton; W. Wilkie, Toronto; J. Y. Ormsby, Woodstock; J. M. Gardhouse, Highfield; G. Garbutt, Thistleton; John Semple, Tottenham. Delegates—To Industrial Exhibition, J. Gardhouse; to Western Fair, Henry Wade, H. N. Crossley.

Joint Committee Meeting of the Canadian Horse Breeders' Association and Country and Hunt Club.

A meeting was held in the Queen's Hotel, Toronto, at 8 p. m., February 5th. The following members were present: Representing the Horse Breeders' Association—Robt. Davies (chairman), John Macdonald, H. N. Crossley; Robt. Miller, Brougham; Robt. Beith, M. P.; Bowmanville; Dr. A. Smith, and Henry Wade, secretary. Representing the Country and Hunt Club—Major J. D. Hay, Edmund Bristol, J. Lorne Campbell, C. W. Clinch, R. O. McCulloch, and Stewart Houston, secretary.

It was resolved that the dates of the Canadian Horse Show be Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 29th, 30th, and May 1st. A joint arrangement was made between the two organizations, the Breeders taking over the Roadster classes and the Saddle Horse classes, so that the \$2,000 granted by the Government should be used for breeding horses.

It was also decided that the partnership basis of the prize list should be \$3,500, not including special sweepstakes; all other donations to go to the common fund, and the profits or losses to be equally divided between the Breeders and the Hunt Club.

Dominion Shorthorn Breeders.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association was held in Toronto on February 3rd, 1897, with President Arthur Johnston, Greenwood, in the chair, and H. Wade as secretary.

President's Address.—Mr. A. Johnston, of Greenwood, Ont., President, spoke as follows: In addressing you at the beginning of another Shorthorn year, I think I cannot do better than refer for a short time to the past history, the present state, and the future prospects of the breed in this country and in the United States, from a business point of view, and in doing so I wish to call your attention to some of the causes which, in my opinion, have led up to nearly all, if not all, the depressions we have experienced during the past thirty years or more.

First, then, as to the past history, I may say it has consisted of a series of three distinct and widely different states, viz., the healthy, even and progressive business periods, when any man of known honesty, intelligence, and perseverance could make a success of the business, as well as a little money, out of what I think a pleasant calling, and at these periods I think I may say that few excepting such men have been engaged in the trade. During the period of straight business and honest

effort on the part of the breeders and importers of thirty odd years ago, success depended, as it ought to do, on producing good animals with sound, old pedigrees. Those good ones sold at good prices, though no better than their merits deserved, and those prices attracted the attention of men of wealth, and money, good judgment or fancy for the animals themselves, but who entered the business solely to make money out of it, and to make it quickly. Those men by their lavish expenditure of money and extravagant advertising soon monopolized the foremost ranks among breeders, though they took the time to breed at all, between public sales. Certain animals bred or imported by the genuine breeder and fancier brought good prices on their individual merits, and this circumstance induced the speculator to fly off and buy all the sisters, aunts, and all of which were absolutely certain to figure in an extensively advertised sale within a year or perhaps in a very much shorter period.

For a time this method seemed to succeed. Animals of no real merit, from the genuine fancier's point of view, soon supplanted the best of the breed and monopolized all attention; the attention, I mean, of what became a fraternity of jobbers in pedigrees, instead of enthusiastic breeders or producers of good cattle. From this it was an easy descent to the so-called New York Mills sale, when a cow sold for the enormous sum of forty thousand six hundred dollars; one of the worst days for the Shorthorn trade in its whole history. After this sale, for a time, good cattle became a comparative drug in the market, unless they were bred in a particular line; and if they had the good fortune to be so bred, individual merit might almost be said to be unnecessary in order to fetch a big figure.

After lasting long enough to almost kill the legitimate breeding for merit, this period was followed by a more rational one, when during the eighties, while cattle were required to good prices, pedigrees without individual merit in the cattle were, as they ought to be, of little value. When this period succeeded, nearly the whole of the speculators—and I am sorry to say, most of the moneyed men—dropped out of the business, and in this way vast sums of money were withdrawn from the trade, which could have no other effect than to greatly depress the business. This depression we have all been feeling in recent years, and I am sorry to have to say we are still feeling it in the low prices that we obtain for our stock. While we are still feeling the depression, I am bound to say that at the present time, I believe, we are not suffering from the hard times any more, if as much, than most other lines of business.

Another and a very potent cause of the recent depression in Shorthorn markets has arisen from the rush of so many of our farmers into the so-called milking breeds, caused to a great extent, no doubt, by the undoubted increase in the consumption of and demand for dairy products all over the British world. The force of this (in many cases) foolish rush has, I believe, been spent, and a reaction is unquestionably taking place.

With regard to the present state of the Shorthorn trade, I think I may say that while it cannot be called good, there is nothing a farmer can produce that meets with a readier market or pays better than really good young Shorthorns of reliable breeding, and by good, reliable breeding I mean animals bred from really good ancestors on all sides, and especially the more recent ancestors.

As to the future prospects of the business, or, as I would like to call it, profession, I may say that it is dangerous to predict even now, when everything looks favorable, as is the case as regards Shorthorn matters at the present time. In the first place, really good cattle of any breed are well known to be scarce and in demand, though prices are still low in their case as in all others.

The dairy boom has, I firmly believe, spent its force to a very great extent, so that while suitable districts and certain well-qualified men may still continue in the milk business, it will not, I am certain, be followed so indiscriminately by unskilled men and in unsuitable districts as has been the custom in recent years. Not only this, but the demand for good feeding cattle, and the consequent rise in their price that must take place, are certain to draw farmers to the good old standard general purpose breed, the only breed that can be relied on to produce good milkers and at the same time furnish the very prime of steers and heifers for the butcher.

We have now, as I said above, got rid of the speculators to a very great extent, and we have, I believe, seen the end of the injurious effects of the withdrawal of so much money from the business. This lands us on a sounder basis than we have in recent years occupied. During the big price period credit was almost invariably the practice, as speculators were selling their cattle before paying for them. There is vastly less credit now than at any former period during the past thirty-five years, and this is another promising feature in the trade, and not the least promising.

On the whole, I cannot but look with greater confidence on the future of the Shorthorn business than I have been able to do for many years. There never has been a keener or more general demand for young bulls than we have experienced during the past two months, notwithstanding great stagnation in almost all other lines of business as well as the low prices obtained for beef, pork, and indeed almost all kinds of farm products. It is true that we have sold at possibly the lowest prices obtained in many years, but even the prices obtained are quite as good as the prices realized for other farm commodities, and I believe better, all things considered.

If I were asked my opinion as to the greatest want in Shorthorn matters in this country and in the United States, I would unhesitatingly answer that of moneyed men who take an active and participating interest in the breed in all other matters pertaining to agriculture. In the Old Land it is vastly different. There, from the royalty down to the tenant farmer, all take a patriotic pride in being connected with the soil on which they live, other than mere ownership and the consideration of our men of wealth. It is not to be hoped that the country can never prosper while only the very poor farm; and if men of wealth and social standing hold aloof from the soil, the more moderately wealthy will also avoid it; whereas, if our wealthiest citizens made it fashionable to take up some lines of agriculture, moneyed men of less means would imitate, and the certain result would be improved methods and more ambition. In England and Scotland, and indeed all the Old Lands, the tenant farmer has many opportunities during the year of meeting on equal terms with his lordship of high degree who is engaged in farming in the vicinity. Even the Queen and the Prince of Wales are largely engaged in farming and pure-bred stock raising.

In conclusion, I desire to say that no class of business men in the world have stood higher, from a moral standpoint, than the real breeders and importers of Shorthorn cattle during the past fifty years. This has been not only in Canada, but also in the United States and Great Britain. It is much to say, but I believe it will not be contradicted. It is much to number in our ranks men of great wealth, we do number among us men of great ability and considerable influence, and I venture to say that in every neighborhood in which they are found they will at least carry a full share of the respect and trust of the locality. It is so in all countries of which I have any knowledge.

Motion.—On motion, the following resolutions were carried: "That the sum of \$110 paid in 1896 to the Ontario Fat Stock Show be approved of for 1897."

"That from now forward the date of over age animals for registration be set at two years instead of eighteen months."

"That in case the Prince of Wales prize be given to a bull and four females under two years old, bred by exhibitor."

"That the sum of \$300 be put into the hands of the Execu-

tive Committee, with instructions to award \$150 to the Fat Stock Show of Ontario, and the other \$150 be placed as they think best on Canadian Shorthorns or Shorthorn grades winning at the Chicago Fat Stock Show next autumn."

That the sum of \$100 be placed in the hands of the Executive Committee to duplicate prizes in the dairy departments offered by the different fair boards if won by Shorthorns."

"That the Executive Committee be instructed to communicate with the Dominion Government, urging upon them to take steps to bring South American buyers of pure-bred stock to Canada during our live stock shows in order to impress upon them the fact that they can purchase as good animals in this as in any other country at much lower prices than they are now paying in Great Britain." This Association is willing to spend some of its funds in such a cause.

Statistical.—The report of the Secretary (Mr. Hy. Wade) and Executive Committee showed that the paid-up membership roll has increased 74 in the last year. The income from fees for 1896 was \$1,229. The expenditure for the year was \$1,004.90, leaving a cash balance in the treasury of \$224.55. The entire assets of the Association amount to \$12,835.55.

There have been within the year 2,357 registrations, 3,017 certificates issued, and 370 changes of ownership.

Transportation.—A letter prepared by the Cattle Breeders' Association to the General Freight Traffic Manager of the C. P. R. was read. It contained several grievances of shippers of breeding stock. The following suggestions were made: Bulls over one year and under two should be changed from 3,000 pounds to 2,500; bulls over two and under three, from 4,000 pounds to 1,500. The letter also suggested a reduction of charges per 100 pounds, that the grouping of young bulls be the same as cows in the same car, and a change in the regulations requiring a man to go in charge of cattle shipped 100 miles or over.

Special Manitoba Car.—With regard to the car which the companies to take stock to and from the Northwest, it was pointed out by the President that all arrangements have been completed except that of getting the stock together at the place of starting. The cost of sending a single mature animal is not to exceed some \$5.00. The car is to go out about once a month.

The President also announced that stock can now be transported 100 miles without an attendant provided he receives a permit from local freight agent and guarantees to withstand any damage or loss sustained that would have been prevented by the presence of an attendant in charge.

The following interesting papers were read and discussed during the afternoon: "A Retrospect," by Mr. R. Gibson, Delaware, Ont.; "Evils in the Shorthorn Business," by Mr. D. Alexander, Bridgen; "Why do We Breed Shorthorns?" by Mr. A. Smith, Maple Lodge.

Election of Officers.—President, Arthur Johnston, Greenwood, Ont.; 1st Vice-President, James Russell, Richmond Hill; 2nd Vice-President, John I. Hobson, Mosborne; Vice-Presidents from Provinces—Robert Miller, Brougham, Ont.; Hon. D. Ferguson, M. P. P., Charlottetown, P. E. I.; J. H. Lader, Ladner, Landing, B. C.; James Cochrane, Hillhurst, Que.; Josiah Wood, M. P., Sackville, N. B.; J. S. Ross, Moosomin, C. Chase, Church Street, N. S.; John E. Smith, Brandon, Man. Board of Directors—Alex. Smith, Maple Lodge; H. Cargill, M. P., Cargill; John Isaac, Markham; W. G. Pettit, Freeman; C. M. Simmons, Ivan; Edward Jeffs, Bondhead; H. Smith, Hay; T. E. Robson, Ilderton; F. I. Patten, M. D., St. George's; William Dawson, Victoria; W. J. Higgins, Clinton; David Rae, Fergus; James Tolton, Walkerton; William Linton, Aurora; John Davidson, Ashburn. Executive and Finance Committee—James Russell, Richmond Hill, Ont.; John I. Hobson, Mosborne, Ont.; William Linton, Aurora, Ont.; Robert Miller, Brougham, Ont.; Arthur Johnston, Greenwood, Pres. Delegates to Industrial Exhibition—Hon. J. Dryden, Brooklin, Ont.; John I. Hobson, Mosborne, Ont. Delegates to Western Fair—H. Smith, Hay; C. M. Simmons, Ivan, Ont. Secretary and Editor, Henry Wade, Toronto. Delegates to Ottawa Exhibition—W. C. Edwards, M. P., Rockland; R. R. Sangster, Lancaster.

The Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, in a short address expressed a hope that some of the surplus money of this Association be used to advance the interests of the breed. While he feels that some portions of the Canada are particularly suited to dairying and dairy breeds, the export steer cannot be had without the Shorthorn sire. Mr. Dryden lamented that the tuberculosis test is demanded to be applied to all breeding cattle coming into or going out of Canada. If we pay big prices for cattle in Great Britain it is a great hardship to have to lose all that should be a healthy animal respond to the test adversely. While the United States and Canada accept each other's certificates of health, our breeders feel a great delicacy about having their herds tested, because should an animal respond the whole herd is condemned from a fellow-breeder's standpoint. Besides this, the Americans will not accept a certificate of health from an inspector not authorized by our Government. When we remember that some of the American States—Massachusetts, for example—hold a quarantine against surrounding States, we cannot soon expect them to accept our cattle without a guarantee that they are healthy and especially free from tuberculosis, so long as our Dominion Statutes class tuberculosis in the list of contagious diseases. The Hon. Mr. Dryden is now conferring with the Hon. Mr. Fisher to arrange something better for the future. Mr. Dryden's plan is to have tuberculosis prepared in Canada, at say the O. A. College Bacteriological Laboratory for Ontario and McGill College, Quebec, so as to insure purity, reliability, and economy. It is also his plan to have veterinary officers, such as Dr. Reid, with authority to conduct the test and provide for his free services to those who may apply for them. Breeders can then have their stock tested privately. Mr. Dryden realizes the great risk to a herd's reputation to have animals go forward to a quarantine station to be tested, because the least indication of disease would cause the herd in the public eye, which would be a serious injustice.

Herd Books.—Mr. Dryden, on being asked to say something about the chances of having Canadian herd books recognized by American Associations, expressed a confidence that with the assistance of the various breeders' associations he will succeed in getting a satisfactory arrangement in the near future. The American Shorthorn Association now accept the certificates of our books, and it is expected that others will fall into line as we approach them reasonably and wisely.

Dominion Ayrshire Breeders.

The tenth annual meeting of the above Association was held at the Albion Hotel, Toronto, on Tuesday, February 2nd, at 2 p. m. Owing to the serious illness of Mr. Crosbie, the Vice-President, and the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr. Eyre, and several of the members, the attendance was far below the average. Mr. W. W. Ballantyne occupied the chair.

The Secretary's report showed that there were nearly 1,500 pedigrees ready for the next volume. There had been 45 head registered in 1896, as against 549 the year previous, and the registration fees amounted to \$395. Fifty-one members have paid their subscriptions, which totalled \$153, the membership in 1895 having been 56. The amount paid for office work was \$165.65. An expert accountant was employed to audit the books. The financial statement showed that the total receipts during 1896 were \$221.03, and the expenses \$247.99, leaving a balance in hand of \$373.04. The report was adopted.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, John Crosbie, Campbellford; 1st Vice-President, W. M. Smith, Fairfield, Plains; 2nd Vice-President, Alfred Kain, Byron. Directors—Wm. Stewart, Jr., Menie; Jas. McCormack, Rockton; Joseph Yuill, Carleton Place; R. G. Steacy, Irv; J. C. Nichol, Plattsville; W. W. Ballantyne, Stratford; Wm. Baldock, Mount Charles; J. C. Smith, Hintonburg; Robt. Davies, Todmorden. Delegates: To Toronto Industrial Exhibition—J. McCormack, Rockton; W. W. Ballantyne, Stratford. To