

were among the principal exhibitors of turkeys and geese.

The Seed Department was, perhaps, the most notable improvement of any in the whole Fair, being fully double as large as ever before, and vastly superior in quality, especially in regard to purity of seeds. Competition was keen in all classes. The display of grain in sheaf and in bags made by Mr. Donald Innes, of Tobique River, N. B., was one of the drawing features, and the quality of grain as well as the taste in arranging the exhibits, reflect credit on Mr. Innes. He won the Steele-Briggs Cup for the best display of seeds made by a member of the Canadian Seed-growers' Association. Other principal exhibitors in the seed classes were: Peter Brodie, of P. E. I.; H. B. Parlee, Sussex, N. B.; John R. Harrison and Samuel Harrison, Macan.

The fruit exhibit was much smaller than last year, and some of the classes hardly up in quality. Prince Edward Island had a fairly good sample from each county. Five New Brunswick counties were represented; some of them with very creditable exhibits. Only eight Nova Scotia counties were represented, but the quality of most of the exhibits was good. The apples from King's, Hants and Annapolis Counties, as would be expected, were of very fine quality, being well grown and clean; but, owing to the cool, cloudy summer, the coloring was not quite so good as one would like. Mr. N. N. Hamblen, of Durham, N. S., who superintended this department, deserves credit for his willingness to oblige spectators, being always in his place, and giving all information asked for.

In the Dairy Department, or Dairy Test, there were not quite so many exhibits as last year. Logan Bros., of Amherst Point, N. S., had five Holsteins in the test, and won first, second and third in cows, and first and second on heifers. Fred. S. Black, of Amherst, showed two Ayrshire cows, one Ayrshire heifer and one grade cow, winning first and second on cows, first on heifer, and first on grade cow. H. S. Pipes, Amherst, showed three Jersey cows and two Jersey heifers; C. A. Archibald, one Ayrshire cow; W. N. Boomer, Amherst, two grade cows.

The Canadian Guernsey Breeders' Association and the Canadian Seed-growers' Association met during the Fair. The Guernsey breeders elected the following officers: President, Walter McMonagle, Sussex; Vice-President, James Roper, Little York, P. E. I.; Sec.-Treas., Howard Corning, Chegoggin, N. S. Directors—John McDonald, Shubenacadie, N. S.; R. Robertson, Nappan; John Roper, P. E. I.; Wm. McCready, Jacksonville, N. B.; D. G. McKay, Heathbell, N. S.

END OF RANCHING IN QU'APPELLE VALLEY.

The cattle industry in Qu'Appelle Valley, Saskatchewan, is rapidly giving place to grain-farming, and soon the only relic of the olden times which is left near Regina will have disappeared. Grain-growers have invaded the country. On the north side of the valley, where formerly thousands of cattle could graze unmolested by the farmer and his crops, there are now quarter-sections taken up everywhere, and the rancher has to herd his stock, making the business of fattening beef too expensive. Another chapter closes with the passing of the range.

THE FARM.

TOWNSHIP CANADIAN CLUBS PROPOSED.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

We can scarcely glance over a paper at this season of the year without noticing an account of some new Canadian Club being formed in a city or town, or the revival of a former one, and the great good it is doing by increasing patriotic interest in national and municipal questions, together with the levelling down to a great extent of partisan, religious and business prejudices. One feels compelled to ask why could not and should not rural Ontario more quickly follow the splendid example of our urban friends? There may be drawbacks in the country, such as distance, to its success, but they are fully compensated by the advantages. At present there is no opportunity, at least in this district, for farmers to meet and discuss any questions of the day, save at the annual meetings of their respective political parties, but at these they hardly dare express themselves at variance with their leaders. Surely there should be some chance for the twentieth-century farmer to explain his stand on the tariff and other vital questions, so that our legislators would know something of his opinions.

In an educational sense, would it not prove a great boon, especially to young men, helping us to express ourselves in a clear and suitable manner? There is at present little opportunity in that direction; for, no matter what may be said to the contrary, the decadence of stump speaking is to be deplored. True, it has been claimed that most elections have been won to a great extent of late by quiet canvassing; but personal canvassing is really at the bottom of much of the bribery carried on throughout the country, and which will continue until candidates are compelled by public opinion to stand on their past record, or on the platform they lay down in their speeches.

No one should demand that his representative should be a modern Cicero, or a heaven-sent orator, but yet when a man receives \$2,500 sessional allowance, he owes it to his constituents to explain to them, at least once

a year, what he has helped to do for them, and his reasons for supporting or opposing the different bills or measures that have come before him.

Few people realize how much might be learnt by meeting as a Township Canadian Club and discussing the various farming methods, together with improvements in roadmaking and other municipal affairs. To sum up, the advantages to be derived by forming Canadian Clubs are as follows:

1st.—The encouragement of independent thinking by the farmer.

2nd.—The educational benefits derived by giving the young man a chance to express himself suitably in public, as well as hearing intelligent men speak.

3rd.—The revival of stump speaking, and the consequent gradual elimination of personal canvassing.

4th.—The advantage the conscientious and faithful M. P. will receive by having a chance to explain his stand on different public questions.

5th.—The added interest that will take place in regard to advanced methods in farming and municipal improvements.

FARMER'S SON.

East Middlesex, Ont.

A BAD NEW WEED.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In your issue of November 7th there appeared a very valuable article, in which a newly-introduced weed of the mustard family was very thoroughly described. I would like to endorse, most emphatically, what the writer (Mr. Dearness) has said about this weed. It is one which has been heard of from two or three different sections of Ontario during the past summer, and in each instance seems to give a great deal of trouble. The seed traces back to the lucerne seed which is being imported from the Old Country. I understand that in Russia, where lucerne is grown extensively, it is one of the most vigorous and most determined weed that the peasant has to contend with. The best way to cope with a weed of bad reputation, is to attack it before it attacks you, otherwise the battle will be a hard and strenuous one. If we in this country would see to it that what weeds we have were prevented from spreading, and what weeds that we haven't got were prevented from being introduced, the weed problem would be practically solved. There are three maxims which every farmer should keep in mind this coming season, e. g.: Fight, Fight, Fight.

1st.—Fight those weeds that you have got.

2nd.—Fight those weeds that you are getting.

3rd.—Fight those weeds that you haven't got.

For the first, "Thorough cultivation." For the second, "Pull and spud, or otherwise destroy before

they go to seed." For the third, "Send a sample of your seed grain to the Seed Branch, Dept. of Agriculture, Ottawa, and have it tested for purity, free of charge." Especially would I recommend the latter to all those who are thinking of sowing lucerne. Let us see if we cannot keep this new pest (*Eruca sativa*) out of this country of ours.

J. A. HAYES.

Seed Commissioner's office, Calgary, Alberta.

A QUERY IN WINDMILL CONSTRUCTION.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Being secretary of the St. Mary's Village Water and Fire Commissioners, who are installing a water system, and expect to have a windmill for pumping, I would like the manufacturers to give a reason, through the columns of your paper, why the fans are made concave. It is my opinion that there is a great loss of power, and my reason is that they hold the wind, instead of letting it slip off, as it should do to revolve the mill. It is just the opposite to what is wanted in a sail-boat; when it is tacking, the sail is allowed to bag so that it will hold the wind and

carry the boat along, while, if it were flat, the wind would slip off without forcing the boat ahead. Perhaps Prof. Reynolds, or someone who has given this matter some thought, would favor us with some suggestions on this matter.

York Co., N. B.

WM. JAFFREY.

RE COUNTY ROADS.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have read with considerable interest the letter by D. L., in the issue of November 11th, on Oxford County roads. D. L. would leave the impression that the work of the council on the county roads left nothing to be desired, whereas to my mind, and to many, it is a piece of high-handed extravagance. Every progressive farmer wants good roads, and in Oxford County the roads have improved in keeping with the farms and buildings, and why the county should be put to such an added expense it is hard to understand.

D. L. tells us that the estimated cost of the 260 miles of county roads is \$354,000, or \$1,361.50 per mile; yet we find that under the most efficient management of the committee of the County Council and two capable inspectors, the road which they have completed this summer has cost about \$3,500 a mile, or the total cost of the 260 miles when completed will be \$910,000, or nearly a million dollars. Thus, the 100-acre farm, which, according to D. L., would be taxed for 64 cents per year, will be taxed for nearly three times that amount.

Out of 260 miles of road to be built, we believe that about eight miles was completed this season, so that it will take 32½ years to finish it.

Another fact is that in the construction of four miles they ruined three or four times that amount of side lines and concessions by hauling material.

It is comforting to know that the House of Refuge is soon to be paid for, but we fear that by the end of seven years there will be need of large addition for the accommodation of the over-taxed farmers.

Oxford Co., Ont.

J. C. S.

GARDEN & ORCHARD.

HORTICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ONTARIO.

[By Prof. H. L. Hutt, O. A. C., Guelph, before the Ontario Fruit-growers' Convention, November, 1907.]

The wonderful progress made in the various branches of horticulture in this Province during the past decade is something that very few fully realize. I wish to call attention to a few points in this connection, for it is by considering the progress in the past that we have come to an understanding of our present position, and are able to form some idea of the outlook for the future.

Horticultural development in Ontario has been characterized of late years by specialization, organization and co-operation. No doubt the rapid progress of late has been brought about largely by specialization and co-operation, and the results already obtained certainly augur well for the future.

As an indication of the recent progress, let me call your attention to the numerous and varied horticultural organizations we now have in Ontario, most of which have been organized within the past ten or twelve years.

PROVINCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

In fruit-growing, besides our Provincial Fruit-growers' Association, which was about the only horticultural organization heard of about ten or twelve years ago, we have a number of local organizations in the large fruit centers. Then, we have another Provincial organization, the Co-operative Fruit-growers of Ontario, and about forty local co-operative associations, actively engaged in the handling and marketing of the fruit crop; or, in all, about fifty organizations under the head of fruit-growing.

Then, we have the Ontario Vegetable-growers' Association, another Provincial organization, and about twenty-five local vegetable-growers' associations, organized within the past two or three years.

In floriculture, we have what is called the Canadian Horticultural Association, an association made up largely of the commercial florists of On-



Group of Imported Berkshire Sows.

Included in dispersion sale of H. M. Vanderlip, Cainsville, Ont.