

himself liable to a penalty of not less than two hundred dollars (200), confiscation of his goods, and imprisonment; one-half the penalty to belong to and be paid to the informer, and the other half to form part of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

The handsome exhibit of maple syrup and sugar prepared by M. F. Goddard for the meeting was much admired. It is hoped that competitive exhibits may form a feature of future meetings. The secretary of the society states that the membership list has already reached the hundred mark, and that subscriptions are coming in daily. The shares of the society are \$10 each, payable one dollar a year.

### South Peel Notes.

Threshing in this district at time of writing is nearly over. There was more to do this year than last, and farmers are not worrying over seed shortage. This district is gradually turning into a dairying centre. Whole sweet-milk and cream for Toronto use take up the attention of the majority of farmers. The man of to-day who ships either of those foods has to give his cattle and stables, as well as utensils, better care than ever before. The city of Toronto sends an inspector to inspect every part of a producer's plant, and, as these come unawares, a producer has to keep up to a high standard. The dairy business is helping other lines. The grain dealer or miller does a good business, simply because a dairyman is not satisfied to feed alone what he grows, but knows that he can make a profit from food that he buys. Sales of dairy cows take place every few weeks at different places. And to make a success at those sale arenas is only a game of chance. The majority of people are beginning to realize the importance of keeping a good sire and raising the heifer calves. If you'll excuse a personal reference, I might say that the writer, who keeps a pure-bred Ayrshire bull, was offered \$85 cash for a two-year-old grade heifer. This heifer was by the pure-bred bull and out of a grade Shorthorn cow. This heifer is making up twenty dollars a month. I just mention this fact to show the advantage of a pure-bred sire. The hired help problem is one of the most serious that farmers have to face. Many are investing in labor-saving machinery to help relieve the situation. Many gasoline engines are being in-

stalled to pump, grind and cut wood. Land in this district is advancing, and almost any ordinary farm will bring \$100 per acre.

The Literary and Debating Society of this district has again commenced operations. With what pleasure many a young man and woman looks forward to these meetings! To take up some subject, or take part in a debate, makes us study, and the result is mind development, which we all so much need. Youth, we know, is the time to learn—a foolish time to think that we know it all. I remember reading a verse some years ago which should prove helpful to use these long winter evenings. It reads as follows:

Up, up! thy young aspiring youth,  
Step by step to the rounds of truth;  
Wake up, wake up! improve thy mind,  
And leave dull ignorance behind.

Peel Co., Ont.

JAS. B. ROSS.

### Death of John Jackson.

Too late for publication of particulars in this issue we have been informed of the death of the well and widely known Canadian breeder of Southdown sheep, John Jackson, of Abingdon, Lincoln County, Ont., which occurred on January 3rd. Mr. Jackson's sterling character, and genial manner, and his splendid record as a breeder of high-class stock, as a competent judge, and as a helpful member of the Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association, will be unanimously acknowledged by those who knew him. We hope to publish in our next issue fuller appreciation.

### Dominion Aid to Agriculture.

Under direction of the Dominion Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Martin Burrell, a comprehensive scheme for the promotion of Canadian agriculture, largely in co-operation with Provincial Departments, has been worked out by C. C. James, formerly Deputy Minister of Agriculture in Ontario, involving an outlay of \$10,000,000 in the course of the next ten years. Hon. Mr. Burrell laid the proposals before Parliament in an able speech on Jan. 23rd., details of which will appear in next week's paper.

### Sale of Pure-bred Stock at Ottawa.

The annual sale of pure-bred stock, held by the Eastern Ontario Sales Association in connection with the Ottawa Winter Fair, took place Friday, January 17th. The large lecture room was filled to its capacity, but bidding was rather slow. Captain T. E. Robson, of London, was auctioneer. The stock sold comprised Shorthorns, Ayrshires, Holsteins and a few Clydesdales. Prices were not high. The following brought \$100 or over:—

#### MALES.

Nonpareil Star, (Shorthorn), A. Doland, Carp.	\$105
Lord Nonpareil, (Shorthorn), A. Pritchard, Casabasia, Ont.	120
Sir Imperial Paul, (Holstein), John Corstian, Russell, Ont.	100
Golden Ro'e, (Shorthorn)	100
Greenbush Favorite, (Shorthorn), A. Riddle, Giletta	150
Golden Rule, (Shorthorn), Wm. Kidd & Son, Black Rapids	100

#### FEMALES.

Merry Beauty, (Shorthorn), Scobie & Co., Scobie	120
Belmar Flower, (Shorthorn)	125
Beathton Maid, (Shorthorn), R. G. Pritchard, Ferrus	120
Nettie, (Shorthorn), W. A. Wallace, Kars	175

The highest price for a Clydesdale was \$440, for a two-year-old imported filly consigned by Smith & Richardson, and bought by the Ontario Agricultural College.

### Better Than Ever.

I have been a subscriber to "The Farmer's Advocate" continuously since 1886 (27 years) first as a monthly, then semi-monthly and latterly as a weekly, and am free to say that you have more than kept abreast of the times in agricultural matters, and have always been in the forefront in advocating what has been in the best interests of Canadian agriculture, and to-day "The Farmer's Advocate" is better value than at any time since its advent. Your recent Christmas issue was a literary and artistic gem, and worth a whole year's subscription.

Queens Co., P. E. I. WALTER SIMPSON.

## No Navy, No Tariff, Tax Reform, Direct Legislation and Parcels Post.

The bill of fare at the thirty-eighth annual meeting of the Dominion Grange, held in Victoria Hall, Toronto, Jan. 22nd and 23rd, was, for the most part, a repetition of the large order given a year ago. For an aggregation of fierce-fighting farmers, hard-headed, deep-thinking farmers, who have a policy, and are not afraid to make that policy known, no other organization in Canada equals the Dominion Grange. The meeting was fairly well attended by delegates from various local Granges, and the discussions, though mostly on old subjects, were illuminating in the extreme. Canada is now at a very critical stage in her development, and many questions of vital importance to her future welfare face her people. The naval question is one which touches every man, woman and child in this Dominion; the tariff has been a bone of contention between political parties since the beginning; our system of obtaining revenue through indirect taxation is now being discussed on every hand; the initiative and referendum are questions occupying the minds of our deepest thinking citizens; our school system is not perfect, and learned men are earnestly seeking to improve it; the tax levied on automobiles does not meet requirements, and needs re-adjusting; some system of Parcels Post is sure to come, and we want the best; and there are still many well-informed people who believe in reciprocity, and an extension of the British preference. Look over this list, and imagine the wide scope covered by the Dominion Grange in annual meeting.

The following resolutions were passed by the meeting, and show plainly the feeling of Grangers on each of these questions:—

1.—The fast-running heavy automobile is doing more damage to our roads than any other one cause. The tax on these machines should be graded according to H.P., and should be sufficiently large to repair damage which they do. Where autos are purchased whose speed power is away beyond the limit allowed by law, the tax should be proportioned to the excess of speed.

2.—A resolution demanding that Parliament submit the naval question to the people in the form of a referendum.

3.—The rapid spread of rural mail delivery in Canada lends special importance to the establish-

ment of some system of parcels post to help bring the consumer and producer together. Canada now carries parcels for other countries. To escape extortionate express charges we respectfully urge the Post-Office Department to investigate the working of the system in other countries with a view to its adoption here.

4.—Taxation of land values would have the effect of expropriating a great share of unearned increment for the public treasury, and would assist in making possible the change from indirect to direct taxation.

5.—Transcontinental highways for automobiles are highly reprehensible. These roads will be of little or no use to farmers. The average county roads should be made the good roads.

6.—A resolution endorsing direct legislation through the initiative and referendum pointing out that we now have the initiative in Ontario in connection with the Liquor License Act, and it is working well. Our present constitutional system does not provide adequate machinery for either the rational discussion or the fair settlement of public questions, and the extension of the practice of direct legislation would do much to remove the disabilities under which we labor at present.

7.—The protective principle should be entirely eliminated from the tariff, and as soon as may be, the public revenues should be raised by direct instead of indirect taxation. An indirect tax, such as customs duties, is susceptible of gross unfairness of incidence, is expensive to collect, and is out of harmony with progressive thought. The incidence of a direct tax on land values is patent to all, and its expenditure will therefore be more carefully watched. It is easier to collect, and much more difficult to evade.

8.—We recommend such a gradual increase in the British preference as will, in the course of a few years, lead to complete free trade with the mother country as the best way to render assistance to Britain, and at the same time reduce the cost of clothing, iron-ware and other manufactured articles to the Canadian people. We are amazed at the people loudest in patriotic acclamations being unwilling to extend this preference.

9.—A resolution expressing confidence in reciprocity, and putting forth the opinion that it

cannot be permanently blocked, and still holding to it and hoping that it will be placed in the form of a referendum.

The educational committee brought in several resolutions which were passed.

1.—Favoring the advisability of improving and extending continuation classes in rural schools, and encouraging the teaching of elementary agriculture by use of school gardens and nature study in rural schools, and also the consolidation of these schools to permit of more advanced work.

2.—A reduction of rigidity and uniformity of school work due to bureaucratic control. Teachers should have more liberty, and examinations should not be so highly emphasized.

3.—Teachers should teach the duties and responsibilities of citizenship, both by information concerning the mechanism of our social and political life, and by concrete object lessons through democratic school organization.

4.—A resolution calling attention to the dangers that are irreparable from the growth of military drill in our schools tending to the increase of international antipathies, and the development of a narrow sense of national self-sufficiency, mis-called self-respect. We desire especially to protest against the use of the Boy Scout movement and the Cadet Corps as means whereby to carry on the propagation of militarism.

5.—We commend the work of the District Representatives of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, and hope the good work they are doing and can do may be very widely extended. Granges should co-operate with them.

The Legislative Committee brought in a report approving of rural-mail delivery and favoring legislation for parcels post system, for tax reform, and urging that the Government investigate all alleged combinations and trusts, that "stock watering" be made a criminal offence; also urging the public to protest against iron and steel bounties, and favoring local option in taxation as well as commending a bill advocating the abolition in Canada of the practice of the bestowing of titles.

All this, together with the Master's address, made rather a long and heavy list for a two-