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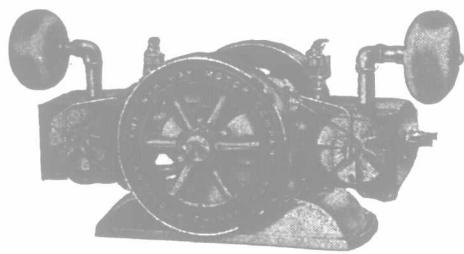
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**When Writing Please Mention Advocate**

of breeders was called in 1904 by instruction of the Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, and the National Live-stock Association was formed. The chief work taken up was the discussion of ways and means of

#### ORGANIZING NATIONAL RECORDS.

Committees were appointed to work out the scheme, and in April, the following year, a convention of delegates from Canadian Live-stock Record Associations was held in Ottawa, when the National Record Board was formed. This body is composed of representatives, elected on the basis of two persons for every one hundred members or under, and one additional representative for each subsequent five hundred members. These were elected by popular vote at the annual meeting of each record association. To these men, forming the National Record Board, is intrusted the registration for each respective association represented. To further condense authority, the Record Board elects, at its annual meeting, one man to represent each class of stock, as follows: Sheep, swine, heavy horses, beef cattle, and dairy cattle. These representatives, presided over by the chairman of the Record Board, with a secretary-treasurer, constitute the Record Committee.

This Committee meets at sufficiently frequent intervals to look after the work intrusted to them by the Record Board in the matter of registration, which includes the conducting of the National Records office that is placed in charge of the Accountant, who, in turn, has full supervision of the several registrars and clerks. In this it will be seen that the work of registration is entirely in the hands of the breeders through their Record Association, Record Board, Record Committee, Accountant and Registrars.

The Department of Agriculture, however, has some responsibility in the matter. In establishing National Records, all provincial records had to be closed in accordance with the Dominion Live-stock Pedigree Act, which provides for the incorporation of only one record for one breed, under Dominion Act. By agreement, the several provincial records were purchased by the Department and handed over to the National Record Board. In addition, the Department furnishes office accommodation and equipment, including stationary and other supplies.

#### ADVANTAGES AND PROCEDURE OF THE NEW SYSTEM.

The Department of Agriculture has a further responsibility in the matter to the extent of guaranteeing the accuracy of the certificates issued. That is to say, the registration certificates that are issued to the breeders after being prepared by the registrars, in accordance with the applications and office records, are given into the hands of a representative of the Department, who examines for accuracy, and, if found correct, the seal of the Department is affixed and the certificate signed by the representative, W. A. Clemens. It will, therefore, be seen that accuracy depends first of all upon each respective breeder who sends applications for registration; if correct information is furnished by these men, correct registration is sure to follow. In this connection, it might be stated that a complete record of the progeny of each dam, with dates of birth and other information, is on file in the Record office. Before registrations are made and certificates issued, the office records are examined to guard against possible errors in dates of birth. Examinations for ownership are also made by the registrars.

Since the records have been centralized at Ottawa, improved systems have been adopted, which facilitate the work of registration and the prompt issuing of certificates. Under the system as first established, the work for the various associations was done at the discretion of the several registrars working separately. It was realized by the Record Committee that in order to guard against confusion of authority, and to work out a uniform system, responsibility should be centered in one head. The different associations agreed to this, and the present system, as already described, of conducting the work was adopted.

An insight into the disposition of fees received is of interest. On the day received, all fees are deposited in a bank

to the credit of the association for which it is sent. These moneys are payable only to the order of each respective association through its officers. It is, therefore, apparent that the Record Committee, after depositing, through the Accountant, these funds, has no further control of them. This explains why fees sent for registrations of animals of one breed and deposited cannot be applied for recording pedigrees of another breed. If more money is remitted than is required, a refund is made through the treasurer of the association represented.

In order to insure uniform promptness in issuing certificates, applications are dealt with as received, irrespective of the sender. In this, all are treated alike, members or officers of record associations receiving no advantage over others.

To finance the affairs of the office, a monthly levy is made by the Record Committee on all self-sustaining associations. The amount charged for each association is based on the total number of registrations made for the year. If the levies exceed the amount required, the balance is returned, and vice versa. The expenses of the associations on which levy is not made are provided from a grant given by the Department of Agriculture to Record Committee. In doing this, the Department is carrying out its agreement to assist new records.

Since nationalization came about, new records have been established for the following breeds: Aberdeen-Angus, with headquarters at Winnipeg; Galloway, headquarters at Guelph, Ont.; Red Polled, at Winnipeg; Jersey, at Berlin, Ont.; Guernsey, at Cheggogin, N. S.; French-Canadian, at Quebec. Horses.—Thoroughbred, at Toronto; Belgian Draft, at Quebec, and French-Canadian, at Quebec. Sheep.—All of the breeds already mentioned, with headquarters at Toronto.

With the single exception of the Canadian Holstein-Friesian Association, all record associations in the Dominion are operated under the National Records system. These include the following: Horses.—Clydesdale, Shire, Hackney, Thoroughbred, Belgian Draft, and French-Canadian. It is expected that a Percheron horse association and a pony breeders' association will, before long, be incorporated, with headquarters at Calgary and Toronto, respectively.

The breeds of cattle being recorded are: Shorthorn, Hereford, Aberdeen-Angus, Galloway, Red Polled, Jersey, Guernsey, Ayrshire and French-Canadian.

The breeds of sheep include: Shropshire, Leicester, Cotswold, Oxford, Lincoln, Southdown, Hampshire and Dorset.

In swine, the breeds are: Yorkshire, Berkshire, Tamworth, Chester White, Poland-China, Duroc-Jersey and Essex.

The Department of Agriculture in organizing national pedigree records has performed a service to Canadian agriculture the value of which it would be difficult to estimate. It has established for all time, so far as can be seen, records of such standing that their validity cannot be questioned. It has placed a very effective barrier in the way of the multiplying of records within the Dominion for single breeds. Neither can pedigree registration by close corporations, such as are becoming troublesome to breeders in the United States, ever become a difficulty in this country.

The Department in continuing to liberally support and foster new records, makes it possible for even such small associations as that for Red Polled cattle, having a membership of less than a dozen, to register their animals with the same facility and confidence of accuracy and recognition as the strongest record associations, with their thousands of members.

The financial advantage of National registration is worthy of consideration. According to the latest annual report of the Record Committee, it is shown that the co-operative system has reduced the cost to a minimum, not only by reason of the co-operation, but by the privilege of free-postal services and other advantages granted by the Department. This economy enables the several record associations to spend more money in assisting the breeds by more liberal prizes to exhibitors, and in such other ways as may be decided upon.

In the National Records, Canada has a system of pedigree registration not enjoyed by any other country in the world. This work, as conducted at Ottawa, possesses the features of accuracy, (Continued on page 1996.)