

the same subject, declaring that hereafter there will be no difficulty in paying for the milk of the patrons in proportion to the percentage of butter it contains.

Then came Mr. MacPherson, whose lecture, translated into French, was read by Mr. Barnard. Winter production of milk was the subject: can cows be profitably milked in winter, and during how many months? What is the most suitable food for them? What breed of cows is the best for this purpose? &c., &c.

Mr. Barnard then addressed the convention, describing his entrance into the farming fraternity. He also advised the making of dairy-products in winter. The cows at the Convent of the Sacred-Heart, at Quebec, give an average of 16 lbs. of milk a day throughout the year. Ensilage is the food for milk—a ton of ensiled clover is worth two tons of maize silage. Mr. MacPherson says the Canadian cow is the best of all.

In a discussion that followed, M. l'abbé Beaudry thought that the *melilot*, (a great, coarse-stemmed, showy plant of the *trifolium* family) was good for cows. Mr. Barnard, on the contrary, thought it only good for bees. (Mr. Barnard is quite right too. A. R. J. F.)

As to the samples of silage exhibited, Mr. Fisher said that almost all of them had a disagreeable smell, like that of manure, and he fancied they were on the eve of becoming rotten. They must have been ensiled in too damp a state; but, on the whole, they were very fine. Wild grasses made into hay are good for nothing, but when fermented in the silo (of which there were several samples), they become good fodder.

After a discussion on this matter of the silo, M. Bernatches related his experience in Europe when investigating the subject of the manufacture of beet-sugar. It is a benefit to any country, since the cultivation of the beet improves the land vastly. Here, the first attempts broke down for divers reasons, but, in spite of the dearth of labour, the other conditions are in its favour. If our roads are bad in autumn, they are excellent in winter, and if the beets do get frozen, they are not injured, provided they do not thaw out again.

At the evening meeting, the newly elected president, M. l'abbé Montminy, took the chair.

M. Saül Côté read his report as inspector, which showed that *no less than 219 cases of fraud* had been detected, many of which had been brought before the magistrates and caused severe punishment to be inflicted on their authors. Among divers prominent faults committed by too great a number of patrons, he named: filthiness, want of aeration of the milk, unhandy fittings up of buildings, carelessness and sloth! Frequently, he found defective thermometers.

In the province, there are now 660 cheeseries and 140 creameries. In the latter, 9 million lbs. of milk were used, from which were made 40,000 lbs. of butter, worth, at 20½ cents a pound, \$84,000.

In the cheeseries, 135 million lbs. of milk yielded about 13 million lbs. of cheese, which, on the average, sold for 9 cents a lb. = \$1,200,000.

The discussion that followed M. Côté's address brought out clearly the great benefit that both patrons and makers had derived from the establishment of syndicates.

M. J. de L. Taché, at the request of M. J. L. O. Vidal, exhibited to the audience a newly invented instrument for testing milk called "The little Detective."

Towards the close of the convention, many questions of great interest were discussed, particularly one relating to the use to be made of *frozen milk*. Can good butter or cheese be made out of it? M. J. de L. Taché stated that it might be utilized for these purposes, provided the usual system of treating it were modified to a certain extent.

After the usual thanks to the inhabitants of Montmagny, &c., were rendered by Mr. Sidney Fisher, the convention was declared dissolved.

H. NAGANT.

(Condensed from the French.)

#### The Huntingdon Dairymen's Association.

This society held its annual meeting at Ormstown, on the 15th March. The President, Mr. Robert Ness, in the chair, in his address, Mr. Ness, after mentioning the abundant harvest of the autumn, said that prices were remunerative, except for barley. The cheese of the province was in great request in England, Messrs. Sharples and Jones, a large importing firm at Liverpool, pronouncing it to be equal if not superior to that made in Ontario.

Mr. MacPherson mentioned that 1862 much cheese was imported into Canada, but now Canada exports more than 8 millions dollars' worth a year.

Mr. Ed. A. Barnard, secretary of the Council of Agriculture, spoke of the benefits the Messrs. Stephens, of St. Lambert, had conferred upon the country by the importation of their Jersey cattle. Mr. Barnard advocated winter-dairying. Cows must have succulent food—ensilage to wit—out proper food alone, without warm water and warm lodgings, will not do. Clover made excellent silage. Maize for silage should not be out till the ears are glazed.

Mr. Sidney Fisher, of Knowlton, spoke very highly of the improvement visible in the farming of the French-Canadians. They are anxious to get good stock; in neatness and cleanliness they excel the English-speaking people, and if the latter do not look out, the French Canadians will leave them behind before 5 years are over.

He saw in the Huntingdon district, last June, wonderful crops of pease; but he disapproved entirely of the practice of drawing out manure and spreading it on the pastures. The June sun must bleach such manure and drive all the strength out of it.

Much talk on pease ensued; Mr. Thos. Drysdale had tried *superphosphate* for them and for clover and grass, but derived no benefit from the application.

Mr. James McKell, had over 30 *bushels an arpent* of pease on heavy land. (1)

Three inches Mr. Ness thought to be too deep for drilling pease; two inches were enough.

Mr. George Nussey sowed 25 arpents of pease, 1 bushel, 3 pecks to the arpent, and had never failed for 32 years, except once. He sowed broadcast, and gave a stroke of the harrows first "to prevent the pease from rolling off the ridge."

Mr. Jas. McKell, on the other hand, had better pease when sown deep.

At the suggestion of Mr. G. W. Stephens, supported by Mr. Greig, M. L. A., and Mr. Ed. A. Barnard, it was determined to have a "French director for each county."

In the evening Mr. G. W. Stephens gave an account of the establishment of the celebrated herd of Jerseys at St. Lambert. The curé of St. Alexis, where the speaker had some land, told him that he had been offered \$2,100 for a bull he gave him for nothing.

Mr. W. H. Walker, the secretary gave an account of his visit to the St. Alban's creamery.

(I do not say much on this point, but refer my readers

(1) As the bushel of pease is 70 lbs. and the arpent is less than an acre by nearly one-fifth, it follows that, taking the English bushel at 84 lbs., which is about what a *struck* bushel of pease weighs, this crop equalled 36 bushels an acre, a very large yield indeed. A. R. J. F.