

New Brunswick Stock-breeders' Convention.

With a view of providing better facilities for the agriculturists of New Brunswick to acquire pure-bred stock, the Provincial Department of Agriculture has decided to inaugurate a series of auction sales, to be held periodically at various places in the Province, where such stock can be assembled in such numbers and variety as will make it worth the while of farmers to attend, with some degree of assurance that they will be able to meet with the class of stock they need. With the view of further assisting in this project, the Government will from time to time make importations of different breeds of stock, which will be offered for sale at these auction sales. The first of these sales was held at Fredericton on the 12th inst., when about forty animals, chiefly Shorthorn and Ayrshire cattle, and some draft horses, were offered. Buyers attended in large numbers, and the bidding was spirited, prices ranging from \$190 for cows, down to \$60 for six-months-old calves, and many more could have been sold at satisfactory prices.

Advantage was taken of the presence of so many prominent farmers and stock-breeders in the city to hold a convention to discuss matters pertaining to the industry, and, in response to the invitation of the Commissioner for Agriculture, a large and influential gathering met in one of the committee-rooms of the Legislative Buildings, under the presidency of Lt.-Col. Campbell, of Apohaqui, President of the New Brunswick Farmers' & Dairymen's Association.

W. W. Hubbard, Provincial Secretary for Agriculture, explained that the chief object of calling them together was to get an expression of opinion as to the best means of promoting the live-stock industry in the Province, as, from the statistics of imports of meat and poultry, it would not seem as though the Province had much of a live-stock industry. Compared with the other Provinces, New Brunswick made but a poor showing. There was a falling off in horses and sheep in the last ten years, though swine had somewhat increased. There had been some little improvement in the later years of the ten, but the Province was not beginning to compare with Ontario, in proportion to population. This was a matter which was capable of being remedied, and he would like an expression of opinion as to the readiest means of going about it. He felt that if the agricultural societies and stock-breeders' associations would take the matter up in earnest, some tangible results would accrue.

W. McIntyre, from Gloucester County, thought increased grants to exhibitions would encourage farmers to raise better stock. He did not know any reason why as good stock could not be raised in New Brunswick as in Ontario, in which case Ontario farmers might come to the Province for good animals, instead of New Brunswickers having always to go to Ontario.

Geo. E. Fisher, of Chatham, said that the improvement of stock-raising conditions was the foundation of successful farming. Mixed farming was what counted, and, in order to be successful in it, a farmer must raise stock. New Brunswick was perhaps better suited for dairy farming than anything else, and the Ayrshire stock which would be for sale was ideal for the purpose. There could be no doubt that Ontario was the greatest agricultural Province in the Dominion, and there mixed farming was the aim of the farmer. What with dairying and sheep and swine raising, there were splendid opportunities for farmers in New Brunswick, and no Province offered better markets for the farmers' produce.

James A. Teller, of King's County, who has just moved into the Province from Ontario, said, from what he had seen of the land in New Brunswick, he felt there was no reason whatever why it should not be as good a live-stock Province as Ontario. The farmers, however, required educating on the subject, and he thought that short courses in judging should be given by competent men. Another thing he thought was that many of the farmers were not good feeders, and good results could not be expected without good feeding. No matter how good the breed, good feeding was half the battle, particularly in this matter of dairy stock. He advocated a much greater use of alfalfa, which thrives very well in the Province. Asked as to the sheep industry, which is Mr. Teller's leading line, he said that there was a profitable market in the Province for sheep-breeders, though he would like to see better prices for wool. He believed in feeding lambs well on in the season, rather than killing them very young. Before making up his mind to settle in New Brunswick, he had travelled over several Provinces in search of a location, and he did not think he had made any mistake in settling in this Province, as the best place for sheep-raising.

Col. Campbell approved of the policy of the Government in arranging for periodical sales of pure-bred stock, and he felt that stock-breeders would have some encouragement to persevere in their efforts when they were able to feel that facilities were to be afforded them for disposing of their stock, instead of having to trust to chance to be able to dispose of it privately.

A. Justican, of Victoria County, thought that much good might be accomplished by exchange of pure-bred bulls among the various agricultural societies. After a bull had been in one district for, say, a couple of years, it would be a good plan to exchange him with another society at a distance, and inbreeding thus be avoided. He also disapproved of killing bulls when they were comparatively young, and said ten years was not too long to keep a good animal in service.

Hon. Dr. Landry, Commissioner of Agriculture, was glad to see so many representative farmers and stock-breeders present, and to hear so many expressions of approval of the Government's policy. He felt that the idea of exchanging stock bulls was a good one, and could be readily carried

breeders in the past; therefore, resolved, that this meeting recommends the Department of Agriculture to arrange for auction sales of such stock, and that this stock be taken from New Brunswick breeders at such times as might be agreed upon, based upon the production figures of the stock, and this offered for sale."

Fresh-air Treatment for Tuberculosis in Cattle.

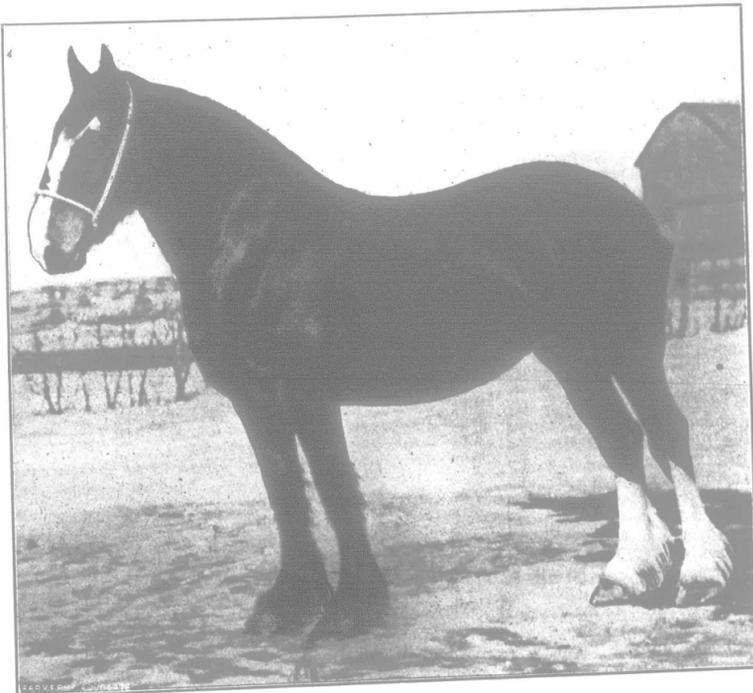
Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Recently I read in the Technical World that many fine dairy cattle are being tested for tuberculosis, and when found infected they are killed.

It occurred to me that an experience we had in New Zealand in the early sixties might be of some assistance in stamping out the disease, without destroying so many good heaves. At the time I speak of, beef was scarce, and our supply came from Australia, and nearly every one of them was infected with pleuro-pneumonia. My parents had about 300 cattle in the Wakatip district, which was situated 2,000 feet above sea level. A butcher brought up about 100 head of infected steers, and turned them on the same range as ours. Eight of his cattle died within a few days after, I think because of the change of climate. These eight were buried along with thirteen others that he had shot, owing to their poor condition. The rest, with the exception of nine, which were lost, were butchered and eaten.

It was my duty to go to the range and drive in the cattle as they were needed for butchering, two to four at a time, and I became so used to their actions that when they were coming over a trail across the mountain top I could tell just in what state their lungs would be when the cattle were killed and dressed. The very best of these steers did not weigh over 600 pounds when ready for the market. All of their flesh was bluish, and their lungs were blue and swelled, and some of them had their lungs grown to their ribs. Some were too poor to kill, but a year after being turned onto the range were fat and in good condition. Four-fifths of the cattle killed by the butchers had pleuro-pneumonia, and had had the run of the feeding ground with other cattle. We never knew of a native animal having the disease.

The nine that were lost I found two years later, and helped to butcher them. They were wild as antelope, but dressed over eight hundred pounds. They all showed signs of having been diseased, and had been so far gone that one could see where their lungs had been grown to the ribs; and one was so bad that one lung was entirely gone, only a small, hard



Baroness (imp.) [20270] (23247).

Clydesdale mare; brown; foaled 1907. Imported by Smith & Richardson, Columbus, Ont. Second at Toronto National. First and champion at Ogdensburg, fall of 1910. First and champion at Ontario Winter Fair, Guelph. Second at Ottawa Winter Fair. Sold to W. J. Cox, Peterboro. Sire Cassabianca.

The stock which the Government had imported was as good as was to be procured in Ontario, and, if carefully looked after, could not fail to improve the breed of cattle in New Brunswick. He believed the time would soon come when the farmers would be able to put on the market each year a nice selection of stock, such as would meet with a ready sale. He felt like paying the expenses connected with the sale, and putting all the farmers on an equal footing. If farmers would make up their minds to keep better stock, even if they only began in a small way, the result was bound to be highly beneficial not only to themselves, but to the Province generally. Dr. Landry concluded by announcing the probability of a couple of Shorthorn importations in the near future.



Helping Themselves.

Several other speakers expressed approval of the inauguration of periodical sales, and of the policy of the Government in making importations of pure-bred stock, and the following resolution was unanimously carried: "Whereas, it is desirable to encourage the breeding of pure-bred stock of best quality in the Province of New Brunswick; and, whereas, this business has not proved remunerative to our

lump remaining, yet these cattle were in healthy condition when killed.

There is no doubt in my mind but that the mountain range of the Wakatip district, with plenty of grass, was a sure cure for pleuro-pneumonia. I believe that if the United States Department, instead of killing the cattle, would remove a large herd of diseased cattle to a range in some such country as the head of the Membris