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L. A. FINDLAY.

The Report of the Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes in Ontario

If any proof were needed of the great improvement which has taken place in every department of Agriculture in Ontario, during the last few years, it would be found in a comparison of the Report of the Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes of that Province, just issued, with a report of agriculture 20 years ago. The Report in question is a most excellent one, covering all departments of farming, and is, without doubt, the best and most practical publication ever printed by the Ontario Department of Agriculture.

The ground covered by the Farmers' Institute system is now pretty generally known. It aims to provide a common meeting ground for all classes of agriculturists, and in order to suit all the different branches of farming, the meetings are made of a varied character. To the President of the Ontario Agricultural College is due the honor of inaugurating and organizing the first Institutes. They are the direct outcome of the work carried on at Guelph, being an attempt to give the agricultural community the benefit of the results of the work done there.

The growing importance of the Institute system soon made it apparent that, successfully as it had been conducted from the College, in order to produce the best results, it was necessary to put it under the care of an energetic man who could devote all his time to it. This was done in 1894 and the Minister of Agriculture selected as the first Superintendent, Mr. F. W. Hodson, who has shown special capabilities for the work required, thus fully justifying the Minister's selection.

The attendance at the local Institute meetings during 1896-7 has been most encouraging. In 1885, the first year of Institute work in Ontario, 12 meetings were held and 2,508 persons attended the sessions. Last season 659 meetings were held, and 125,177 persons attended, while 3,277 addresses on agricultural topics were delivered, and 15,452 persons paid their membership fees. During the previous season, a most successful one, 102,461 persons attended the meeting, 2,637 addresses were delivered, and the total membership was 12,384. The increase all round 1896-7 over the year previous is thus very pronounced. The average attendance per meeting has been about 400, while at some it has run as high as 1,200. The South Waterloo belongs the credit of having the largest membership, 465 in all, its nearest competitor being North Hastings with 390 members. An interesting feature in the present Report is that it contains the first annual report of the first Women's Institute formed in Ontario. It is in connection with the South Westworth Institute, and promises to be the forerunner of several others.

A most gratifying fact in connection with the excellent work done by the Institutes is that it is carried out at such a trifling cost to the community, and with such moderate grants from the government. The results are therefore, all the more satisfactory, and particularly so, inasmuch as the benefits are far reaching, not being confined to members of the Institute only. Any one can attend the meetings, while a copy of the annual report of the Superintendent, which contains the cream of all the papers read at the various meetings, can be obtained from the Secretaries of the local Institutes.

The papers in the report to hand are most conveniently arranged under the several departments of the farm with which they are concerned. Lack of space prevents me giving extracts from them, and we can only mention a few of the writers and their subjects. Lt. Col. McCree, Guelph, treats of the important question of "Cattle Forage Crops". Mr. I. P. Roberts, of Council Bluffs,

writers, R. A. Lehmann showing "How to build an octagon silo". How to assure a water supply for crops", is demonstrated by J. B. Reynolds, lecturer in agricultural physics at Guelph, while W. S. Woodward, Lockport, N. Y., discourses on "Bard building".

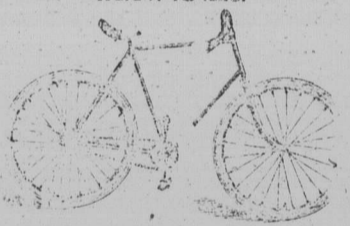
There is a very able paper on "Tuberculosis" by F. C. Harrison, Bacteriologist of the Ontario Agricultural College, while dairymen will be interested in "Parturient Apoplexy in cows", by Prof. Reed of the same college. Prof. Curtiss, of the Iowa experiment station writes on "Points of excellence in beef cattle". Among the articles on "Horse breeding" may be mentioned those of Prof. John A. Craig, Rice Lake, Wisconsin, and Robert Ness, Howick, Que. W. C. Edwards, M. P., Rockland, gives useful information on "Feeding work horses and colts". Those interested in Dairying, Horticulture, and Poultry will find some very practical papers on those subjects.

New and important branches of farming treated of in this Report are Forestry and fish culture. In the latter department there are articles by three Canadian specialists, Dr. G. A. McCallum, chairman of the Ontario Game and Fish Commission; Prof. E. E. Prince, General Inspector of Fisheries for Canada; and Edward Harris, Port Dover.

The total number of pages in the Report is 280, and of these 240 are devoted to selected papers on farm subjects. The Agricultural department covers 60 pages; articles on live stock occupy 50; 20 pages treat of Dairying, 14 of Horticulture, and 13 of Forestry; Poultry have 6, Good Roads 4, and Entomology 33; while fish culture takes up 14, the home department 6, and general farming topics, that do not come under other headings, 20. Every one who has not received a copy of this report should apply for one at once to the Department of Agriculture at Toronto, and also become a member of the local Institute so as to get all the reports sent to members.

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Notice to Creditors

In the matter of the Estate of Andrew Teskey, an Insolvent.

NOTICE is hereby given that Andrew Teskey, of the Village of Mildmay, of the Township of Carleton Place, in the County of Bruce, blacksmith, carrying on business as a blacksmith in the said Village of Mildmay, Township of Carleton, County of Bruce, has made an assignment under E. S. O. 1887, Chapter 131 and amendments, of all his estate, credits and effects to the undersigned, John Hillhouse, of the Village of Mildmay, in the County of Wellington, for the benefit of his creditors.

A meeting of creditors will be held at the office of the said John Hillhouse, Elora street, in the said Village of Mildmay, on

Friday, Jan. 21, 1898,

at the hour of 2 o'clock in the afternoon, to receive a statement of affairs, to appoint inspectors and fix their remuneration, and for the ordering of the estate generally.

Creditors are requested to file their claim with the Assignee, with the proof and particulars thereof required by the said Acts on or before the day of such meeting.

And notice is further given that after the said 21st day of January 1898 the Assignee will proceed to distribute the assets of the Debtor among the parties entitled thereto, having regard to the claims of which notice shall then have been given, and that he will not be liable for the assets or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons of whose claim he shall not then have notice.

Dated at CHESHAM, this 13th day of January 1898.

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