

### A DAIRY SCHOOL.

A most important step is being taken by the directors of the Provincial Dairy-Association, by which there will be established a complete dairy school for this province this fall. For the three years back, the managers of the Dairy-Association have felt that this is the greatest need of our dairy-industry, and efforts have been made to bring about such arrangement, but the means have been wanting until this summer. Now, an offer has been made by the authorities of the College of St. Hyacinthe, by which a first-rate site for the necessary buildings is given, and an arrangement has been come to by which the funds necessary to build and equip the school are supplied. Prof. Robertson, the Commissioner of Dairying for the Dominion, than whom there is no more competent authority in dairy matters on the continent, has undertaken to provide the instruction and practical working of the school; and the Local Government has agreed to devote sufficient of the grant for dairy purposes to aid this arrangement, so that we may confidently expect to see a first-rate dairy-school in full operation by the fall.

That this is a matter for congratulation all those connected with the butter and cheese trade will easily see, and as this trade is becoming more and more the greatest item in our agriculture in this province, the interest in this announcement should extend to all. The Provincial Dairy-Association has been working steadily and energetically for the improvement of the industry without much fuss or flourish, but the work they have been doing has borne important fruit, and the fine position which the butter and cheese of Quebec holds to-day is largely due to the efforts of these men. A few years ago the average price paid for Quebec cheese was from one to one and a-half cent a pound below that for Ontario cheese. To-day, it is only about one-quarter or at most one-half a cent below the best Brockville, Belleville or Ingersoll prices, and occasionally we find sales made fully as high as in those markets. The system of inspection or instruction which was commenced some five or six years ago was the foundation of the improvement. Two years ago this system was much extended and improved, under the Mercier Government, when a complete arrangement for local inspectors was drawn up by the officers of the Dairy-Association submitted to the then Minister of Agriculture and approved, and the necessary vote given to carry it out. By this arrangement, any group of cheese- or butter-factories could, by complying with certain rules and conditions, obtain a grant from the department to aid them in forming a syndicate for inspection purposes. The factories engage a competent instructor, who goes round and teaches the makers in the factories of his syndicate, inspects the milk brought to them, and gives all the information he can to patrons, owners and makers. The syndicate pays half the expense, the government the other half. This scheme has been found to work very well, and this year there are some eighteen or twenty such instructors in the Province. The Dairy-Association, besides has a chief inspector, who goes from locality to locality helping or keeping watch over the local inspectors. All these men have to submit to an examination, and win a certificate of competency before they can be thus employed. This was a most important first step in advance, and now, to crown it and complete it, we are to have a dairy-school where our inspectors of the future, our cheese- and butter-makers, can go for training in their business. This is very necessary, as, heretofore, it has been rather difficult to find men properly qualified for these places, and we have had to look outside our own Province to get some of them. Last year, so important and necessary was this instruction considered that some young men were sent down to the butter-school which the State of Vermont inaugurated at Burlington,

and they have been using the knowledge and practice there obtained to good advantage this season.

The idea of this school at St. Hyacinthe is to have the operations of cheese- and butter-making carried on as much as possible all the year round, in such a way that those attending can at all times have practical instruction in the work. At the same time lectures on the theory of manufacture, the properties of milk and the chemistry of the process will be given, so that a complete knowledge of the why and the wherefore of the various processes may be acquired. By the expedient of working the school in winter as well as summer, opportunity will be given those who are already in the business to learn more, and many farmer lads and lasses, who are kept close at home during the busy season, can spare a few weeks or even months in the slack time of winter, to go and learn the most improved methods of dairy-work, and study out the reasons for much that they have already done by rule of thumb.

The time is past when the farmer or dairyman can successfully compete by old methods and old appliances, but, fortunately, the knowledge which science is constantly obtaining for us is being more and more put within the reach of all. Already, in various States of the Union, in Ontario, and even in conservative Old England, the example of Denmark has been followed and the greatest benefit has resulted to the people wherever Dairy-schools have been established. We must follow in the train. Quebec Province has many of the natural advantages necessary for successful dairying, and her people have made a good start in progress. Let us then give all honour to the association of men who are thus pushing onward, and we are sure the best encouragement they can receive will be to find that advantage is taken of the facilities thus being supplied, and to see that the Dairy-School will be full during the coming winter.

SYDNEY FISHER.

### SELECT NURSERY STOCK.

While objecting to the urging of persons to buy trees which, from want of knowledge on the part of both agent and purchaser, are often unsuitable, I think the public should not be discouraged as to this important part of rural economy—but if they do not know what, how, where or when to plant, should be instructed by competent authority. After a life-long study and practice, together with experience gained by travel during the last few years as to the adaptability of certain soils, aspects, and localities for tree planting I feel that I am in a position to give the information required to insure success, and if intending planters will do me the honor to consult me I will advise them on the subject, and recommend such varieties as will suit their purpose.

I have the pleasure also to state that I have arranged with reliable Canadian Nurserymen to supply my friends with such trees, shrubs, &c., as I know with ordinary care will yield them pleasure and profit.

GEORGE MOORE.

### Fruit and Fruit-planting.

Mr. Barnard, in the November number of the *French Journal of Agriculture* writes:

At our special request, Mr. George Moore, our official Departmental lecturer on fruit planting and horticulture generally, is willing to advise and help our readers as to the best fruit to plant, and how to raise the same. We strongly advise our readers who are desirous of learning and practising improved fruit-planting and cultivation, to write to Mr. Moore and secure his advice and assistance. In our own plan-