

## Western Ontario Dairymen at Brantford.

Brantford, the Telephone City, a busy hive of industry, which, though not figuring very prominently among Canadian cities in respect to population, yet claims the distinction of being one of the greatest manufacturing centers of the Dominion, being situated as well in a first-class mixed-farming county, was the 1909 foregathering place of the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association, which held its annual convention and winter exhibition of butter and cheese on Wednesday and Thursday last week. Though not particularly well attended by city people, the audiences comprised an encouraging number of dairymen, especially cheese and butter makers, while perhaps the most hopeful feature of all was the generous sprinkling of clean-shaven faces, indicating the interest of the young men. The sessions throughout were fruitful of information and inspiration, while the exhibits of dairy produce, more especially of cheese, were of a very high average excellence. The dairy-herd competition appealed especially to patrons present, and while the entries had not been so numerous as might have been expected, the competition will be bound to do good. At any rate, this has been the experience in previous years.

### DIRECTORS' REPORT.

President Brodie incorporated his presidential address with the Directors' report. After reviewing the progress of the dairy industry in Canada, and noting the legislative and administrative steps, Federal and Provincial, to assist it, commending particularly the new system of dairy instruction and sanitary inspection in Ontario, it proceeded to discuss the commercial features of the season. Trade returns showed a reduction in cheese exports from Canada, for 1908, of 154,000 boxes, due, no doubt, to unfavorable climatic conditions in 1907 and 1908. Increased home consumption has had a marked effect on exports, particularly of butter. Increasing consumption of milk and cream in our growing cities has also been a factor. Notwithstanding the decrease in export trade, the producers received, through higher prices, nearly as much total money. From Census and Statistics Bulletin 7 it was gleaned that, from the year 1900 to 1907, there was a decrease of cheese made in Ontario amounting to 1,137 tons; but, while the value of the larger quantity in 1900 was \$13,440,987, that of the smaller production in 1907 was \$15,106,030, or \$1,665,043 more, owing to the higher price. In butter, there was an increase of 651 tons, with an increase in value of \$592,522. However, for future increase in profits, we should look to a larger production from the individual cow.

### PRODUCTION HELD UP WELL.

Western Ontario, in 1907, produced 16,827 tons of cheese, and 2,932 tons of butter. In 1908, although two more milk-condensers were established in our best dairy districts, the production of cheese was maintained, and in some sections increased, and the make of butter increased by 338 tons.

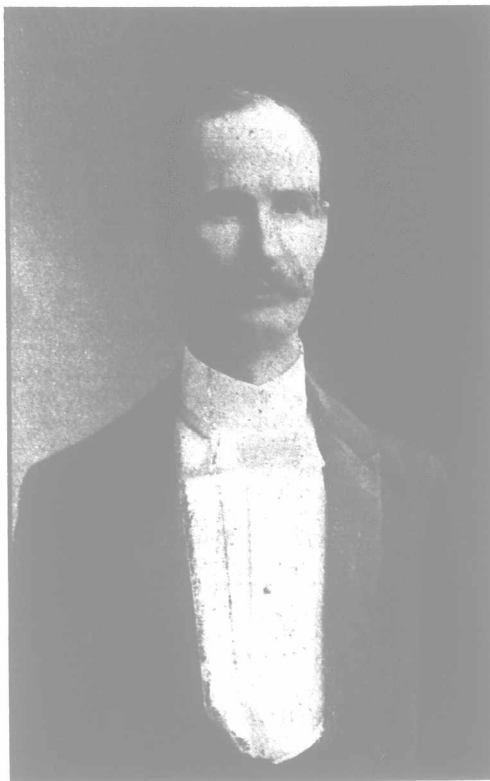
Several new factories will be erected before next season opens, and the fact was deplored that several of these were to be built in sections already well served by existing factories. It was feared that the building of these small factories in districts where the facilities already seem adequate would not prove in the best interests of producers, makers, or the trade in general.

### SKIM-MILK CHEESE.

A word for the bacon-hog industry, as a profitable adjunct of dairying, was followed by reference to an attempt made by a few factorymen during the past year to introduce a system of manufacturing skim-milk cheese. So far as could be learned, it had not proven successful from a monetary standpoint, and the directors of the Association recorded their disapproval of such a system, as it is only by production of the highest quality that we can hope to maintain our prestige as a cheese-producing country. Prospects for the dairy business in Western Ontario are bright, and the directors submitted as the ideal of the association, PERFECTION. We must adopt modern dairy practice. New discoveries are being made in every profession. Always remember that the world generally gives its admiration not to the man who does what no person else ever attempts, but to the man who does best what the multitude do well.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The opening session concluded with the submission of the financial report, which showed a balance carried forward of \$1,417.72; members' fees, \$247; Legislative grant, \$2,000; money from prosecutions, \$920—all going to foot up total receipts of \$6,129.32. The disbursements, of \$5,661.48, included an item of \$100, being sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth calls on the thousand dollars' worth of stock held by the Association in its official organ.



J. J. Parsons, Jarvis, Ont.

President Dairymen's Association of Western Ontario, 1909.

### DAIRY-HERD COMPETITION.

The directors of the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association last year decided again to promote a dairy-herd competition, the Association donating \$100 in cash prizes for patrons of cheese factories and creameries, and Iyrie Bros. once more very kindly donating a silver and a bronze medal. Five prizes were offered in each section, the first prize for cheese-factory patrons being a silver medal and \$15 in cash; second prize, \$15, without a medal, and from that down to \$4 cash for the fifth prize. In the creamery section, the cash prizes were the same, but a bronze, instead of a silver, medal was offered to the best patron. In the cheese-factory section, the prizes were offered for the greatest amount of milk per cow (for a herd of eight cows or more), delivered at the factory, from May 1st to October 31st. In the creamery-patrons' section, the prizes were for the largest amount of butter-fat delivered per cow. The rules were specially designed to insure that the average amount of milk or butter-fat be calculated on a basis of the total number of cows from which milk or cream was sent during the season. Figures were taken from the cheese factory or creamery books, and the facts certified to by the cheese or butter maker, and the secretary of the factory or creamery. Furthermore, a director of the Association, or one of the dairy instructors, visited the farms of the winning competitors, examined the books of the secretaries of the respective factories, and satisfied himself, so far as possible, that each competitor had complied with the rules and regulations.

Twelve patrons entered—ten in the cheese-factory section, and two in the creamery contest.

Following are the particulars regarding the prizes and the records of the respective herds entered:

The prizes were awarded as follows: Class 1, Sec. 1, cheese-factory patrons:

First.—John W. Cornish, Sprucedale Farm, Harrietsville; 8 Holstein-grade cows, 57,949 total pounds of milk, 7,243 pounds of milk per cow, \$548.02 total money, \$68.50 money per cow.

Second.—Seymour Cuthbert, Aberdeen Farm, Sweaburg; 14 Holstein cows, 100,808 total pounds of milk, 7,200 pounds of milk per cow, \$946.19 total money, \$67.58 money per cow.

Third.—W. E. Thompson, Leslie Farm, Woodstock; 11 Holstein and Holstein grades, 77,066 total pounds of milk, 7,006 pounds of milk per cow, \$653.92 total money, \$59.44 money per cow.

Fourth.—Geo. W. Pearce, Hillside View, Tillsonburg; 11 grade Holstein, 1 grade Shorthorn, 15 cows; 96,021 total pounds of milk, 6,401 pounds of milk per cow, \$926.52 total money, \$61.76 money per cow.

Fifth.—Mason Bros., The Maples, Turell; 20 Holstein and Holstein grades, 125,322 total pounds of milk, 6,266 pounds of milk per cow, \$1,057.50 total money, \$52.87 money per cow.

F. W. Woodley, Fairview Farm, Boston; 5 pure Holstein, 3 grade Holstein, 8 cows; 48,725 total pounds of milk, 6,090 pounds of milk per cow, \$110.83 total money, \$55.40 money per cow.

J. W. Earley, Pleasant View, Kerwood, 11

grade cows, 52,690 total pounds of milk, 4,790 pounds of milk per cow, \$191.80 total money, \$44.70 money per cow.

Alfred Thomas, The Maples, Golspie; 14 grade Shorthorn cows, 55,673 total pounds of milk, 3,976 pounds of milk per cow, \$586.45 total money, \$41.89 money per cow.

Class 1, Sec. 2, Creamery Patrons.—1, R. M. Bowie, Maple Lane, Beachville; 11 common grade cows, 2,195.5 total pounds of fat, 199.6 pounds of fat per cow, \$610.27 total money, \$58.21 money per cow. Second—Frank Wright, Kerwood; 14 grade Shorthorn cows, 1,779 total pounds of fat, 127 pounds of fat per cow, \$429.81 total money, \$30.70 money per cow.

The winning competitors were called to the platform, but only two responded. W. E. Thompson, winner of third prize in the cheese-factory section, stated that a misfortune with one of his cows, together with the fact that the period of test began a month later than he had prepared for, had almost decided him not to enter this year. However, he took part, after all, though making no effort to force his cows by special effort. He gave them nothing but pasture from the opening of the grazing season until the early part of July, then began feeding about a pound of bran and two pounds of meal (chiefly oat chop) per head per day. He was handicapped in having no silo, and no green feed, such as alfalfa or peas and oats, but had plenty of Longfellow and Compton's Early corn, which he commenced feeding as soon as it was large enough, say, about 4 feet high. He expressed his intention of building a silo, as there was no doubt in his mind that corn silage and alfalfa are two great feeds for milk production. He weighs the milk of each cow every day, and, in reply to a question, gave the figures for the whole twelve:

No. of Cow.	Age, Years.	Date of Freshening.	Milk Yielded to end Dec.	% Fat.
1.....	9	March 26	9,538	3.1
2.....	7	March 25	12,484	4
3.....	2	Jan. 15	10,726	3.8
4.....	11	Feb. 15	11,952	4
5.....	3	Jan. 1	12,930	3.6
6.....	5	Feb. 15	11,192	3.3
7.....	5	March 25	10,828	3.3
8.....	7	June 16	7,526	3.8
9.....	2	March 15	9,278	3.1
10.....	4	March 1	13,490	3.7
11.....	7	March 22	10,530	3.4
Total.....			120,474	

Average, 10,861.356, testing about 3.5 to 3.6 per cent.

Replying to a question as to the winter feeding of the cows, after freshening, Mr. Thompson said he fed roots twice a day, hay in the morning, cut corn, when he had it, at noon, and straw at night, and, along with this, about a gallon of meal morning and night, the meal consisting chiefly of oats and bran. For fly protection, he used Dr. Williams' Fly and Insect Destroyer, adding to two half-gallons of this an equal amount of coal oil. This mixture he found cheap and efficient. The cows were sprayed every night, and it proved a great comfort in milking. Mr. Thompson explained that, at the factory he patronized, they paid according to test, and, as a good deal of Jersey milk was sent to that factory, the average of fat on the milk was rather high, and his cows being Holsteins, his monetary returns were rather lower than they otherwise would be. Mr. Thompson informed the representative of "The Farmer's Advocate" that, had the seven months' test commenced on the same date as last year, his herd average in yield of milk would have been some 300 pounds heavier than in 1907.

W. H. Mason, of Mason Bros., said his brother and himself, starting with the herd of their father, had been trying to improve it, and were gradually accomplishing their aim. They use a pure-bred sire of the best stock they can get, beefing the inferior heifers. Of recent years all the heifers have been good enough to retain. Mason Bros. have belonged to the cow-testing association for the last two years, and find many surprises in the figures. They grow on their farm everything fed to the cows except some bran. In the fore part of the summer they fed a little mixed grain, oat and barley chop, continuing throughout the season, and then fed green corn, which was found of much assistance in maintaining a steady milk flow. They have built a silo, and in future may have recourse to silage instead of green corn as a summer feed.

### A GOOD CREAMERY PATRON'S RECORD.

In the creamery section, first prize was won by Robt. Bowie, a patron of the Beachville creamery, who sent the milk of 11 grade Holstein cows. The yield of fat during the seven months was 2,195.5 lbs., or an average of 199.6 lbs. fat per cow; money return, \$58.21. During the whole year 1908, Mr. Bowie informs "The Farmer's Advocate" that he sent 89,098 lbs. of milk, or an