

poultry school and farm as the one connected with the Reading college.

#### A GREAT DAIRY INSTITUTE.

Last, but by no means least in importance, is the British Dairy Institute and its work. In the line of work which it aims to do, few if any colleges on the American continent are doing as thorough and beneficial work. It is very ably managed by Professor Miles Benson and his able corps of assistants. The work is confined strictly to the farm or home dairy. No factory work is attempted. Those desiring such training must serve an apprenticeship in some creamery or factory after they have learned the home dairy methods. This is by all odds the most popular division of the agricultural work. During the past year over eighty students were enrolled in all of the courses. These students come from practically all parts of the globe, except the North American continent. They come to learn the British methods of butter and cheese making. More than two-thirds of the students enrolled at the present time are ladies. They are always in the majority, so I am informed. Some are preparing for teachers, others for farm dairy work, and others for dairy farming. The cheese interests receive the most attention; only a small amount of butter being made. What is manufactured is prepared in a most attractive form for market purposes—cheese of all shapes, makes and names are manufactured. The building was erected a few years ago at a cost of some thirty-five thousand dollars when equipped. It is very convenient, and kept scrupulously clean and sweet. The curing-rooms for cheese are well ventilated, and are constructed so as to control the temperature. Laboratories are equipped for the teaching of dairy chemistry and bacteriology. The churns, separators and testers are all run by hand. This is done for the purpose of giving the student an abundance of actual practical work in the running and manipulating of all kinds of machinery. The Babcock tester is not used, being considered too complicated, also requiring too much labor and time. The Guber test is the favorite, and several simple-looking English inventions are used to some extent. In separators, the De Laval and Sharples are both present, and very popular. Taking the work in all of its details, it is doubtful if there is a better equipped and managed home dairy school anywhere in the world. Some co-operative tests are being conducted on practical dairy farms. To a certain extent co-operation work has been conducted on farms by the other departments.

W. J. KENNEDY.

Reading, England, June 9th, 1904.

#### Western Fair Dairy Building.

We are pleased to note that the London, Ont., City Council have taken a more reasonable view of the question of extending the lease of the Western Fair grounds, which at one time threatened to block the erection of the proposed new \$10,000 dairy hall this year. They have agreed to an extension for fifteen years from the termination of the present lease, making eighteen years in all. Plans have been adopted and tenders called for the erection of the structure. It will resemble in some respects the Toronto dairy pavilion.

#### EVENTS OF THE WORLD.

Dr. George F. Lee, of Philadelphia, claims to have discovered an electro-chemical process by which radium may be manufactured for less than \$500,000 per pound. The present value is \$16,000,000 per pound.

The death list of the disaster to the General Slocum, which was burned near North Brother Island, New York City, is now placed at over 1,000, but many more may have met death. The captain of the vessel is severely censured for the manner in which he handled her after the fire broke out.

A despatch from the British camp near Gyantse says that a lama recently captured and brought into camp has given information that Gyantse is held by 7,000 men, armed with 600 rifles of European pattern, and 30 jingals. It was also learned from the lama that all the jongs on the road to Lhasa are held by strong forces, and that the apparent intention of the Tibetans is to appeal to China for help.

On June 16th General Bobrikoff, Governor-General of Finland, was shot and mortally wounded when entering the Finnish Senate Chamber at Helsingfors. The assassin, who was a son of Senator Schaumann, immediately committed suicide. The motive of the murder is believed to be objection to the Russification of Finland, of which Bobrikoff was a promoter. Upon hearing of the death of the latter, the Governor-General of Warsaw was at once stricken with paralysis, and will die.

The unprecedented demands of the bandit Raisuli in regard to ransom for Messrs. Perdicaris and Varley have been conceded by the Sultan. These demands are as follows: (1) Dismissal of the Governor of Tangier. (2) The disbanding of the northern army. (3) The payment of £11,000 ransom. (4) The release of all tribesmen in prison. (5) The arrest and imprisonment of certain Government shlehs. (6) The absolute jurisdiction of four Moorish Provinces. It is expected that

negotiations for the release of the kidnapped men will be speedily concluded.

The approach of the rainy season will probably have the effect of hastening decisive events in Manchuria. Although Kuropatkin is steadily withdrawing his outposts toward Liaoyang, with the evident intention of avoiding conflict as long as possible, it seems evident that a great battle cannot be long delayed, if, indeed, it has not already taken place, for there are repeated rumors of an engagement at Simen Ting on June 23rd, in which, so it is stated, the Russians lost 16,000 men. Whether this be true or not, it is not hazarding too much to say that the encounter, when it comes, will be in favor of the Japanese. Generals Kuroki and Oku are steadily closing in on Kuropatkin with forces which when combined will total 150,000 men. They have, moreover, a great number of guns, having lost none so far in the war, and are so situated that ammunition can be forwarded them according as required, while the Russians are under the disadvantage of being thousands of miles away from their base of supplies. It is not known how many men Kuropatkin has at present, but it is evident that his force has not yet recovered from the blow at Telissu. From the town of Port Arthur there is no news. On June 23rd, however, an engagement took place outside the harbor between a number of the Russian vessels and Admiral Togo's main fleet. As usual during the war, the score was in favor of the Japanese, who succeeded in sinking one battleship and in seriously disabling another and a cruiser. The series of disasters is said to be completely disheartening the Russians.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

A serious outbreak of smallpox is reported from the Temiskaming district, New Ontario.

It is stated that Sir Thomas Lipton will challenge the New York Yacht Club again for the cup for 1905.

The British Admiralty has sent to the Canadian Department of Agriculture forms of tender for supplies of beef for the Government institutions at Malta.

The total number of bodies recovered since the General Slocum disaster at New York now amounts to 883.

Hon. Edward Make, M.P., has been nominated to represent the Irish party on the new Privileges Committee, of which Premier Balfour is chairman.

One thousand five hundred immigrants, of whom nearly three hundred were Russian Jews and Arabians, arrived at Quebec on June 17th.

At Medicine Hat recently a tremendous flow of natural gas was struck, at the depth of one thousand feet. It is estimated that the well is flowing at the rate of a million and a half cubic feet per day.

Armies of the tent caterpillar have been ravaging the vicinity of Seattle and Tacoma, and are threatening the gardens of Vancouver and other parts of Southern British Columbia.

A unique convention, that of the Ontario Deaf Mutes Association, met in Hamilton, Ont., on June 18th. All the business was transacted by signs, the hymns also being sung by signs during the Sunday sessions.

It has been found out that tramps have been sleeping in the Isolation Hospital at Hamilton, and that they have stolen some of the furnishings and sold them to second-hand dealers. It is feared that some articles infected with smallpox may have been thus disposed of.

By the clauses of the Preferential and Reciprocal Trade Act, recently adopted by the Parliament of New Zealand, Canadian industry will be benefited in several lines, notably that of cement, in which our manufacturers are given an advantage of 48 cents a barrel over American manufacturers.

The citizens of Brandon, determined to avoid the devastation wrought by floods in the future, have passed a by-law authorizing the expenditure of \$90,000 for the removal of the pumping station to higher ground, and the extension of the waterworks plant. Brandon will this year expend \$150,000 in public works.

The new Minister of Defence of the Australian Commonwealth favors the abolition of the General Officer Commanding, the post held by General Sir E. T. H. Hutton, and the appointment of an Australian officer, with the title of Inspector-General. This is practically the proposal now before the Dominion Parliament for the command of the Canadian militia.

#### Mulch the Trees.

Trees planted in spots where regular cultivation cannot be given should be covered with a mulch of straw or rotted manure before the scorching summer sun of July and August is afforded an opportunity of absorbing the moisture from the soil. It takes but little time to supply a mulch, and it may mean the life of the trees. If straw or rotted manure be not handy, grass may be had. Even a few pieces of short boards or stones placed around the root of the tree in the absence of anything else will be a benefit. A mulch around young trees should extend nearly two feet from the trunk, and when properly attended to the trees are able to get benefit of rain for a long time after it has fallen, and make rapid growth, instead of, perhaps, dying.

#### Notes from Ottawa.

##### THE SEED BILL.

The clause in the new Seed Control Act relating to penalties is considered by seed men and others to be too severe. Mr. Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, has expressed himself willing to consider a modification of the law in connection with the fines. As the bill stands a fine, not exceeding five dollars, and not less than one dollar, for the first offence, and between five dollars and twenty-five dollars for subsequent offences, is imposed on violators of the law. The amounts would be levied for each parcel from which seed would be taken. There would, consequently, be an enormous fine on a shipper who sent out a carload of seed that did not come up to requirements. The fourth clause of the bill, specifying that No. 1 grade shall contain seeds of which not less than ninety-nine out of one hundred shall be the kind represented, has been criticised as too severe by members of the Commons. The bill states that of these, ninety seeds must be germinable, which is also regarded as too stringent a regulation.

##### COST OF EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

In addition to the main estimate of \$100,000 for Experimental Farms, there will be a supplementary vote of \$10,000 asked. On account of increases in salaries on all the farms, the main vote this year was increased to \$100,000, compared with \$90,000 last year. The appropriation last year did not cover all the outlay, and some of the expenses have to be paid out of the present grant. Wages are being increased twenty-five per cent., on account of a general advance in wages throughout the country. At Nappan and Ottawa ordinary labor will now be from \$1.40 to \$1.60 a day. The rates will be slightly higher on the Western branch farms.

#### The Chief of the Seed Division.

Mr. G. H. Clark, Chief of the Seed Division, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, whose portrait appears on page 914 of this issue, was born and brought up on his father's farm, in the County of Brant, five miles east of Brantford, Ont. He received his early education in the country school and Brantford high school. For three years he had charge of the home farm. He entered the Agricultural College at Guelph in February, 1896, and graduated in May, 1898. During his graduating year he took up some special investigation work, re the milling qualities of Ontario fall wheat, the results of which were published in the "Farmer's Advocate" in 1900. In June, 1898, he was appointed to the experimental staff, as assistant to Mr. Zavitz, with whom he remained until April, 1900, when he was given direct charge of the work in connection with the Macdonald Seed-grain Competition, with headquarters at Ottawa. He was appointed Chief of the Seed Division in January, 1902, his first work being to establish a well-equipped seed-testing station in Ottawa, after the plan of the one at Washington, D. C., and those in various European countries. The work that has been done in the seed laboratory has been directed largely from an educational standpoint. Information obtained from laboratory work was placed before the people as promptly as possible, through the medium of the Provincial Farmers' Institute systems and the press. He has managed to spend about half the time during the summer months studying the conditions and needs of agriculture in all parts of Canada. He visited nearly all of the men who are making a specialty of seed-growing as members of the Canadian Seed-growers' Association.

#### Maritime Stock Breeders Meet.

The annual meeting of the Maritime Stock-breeders' Association was held in Amherst, N.S., on June 14th, Honorary President F. W. Hodson in the chair.

After the reading of the minutes, and the Secretary-Treasurer's and President's reports, the management of the Maritime Winter Fair was discussed, and it was decided to employ a stenographer and have a full report of the doings and addresses of the Winter Fair published in connection with the reports of the several departments of agriculture. It was also resolved to compile and print in pamphlet form the past minutes of the association, so that they may be conveniently referred to when desired.

The date of holding the Winter Fair was discussed. Some claimed that the show should be held a week or two earlier than it had been, so that the beef could have time to ripen before the Christmas trade; others, while regretting the difficulty, considered it unwise and discourteous to clash with the Guelph Fair. It was, on motion, resolved to hold the Fair the second week of December, beginning Monday, December 12th.

The consolidation of live-stock registers was considered, and a resolution passed recommending the establishment of one record for each breed of horses, cattle, sheep or swine for the whole Dominion.

The following directors were appointed: For Nova Scotia: W. W. Black, Amherst; C. A. Archibald, Truro; F. L. Fuller, Truro; R. S. Starr, Starr's Point. For New Brunswick: Col. H. M. Campbell, Sussex; M. H. Parlee, Sussex; B. M. Fawcett, Sackville; and C. W. Rogers. For P. E. Island, Rev. Father Burke, John Richards, J. W. Calbeck, and F. L. Hazzard.

The officers elected were as follows: President, E. B. Elderkin. Vice-Pres. for N. S., C. A. Archibald; for N. B., Col. H. M. Campbell; for P. E. I., F. L. Hazzard. Managing Director of Winter Fair, E. B. Elderkin. Sec.-Treas., Miss Sadie Elderkin.

On motion it was resolved to have a room set apart