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### The Maritime Winter Fair

Owing to the large number of extended reports to be featured this week it has been found necessary to hold our special report at the Maritime Winter Fair, at Amherst, N.S., during the second week in December, until next week.

Farm and Dairy's special representative, Mr. W. F. Stephen of Huntingdon, who was at the Fair, reports it to have been the most successful yet held. There was a larger number of entries of live stock of higher quality than ever before and this together with the large crowds in attendance, taxed the limit of the Fair Building, with its new annex, to the utmost.

Earl Grey officially opened the Fair. Logan Bros. cow, Maple Grove Louise De Kol won the silver cup valued at \$100, donated by Henry Birks & Co., Montreal. Cecil T. Coates won the champion steer prize for shorthorns and Amos Fowler, the Pugsley cup for the best grade steer.

### To Change Date of Meeting

It was decided at the annual meeting of the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union held at the O.A.C., Guelph, last week, and which is reported fully on page 16, that whereas it is now difficult for many to attend the early sessions of the Union, which for a number of years has opened on Monday, and owing to the many other attractions at Guelph during the Winter Fair week, it would be advisable to change the date of the annual meeting in forthcoming years, to some date in January, either at the beginning or at the close of the short course.

The motion which was moved by J. C. A. Zavitz and seconded by Prof. C. A. Laird, the president of the Union for the year just closed was submitted to the members and carried unanimously.

### To Reforest Waste Areas

Although it was made on a most conservative basis, a plan of reforestation, whereby the counties of Durham and Northumberland would be able in from 40 to 75 years to pay all their municipal expenditures with the revenue derived from their waste lands was laid down by Dr. Fernow, Dean of the Faculty of Forestry, Toronto University, at a special forestry meeting held in Cobourg, Ont., on Thursday last. The united counties' council of Durham and Northumberland is the first, and as yet the only council that has taken up in a serious manner, the matter of dealing with its non-agricultural land. Preparation is being made to act upon the suggestions made by Farm and Dairy that the county council should approach the Government to have these waste areas reforested.

Warden A. A. Powers to whom much credit is due for his intelligent and effective manner in which he has pushed this question, said that he had received a letter from the Minister of Agriculture, the Honorable James Duff, in which the Minister had assured him that since the united counties of Durham and Northumberland had been the first to take the matter up they would be the first to get consideration. He stated that the Government would begin the taking of a census starting the third week in December of the lands within the counties to be reforested.

Meetings had been arranged for at Pontypool, Orono and at Castleton to be addressed by Prof. E. J. Zavitz of the O.A.C. His address is illustrated with lantern slides. "The Minister," said Warden Powers "assures us that he is prepared to act in this matter of reforestation if we are prepared to ask him to take action."

In order to emphasize the value of timbered land as against land without timber lying in close proximity to the

waste areas in question. Warden Powers told of a statement made recently by Mr. Thos. Smith who lives two and a half miles north of Leeward, that he had been offered for \$12 acres of second growth timber, which 20 years ago consisted of merely poles, more money than an amount at which he valued the remaining 188 acres of his farm. Mayor Field of Cobourg who occupied the chair, laid particular emphasis upon the fact that anything seeking to improve the condition of the neighboring country and waste lands within the counties would up to up-build the business of the town as well as bring benefit to those directly interested in these lands.

Dr. Fernow in his address referred to his statements made before the convention in Cobourg, last June (which address was published in Farm and Dairy, November 4), and emphasized the fact that France and Germany have secured returns upon their investment in reforesting equal to eight or nine times the original expenditure. He told of how private individuals had started the work of reforesting in these countries and how the Government had been impressed with the practicality and the wisdom of the scheme and had later taken up the matter itself with such beneficial results. He stated that the 15,000 acres of land under discussion would be equal only to one year's planting in Prussia. Dr. Fernow presented before the meeting a formulated plan for the reforestation of the non-agricultural areas in the united counties. In making his calculations, he had taken the stand of the financier, i.e., putting the worst side forward so that if it then figured out to be a profitable scheme, the venture would be sure to be a success.

### THE REVENUE FORECASTED

His estimate was that, did the counties adopt the plan as he suggested, they would in from 40 to 75 years secure a revenue from these now waste areas, sufficient to meet the total expenditures of the Counties. The Doctor urged that the council grapple with the problem before them in a large way and adopt the whole plan, not merely a piece of it. From the interest already aroused through a profitable connection with this problem, a German corporation had approached him seeking his advice as to the advisability of buying up this land and reforesting it as a private enterprise.

That the council in view of the facts as presented by Dr. Fernow, should adopt a comprehensive scheme of dealing with these waste areas and placing them under forest management was urged by Mr. Chas. C. Nixon of Farm and Dairy. The proposition, he said, appeared to be a most practicable one and from these waste lands, the united counties of Durham and Northumberland could derive a revenue sufficient to cover their total expenditures, such a goal was well worth striving for.

**Prepare Sap Roads.**—This is the month to prepare the sap roads in the woods. Make the roads about eight rods apart so that the sap gatherer will not have to travel more than four rods to any tree that is tapped and at the same time come as close as possible to every tree. With axe and shovel cut out all broken old logs and saplings and shovel down the knolls and fill up the hollows before the severe frost and deep snow comes. —R. F. Whiteside, Victoria Co., Ont.

I have just received the pure bred Berkshire pig sent me by Farm and Dairy, from Mr. Joshua Lawrence, Oxford Centre, Ont. It is a good pig and I am much pleased with it. I thank Farm and Dairy for sending me such a good premium.—A. J. Ferguson, Glangery Co., Ont.

ISSUE

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Vol. X

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