

The Pictou County Dairy Co., Limited

Report of the Year's Operations.
(Special Correspondence.)

The dominating and, perhaps, the most gratifying feature of the Annual Meeting of the Pictou County Dairy Company, Limited, held in Stellarton, Nova Scotia, on Friday afternoon, the 10th inst., was the abundant evidence that the farmers of Eastern Pictou, gradually and surely, are becoming to realize more fully the advantage of Co-Operative Dairying.

The President, Mr. Daniel MacDonald, in presenting the Directors' Report and Financial Statement, stated that, while the cash balance was not as large as had been hoped for, the development of the business had been larger than was anticipated; consequently, it had been necessary to spend more money for enlarging the plant, also for organizing purposes and introductory work which will not be necessitated on so expensive a scale in future years.

The financial standing of the company, as shown by assets and liabilities, was satisfactory. The improvements and new equipment provided during the year included a Mechanical Cold Storage Plant—the first of the sort to be installed in any creamery in Nova Scotia.

From the patrons' standpoint the business had been very encouraging. The prices of butter had ruled high all the year, and as the local sales of butter-milk and sweet cream, as well as of butter, had been large, the company had been able to pay the highest price per pound for butter-fat, on an average, of any creamery in the Province.

The report concluded by urging the patrons to do more winter-dairying. Hitherto the great drawback had been the exceptionally large supply of cream during the hot weather months when the price was lowest, and the very small supply during the winter months when the price was highest.

Summarized, the business for the year ending Dec. 31, 1915, was:

Total cream supplied	370,383 pounds.
Total Butter Fat	94,086.6 "
Total Butter made	108,998 "



MR. HAROLD FALCONER,

Sec. Treas. and Manager, Pictou Co. Dairy Company,
Ltd., Stellarton, N.S.

Paid Patrons for Cream	\$27,753.90
Average price paid for Butter Fat32 1/4 cts.

Judging from the great increased attendance of shareholders — most of whom were also patrons — the evident desire to learn and to improve as revealed in all the criticisms, enquiries and discussion that followed the adoption of the Report and Balance Sheet and other business, Pictou County is on the verge of experiencing a great agricultural revival. That the farmers of East River and the Eastern section of the County could not long remain inactive,

and apathetic to the benefits of co-operation, while the success of prosperity attending the Scots Crown Creamery was transforming the whole western district, commercially, socially and religiously, was inevitable. One of the results of this meeting will be to accelerate the launching of an educational campaign in this district and throughout the county.

It was a happy thought to have the patrons' accounts published with the report and balance sheet. An examination of this list by each patron cannot fail to produce good results. There are 312 names, opposite each of which is given respectively, the number of lbs. of cream delivered, the lbs. of butter fat, and the value received during the year. Of these 312, the highest record is that of W. J. Maxwell and Son, being 7,482 lbs. of cream, yielding 2,548.2 of butter fat, of the total value of \$823.88.

Dairy Superintendent Mackay was present and rendered invaluable service by his matured advice on numerous topics affecting the interests of both shareholders and patrons, but especially of good dairying. Cold storage, cream grading and co-operation were some of the themes upon which he expatiated with effect. Mr. McLellan of the Dominion Department of Agriculture was also present and gave the results of his own experience of cold storage, and especially, of his cow-testing activities in the neighborhood, which will be issued shortly in pamphlet form by his department. Of all the cows which had been tested here for the year, 60 per cent yielded less than 5,000 lbs. of milk, which, speaking generally, means that only 40 per cent of them paid for their keep! That Mr. McLellan's services also were appreciated was proved by the fact that a vote to that effect was passed with enthusiasm and a copy of it ordered to be forwarded to Mr. Ruddick.

The three retiring directors having been re-elected, the full board consists of Daniel MacDonald, Sylvester, (President); Geo. W. Thompson, Ponds, (Vice-President); Wm. Craigie, Merigomish; M. A. Robertson, Coalburn; S. C. Fraser, Bridgeville; Hugh Ross, Piedmont; Sinclair Cameron, Bridgeville; Wm. MacDonald, Lorne; Geo. Milne, Woodburn.

The Secretary-Treasurer and Manager is Harold Falconer, Stellarton, N.S.

James A. Piedmont, an accountant who was very highly recommended, was appointed auditor for 1916.



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