

was syndicated for two thousand dollars. If the Government will allow us the privilege of managing our own personal rights, we will possibly pay our honest debts, taxes included, and have a rake-off fund for superannuates.

Still another subject I would like to hear discussed is the fixed salaries of school teachers by the Government. While it is certain that teachers have been receiving too small a wage, yet it seems unfair that a teacher that has a school of an average attendance of ten or twelve should receive the same, or fifty dollars in advance, of the teacher that has a school of forty or forty-five. It, no doubt, will save the teachers forming a union. Please let us have this discussed.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

So Near and Yet so Far!

The weather has been extremely cold since December came in, the thermometer registering below zero quite often. Most of the harbors are ice-bound. Shipping, except by the winter boats, is over. Markets have been good all through the fall, and there is still a brisk demand for all kinds of farm produce in Halifax, Sidney, St. John, and other Maritime cities. Just now we have a freight blockade, both at Pictou and Charlottetown. The winter steamer "Minto," which is on the Charlottetown-Pictou route, and only making the round trip three times a week, can't begin to keep up with the work. Island merchants have their Christmas goods tied up at Pictou, and for want of transportation will have them on their hands after the Christmas trade is over, and shippers of produce from the Island cannot fill their orders for the same reasons. As this is a time of the year when trade is always most active, all classes of our people will suffer seriously by the want of quick transportation. The third steamer, so faithfully promised by the Department of Marine, has not and will not come to P. E. Island. Farmers, shippers and merchants must suffer this terrible handicap in competition in trade with the other Provinces of Canada. The Str. Stanley is running on the Summerside-Tormentine route, but as there is a privately-owned railway between Tormentine and the Intercolonial Railway, it is too expensive a way to ship freight, and very little goes over that route. Constant communication through the winter, by means of a tunnel, is the only solution of the difficulty, and till then P. E. Island, notwithstanding its productive soil and sturdy, energetic inhabitants, cannot succeed against the sharp competition of other Provinces, who, with constant communication with Maritime markets, by two trunk lines of railroad, and one of them owned by the people of Canada, can supply the markets of the cities and towns of Maritime Canada, while our farm produce is tied up here at their very doors.

Patrons of the cheese factories have all been paid off, and are feeling pretty good over getting from 95c. to a dollar per hundred for milk supplied. Their only regret is that they had not better cows and more of them. Considerable of butter is being made at some of the winter dairy stations, and is selling as high as 25 cents a pound, and still butter is scarce. Considerable of dairy butter was brought here from Montreal late in the season, and found a ready market. Our Government are disposing of their stock farm. The cattle on it were found to be tuberculous last year, and have been disposed of. The farm as managed the last decade has not been a benefit to the Province, and has always come out with a deficit at the end of each year. It is now to be sold, and the Dominion Government are going to start a branch experimental farm, either on the old site or somewhere else in the vicinity of the capital. Dr. Saunders has been here looking over the different locations available, but as far as we know has not decided on one yet.

A great amount of this year's crop of hogs is being marketed just now. Buyers from Montreal, St. John, Halifax and Sussex are competing with our local packers for it, and the price is good, as high as 8½c. being paid for carcass pork. Poultry is high; 12c. per pound for geese and ducks; 8c. to 10c. for chickens. Oats are worth 43c., and potatoes 30c. Ordinary beef is selling for 6c. by the carcass.

Summing up for the past season, there is no question but our most profitable lines of export have been dairy produce, poultry, eggs, sheep and hogs. We will do well to produce more along these lines, as there is good prospect of the demand for them continuing.

W. SIMPSON.

Coming Events.

Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Association; Ottawa, City Hall, January 9, 10, 11, 1907.

Western Ontario Dairymen's Association; London, January 16, 17, 18; convention in Auditorium; exhibits in City Hall.

The Percheron Society of France, through its President, Mr. Chas. Aveline, has donated to the Department of Animal Husbandry, Ohio University, a beautiful bronze figure of a Percheron horse, to be competed for annually by the students taking instruction in horse judging, the one showing the greatest proficiency having his name inscribed on the base. Mr. Aveline visited Ohio in 1904, the guest of McLaughlin Bros., of Columbus, through whom he became interested in the University, of which Mr. J. B. McLaughlin is a graduate.

Creamerymen's Meeting at Guelph.

A meeting of the creamerymen and buttermakers of Western Ontario was held in the lecture room at the Dairy School, Guelph, on December 13th. A large number of buttermakers were present, and took a lively interest in the proceedings. Mr. John McQuaker, of Owen Sound, acted as chairman. Prof. H. H. Dean, on behalf of the President, extended a hearty welcome to the creamerymen. The Professor regretted very much that, owing to the ever-increasing duties devolving upon him as Professor of Dairying, in managing the dairy school and dairy herd, he was unable to visit the creameries and cheese factories of the Province.

In his address he emphasized the following points in connection with our butter industry:

We need less competition and more co-operation. It was a bad thing for the industry to try to draw cream from one another's territory. Western butter was not as good in quality in 1906 as in 1905, warmer weather causing more sour cream. The chief defect in Western Ontario butter was sourness in flavor, caused by too much acid in the cream before churning. Paying for cream according to quality is the remedy for poor cream. Grade the cream, and pay from one to two cents per pound of butter extra for cream testing not over 2% acid and not under 25% butter-fat.

Buttermakers must hold before themselves a high ideal if they are going to succeed.

Mr. J. W. Mitchell, Supt. of the Dairy School, Kingston, in his address stated that to make improvement in the quality of our butter we must get a better quality of raw material. Train the patrons to take better care of the cream, by putting in a supply of ice. All cream should be cooled to 50 degrees at the farm. Cream should be gathered not less often than three times a week. Cream wagons should have covers. Individual cans are the best system for collecting cream, and careful, intelligent cream haulers are a necessary feature.

He strongly advocated pasteurizing all the cream for making export butter, and using a pure culture.

Mr. R. M. Player, of Walkerton, gave a short address on his experiments during the past season in paying a premium of ½c. per pound of butter for all cream testing 26% fat and over. He stated that on some routes the average test went up from 21% to 28% fat after making the offer, and the cream was cleaner and sweeter. He considered the money well spent.

In the discussion following it was stated that a large percentage of the cream delivered to the creameries in the northern district tested less than 20% fat, and that about 80% of the creamery patrons used cream separators.

A most interesting subject was taken up by Mr. Frank Durdle, of Brussels, "Weighing the samples of cream for the Babcock tester instead of measuring them." Mr. Durdle is the only buttermaker in Ontario who has practiced this method in his creamery work. He is a strong advocate of the system, claiming it gives entire satisfaction to the patrons, which means a great deal in the creamery business, for the continual kick in creamery sections is, "my test is too low."

The principal objection raised in discussion was the extra time it would take to do the testing by weighing the samples. Mr. Durdle said it took him only from 15 to 20 minutes longer to weigh than to measure the sample with the pipette for each machine full.

Mr. W. W. Harris, the proprietor of the Brussels creamery, stated that he would not think of going back to measuring the samples with the pipette.

The accuracy of pipettes was brought up here, and some of the buttermakers stated that there was as much as 4% difference in pipettes. This shows us the necessity of having our dairy glassware properly graduated and stamped by the Government. We hope our Dominion Dairy Commissioner will bring this matter before Parliament.

Mr. Geo. H. Barr, Chief Instructor, stated that there were 74 creameries in operation in Western Ontario. Only five of this number are separator creameries, showing that the creamery business in Western Ontario is almost entirely cream-gathering; 57 creameries used the Babcock tester in 1906; in 1903 only three cream-gathering creameries were using the Babcock tester.

Three boxes of butter which were in the July scoring contest were shown to prove to what extent mould would grow on butter. Mr. Barr thought our dairy industry was of sufficient importance to warrant the appointment of a dairy bacteriologist to devote his entire time to questions relating to dairying. Thousands of dollars are lost every year through mouldy butter, and no one seems to be in a position to investigate the trouble.

A report on experimental butter, made at the Glenora creamery during the season by the instructors, was given by Mr. Barr, which was of considerable interest to the buttermakers. All this butter will be at the Winter Dairy Exhibition at the annual convention, where the buttermakers will have an opportunity to examine it.

Hogate Sells More Fillies.

Last fall when the record price of \$364 for Clydesdale fillies at auction was made at J. B. Hogate's sale, the vendor promised his patrons that they should have a chance to buy another lot of as good individuals as could be purchased across the water. On December 20th the opportunity came, and the promise of Mr. Hogate was fulfilled. Twenty-six head were sold, at an average of \$351, and every lot was a bargain. "Fashionable" blood was not represented in all these fillies, but, without exception, they were a big-bodied, strong-boned, active, good-quality selection. Scale and substance is Mr. Hogate's first demand in Clydesdales, as this insures wear and usefulness. Most of the lot were two-year-olds, and many were in foal, and the wonder is that such stock can be turned over to the ultimate owners at the prices usually realized. Certain it is, farmers could not have a better opportunity to stock their farms with the class of mares that the hard times of the nineties robbed them of. They should be more eagerly bought up. As it was, the bidding was fairly spirited from a large crowd right up to the last lot. Different parts of the country were represented, one buyer being present from Manitoba. The highest price paid was \$489, for Kate of Halfaklin, the first filly brought in. Four others brought over \$400, but most of the consignment were closed out around \$350. The following is the sale list:

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| Jewel, 1904; Mr. Young, Blackwell..... | \$370 |
| Fife Lass, 1905; John Burr, Bridgen..... | 385 |
| Lady Damere, 1904; E. W. Shields, Milton..... | 310 |
| Leckie Maid, 1904; W. H. Nesbitt, Roland, Man..... | 320 |
| Rose of Brougham, 1904; John Gardhouse, Highfield..... | 260 |
| Jess Darling, 1904; Mr. Morgan..... | 410 |
| Kate of Westnewton, 1904; W. H. Hutton..... | 340 |
| Jess, 1904; W. H. Nesbitt..... | 265 |
| Smiler of Mossie, 1904; Mr. Carlow..... | 300 |
| Black Chamer, 1904; Morgan..... | 480 |
| Nell of Deanie, 1904; Carlow..... | 325 |
| Lady Mark, 1904; W. H. Nesbitt..... | 320 |
| Elsie of Allonby, 1904; A. Wilson, Sylvan..... | 400 |
| Miss Thorn, 1904; E. W. Shields..... | 360 |
| Naemoor Rose, 1904; Mr. Shaver, Islington..... | 390 |
| Naemoor Queen, 1904; A. Avery, Kincardine..... | 335 |
| Jennie of Southam, 1904; Morgan..... | 315 |
| Kate, 1903; Morgan..... | 360 |
| Molly, 1903; W. Leonard, Craigville..... | 405 |
| Kate of Halfaklin, 1903; E. W. James, Blackwell..... | 440 |
| Mabel, 1903; A. Wilson, Sylvan..... | 350 |
| Pottchie Queen, 1903; Morgan..... | 410 |
| Beauty of Carperby, 1902; I. Wilson, Sylvan..... | 325 |
| A three-year-old Canadian filly, to Mr. Turner, Streetsville..... | 245 |
| Hackney filly, two years old..... | 230 |

Canadian Cattle Season in Britain.

On a review of the season, there appears to be a unanimous opinion among shippers that it has not been so satisfactory from a financial point of view as anticipated. Prices for cattle have been too high on the Canadian side, while the returns from British markets were most irregular, those for the current week probably being the lowest on record. This, no doubt, is attributable to the muddling character of the ranching stock, which, in large part, made up the shipments of the last two months. Dealing with the total direct consignments for the season, there is an increase compared with last year of some 10,000 cattle, but a decrease of quite 9,000 sheep. The distribution of the shipments has been somewhat changed, 39.60 per cent. going to London, 24½ per cent. to Liverpool, and nearly 24½ per cent. to Glasgow. Bristol only secured a fraction over 6 per cent., Manchester getting 4.88 per cent., while Newcastle and Cardiff only had 0.37 per cent. In the matter of sheep fully 45 per cent. went to Liverpool, nearly 35½ per cent. to Glasgow, and the balance, 19½ per cent., to London. Some dissatisfaction is expressed as to the markets at Manchester, Glasgow and Bristol, exporters having reason to believe that their interests are sometimes sacrificed owing to circumstances more or less local, which are not met with in other markets.—[Scottish Farmer, Dec. 8th.]

What Keeps Young Men on the Farm?

In writing for an extra copy of the Christmas number of "The Farmer's Advocate" to send to a friend in Ohio, Mr. S. A. Pelton, of Brant Co., Ont., adds: "I think your paper is doing more to keep young men on the farm than anything else in the country. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

A strong and representative Canadian syndicate has purchased, by tender from the Ontario Government, 46 acres in the bed of Cobalt Lake, for which the price of \$1,085,000 is paid. The money required by the syndicate was over-subscribed several times. The company will be called the Cobalt Mining Co., and will have a capital of between \$4,000,000 and \$6,000,000. An American tender of \$51,500 for Kerr Lake was considered too low, and the property was withdrawn.

A tender, offering a bonus of \$38,100 for mining leases for three parcels of land on the right-of-way of the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, in addition to a royalty of 25% on the gross value of ore mined, was also accepted.