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Holstein Breeders in Optimistic Mood

Increases in Membership, Registrations and Transfers Reported at the Annual Meeting Last Week.

OPTIMISM was the prevailing sentiment of the 33rd annual meeting of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada, held in Toronto on Thursday of last week. In spite of the disturbances caused by a world-wide war and the curtailment of the market of pure-bred cattle in some directions, due to the collapse of the real estate boom, the Holstein Association has enjoyed a most prosperous year. The membership of the association has increased up to the 2,900 mark. The finances of the association showed a greater cash balance than for the year preceding. "As one of your retiring officers," said President D. C. Platt, in his opening address, "I may be pardoned for saying that there never at a time in the history of your association when it was so necessary to select the best men possible to form your executive." And the necessity for the selection of the best men attributable to the rapid growth of the association, the ever-widening range of its officers' responsibilities and the period of still greater prosperity which he predicted for the future.

As a member of the Markets Committee, President Platt was sorry to report that the sale of 56 heifers shipped to British Columbia could not be considered a success, due possibly to the fact that it was a cash sale and money none too plentiful. At all of the fairs of the past year, the president averred, the breed had never been so well represented. The number of cattle far exceeded that of any previous year and the number of new exhibitors was large. Much credit for the showing at Toronto he attributed to the Association's representative, Mr. R. F. Hicks. Referring to the prize list at Toronto, however, Mr. Platt said:

"When carefully examining the prize list of the Canadian National Exhibition, I was surprised to find that Toronto had given to our breed of cattle \$1,316, and to the Shorthorn \$1,066, or \$649 more to the Short-horns than to the Holsteins. Going a little further, I found that the Holstein entries this year exceeded those of the Shorthorns by 156." Two reasons were advanced as explaining this discrepancy. The Association's grant to the Canadian National is only one-quarter of the amount given to the Shorthorn Association, and secondly, on the board of that exhibition there are four Shorthorn men and not one Holstein breeder. The President's advice that the grant to the exhibition be increased was later acted upon.

As is usual in the presidential address, the superior merits of the Holstein breed received due consideration. Seven of the leading Holsteins and seven of the best cows of all other breeds, entered in the Guelph Dairy Test, were in the competition and it was steins had given 343 pounds more milk and the average test of this milk was only a fraction under four per cent, and its value in excess of their competitors was \$7.28, which, if carried on for a year at the same rate, would put the Holsteins ahead of their seven nearest competitors \$893, or \$126 per cow. He closed by advising the association, because of the uncertainty of the future owing to war conditions, to go as cautiously as possible in the matter of expenditure.

The Secretary's Report

Secretary G. W. Clemens had a record of progress to relate. The number of registrations has increased fully 20 per cent. over last year, and for the first time the association has reached the 10,000 mark. The num-

ber of transfers was larger, totalling 7,800. The number of new members was 322, a very gratifying increase, although slightly below that of last year. There was also a falling off in the amount of testing done, possibly due, to some extent, to the decreased amount of prize money offered by the association. During the year, certificates were issued for 674 tests made under Record of Merit rules and several new records have been made.

The seven Canadian champions in the maiden-year classes are: Belle Model Johanna 2nd, 37.01 pounds of butter; Pieta Pauline Hengerveld, sr., three-year-old, 31.78, and Belle Dekol Pietje, jr., two-year-old, 27.43. The new Canadian champions in the 30-day classes are: Belle Model Johanna 2nd, 148.4 pounds butter; May Echo Sylvia, sr., four-year-old, 141.31; Frances Belle Wayne, sr., three-year-old, 117.86, and Colantha Butter Girl, sr., two-year-old, 104.06. Miss Gussie Pontiac Kornedy, jr., four-year-old, is the only new champion in the eight months' after calving class, with 18.06 pounds of butter. In the Record of Performance, 190 cows qualified, bringing the number up to 236, and six bulls, bringing the number up to 29.

The secretary reported that Volume 19 of the year book would be ready for distribution in May. Speaking for the literary committee, Mr. Clemens stated that several thousand pamphlets in English had been distributed among likely buyers and that the same service had been carried to the French-Canadian farmers in their language. Special notice of the association advertising had been appearing in the agricultural press. The Markets Committee, he stated, had been investigating the possibilities of making a market for Holsteins after the war, but so far had found little encouragement in that direction. The dairy tests of the year in connection with Winter Fairs had universally yielded a Holstein champion. A detailed report of registrations and of the auditor's report follows:

Detailed Report of Registrations.	
Total number of animals registered in 1915	10,000
Registry of animals under one year (members)	600
Registry of animals under one year (non-members)	100
Registry of animals over one year (members)	400
Registry of animals over one year (non-members)	100
Re-Registry of Canadian bred animals from A.H.F.B.	100
Duplicate certificates of registration	100
Certificates on new form	100
Import certificates (bulls)	100
Import certificates (cows)	100
Total transfers for year	7,800
Transfers (members)	100
Transfers (non-members)	100
Transfers (penalty)	100
Registrations of farm names	100
Auditors' Report for 1915.	
Receipts.	
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1914	\$ 100.17
Registry and transfer fees	1,579.13
Membership fees	334.00
Annual dues	1,533.00
Books sold	240.00
Overpayments	434.00
Interest on bank account	41.13
Interest on Fannie bonds	200.00
Interest on Kenora bonds	200.00
Interest on Waterloo bonds	204.75
Advertising in Vol. III, Year Book	100.00
	\$2,117.13
Disbursements.	
Printing account	\$601.80
Record of Merit prizes	1,510.00
Salaries, office staff and auditors	400.00
Postage	100.00
Expenses office staff	100.00
Refunds	434.00
Office furniture and supplies	100.00
Expenses Branch Association	100.00
Banquet expenses	100.00
Refunds	100.00
Advertising	100.00

REVIEWS OF TESTS OF COWS

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