

## DOMINION CATTLE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this association was held in Brantford on the evening of the 6th of December, 1897. The president, Mr. J. I. Hobson, of Guelph, occupied the chair, and gave his address, which will be found in another column. There was a fair attendance of breeders. After the address, short speeches were made by several cattle exporters, and it seemed to be the general opinion that the wild, unhandled western range cattle would yield a larger profit to be killed in the west and sent forward dressed, but Ontario beef cattle accustomed to being tied, stood the trip to England better, and often gained in weight on the way there.

Mr. D. McCrae, of Guelph, made reference to the exceedingly inconvenient and costly method of handling live stock at Montreal. He said a central stock-yard was wanted similar to that at Chicago, where cars from all the railroads could be run into the yards. It should be so arranged that cattle could be conveniently shipped again in cars, or on board vessel, or sent into the slaughter house at the least expense. The idea was endorsed by other shippers present. It was decided that the Executive Committee should confer with the Dominion Government, and see what could be done in regard to this in view of the fact that changes were to be made in Montreal harbor by the Government in the near future. The cattle interests of the country demand more satisfactory shipping facilities than exist at present.

It was also decided that the Executive Committee confer with the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa about the present quarantine regulations between England and Canada. It is of the utmost importance to the cattle interests of this country that every facility be afforded importers of purebred cattle to bring in freely, stock for the improvement of their herds. It was suggested in a recent issue of *FARMING*, that duly qualified veterinary surgeons be appointed in Great Britain to examine cattle for importation, and test them with tuberculin, and that stock that had successfully passed such inspection should be admitted to this country without the test being applied on landing here. The Executive Committee is to take steps in this matter. It would be a great boon to the stockmen if even this concession were allowed them although their cattle might have still to undergo the ninety days' quarantine. As the president pointed out, it is hardly fair that an animal be tested immediately after landing, particularly after a rough voyage.

The secretary stated that the railroads had recently granted the cattle breeders further concessions in the matter of the transportation of stock to the west. They could now send to British Columbia, and half of the car could be taken up with other effects.

Good results have attended the efforts of the association in this matter, and an effort will be made to have similar privileges of transportation arranged for the maritime provinces.

The officers for the ensuing year are: President, J. I. Hobson, Guelph; vice-president, J. C. Snell, London;

vice-presidents for provinces: Ontario, H. Wade; Manitoba, Hon. Thos. Greenway; North West Territories, W. E. Cochrane; British Columbia, A. C. Wells; Quebec, H. D. Smith; Nova Scotia, C. A. Archibald; New Brunswick, T. A. Peters; Prince Edward Island, F. G. Boyer. Directors: Shorthorns, A. Johnston; Herefords, A. Rawlings; Polled Angus, J. Bowman; Galloways, D. McCrae; Ayrshires, H. Wade; Holsteins, G. W. Clemons; Jerseys, R. Gibson; Guernseys, W. E. Butler; Devons and Sussex, Alf. Stone; O.A.C., Prof. Day, secretary, F. W. Hodson, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

Mr. D. McCrae gave an interesting and instructive address on tuberculosis, which was most thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

## THE PUBLIC MEETING AT BRANTFORD.

The open meeting in connection with the Fat Stock Show held in the Opera House, was a great success. In the absence of Premier Hardy, the Mayor, Thos. Elliott, acted as chairman and gave an address of welcome. It was responded to by J. I. Hobson in a few well chosen words. Mr. T. H. Preston, president of the Southern Fair Board, made a witty speech and believed that the day was not far away when electricity would be used for much of the work upon the farm.

One of the principal addresses of the evening was that of the Hon John Dryden. He was glad to see in this year of Jubilee, this year of big things for Canada, that the hand of the stockmen of Ontario had shown greater cunning than ever in fitting and bringing out such a superior exhibit of fat stock. He felt that underneath the rough exterior of many a farmer there beat a heart just as true, there was a nature just as noble, and there was brain power often of superior ability, as that found behind four inches of white collar and underneath a silk hat. He wanted the farmers to meet the people of the city, and the people of the city to meet the farmers, and to know each other. The one was dependent upon the other. There should be no antagonism. It was only as a united people, all working together, that we could best advance the interests of the country. In developing agriculture we were developing a mine that never would run out, but should be getting better and better every year.

Mr. Arthur Johnston made a few interesting remarks and then the Hon. Sidney Fisher was introduced. His address was a good and helpful one. It is a great pleasure and satisfaction to the farmers of Canada to have a Minister of Agriculture who is alive to their needs, and who is one of themselves.

Mr. Fisher referred to the great awakening of the world to the fact that Canada has superior gold mines. This will attract people from all countries, and he looked for a larger increase of population next year. This will mean more food wanted and better prices for the farmer. There is a change coming over the English market in regard to Canadian goods, the people are asking for them. To advertise an article as Canadian insures a ready sale. He spoke of the good effects of the removal

of the quarantine on cattle between Canada and the United States and the good it had done. If it had not been for this there would have been a serious glut of beef cattle in Canada to-day, and prices would have been down to one cent a pound. The increase in the shipment of butter and cheese had been very encouraging during the year. In the Northwest Territories 473,000 lbs. of butter was made this summer and only 188,000 lbs. exported, the rest used in British Columbia and the Northwest. There is going to be a grand opening here for the Canadian farmer in supplying the mining regions with food products. The cloud of adversity that has hung over Canada has lifted and the future is full of great promise for the Canadian farmer.

Mr. Mortimer Levering, Lafayette, Ind., made a short, witty speech, which brought an interesting programme to a close. Miss Grace Wilson and Dr. E. Hart sang solos that were greatly enjoyed.

After the meeting the Board of Trade held a reception in the parlors of the Kerby House, which was well attended by exhibitors and others.

## THE PROVINCIAL WINTER SHOW.

"Simply magnificent" were the words used by the Hon. Sidney Fisher to express his opinion of the fat stock show. It does not look as though Guelph was the only point at which a successful show could be held. Instead of the fat stock show being a failure, as was predicted by some, the efforts on the part of the stockmen and of the good people of Brantford, have given us the greatest fat stock show that Canada has seen. Taking all things into consideration, competent authorities say it is undoubtedly the best show of the kind that has ever been held in America. It shows that the "hand of the stockmen of Ontario has not lost its cunning," and that Canadians are still to the front as breeders and feeders of the best stock of which the continent can boast.

The number of entries was larger than last year by considerably over one hundred, and only a few of the animals did not come forward. The building was large and commodious, and offered ample facilities for holding the increased number of animals.

The attendance at the show has been very large. The second day, from eight in the morning until four o'clock in the afternoon, the receipts at the gates amounted to \$375. This is larger than the total gate receipts for any other year, and is a good indication of the attendance, and from four o'clock of the same day until closing time they were \$120.

The contest this year in the cattle classes partook somewhat of an international character, because the winner of the sweepstakes in Chicago, at the recent Fat Stock Show, and at New York in 1896 as a yearling, was present. This was the Hereford steer, Jock, shown by W. A. Rinehart, of Buffalo. One of the American papers told its readers that the Hereford steer was to go to Canada to show the Canadians how to fit a steer, but that paper will have to tell its readers that there were three steers, at least, that stood ahead of the Hereford. A number of

good judges placed as many as five animals ahead of him. The steer was past his best, and had lost his bloom. The Americans will have to get something better than this specimen if they are to teach the Canadian feeders how to fit a cattle beast.

## Cattle.

The number of entries in the cattle classes was much larger than that of last year, the general quality was much better, and there were more real ripe, finished animals, toppers, shown than there were last year. The dairy classes were larger also, and the records made are much higher.

**Shorthorns**—As in the past, the number of exhibits of this breed and its crosses show that it is the most popular breed in the province. The honor of again carrying off the sweepstakes prize falls to this breed.

In the class for two-year-old steers only two animals were shown, but they were good ones. First place went to a white steer, Bruce, shown by H. & W. Smith, Hay. He was first in his class at the winter show last year. He is an ideal butchers' animal, carrying a heavy covering of flesh exceedingly evenly laid on in the most valuable places. He has a well-covered back and loin, the quarters are well carried out, and the thighs well let down. His fore end is equally as good; the shoulders are well covered and filled out to the neck. His arm is well joined to the body, he is particularly good over the top of the shoulders, and equally as good in the crops. He is a beautiful handler, and quality is written all over him. His exceptionally good qualities won for him the sweepstakes later on in the day. His competitor was a white steer owned by James Leask, Greenbank. This steer, Indian Chieftain, is also a good one, possessing good Shorthorn character, but he was in too good company to win first place. In the section for yearling steers five good animals were shown. H. & W. Smith had a full brother to the one in the preceding class that was easily singled out along with A. & F. Bolton's Barney as the two best animals. They are two good animals, and it was difficult to tell which was the best, but the white steer was placed first because a little the best handler and is a better butchers' animal. James Rennie, Wick, had a good third, a plainer animal, yet of a very useful type.

The call for Shorthorn steers under one year brought out four good animals. The popular choice from the ring side was another white steer shown by H. & W. Smith. He is a very stylish little fellow, of great quality, but not as fat as he might have been and somewhat smaller than the others, so the judges placed the red steer, Honest Billy, shown by J. Fried & Sons, of Roseville, in first place. Third place went to a good handler of James Oke's, of Alvinston.

Two animals were all that were out in the section for cows three year old and upward. J. Fried & Sons had an outstanding winner in Blenheim Cherry, and second place went to D. Milloy, Paris. In two year old heifers Milloy had out two heifers which secured second and third, while first place easily went to James Rennie for a well-fitted white heifer. Only two yearling heifers were shown, but they