

What Canadian Live Stock Men are Saying and Doing

Jottings from the Conventions Held in Toronto Last Week

HOW can we increase our production if our sons are taken for the trenches? This is the reply of the Ontario farmer to those who criticise him for his slowness in providing men to fight the Empire's battles in Europe. His answer was given at the annual meeting of the Ontario Association of Fairs and Exhibitions on Tuesday to Thursday of last week. It was Mr. W. E. Annis, of Orangeville, who first brought the subject to the fore when he stated that the government could not well be asked to maintain fair grants when recruiting in rural districts was so slow. His audience were quick to resent the injustice of his accusations.

The report of the secretary, Mr. J. Lockie Wilson, showed a fairly prosperous year among the fairs. Twenty-four societies had suffered because of wet weather and had been helped to the extent of \$2,385. During 1914 there had been 60,000 acres used in the field crop competition against 36,000 in 1913. There were 6,400 competitors as against 8,800.

President Creelman of the Ontario Agricultural College, spoke on Patriotism and Production, amplifying Canada's duty to the Empire in the present crisis. E. E. Day, of the O.A.C., discussed the place of the small fair, and advised that the small boys be given a greater interest in them. The subject that aroused the most interest and which came up from time to time all through the convention, was the report that the provincial government proposed to cut down the grants to fairs by 50 per cent. As the money had already been voted, the delegates questioned the justice of the Minister of Agriculture vetoing its payment on his own initiative. They invaded the Parliament Buildings in force, 400 farmers, representing every section of Ontario. When they reached the Parliament Buildings they occupied every seat in the Legislative chamber and the gallery as well. They got their first rebuff when they learned that the Premier was too busy with another delegation to see them. In another 10 minutes, Hon. J. S. Duff, Minister of Agriculture, appeared on the scene and their case was presented to him. His reply was to the effect that the agriculturists should make sacrifices and left the impression that the mission of the huge delegation to the Parliament Buildings would not achieve its object. An indignation meeting was held later in the Foresters' Hall. The following were the officers elected:

Pres., J. C. Stuart, Osgoode; First Vice-Pres., Wm. Scarf, Durham; Second Vice-Pres., L. C. J. Bull, Brampton; Secretary and Editor, J. Lockie Wilson, Toronto; Treasurer, Alex. McFarlane, Ottawa.

Directors: J. E. Montgomery, Mountbain; W. J. Connelley, Cobden; T. H. Thompson, Madoc; Norman McGill, Millbrook; Geo. Downey, McGill; Levi Moyer, Beamsville; Dr. H. B. Atkinson, Embury; T. W. Morrison, Mossley; John Farrell, Forest; Archie Crow, Tara; W. J. Hamilton, Raymond; G. H. Farmer, Steelton; and E. F. Stephenson, New Liskeard. Auditors: Dr. H. B. Atkinson, Embury, and R. Agnew, Meaford.

The Clydesdale Mast

The Clydesdale Horse Association of Canada find themselves this year with increasing expenditures and decreasing revenue. The balance on hand according to the directors' report was \$11,067.44, as compared with \$16,894.59 last year. Even with this

unsatisfactory statement facing them the Clydesdale men declared for "Business as Usual." They refused to trim the fair grants and strongly censured the provincial government for cutting down its appropriations in aid of exhibitions. They were equally warm in their praise of the action of the federal government in promising assistance to fairs in 1915. As a means of retaining receipts for the associations they strongly urged that Canadian owners of pure bred Clydesdales should register their animals.

The meeting was an optimistic one. President Boag could not "recall a time when the future looked so bright for the Canadian bred Clydesdale." The directors in their annual report referred to the action of the French government in prohibiting export of horses from France, to the disappearance of the horses of Belgium, to the heavy demands being made on the stock of Great Britain, and predicted a great increase in the future for good breeding stock from Canada.

The demand of the Western members of the Association for some fairer system of appointing representation on the directorate, did not seem to meet with the approval of the members, most of whom were from Ontario. The Western delegates admitted that at present they were fairly represented on the directorate, but this they characterized as a matter of chance rather than according to the constitution. Such a haphazard system did not appeal to them. The matter was laid over for another year with the appointment of a committee to investigate. Two more members were added to the executive committee. The following officers were elected: Pres., John Boag, Queenville; Vice-Pres., William Graham, Claremont; Sec.-Treas., J. W. Wheaton, Toronto; Directors: T. D. Elliott, Bolton; Geo. Gormley, Unionville; James Henderson, Bolton; William Grant, Regina; James Torrance, Markham; T. H. Haxel, Markham; F. Richardson, Columbus. The provincial vice-presidents were all re-elected.

Graft in Re-mount Purchases. Mr. William Smith, M.P. of Columbus, Ont., made things lively at the annual meeting of the Ontario Horse Breeders' Association. He criticized the whole system governing the purchase of remounts for the federal government, and his remarks were unchallenged by the meeting. "Men have been sent out to buy," said Mr. Smith, "who might play a game of marbles, but who can't buy horses. Of course these men are there for political reasons. I want now to repeat publicly what I have said many times privately,—some of the horses I saw at Valcartier last fall were a disgrace to the parties who bought them and put them into service."

This association passed a resolution favoring the appointment of a standing committee to look after the interests of the agricultural industry in general and with particular respect to dealing with railway companies regarding freight charges. Mr. Wm. Smith was re-elected president and the new secretary is Mr. R. W. W. of Toronto.

With the Shorthorn Men

The warthest question debated at the annual meeting of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association was that of Western representation. Mr. Robert Miller made a motion calling for representation on the basis of (Concluded on page 8)

Deering Manure Spreaders



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