

Ladner, Ladner's Landing, B.C.; Jas. Cochrane, Compton; Josiah Wood, M.P., Sackville, N.B.; M. McGinnis, Calgary, Alta.; Prof. George Lawson, Halifax, N.S.; John E. Smith, Brandon, Man. Executive Committee: "A" List—Edward Jeffs, Bondhead; T. E. Robson, Iderton; James Hunter, Alma; H. Smith, Hay; John I. Hobson, Mosbora; R. Miller, Bringham. "B" List—W. J. Biggs, Clinton; J. L. Cowan, Galt; Jas. Tolton, Walkerton; William Linton, Aurora; F. J. Patten, St. George. "C" List—D. D. Wilson, Seaford; H. Wright, Guelph; John Isaac, Markham; W. G. Pettit, Freeman; C. M. Simmons, Ivan. Agriculture and Arts List—W. C. Edwards, M. P., Rockland; W. J. Westington, Plainsville; J. C. Snell, Edmonton; R. McEwen, Byron; William Dawson, Victoria. Delegates to Industrial Exhibition—Hon. John Dwyden, Brooklyn; John I. Hobson, Mosbora. Delegates to Central Farmers' Institute—James M. Gardhouse, Highfield. Delegates to Western Fair—R. Gibson, Delaware; C. M. Simmons, Ivan. Secretary and Editor—Henry Wade, Toronto.

Upon taking the chair, Mr. Johnston heartily thanked the members for the honor conferred, remarking that it was the only official position of the sort which he held in any organization. His personal interests he would at all times sink for the general weal of the society.

A notice of motion was given providing for three general Vice-Presidents in addition to the Provincial Vice-Presidents. On motion of Mr. Hobson, seconded by Mr. Linton, it was enthusiastically resolved, in recognition of the long and pre-eminently valuable services as President, to make Mr. Richard Gibson an honorary life member, and to present him with an appropriate testimonial on behalf of the Association, the event to occur at the time of the coming Spring Show. The Executive Committee was directed to carry out the wishes of the Association.

The new board selected the following Executive:—R. Miller, Jas. Russell, Wm. Linton, A. Johnston (chairman), and John I. Hobson (Secretary). Messrs. Miller and Russell were named to select the Gibson testimonial.

AYRSHIRE BREEDERS.

The eighth annual meeting of the Ayrshire Breeders' Association was held on February 7th, in Toronto. Mr. Wm. Stewart, President, in his address, referred to the increasing demand for Ayrshires, as their surpassing dairy utility became recognized.

Mr. Henry Wade, Secretary, reported that the second volume of the herd book has been printed by the Agriculture and Arts Association, and 43 volumes sent out to members entitled to it. It contains all animals recorded up to 1894. We have recorded in the year 321 animals—141 males and 180 females, and as soon as enough are recorded, another volume will be issued. Thirty-two members have paid their subscriptions this year. During the year Ayrshire cattle did fairly well for their owners, both by their milk and at the different exhibitions. Sales have been made of a great many, some at capital prices. There is always a good demand for them, especially in the dairy districts, where their good qualities are recognized. After a reference to the Ayrshire exhibits at the principal fairs, Mr. Wade remarked that visitors noticed a marked difference in the type of Ayrshires, caused by the new importations which are now being crossed freely with the older type, and should produce a type of animals superior to either of the other classes, securing the improvements of both, especially in size of teats and milking qualities.

The plan of appointing delegates to the principal exhibition committees works well, and our selection of judges has been nearly always accepted by these associations. Receipts, \$163.80; cash on hand, \$7.25. Report adopted. Mr. Joseph Yuill's paper contained the result of the New Hampshire Experiment Station milking test, showing the superiority of the Ayrshire cow, and Mr. Wm. Stewart gave an address on a standard scale of points for judging, in which he pointed out the need for reform. After discussion, it was resolved that such a standard was desirable, and the matter was referred to a committee, consisting of Messrs. Stewart, Yuill, McCormick, Guy, Kains, Ballantyne and Wade, to collect information, confer with other associations and report at a meeting to be held during the next Toronto Exhibition.

On motion of Mr. McCormick, seconded by Mr. Yuill, a resolution of regret was unanimously adopted in connection with the death during the past year of a Past President and constant member of the Association, Mr. David Nichol, of Cataraqui, a successful breeder and exhibitor of Ayrshire and whose genial face, good traits, abilities as a writer and valuable services rendered the Association would long be remembered. The Secretary was directed to forward a copy of the resolution to the family.

At the suggestion of Mr. Yuill, the Secretary was directed to open up negotiations with other live stock associations, in order to obtain the redress of several grievances to which breeders are subjected in shipping exhibition and other stock, viz., sending a man with single animal shipped over 100 miles, and with reference to transportation of an extra man with car lots of exhibition stock.

It was also decided to take concerted action with other associations in order to secure a more equitable allotment of prizes at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition as between dairy and beef breeds. As compared with Shorthorns, Ayrshires did not get a fair share. Cheese was now the greatest industry of the country, and dairying should be encouraged. Improvements were reported to have been made at the Montreal and Ottawa shows in that respect.

A resolution to the effect that dehorning should not militate against an animal in the prize ring was voted down. Officers were elected as follows:—President, W. W. Ballantyne, Stratford; Vice-Presidents:—For Ontario, H. E. Eyre, Harlem; for Quebec, W. C. Edwards, M. P., North Nation Mills; for Manitoba, Geo. Steele, Glenboro; for N. W. T., Claude H. Manners, Moosomin; for B. C., W. Wells, Chilliwack; for N. S., C. H. Archibald, Truro; for P. E. I., C. C. Gardiner, Directors:—Joseph Yuill, Carleton Place; Wm. Stewart, J. R. Crosbie, Campbellford; W. M. Smith, Fairfield Plains; Thos. Guy, Oshawa. Auditors:—De W. Green and W. Thompson. Representatives to Toronto Industrial, W. W. Ballantyne and W. Stewart; to Western Fair, W. Kains and M. Ballantyne; Ottawa Fair, Joseph Yuill and W. J. C. Smith. Judges recommended:—Joseph Yuill, Carleton Place; W. Stewart, Menie; A. Kains, Byron; Alex. Drummond, Pettit Creek; W. M. Smith, Fairfield Plains; R. S. Steacy, Lyn; Jas. McCormick, Rockton; Alex. Hume, Burnbrae; J. Crosbie, Campbellford; H. G. Clark, Brampton; J. C. Clark, Ottawa; John Yuill, Carleton Place; John McKee, Norwich; J. C. Smith, Hintonburg; W. L. Carlisle, Chesterfield; W. Hislop, Smith's Falls; H. E. Eyre, Harlem; M. Ballantyne, St. Marys; T. White, Brantford; W. Hunter, Lancaster; J. H. Findlay, Beachburg; W. S. McLaren, McGarry; J. P. Campbell, Vernon.

HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN.

The annual meeting of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada, in Toronto, on Feb. 5th, was well attended. In the absence of the President, Mr. R. H. Crump, through illness, Mr. H. Bollert presided. The auditor's report showed a cash balance on hand of \$408.75. The year's disbursements amounting to \$415.20. Secretary Clemons reported that the number of bulls registered had now reached 795; cows, 1,239; transfers of bulls, 270; of cows, 337; new members joined, 14. The Executive fixed the Secretary's salary at \$200 for 1895, with \$100 for extra work in getting out another volume of the herd book, which it was subsequently decided to publish. A committee, consisting of Messrs. T. W. Charlton, H. Bollert and R. S. Stevenson, was appointed to assist with the Secretary in getting out the herd book. The volume will contain two years' entries, and a great deal of matter of special value to breeders. It is to be made not only complete and reliable, but attractive.

The Association resolved to duplicate any prizes won by pure-bred Holstein-Friesians or grades (black and white) in fat cattle classes in open competition with other breeds at the Toronto Industrial.

The same amount (\$100) as last year was appropriated towards a dairy cow test at the Toronto Industrial, same rules as in 1894 to govern. As our readers will remember, that test was for the most solids produced in two days; open to all breeds.

It was decided to co-operate with other breeders' associations in order to secure the cancelling of present railway regulations which compel breeders shipping single animals over 100 miles to send a man along with them, charging him half first-class fare and a full fare return; also to secure free transportation for two men with each carload of exhibition stock. Copies of this resolution were ordered to be sent the G. T. R. and C. P. R.

Resolutions of thanks were passed to the Industrial Exhibition Association and to the American Holstein-Friesian Association for their liberal grants toward the dairy test last year.

Officers were elected as follows:—President, T. W. Charlton, St. George; 1st Vice-President, H. Bollert, Cassel; 2nd Vice-President, R. S. Stevenson, Ancaster; 3rd Vice-President, A. C. Hallman, New Dundee; 4th Vice-President, R. Marshall, Edmonton. Directors for two years—Wm. Shunk, Sherwood, and A. Rice, Currie's (the two other directors elected last year were F. A. Falger, Kingston, and W. G. Ellis, Toronto). Secretary-Treasurer, G. W. Clemons, St. George. Auditors—Wm. Suhring, Sebringville, and J. H. Patten, Paris. Inspectors of cattle imported from Holland—H. Bollert, R. S. Stevenson, A. C. Hallman, and W. Shunk. Delegates to Toronto Industrial, Wm. Shunk and W. G. Ellis; to Western Fair, R. H. Crump, Masonville, and J. W. Johnson, Sylvan; Ottawa Fair, Joseph Fletcher, Oxford Mills, and J. H. Loucks, Smith's Falls; Montreal, W. H. Butters, Stanstead, and C. J. Gilroy, Glen Buell; Winnipeg, W. J. Young, Emerson, and Jas. Glennie, Portage la Prairie; Brandon, D. Marwood, Treherne, and D. McNaught, Rapid City.

Expert judges recommended in order named:—For Toronto Industrial—H. Van Dresser, Cobleskill, N. Y.; D. J. Hinckley, South Brookfield, N. Y., and H. D. Warner, Pawling, N. Y. Judges recommended for other Canadian fairs—R. S. Stevenson, A. C. Hallman, N. McCaugherty, Wm. Shunk, T. W. Charlton, G. W. Clemons, R. H. Crump, and H. Bollert. The next annual meeting will be held in Toronto.

Scrubs vs. Beef Breeds for Beef.

BY A. W. DEWITT.

I would like to draw the attention of cattle feeders (who have in the past been largely buying stockers in the fall and stall-feeding them for a period of six months for the British market) to a few facts concerning the comparative value of scrubs versus good grades, that are short-legged, broad, deep-flanked, good heart girth, broad forehead and full eyes. Prices of all kinds of live stock have fallen during recent years, caused not only by over-production in this line in all parts of the world, thereby glutting the English market, but more so in Canada by the Mother Country scheduling our cattle; but the depressed price of cereals and the necessity of maintaining the fertility of the soil compel stock feeding. There cannot, therefore, be too much importance attached to improvement in breeding cattle and feeding them judiciously, which should be subjects of careful study on the part of the farmer. There is always plenty of room in the front rank. One of the hindrances in making cattle feeding more successful is the prevalence of too many scrubs, caused mainly by careless breeding and neglect on the part of those who are largely engaged in raising calves in connection with selling milk to cheese factories, and who afterwards sell them at two and three years old in a lean state to feeders. While this condition of things exists, the only possible means of exterminating these scrubs is to enlighten those who rear or buy cattle to fatten on the relative value of grades and scrubs, and the evil will remedy itself.

After considerable experience, and keeping an account of the cost of beef production (two- and three-year-old steers), with a ration of meal, roots, hay and straw, at market prices, with good care and attention, good grades will make a gain of 350 pounds in 200 days, at a cost of \$32, while scrubs, with same care and cost, will only gain 300 pounds; the cost of shipping in both cases is the same, or with last season's rate, will average about \$22 per head. After careful inquiry as to what per cent. cattle will dress in the British market, taking weights here, we were informed by authorities who have acted as commission men for American and Canadian firms, that the average choice animals dress 58%, while inferior only 53%. Now, for example, we will take a good grade bullock weighing 1,000 pounds, with a cost of \$32 he will gain 350 pounds, or attain a weight of 1,350 pounds, and at the above rate will dress 783 pounds, while the native or scrub, weighing 1,000 pounds at commencement of feeding period, at same cost, will only weigh 1,300 pounds or make 689 pounds of beef. The price of beef of both animals, on last year's range of prices, varied from 9½ cents to 11 cents per pound, dressed weight, from inferior to choice animals; 783 pounds × 11 cents, will equal \$86.13, or value of dressed carcass in England, deducting the cost of feeding and shipping; this animal will leave actual value at the beginning of feeding period, or cost of feeding, \$32 + cost of shipping \$22 = \$54; subtracting this from \$86.13 will leave \$32.13 as value of bullock in a lean state, while the scrub dressing 53% will only command \$65.45; deducting \$54 will leave only \$11.45, or the former will be worth \$21.86 more to attain the same results. On this range of figures any weights might be taken. For example, we take a scrub weighing 900 pounds, the actual worth would be \$6.92, while a good 1,200-pound animal is worth \$44.29. In quoting the above figures no thought was given to the comparative cost of rearing the two kinds to the given weight, but experience teaches us that the difference in cost is similar to the quotations given. What we want in these times is better stock, better food, better methods. We meet people every day who will not believe it makes any difference what kind of stock is kept; hence, if you can manage to instruct a man by facts and figures and convince him that in adopting a certain method he will increase his income, you have given him the best impetus to enterprise I know of. We do not want to occupy a second or third place in our cattle trade, we want to stand at the top; and if we mean to hold the highest place, we must insist upon lessening the cost of production and improving the quality of our products.

FARM.

Our Water Supply.

BY WILLIAM SHARP, TORONTO, ONTARIO.

Water supply is a question of vital interest to all.

1st. *Our Drinking Water.*—In all towns and cities the health of citizens is largely affected by the quality of the water supplied. In Toronto, for instance, the medical health officer, in his report for 1893 and 1894, says that diphtheria and typhoid fever have both decreased since the water has been better, owing to the repairing of the conduit across the bay. The American Public Health Association, in session at Montreal, emphasized the necessity of having better water by condemning the open well in villages, towns and country places as being the cause of typhoid and malarial fevers and diphtheria, especially where there was no sewerage system. The usefulness of the old open well is gone since the country has become more thickly populated, as all the pollution of barnyards, kitchen slops and privies finds its way into the surface soil in a dry time, and as soon as a fall of rain occurs everything is washed into the open well, where it accumulates and breeds bacteria, and an occasional frog, toad, and even snakes, help to convert it into a death-trap. Thousands of people do not realize this till some of their dear ones are stricken down with that dread disease, typhoid fever, or diphtheria.

2nd. *The Dairyman's Supply of Water.*—It is impossible to make first-class butter or cheese if the cows are not provided with a good supply of pure water. In some sections of the country this is a serious question, as there are no springs and no running streams, but an all-wise Providence has in most cases given a substitute by underground streams and water-bearing strata, the water from which can be brought to the surface by means of the Artesian well. If this is properly done, the surface water is effectually shut out. The water obtained is only from whatever depth the desired quantity is found. How many instances are there where a man will haul water nearly every day the year round because he thinks he cannot get a supply by having a well drilled, or perhaps he thinks he can not afford to drill; but if he would sit down and estimate what it costs him to haul his water, he would find that it would pay for a pretty deep well in one year.

In conclusion, I will give a few of the advantages of the drilled well:—

- 1st. The well being small, there is no stagnant water.
- 2nd. The surface water is excluded right down to where the supply is procured.
- 3rd. Neither rat, cat, dog, worms, frogs, toads, snakes, or any other vermin, can get into it.
- 4th. There is danger to neither man nor beast from falling into it.
- 5th. Should any undesirable water be found, it can be shut out and a good supply obtained below.
- 6th. The chances are as three to ten for getting a flowing well.
- 7th. You can have it wherever most convenient, either in barnyard or dooryard, and the supply will not be contaminated by surface water.

The Road Question and Narrow Tires.

BY GEO. D. FARMER, ANCASTER.

This is certainly a very important question in Canada at the present time. In a short paragraph in the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* of Jan. 1st, you state that "Too many fail to realize how bad the roads really are that they are compelled to travel over, usage having 'hardened them to it,' or from not having, in contrast, had the pleasure of travelling over really good ones." It is most extraordinary the amount of ignorance and indifference displayed by many with regard to road improvement. As an example: When going round the other day to get signatures to a petition in favor of our council passing a by-law reducing the tolls on broad-tired wheels, a well-to-do farmer confronted me with the argument that "It would deprive a lot of poor men of employment in repairing the roads," and consequently refused to sign it.

Now, sir, when we find such crass ignorance in connection with the cause and consequences of bad roads, I certainly think that many sadly need educating up to a much higher standard of appreciation of good roads. But, sir, I have very little hope that a good state of the roads will ever be retained, or even obtained, so long as heavy teaming is done with those road destroyers—narrow-tired wheels. What I feel convinced is the first step to be taken by municipalities toward permanent road improvement is to hold out every possible inducement to farmers, as well as all parties teaming on the roads with heavy loads, to use broad-tired wheels. There would soon be a visible improvement in the general condition of the roads, owing to the greater encouragement afforded to all those who already know how to appreciate them; and, ere long, even the man with old prejudices, as he drove to market under the improved conditions, would wonder how he could possibly have been such a fool as to travel for a lifetime over wretched, ill-constructed roads when he might just as well have enjoyed good ones. I trust that the question of road improvement will be more thoroughly discussed through the press.