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result was the placing of the supreme honor on Macaroon, with Montrave Viceroy reserve. After this came on the competition for the Brydon Challenge Shield. The bench this time consisted of Messrs. Cairns, McAlister and Fleming. Before them appeared the three-year-olds, Dunure Footprint, Sir Rudolph and Macaroon. Neither of the three had judged these horses before, and, therefore, it was again a new class. They placed Dunure Favorite first, Macaroon second, and Sir Rudolph third. As a cart horse of weight and substance, Sir Rudolph is the best type among the younger horses shown on Wednesday. He has improved more than any of the others since last year.

Clydesdale matters have occupied attention to the exclusion of almost everything else this week. The Clydesdale Horse Society had a most successful annual meeting on February 7th. The Society is in a most flourishing condition. The membership at the close of 1910 was 1,854, the capital stood at £7,235, and during that year the export trade reached 1,531 head. No such record of exports has ever before been made by a British breed. For 1911 the trade has opened well. Horses have already been exported to Russia, and between 60 and 70 head have been exported to Canada. Mr. Taber sailed with a fine lot a fortnight ago for Condie, Sask., and Mr. Curry, Medicine Hat, Alta., had also a large shipment of quite superior animals. Canada has been a good friend to the Clydesdale, and the Clydesdale Horse Society has, during the past year, invested its surplus funds in Dominion stock. The prosperity of the Dominion is cordially rejoiced in by the breeders of Clydesdales, who have every reason to thank Canada for what she has done for the breed. Our politicians have been discussing the recent commercial treaty which the Dominion has made with her big neighbor south of the lakes. I suspect Canada knows her own business best, and can be trusted to look after herself even in a deal with Uncle Sam. This kind of thing does not interest me, but I could wish that the whole world would be content to wage warfare in commerce and goodwill, and cease building Dreadnoughts and other engines wherewith to destroy one another.

"SCOTLAND YET."

The Seed-improvers' Meeting.

The annual convention of the Canadian Seed-growers' Association has passed into history. It is expected that a considerable aftermath will result, as the papers presented and the discussions which followed were not only interesting, but instructive.

The meeting, as usual, was held in rooms of the Seed Branch, Ottawa, and Dr. Robertson, its President, occupied the chair. In opening the convention, he remarked that the Association did not represent so much of a cash value as that it had awakened a great interest in agriculture and agricultural methods. Three great factors which contributed to this was the soil, management and good seed. In this country agriculture was greatly favored by climatic conditions, in that the rainfalls were regular and reliable, comparatively speaking, and the soil conserved much of its fertility by being frozen for considerable periods of the year. Knowledge in the management of the soil was important. Quality in seeds was indicated by their vigor of germination and growth and general adaptability. He thought the association was an effective agency for disseminating the best agricultural principles, and this in turn affected the quality of life, which this year was the Doctor's slogan, and around which all his observations revolved. He believes that the "quality of life" in plants, as in animals, can be improved. He rejoiced to know that the association's methods meant bigger and better crops.

The report of the Board of Directors was presented by E. D. Eddy, who, during the absence of L. H. Newman at Svalof, Sweden, acted as Secretary-Treasurer this summer. The sixth annual report was taken as read. Reference was made to a transaction in seed grain, by which 1,000 bushels of Banner oats, grown from registered seed on P. E. Island, was sold to farmers of Quebec at their annual Provincial Seed Fair, Quebec City, at a loss to the association of about \$125.00. The directors recommended that this privilege be extended to other Provinces. It endorsed the publication of a text-book on oats, for use in the Quebec schools, under the direction of Mr. Gigault, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture, Quebec, last year, which was prepared by Messrs. Gibson, of the Normal School, and Newman, the Secretary-Treasurer of the association. It further recommended that an appendix to the general report be published on cereals, for the use of schools all over the Dominion. It was further recommended that the thanks of the association be extended to Dr. Nilsson, of Sweden, for the courtesy given to the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Newman, during his stay at Svalof.

From the chair committees were struck as follows:—Resolutions, Messrs. Klinck, Wheaton and Mooney; nominations, Messrs. Gigault, Moore and Macoun; and publication, Messrs. Eddy, Newman and Wheaton.

The report of the Acting Secretary, Mr. Eddy, showed that last year some 212 members had operated with about 424 crops, an average of two per member. Many of the members failed to send in complete reports; in fact, more than 50%. A large number of the potato men were among those who seemed to misunderstand the association's regulations, and failed to give complete reports. About 25 names were submitted to be received as members of the association this year. On the whole, the report was optimistic, and

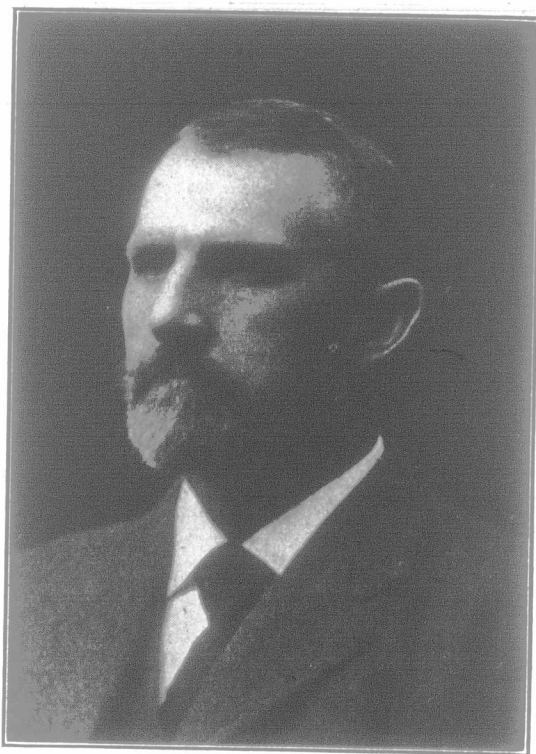


J. H. Williams, Fletcher, Ont.

President Ontario Corn-growers' Association.

showed that much progress had been made during the year. The Treasurer's part showed that something over \$6,000.00 had been placed at the disposal of the association, and that about \$1,100 was left to close the year with on March 31st. This would, it was believed, be ample to defray all the expenses up to that time.

S. J. Moore, District Representative for the Maritime Provinces, then gave a summary of his work for the season. He had personally visited all but two of the operating members, and found



John McKee, Norwich, Ont.

President Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association.

them doing good work. He had not solicited every farmer to become a member, as he thought in the association membership quality should count. The chief object after all was for the members to produce good seed, and plenty of it. The field-crop competition work was extending. Arrangements were being made for competitions in every county in Nova Scotia this year. They had a very fine Canadian Seed-growers' Associa-

tion exhibit at Amherst this year, in conjunction with the Winter Fair.

J. C. Coté, reporting for Quebec, said that as evidence of the value in selection, a number of farmers who had given up the work were re-enlisting, as they saw a marked difference in the results from the use of their selected seed and commercial seed. The field-crop competitions were growing in number and interest as well. Several societies were buying for their members some of the seed oats brought by the association from Prince Edward Island for sowing on their fields, which will be entered in the field-crop competitions this year.

Mr. Raynor said that he had inspected this year all the plots but one or two in Ontario, which meant that about 60 members were visited, and 110 plots inspected. He said some of the members were becoming very enthusiastic over the work, as they were getting results both in crops and ready sales at remunerative prices. One member had turned down \$400 worth of orders. He had sold one customer 100 bushels of fall wheat for seed this year at an advance over market prices, and this sale was based on a previous small sale to the same man, who found that the seed having selection behind it produced much better than his own seed. Another member had 4,000 bushels of Siberian oats to sell. In the past he had sold all he could grow and make into good seed oats for \$1.00 per bushel. He had found markets not only in Ontario and Quebec, but Scotland, Maine, Ohio and Michigan. It was also noted that, through the carelessness of another member in allowing barley to get in his Banner oat crop to multiply, he had lost the sale of 1,400 bushels this year for seed at \$1.00 per bushel, and would have to take feed prices now for what he sold. He had injured his reputation too to some extent, by selling some of this seed a year ago or more for \$1.00 per bushel which contained considerable quantities of barley. The idea was advanced that more enthusiasm should be evidenced, not only by members of the association, but by those who were promoting the extension of its work. An example was cited of how Prof. Moore, of the Wisconsin Experimental Station, was enabling many of the young farmers of that State to make anywhere from \$300 to \$2,000 a year growing some pure strains of corn, barley, oats, etc., he has originated at the Experimental Station there. The Canadian Seed-growers' Association exhibits at the Guelph Winter Fair were more numerous and of better quality than ever before. At the conference of members during the fair, some very useful and practical hints were obtained on seed improvement.

J. H. Reid, District Representative for Saskatchewan and Manitoba, sent in his report, which was encouraging, and emphasized one very important point, and that was, that this year of test out there had demonstrated the greater vitality of selected seed over ordinary seed, and even good crops were obtained in the one case where there were comparative failures in others. He spoke of the success of the seed fairs and field-crop competitions. Many of the prizewinning fields and lots of seed exhibited at the seed fairs may be traced to selected seed as its origin. In the discussion which followed, Mr. Briggs, of the Steele-Briggs Co., advanced the idea that a man had to be something of a mechanic to operate a fanning mill properly, and on the proper use of it depended much of the success of the members in their work, as well as in selection. Mr. Mooney, who had been a miller in Quebec before he went West, emphasized the use of a fanning-mill selection, and said he could get better results from a power mill. It was elicited from him that he was selling carloads of seed wheat now at \$1.50 per bushel more readily than he sold wagon loads a few years ago at \$1.25 per bushel.

The nominating committee reported and recommended that Dr. Robertson be President again; Prof. C. A. Zavitz, First Vice-President; Mr. Gigault, Second Vice-President; Mr. Mooney, Third Vice-President. For Board of Directors, Messrs. Zavitz, Gigault, Mooney, Clark, Wheaton, Klinck, Innes, Bracken, Harcourt, and Thomas Waugh. The report was adopted. This board has power to select as many more directors.

At the evening meeting, held in the Normal School Assembly Hall, there wasn't a large gathering, but two interesting addresses, from the Hon. Sydney Fisher and the President, were listened to. Hon. Mr. Fisher spoke in the place of Prof. C. C. James, who was detained through unavoidable circumstances. The other part of the programme consisted of two papers, by L. H. Newman, on his observations at Svalof on plant breeding, and the methods used for multiplying improved seed and disseminating it. Dr. Malte, of the Seed Branch staff, gave a paper on the improvement of fodder plants by selection. These papers and the discussions will be dealt with later. Suffice it to say they were not only interesting, but instructive. T. G. RAYNOR.

The C.P.R. directors have declared a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum on the common stock for the quarter ending December 31st, 1910.