

sociation is already in debt through losses of this kind, and have had to mortgage their property to meet their losses, and to continue them would mean bankruptcy to the Association. He counselled all those who were in favor of continuing the "Provincial Fair," to bring pressure to bear on their local members before the next meeting of the Legislature.

Many who signed Mr. McCrae's petition did so because they thought, if the farmer's gave up this grant, it would be lost to them entirely, and would be used by the Government for other purposes than agriculture. That is something the farmers should not tolerate, the money should still be spent for the benefit of agriculture. The question is, could it be more profitably spent in some other way, than in holding an annual exhibition; if the exhibition is discontinued, it is every farmer's duty to demand that the same or a greater amount shall be yearly expended solely for the farmers benefit. What is best to do is a debatable question.

Certain it is that the day is near at hand, when a radical change must be made in the Association and its management. It is a question to which every farmer should give careful attention. We hope to see it fully discussed before the meeting of the Ontario Parliament.

The Western Fair.

The Western Fair, at London, opened most auspiciously on the 20th Sept. On Monday, the 24th, and two following days the attendance of visitors was unprecedented and the display of stock, agricultural products and implements was complete. Some of the exhibits could nowhere be surpassed. Every stall and pen was filled, but a cold rain set in on Wednesday evening preventing the evening attendance and the carrying out of the programme. The rain continued at intervals throughout the remainder of the week preventing citizens and visitors attending and marring both pleasure and business. Many suggest the alteration of the time of holding this exhibition, as it is not the first time the equinoctial storms have marred its progress.

We were present at the time the Hon. John Carling, the Minister of Agriculture, pronounced the Western Fair opened. Subsequently we met him in front of the display made from the products of the Central Experimental Station, Ottawa. Here we shook hands with him and congratulated him on the fine display here made under his auspices, and hoped that his institution might do more good than the parent institution had done (meaning the Agricultural Emporium). We then suggested to him that it might be beneficial to procure a few grains of cereals from Lapland, as we remembered reading in a school book when a child that grain there was sown and reaped in two months. We also suggested that a few grains that could be sent in a letter might be sufficient to test them at little cost. The Government display consisted of 200 varieties of cereals and 180 varieties of potatoes. The cereals were shown in sections—the roots showing the number of stools from one grain, and the products of the one grain was shown in the bunch of heads raised from it. The potatoes were shown on separate plates. The name of each variety accompanied each sample. A great deal of care and pains had been taken to make this a useful and attractive exhibit. Fine as this exhibit may have been, a local seed firm (J. S. Pearce & Co.) made a display far more

varied and artistically arranged, and claiming to have tested seeds to double the extent of the Government exhibit, although the space occupied by them was not one quarter the size of the Government exhibit. Magnificent displays were sent from Manitoba, Algoma, the North-west Territories, etc., etc. Mr. Grant, of Thornbury, Ont., who carried off the sweepstakes and many first prizes, for cereals at the great International Fair, recently held in Buffalo, exhibited here, but despite these great professional exhibitors the superiority of the products exhibited individually by the unassuming surrounding farmers was such that, comparatively, but very few prizes could have been taken by the great exhibitors here. We may say, without fear of contradiction, that the cereal and root display made at the Western Fair this year exceeds anything of the kind that we have ever seen exhibited on this continent. Perhaps such a strong competitive display may never be seen again in Canada when quality is compared. Here, as at other large fairs, Algoma, Manitoba and the North-west Territories made extensive and highly creditable exhibits.

Recent Purchases Made by the Ontario Agricultural College.

We are glad to see that the professors of the Guelph College are at last taking a rational view of things, and selecting their breeding stock from the flocks and herds of Ontario, instead of importing second and third rate stock at long prices and a great expense from Europe. We think it a wise policy to let skilled importers do the importing. We can reap a benefit from their skill and experience by buying young animals from them, not necessarily by buying imported animals; Canadian bred ones are just as good, if they have been properly bred and have good pedigrees.

We would warn the professors to be careful in all their purchases to see that the animals they buy are either registered in the American herd or flock books, or are eligible to registry.

The following are some of the recent purchases:—

From Messrs. Hay & Patton, New Lowell, an Aberdeen-Angus bull calf, 1st prize winner at the leading fairs.

From John Campbell, jr., Woodville, 8 head of shearing Shropshire-down ewes and an imported shearing ram, winner of 1st prize at the Toronto Industrial.

From V. E. Fuller, Hamilton, two shearing ewes and ram lamb of the Horned Dorset breed.

From Mr. John Jackson, Abingdon, six shearing Southdown ewes and ram, all imported and prize winners at the leading shows of Ontario.

From Messrs. Laidlaw & Jackson, Wilton Grove, four head of shearing Cotswold ewes, prize winners at Toronto, London and St. Thomas.

From Wm. Murray, Clanbrassil, six head of shearing Leicesters.

From Peter Arkell, Teeswater, six head of Oxford Down shearing ewes and a two-shear imported ram, prize winners at the leading shows.

These animals, though good individually, in every instance, and bought mainly with a view to their breeding qualities, have been bought at commercial prices, only fair values being given in every instance.

A few more animals are yet to be bought, especially a few Ayrshire cows and heifers.

The Industrial Exhibition.

The Toronto Exhibition has been a grand financial success. The gate receipts were \$59,604; for exhibitors' tickets \$700, and for entrance fees, booth privileges, etc., etc., \$12,000, making a total of \$72,304. The expenditures were: \$25,000 given in prizes, and \$25,000 partly for expenses and partly given to special attractions, etc. The total number of visitors which attended was about 300,000, to this must be added about 3,000 each day to whom free tickets were given. The attendance and the receipts have been unprecedented, and the Exhibition on the whole has been the best ever held in Canada. The display of stock, machinery, cereals, roots, fruits, flowers, etc., has been such as to cause the admiration of all. The art departments were well represented, and the special attractions have proved a great success in drawing the people. The directors deserve great credit for their energy and management. The masses that have attended have gone away satisfied. Those of the American and European visitors who take any interest in agriculture must have returned home with most favorable impressions as to our capabilities. Amusements and recreations are necessary and beneficial. Whether the combination of the ludicrous with agricultural is beneficial to the latter is a debatable question, which will be discussed in the Dominion Farmers' Council—every farmer should see these reports.

The number of live stock entries were as follows:—

HORSES.	
Thoroughbreds.....	44
Roadsters.....	215
Carriage Horses.....	105
Hunters.....	77
General Purpose.....	18
Agricultural.....	157
Clydesdales.....	105
Shire Horses.....	35
Canadian Bred Heavy Draughts.....	61
Percherons, etc.....	14
Suffolk Punch.....	14
Dog Cart, Cob and Cavalry Horses.....	25
Ponies.....	40
CATTLE.	
Durhams.....	170
Herefords.....	45
Polled Angus.....	28
Galloways.....	46
Devons.....	30
Ayrshires.....	53
Jerseys.....	72
Guernseys.....	7
Holsteins.....	70
Grades.....	17
Fat.....	24
SHEEP.	
Cotswolds.....	31
Leicesters.....	52
Lincolns.....	24
Shropshires.....	71
Oxfords.....	40
Southdowns.....	26
Merinos.....	55
Horned Dorsets.....	19
PIGS.	
Berkshires.....	35
Suffolks.....	40
Essex.....	17
Polland China.....	21
Large White Breeds.....	52

The poultry is treated of in another column. A catalogue was issued by the association; it was an attempt in the right direction and proved very useful, yet it had its defects. It was quite difficult for a stranger to find any horse in the catalogue, because of the irregularity in which they were stabled. The breeds were promiscuously mixed up, not being placed in order or according to breed. Neither the pigs or sheep were numbered, therefore the catalogue rendered but little assistance to the visitors to these pens, but among the horses and cattle it was of great value and the society are to be congratulated for making the attempt.