

### American Boxed-fruit Competition

The twelve hundred-odd boxes of fruit shown at the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition in November, were sold to a Toronto firm of commission agents at \$1.75, with the barrels selling at from \$4.00 to \$5.00. The box prices are 25 cents lower than 1909, despite the poor crop here and better packing in the fruit offered. The competition from the American boxed-apple, however, is serious this season, due to the enormous crop of this fruit in the Pacific Coast States, Colorado and Idaho. One firm refused to pay more than \$1.50, stating that they could lay down in Toronto car lots of Western Spitz, Rome Beauty and Jonathan at \$1.50, all expenses paid. These apples are very uniform, four-tier, wrapped, and each box neatly labelled. If this competition causes our own fruit-growers to wake up and rival Western enterprise, it may be an excellent thing for the fruit industry in Eastern Canada, since the quality of our best varieties cannot but appeal to consumers.

An enterprising young woman orchardist in Washington has been making money selling apples by mail. She advertised in the newspapers that she would send three of the biggest red apples grown in the State, postpaid, for 25 cents, and soon developed a surprising mail-order business in fancy apples.

## THE FARM BULLETIN.

### Smithfield Club Show.

Despite gloomy weather and the distractions of the elections, the 112th Smithfield Club Show became history with record-making proportions. A goodly round of successes was enjoyed by His Majesty the King, especially in the Shorthorn section. In the yearling steer section, a white one, bred by the late King, and sired by Evander, was first, while another from the Royal stables was fourth. J. J. Cridlan had first in the two-year-old class, while a steer by Royal Windsor, belonging to His Majesty, second. In the Shorthorn heifers, the King was first with Mystery, by Royal Windsor, and bred by the late King. In the Herefords, Hon. F. G. Wynn won in the steers under two years with one of his own breeding. In the Aberdeen-Angus ring, Captain A. Stirling won the younger class with Blackband. Sir Richard Cooper, Bart., was successful in the older steer class, with President of Dalmeny.

The competition in sheep was keen. E. F. Jordan won well in Leicesters, taking the breed cup, and also standing reserve for it. S. E. Dean & Sons were to the front in the Lincoln section. W. & H. Whitby won the Cotswold breed cup. The plate for the best pen of Long-woolled sheep fell to Dean & Sons on their Lincoln wether lambs, with Jordan's Leicesters reserve. A. E. Blackwell captured highest honors in the Hampshire section.

### Dominion Grange Discusses Vital Problems.

More influential than numerous is the membership of that old-established farmers' lodge, the Dominion Grange, which held its thirty-sixth annual meeting in Toronto last week, previous to participating in the march on Ottawa, to join with Western farmers in demanding a revision of the Canadian customs tariff in the direction of less privilege and a nearer approach to fair play. The Dominion Grange, assembled in annual meeting, represents the subordinate Granges in existence at various local points throughout the Province of Ontario. It is practically the only organization of Eastern farmers that is generally representative in nature and scope. Other organizations represent certain interests and certain classes of farmers. The Grange is composed of zealous men, individually disinterested, but seeking, through organization, to educate themselves in public affairs and to voice effectively the interests of the whole agricultural community, in conformity with the welfare of the country as a whole. While more radical, perhaps, in their views, than the majority of Canadian farmers, the members of the Grange must be given credit for worthy motives and serious attention to broad public questions affecting the farmer's interests. And listening to the discussions, noting the restraint of language, and the good-temper which prevails, for the most part, one is led to wonder whether the position of the Grange would not be much more widely endorsed if its actuating motives, and the facts upon which its opinions are based, were more generally known.

Unsubsidized by public money, and offering little or nothing to the personal self-seeker, the Grange cannot boast, in these days of agricultural prosperity and the class-complacency such a condition engenders, so large a membership as one might expect, or as is enjoyed by the National Grange of the United States. Since its palmy days, along in the eighties, it has rather languished. But there is recent evidence of considerable awakening, and the secretary's report recorded the organization of seven new subordinate Granges during the year just closed. The recent delegation to Ottawa, demonstrating, as it did, the great value of organization in the impressive presentation of agricultural opinion, may be depended upon to stimulate organization of Granges at many new points in Eastern Canada, especially if certain minor forms and usages be relegated to the limbo of the past.

The annual meeting is deliberative, and, while in no sense private, the greater part of the discussion does not require report, the conclusions being embodied in the resolutions passed. Many of the points discussed concerning the tariff were elaborated the next two days at Ottawa.

In his address as Master, E. C. Drury earnestly appealed to all organizers and all members of the Granges in Ontario to make every effort to extend organization in the East, as Ontario is now behind the Western Provinces in thoroughness of organization.

For many years, he said, the Grange has formally stood for the principle of "tariff for revenue only, with the entire elimination of the protective principle. A great movement in the direction of fairer tariff conditions has become more and more evident, and there is every present indication that the reasonable demands of Canadian farmers will be granted, though the interests opposed are very powerful, and have a very perfect organization through which to work. After suggesting a change in the title of the head of the organization from "Master" to "President," in conformity with the practice of other organizations, the retiring Master thanked the officers and members of the Grange for unwavering support, and bespoke the same for whoever might succeed him.



Pure-bred Holstein Cow, Natoye De Kol 4th 10978.

In Brown Bros.' sale, December 28th, at Lyn, Ont., A. R. O., 26.12 pounds butter in seven days, 106.22 pounds in thirty days. Has just completed a seven-day test of 20.20 pounds butter and 390.22 pounds milk eight months after freshening, which the owners state is the largest Canadian record by a cow in calf at time.

### TO MAKE A SUBORDINATE GRANGE SUCCESSFUL.

Practical advice about the running of subordinate Granges was contained in an address by Miss Robinson, a daughter of the late Jabel Robinson. Have a hall, she urged. So far as she knew, every Grange that started out years ago with a hall is alive to-day. The Grange hall at her home in Middlemarch is the greatest social center in the neighborhood, except the church. It is free to use for any educational purpose, a charge being levied only when it is to be used for profit-making purposes. A Grange with a hall has a home. It is a good investment, also, to start a library. Many of the most prosperous Granges to-day include ladies in their membership—which could not have been said two years ago. It is well for Granges to invite Women's Institutes to debates, thus bringing the Institutes into close touch with the Grange. Change the officers regularly, in new organizations, at least, thus educating many members more effectually. Quite a number of Granges are now starting a junior membership. Her subordinate Grange had done so years ago, when it was at low ebb, and most of the present members belong to the second and third generation. Self-help was emphasized, in conclusion, as the great educational factor.

The chief points remaining to be noted are the resolutions, with some of the discussions they provoked. The tariff resolution was practically the same as the one presented to the Government at Ottawa last week.

### EDUCATION—SCHOOL-GARDENING FAVORED.

The report of the Committee on Education read as follows: "Recognizing as we do the supreme value of education in the development of our national life, we commend all efforts made to improve the quality and extend the scope of our educational institutions; and we would gladly see increased appropriations for such purposes. We believe the qualifications for teachers should be gradually raised. We commend the agricultural High-school work, and would be glad to see it very much extended.

"We consider that one of the most urgent educational needs is the extension of opportunities for higher education in our rural districts, with an increasing emphasis upon subject matter relating to agriculture. We do not see why our children in the public schools should not be given elementary instruction in agriculture without overloading the curriculum, nor why this work might not be profitably given an even wider scope in continuation classes. We do not advocate additions to an already overloaded curriculum, nor any abandonment of the ideal of a liberal education; rather, the substitution of an agricultural for a mercantile bias in the selection of material. A beginning has been made, but the situation calls for untiring effort in pushing the good work.

### HISTORY AND CITIZENSHIP.

"We would again recommend that a definite effort be made in our schools to teach the responsibilities and duties of citizenship. This can be done in two ways. First, the mechanism of our social and political life can be readily explained in connection with the teaching of history; and, secondly, the spirit which should animate the social body can be developed by co-

operative class-work and the organization of schools upon a self-governing basis. In some such ways, training could be given in the practice of democracy, which will be a great value when the so trained shall exercise the privileges of citizenship.

"We are opposed to that rigidity and uniformity in school work which is imposed upon us by bureaucratic control, with its strict enforcement of minute regulations. Let the individualities of teachers and pupils have freer play; it is not good for all to be ground through the same mill.

"We think that Extension Bureaus might be established in connection with our agricultural colleges and universities, so that wherever there is a demand for advanced education along any special line there may be in

existence the necessary equipment to supply that demand.

### AGAINST MILITARISM IN SCHOOLS.

"We again express our grave apprehension at the rapid extension of military drill in our schools. We notice that lately Lord Strathcona has given \$200,000 more to aid this movement, and it is announced that the Federal Government is completing arrangements with the Provinces for the adoption in all the public schools of drill and rifle-shooting. However harmless or beneficial this drill may be in itself, we fear that there is behind it a well-matured plan to make Canada a recruiting ground for the Imperial Army and Navy. Already we have essentially sacrificed control over our own forces both on land and sea; and, unless there is strong opposition to those who now have this matter in hand, we shall soon awake to find a worse condition than conscription, viz., our young men ordered abroad to fight the battles of the Empire, without our having any say in the matter. There is no need to adopt military drill to teach neatness, punctuality, alertness, and impress the value of unity of action and co-operation in effort. All these excellent things can be taught without the militarist flavor. The minds of pupils at school should be kept on those things that make for progress and enlightenment, and not distracted by the beating of drums and the ostentation of military display."

### INFLUENCE OF SCHOOL GARDENS.

Referring to the matter of elementary instruction in agriculture, W. S. Fraser reminded the