

visional directors to the Legislature, as your report stated. On the morning of March 19th I went over them with Mr. Johns, Assistant to the Provincial Secretary, so that they might receive the endorsement of the Department before they were submitted to the meeting. I did this at Mr. Lick's suggestion.

Your report states further that representatives of subordinate Granges dominated the gathering, and implies that this was not as it should be. Apart from the recommendations of the committee, which had been prepared for some time, I believe that the facts do not justify your statement. In fact I believe the contrary to be the case. I trust, however, that those present, no matter what local bodies they represented, were there as farmers, with the sole purpose of advancing the cause and status of agriculture. Let us sink our differences and suppress our prejudices.

Your report states further that "when it came to the essential features of the organization it did seem as though a great deal was foreordained." Nothing was foreordained. The committee, acting under instructions, had prepared constitution and by-laws, and had obtained a charter for the company. They were prepared to make certain specific recommendations which the meeting might approve or disapprove. Nothing was foreordained, but there was much ready for submission. Constitutions cannot be drafted in a public meeting, and, if the committee had done nothing in the way of preparation, the meeting would have ended as the previous one had ended, namely, with the appointment of a special committee to work out the details. We should now be exactly where we were last December.

Further your report states that "it also seemed unfortunate that more of the most successful salesmen and managers of co-operative organizations could not have been present to give others the benefit of their experience, etc." Who and where are these men? The committee's information was necessarily limited, but they did their best to secure the best available in the province. If their selection was unfair or unrepresentative of the most successful co-operative enterprises in the province, it is their misfortune, not their fault, and they will only be too pleased to be enlightened.

Your report also objects to the fact that F. C. Hart, at the head of the new Co-operative and Markets Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, was not given a place upon the program. I have every respect for Mr. Hart, and fully expected that he would be present at the meeting. In fact I tried to get him by 'phone and urge him to attend, but he was out of the city. The meeting, however, was purely a farmers' gathering, and it might have seemed a little odd to select one particular government official and ask him to speak at such a meeting. The co-operative movement is essentially a self-help movement, and must always remain free from official control. No one knows this better than Mr. Hart, who is well posted as to the extensive development of the movement in Europe, and knows, doubtless, the conditions which have made it so successful.

The following sentence from your report is

worth repeating: "The constitution of the new organization was prepared by a special committee and on paper looked fairly good, but all local organizations affiliating with The United Farmers' of Ontario must accept and abide by the constitution of the central body." As a matter of fact it is not the constitution of the central body any more than it is the constitution of branch associations. Moreover, there is no possibility of consolidation without the adoption of one constitution, which leaves branches with as much local autonomy as is possible. Everyone present knew that the constitution prepared by the committee was based on the constitutions of the Western farmers' organizations and was not based on that of the Grange. Admittedly it allowed the greatest latitude to local bodies. The only question that aroused any serious discussion was that of the annual dues paid by members to maintain the head office, pay delegates' fares to annual conventions, and look after all such necessary expenses. Some compromise had to be effected. The decision arrived at favored the fee which is customary in the Grange, and also in the Western organizations. It differs by 25 cents a year from that prevailing in most Farmers' Clubs, and, if this is too much to pay for the advantages of consolidation, local bodies will not affiliate. Branches could not be admitted at different rates, which might have occurred to your reporter on second thought. The question of a capitation tax is admittedly a difficult one; and there will have to be mutual concessions, as indeed there must be in all co-operative effort.

Regarding the criticism made concerning alleged methods of electing directors and officers, I will say deliberately and advisedly that it is without foundation in fact. The only thing the committee did was to prepare a list of possible directors for the company, and ascertain if they were willing to act. They had nothing to do with the election of officers for the Association. I did not know that my name would be placed in nomination for the presidency. I did not want the position, and I was alone responsible for nominating Mr. Drury, who was away in Ottawa at the time, and who had never been approached in regard to the matter. Moreover, my election as president of the company did not take place in the public meeting, but in a subsequent meeting of directors. The insinuation that the committee had arranged that Mr. Drury was to be president of the U. F. O. while I was to be president of the U. F. Company is absolutely baseless. The committee never considered the matter at all, and anything done was done by private initiative, largely upon the spur of the moment. Admittedly the time was short, and business had to be rushed through. Mistakes may have been made. If so they can be remedied in the future. Constitution by-laws and officers can be changed. From the standpoint of my own business I have no desire for any further responsibility. Already I have made sacrifices of both time and money to assist in the movement that threatens my own financial security. Others have done the same, with no thought of reward apart from the good which their efforts may bring forth.

Further on your report states that "a strong

association of 400 or 500 members may think twice before they throw down their own rules, send 50 cents per member to a central of which they know little, and give up an efficient local salesman of great ability for an unknown quantity." It is strange indeed that any such ideas should obtain credence. Under the constitution as adopted every branch can follow its own rules, and there has never been the faintest suggestion that local bodies should dismiss local salesmen. The whole idea is absurd. The only stipulation made is that 50 cents per member shall be remitted to the central office to defray the expenses of that body and of the annual conventions. Doubtless this will deter some from joining, but it cannot be helped.

May I say in conclusion that, although mistakes have doubtless been made, and will be made again, there has been no underhand juggling in connection with the movement. In publishing such a report I consider that "The Farmer's Advocate" has sacrificed a reputation for fairness and openmindedness that have put it in the very front rank as an agricultural journal; and I regret very much the misunderstanding to which such a report will inevitably lead. As I was chairman of the committee that had charge of the meeting I am fully acquainted with the facts, and shall be only too pleased to give more detailed information upon any point concerning which inquiries may be made.

Brant Co., Ont.

W. C. GOOD.

An Agricultural Conference at Ottawa.

On Tuesday, March 24th, representatives from the Agricultural and Educational Departments of all the provinces were called in conference at Ottawa by the Hon. Martin Burrell, Dominion Minister of Agriculture, to discuss the best means of utilizing the Dominion grant to agriculture in the provinces. Agricultural college representatives were also present. It is understood that the provinces have a fairly free hand in the expenditure of this grant, but a great deal of good was thought to be possible through a discussion in conference of the men directly connected with the work in the provinces. The District Representative idea now being worked out successfully in Ontario is likely to spread rapidly in some form to other provinces, and as far as Ontario is concerned those in charge seem prepared to spend still more on this branch of the work and further increase its effectiveness. Hon. Martin Burrell entertained the Ministers, Deputies and other representatives present at dinner at the Parliament Buildings at the conclusion of the business session.

The new commission appointed to look into the feasibility of the Georgian Bay Canal, and consisting of Sanford Evans, (chairman); Col. Melghen, and Mr. Gohier, with Mr. Hepburn as secretary, have commenced the work leading up to their report.

Markets

Toronto.

Receipts at the Union Stock-yards, West Toronto, on Monday, March 30, were liberal, numbering 119 cars, 2,450 cattle, 460 hogs, 26 sheep, and 29 horses. Trade in cattle was slow.

Choice steers, \$8 to \$8.40; good, \$7.50 to \$7.75; common, \$6.50 to \$6.75; cows, \$3 to \$7; bulls, \$5.75 to \$7.25; milkers and springers, \$80 to \$95; veal calves, \$7 to \$11.50; sheep, \$6 to \$7.50; rams, \$4 to \$6.50; hogs, \$9.25 fed and watered, and \$9.50 weighed off cars.

REVIEW OF LAST WEEK'S MARKETS

The total receipts of live stock at the City and Union Stock-yards for the past week were:

	City.	Union.	Total.
Cars	5	293	298
Cattle	58	3,724	3,782
Hogs	134	7,693	7,827
Sheep	—	1,171	1,171
Calves	—	462	462
Horses	47	226	273

The total receipts of live stock at the two yards for the same two weeks of 1913 were:

	City.	Union.	Total.
Cars	14	215	229
Cattle	397	2,481	2,878
Hogs	289	4,539	4,828
Sheep	48	158	206
Calves	49	580	629
Horses	—	103	103

The combined receipts of live stock at the two markets for the past week show an increase of 69 cars, 904 cattle, 2,999 hogs, 965 sheep and lambs, and 170 horses; but a decrease of 167 calves.

Receipts of live stock for the past week were moderate, but quite equal to the demand. Trade was not as brisk as for several weeks, and it looks as though prices for Easter cattle will not be as high as was expected or anticipated.

Butchers'.—Choice steers sold at \$8 to \$8.35; good, \$7.40 to \$7.60; medium, \$7 to \$7.25; common, \$6.50 to \$6.75; choice cows, \$6.75 to \$7; good cows, \$6.50 to \$6.75; medium cows, \$5.50 to \$6; common cows, \$5 to \$5.50; canners and cutters, \$3.75 to \$4.50; choice bulls, \$7 to \$7.50; good bulls, \$6.50 to \$7; medium, \$6 to \$6.50.

Stockers and Feeders.—Stockers and feeders were in moderate supply, but quite equal to the demand. Steers, 800 to 900 lbs., sold at \$6.75 to \$7; steers, 700 to 800 lbs., at \$6.25 to \$6.50; stockers, \$4.50 to \$5.75.

Milkers and Springers.—Fred Rowntree bought two choice Holstein springers for which he paid \$125 each. Mr. Rowntree buys a large number of the best cows of all classes and breeds, and does an interprising trade from one year's end to the other. His average price this week was about \$75 to \$90 each.

Veal Calves.—There was little or no change in veal calves, and prices were very firm. Choice new-milk-fed calves were scarce, and sold from \$10.50 to \$11.50 per cwt.; common and medium calves sold at \$8 to \$9.50.

Sheep and Lambs.—Sheep and lambs

were scarce, and as firm as ever. Sheep, ewes sold at \$7 to \$7.25; rams, \$6 to \$6.50; cutters, \$4.50 to \$5.50; heavy lambs, \$8 to \$8.75; light lambs, \$9.25 to \$9.75.

Hogs.—Selects, fed and watered, sold from \$9.25 to \$9.50; and \$9.15 to \$9.20 f. o. b. cars, and \$9.75 weighed off cars.

UNION STOCK-YARDS HORSE SALE.

On Wednesday last, at the Union Horse Exchange, there was the best horse sale conducted this season. The stables were taxed to their capacity, trade being brisk, and a good clearance was effected. Buyers were present from many parts of the country, and shipments were made to Moosejaw, Sask.; Montreal, Ottawa, New Glasgow, N. S.; Buffalo, Quebec City, as well as many smaller lots to different points in Ontario. The local demand was good for drafters and farm horses. Prices were quoted as follows: Drafters, \$175 to \$250; general-purpose horses, \$150 to \$225; expressers, \$175 to \$225; drivers, \$100 to \$175; serviceably sound, \$45 to \$85.

BREADSTUFFS.

Wheat.—Ontario, No. 2 red, white or mixed, 97c. to 98c.; outside, \$1, track, Toronto. Manitoba, No. 1 northern, 99½c.; track, bay points; No. 2 northern, 98c.; more at Goderich.

Oats.—Ontario, new, No. 2 white, 37c. to 38c.; outside, 40c. to 40½c.; track, Toronto. Manitoba, No. 2, 42c., lake ports.

Rye.—No. 2, 62c. to 63c., outside.

Corn.—American, No. 3 yellow, 74c., all rail, track, Toronto.

Barley.—For malting, 54c. to 55c.; for feed, 43c. to 45c., outside.

Peas.—No. 2, 98c. to \$1.

Flour.—Ontario, ninety-per-cent. winter-wheat patents, new, \$3.80 to \$3.85, sea-board. Manitoba flour—Prices at Toronto are: First patents, \$5.60; in cotton, 10c. more; second patents, \$5.10, strong bakers', \$4.60; in jute, 10c. more.

HAY AND MILLFEED.

Hay.—Baled, car lots, track, Toronto. \$15; No. 2 hay, \$14.

Straw.—Baled, car lots, \$8.50 to \$9.

Millfeed.—Manitoba bran, \$25, in bags, track, Toronto; shorts, \$26; Ontario bran, in bags, \$24; middlings, \$18.25.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter.—Creamery pound rolls, 32c. to 34c.; separator dairy, 27c. to 28c.; store lots, 24c. to 25c.

Eggs.—New-laid, 29c. to 30c.

Cheese.—Old, large, 15c. to 15½c.; new, 14½c. to 15c.

Honey.—Extracted, 9c.; combs, \$2.50 to \$3 per dozen sections.

Beans.—Imported, hand-picked, \$2.20 per bushel; Canadians, hand-picked, \$2.25; prime, \$2.

Potatoes.—Car lots of Ontarios, per bag, track, Toronto, 80c. to 90c.; New Brunswick Delawares, 90c. to \$1, track, Toronto.

Poultry.—Receipts light, and prices very firm. Turkeys, dressed, 22c. to 25c. per lb.; geese, 18c. to 20c. per lb.; ducks, 20c. to 22c.; chickens, 20c. to 24c. per lb.; hens, 16c. to 18c. per lb., dressed.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Apples, per basket, 30c. to 60c.; apples in barrels, No. 1 Spies, \$4.50 to \$5. No. 2 Spies, \$4 to \$4.50; No. 1 Greenings, \$3.50 to \$4 per barrel; No. 2