

at the evening meeting. The president's address was given and in it he called attention to the excellent financial condition of the association. The growth in membership had been good and the prospects of the fruit grower were much brighter than ever before, seeing that there was a splendid opening for their fruit in England. He wished to call the attention of fruit growers to the unlimited market there is in our own Northwest. It was one we should look after more closely than we have done. He called attention to the improvement in the *Canadian Horticulturist*. It is now 48 pages instead of 40.

An important feature of their work for several years back has been the encouragement of the formation of affiliated Horticultural Societies, and it was at the invitation of the affiliated society in Waterloo that they had the pleasure of the present meeting.

Prof. Robertson gave an interesting and instructive address on "Foods and Their Value." It was most thoroughly enjoyed, and well illustrated by colored charts.

Prof. Taft, Horticulturist of the Michigan Experiment Station, gave a most instructive talk on "The Nursery and Orchard Legislation in Michigan." Every nursery man must take out a license and give a certificate with each lot of fruit sent out that it has been inspected. The Michigan people are fighting the San José scale and other pests, and are determined to have clean orchards.

At the forenoon session of the second day Prof. Saunders gave a most valuable paper on "Methods of Maintaining the Fertility of the Land in Orchards." He gave the approximate amount of nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid that the wood, leaf and fruit of the various fruits grown in Canada removed from the soil, and then showed how they might be supplied to the land in the best way.

He strongly recommended growing clover in the orchards to plow down in the spring, and as a cover crop.

Prof. Taft endorsed what Prof. Saunders had said about cover crops.

Mr. E. D. Smith presented a motion that the association urge the Federal Government to continue the trial shipments of fruit next season, and that larger quantities be tried; that the thanks of the association be tendered the Government for what they have done, and to Mr. Geo. E. Fisher and his Burlington friends for their plucky experiments in shipping fruit to England. The motion was carried.

Mr. Boulter, Picton, called attention to the market for Ontario fruit in our Northwest, and named a committee to wait upon the Joint Traffic Association to secure a uniform rate on shipments from Ontario; also a reduction in the freight rate, which at present is almost prohibitory. This met the approval of the meeting, and was decided upon.

At the afternoon session Mr. W. M. Orr gave his report on the work of inspection in connection with the San José scale. His report shows that this dread pest has obtained an extended footing in the orchards of Ontario, and that it had been introduced on fruit trees imported from New Jersey, where it is very prevalent.

Prof. Fletcher spoke along the same

lines, and urged that something should be done by every fruit grower to stamp out this pest, or it would drive all the fruit men out of business inside of five years. The San José scale attacked all kinds of fruits, shrubs and bushes, as well as the trees. It was worse than this—it attacked all deciduous trees, and threatened the extermination of all our forests, parks, etc. The only trees it did not touch were the cedars and pines. No treatment had so far been successful in killing it, but fruit growers should try every means in their power to destroy it, and not wait for the Government to do something for them.

The bill on the San José scale, recently introduced into the Local Legislature, was then discussed clause by clause.

At the evening meeting Mr. H. H. Groff, of Simcoe, gave an address on "Hybridizing," and a few notes on the "Canna and Gladiolus."

Prof. Hutt, of the O. A. C., spoke on "Chrysanthemum Culture," and Mr. Jas. Lockie, of Waterloo, gave his experience with cacti.

Mr. R. B. White, of Ottawa, gave an interesting paper on "Annuals for the Amateur's Garden."

The Spramotor Co., London, made a nice exhibit of their well-known and superior spray pumps at the entrance to the hall.

DOMINION SHEEP BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting was held at Brantford on the evening of the 7th of December. There was a good attendance of breeders. The president, James Tolton, Walkerton, occupied the chair and gave his annual address. In it he referred to the successful year's work just finished. Through the recommendations of expert judges there has been more satisfactory and capable judging at the local shows than ever before.

The association had made an effort to secure a change in the tariff regulations in the interests of the industry, but nothing very material was accomplished, nor, in his opinion, could anything be accomplished under existing circumstances, save that influence might be brought to bear on the United States Government to secure freer access to their markets. Some action had been taken with a view to getting a portion of the trade with the Argentine Republic in purebred stock, for breeding purposes, and he thought this should be carefully followed up.

There were 332,335 less sheep in Ontario in 1896 than in 1895, and 50 per cent. less exported. Why was this? he asked. He thought something should be done to encourage farmers to keep more sheep.

The committee appointed on securing better judging at the local fairs, recommended the employment of young men as much as possible. Mr. J. C. Snell recommended the employment of graduates from the college as far as possible, and paid a high tribute to the ability of those students he had examined. It was also suggested that a list of competent judges be prepared, who could go anywhere to judge at a certain rate per day and expenses.

Mr. Mortimer Levering, La Fayette, Ind., gave an interesting and profitable

address on the requirements of the home and foreign wool markets.

Mr. Yapp, of Brantford, spoke on the export sheep trade. The demands of the old country are changing; what was wanted now was a lighter sheep, one of about 60 to 70 lbs. South American sheep are taking the place of our sheep in the English market. They send good wethers, while the most of our shipments are old ewes, and this reduces the price of the good ones we do send. The farmers were losing more money than they were aware of by not castrating their lambs.

Expert judges were appointed by the representatives of each breed.

The officers for the ensuing year are: President, D. G. Hammer, Brantford; Vice President, Alex. W. Smith, Maple Lodge; Secretary, F. W. Hodson, Parliament Buildings, Toronto; Directors: Cotswolds, Wm. Linton; Leicesters, A. W. Smith; Dorsets, R. H. Harding; Lincolns, J. T. Gibson; Hampshires, John Kelly; Merinos, W. M. Smith; Oxfords, Henry Arkell; Southdowns, John Jackson; Shropshires, R. Gibson. Representatives of the Association to Fair Boards: Toronto, James Russell, F. W. Hodson; Ottawa, Joseph Yuill; Montreal, H. D. Smith; London, R. H. Harding and A. W. Smith.

HEREFORD BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

The seventh annual meeting was held in Brantford on the 7th of December. The meeting was not a very large one, and in the absence of the president, H. D. Smith, of Compton, Que., Mr. A. Rawlings, Forest, Ont., was appointed chairman.

A letter was read from the president, in which he stated that the Hereford business of the past year was the best he had known since he began breeding these useful animals.

The secretary reported the registration of 209 animals during the year.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, H. D. Smith, Compton, Que.; Vice President, Alf. Stone, Guelph; Secretary-Treasurer, H. Wade, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

GUELPH FAT STOCK SHOW.

The Guelph Fat Stock Club has added another very successful show to their record. When the members of the club found that the Provincial Winter Show was to go to Brantford, they bestirred themselves and determined to have a successful show of their own. A very liberal prize list was made up, which brought out a very creditable show of cattle. Guelph is situated in the heart of a great stock raising district, and the number and quality of the animals shown sustained the boast of the people of the Royal City that they have the best stock raising district of Ontario.

About sixty head of fat cattle were shown, and it can be safely said that the average quality of the animals present was much superior to the average quality of those shown at the winter show at Brantford.

The various classes for cattle were well filled, especially the grade ones. In the class for pure bred two year old steers, The F. W. Stone Estate showed

a well-finished Hereford steer, that would have made a good mate to the one shown at Brantford. Alfred Stone, Guelph, had forward the first prize heifer; he also showed two good specimens of the Sussex cattle. Capt. T. C. Robson, of Ilderton, showed a number of well-finished ripe animals. Glamis Gentle, his first prize cow, was in fine shape. J. Fried & Son, Roseville, had forward a number of very superior entries. Their two year old heifer, Oxford Rose, was a perfect model of a butcher's beast.

In grade cattle, F. W. Oke, Stewart Bros., A. & F. Bolton, W. & J. Loree, J. & W. Parkinson, J. Fried & Son, and others, made good entries. The different classes were well filled and competition was keen.

The sweepstakes prize, consisting of a purse containing twelve sovereigns, brought out a ring of seven entries. They were: a yearling grade steer, A. & F. Bolton; a yearling purebred steer, M. Wilson, Fergus; a two year-old grade steer, F. W. Oke, Alvinston; a two-year-old purebred steer, Stone Estate; a two year-old purebred heifer, J. Fried & Son, Roseville; a two-year-old grade heifer, Stewart Bros.; and a three-year-old purebred cow, Capt. T. Robson. They were all good ones, but the knowing ones soon settled on Oke's steer and Fried's heifer as the two best. The heifer was a thick fleshed evenly covered animal, the quarters were well carried out and well let down, and she handled nicely. The steer was also a good one; a little rougher, and not quite so good in the quarters. The judges split on these two, and a third man was called in, who decided in favor of the heifer. At the annual banquet of the Fat Stock Club Dr. Mills presented Mr. Fried with the purse of twelve sovereigns his heifer had won.

Some good judges thought that Mr. Fried's heifer would have been more than a match for the winner at Brantford. Such was not the case. Had the two been placed side by side the championship would have been with the sweepstakes white steer of Brantford.

There were about one hundred and twenty-five sheep present. Quite a number of them were only in nice condition, others again were in fine shape, and would have given good account of themselves had they been at Brantford. John Rutherford, Roseville, showed a large number of sheep, and all of them were well-fitted. He captured a good share of the prizes. Mr. A. J. Watson, Castlederg, showed some good Cotswolds, and besides other prizes, captured the one for the heaviest ewe or wether on the grounds.

Other good exhibits were made by Herbert Wright, who showed a lot of good sheep; T. C. Douglas, Galt; R. Moody, J. Brown, G. & R. Laird, G. & W. Parkinson, and others.

There were only some forty-eight pigs shown, but most of them good ones. One very large hog attracted considerable attention, he weighed over 900 pounds.

The exhibition of dressed poultry was much superior to that shown at Brantford.

The show of poultry, in connection with the fat stock, was a most creditable one. Mr. Thomas A. Duff, of Toronto, was the poultry judge.