

ONTARIO'S FUTURE IN FARMING.

In dealing with the agricultural problems of Ontario, C. C. James, Deputy-Minister of Agriculture for the Province, gave some striking figures when speaking before the Canadian Club in Toronto recently. Some of the figures, he explained, were approximations or estimates, but close enough for the purpose. In dealing with the growth and possibilities of Ontario's agriculture, it was pointed out that the farm products amounted to \$200,000,000 yearly; live stock had doubled in a decade, being now worth \$180,000,000; while dairy produce reached a value of \$35,000,000, and this could probably be increased by half if dairy farmers would exercise greater care in feeding and in selection of animals for their stables.

Ontario had 175,000 farmers, with capital invested amounting to \$1,200,000,000. In view of this fact it could be seen how important it was that farmers should be elected to our Houses of Parliament. Instead of that, the recent Dominion elections found Ontario represented by only seven farmers, as compared with eight lumbermen, thirteen manufacturers and twenty-five lawyers.

Lack of satisfactory labor was mentioned as the greatest need. The Western Provinces had drained Ontario, and more men were demanded. Another weakness was found in the presence on the farm of "the man who doesn't care." Every effort possible was being made to change the views of such men by means of bulletins and meetings, and the sending of representatives to high schools in certain districts. The influences of each were noticeable, but there still was room for improvement. In the last 20 years the Provincial grant in aid of agriculture had been increased from \$154,000 to \$747,000. This was money well spent, as ten per cent. increased efficiency of farming operations means an addition of \$20,000,000 in products.

OUTBREAK OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE.

That most dreaded contagious malady, foot-and-mouth disease, has been located in cattle herds in two States of the American Union. Pennsylvania and New York are under quarantine, pending a full investigation. The former also has declared quarantine against the latter. The Canadian Government took due measures to prevent the introduction of the disease into this country, by sending rush orders to customs officials along the border, instructing them to enforce quarantine regulations against cattle from the two States. In reply to correspondence with the Dominion Department of Agriculture, we are informed that additional inspectors have been placed along the boundary, and entry into Canada of all live stock from the United States is prohibited.

Considerable mystery seems to surround the outbreak. Reports indicate that it was first discovered in carloads of cattle delivered in Western Pennsylvania, and from there it was traced back to East Buffalo stock-yards. Immediate action in quarantine, slaughter and fumigation are the measures vigorously directed to prevent the disease from spreading and to blot it out. The Dominion Department of Agriculture states that a thorough investigation by inspectors of the Health of Animals Branch has failed to discover any indications of the disease in Canada.

Following the outbreak among the cattle, additional alarm was caused by a report that children in the infested areas had contracted the disease. This led to even more energetic measures, if such were possible, in fighting the plague. The State and Federal authorities, working together, assert that there is little danger of a further outbreak.

Several theories are urged as a possible source. Some claim it was introduced in the clothing of a

foreigner who secured work in the stock-yards. Others think it originated in European countries, and reached American herds by means of cattle ships arriving at American ports. A rigorous inspection of cattle ships and stock trains follows, and instructions have been given that diseased animals be killed.

PUSH THE DAIRY INTERESTS.

At the closing meeting of the Picton, Ont., Cheese Board for 1908, President Wright was heartily thanked for his efficient services during the year, and the press for the attention paid to dairy matters. Messrs. R. M. Winslow, of the Ontario Department of Agriculture office, and J. E. Wattam, instructor, advised a campaign of instruction to promote the dairy interests of the County of Prince Edward. An improved milk supply was the crucial point to be aimed at. Mr. Wattam said in some factories 80 per cent. of the patrons put up ice to cool their milk, but in others only 8 per cent. took that desirable precaution. Local meetings were advised, where care of milk, pasteurizing whey, etc., would be discussed. Mr. Joseph Brown, of Bloomfield, predicted a great future of usefulness for the Picton Cheese Board in promoting the general interests of the County, as Boards of Trade did in the cities and towns.

Nearly \$300 is offered in cash premiums by the Indiana Horticultural Society for the second annual fruit show, to be held at Purdue University during the week of the farmers' short course, January 11-16. The State has been divided into three sections—north, central, and southern—and separate premiums are offered for entries from each section.

GOSSIP.

A desirable dairy farm, with good buildings, near Montreal, a profitable going concern, is for good reasons advertised for sale in this paper. Parties interested should look up the ad. and write for particulars.

The noted Scottish Clydesdale stallion, Royal Edward (11495), belonging to Mr. J. Ernest Kerr, is dead at eight years old. He was sired by Baron's Pride, dam by Prince Romeo, granddam by Darnley. He was the sire of many prizewinners, and was himself a horse of excellent type and quality.

Messrs. J. Watt & Son, Salem, Ont., write: The bulls we are offering are an extra good lot; one is a strong show proposition, that, if he should fall into good hands is sure to be heard of; the other three are not in high fit, but are the right type, and are from our best breeding cows. The yearling is a good, straight bull, of the Bellona family, as is a grandson of the \$6,000 Brave Archer. Anyone needing a bull will do well to see these calves, as they will be priced to suit the times.

Messrs. Geo. Amos & Son, Moffat, Ont., near Guelph, write: "Our Shorthorns are coming into winter quarters in good shape. Imp. Ben Lomond, our chief stock bull, is still bright and active, despite his age. He is assisted by Lancaster's Floral, one of the most promising sons of Imp. Old Lancaster, and out of Scotch Lassie, a cow of Marr Flora breeding. It will be noticed this bull is a full brother to our last year's grand champion female, Flora 90th, that has been making a good record for herself at the leading American shows this season. We have still left for sale three good young bulls, about 12 months old, out of good imported cows, and sired by Imp. Ben Lomond, and Bud's Emblem; also several heifers that will be sold right. Intending purchasers should see us while at the Winter Fair at Guelph, as farm is just 11 miles east of city, and close to Moffat Station, G. T. R. A record of our past winnings at the leading shows should be of interest to intending purchasers. Among other prizes won by us at the recent Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, were the female grand championship, first on breeders' young herd, first on exhibitors' young herd under two years, first on calf herd, first on three the get of one sire, first on two progeny of one cow.

Mr. John Rawlings, Forest, Ont., reports an unusual occurrence in his flock of Cotswold sheep, a nine-year-old ewe having given birth to a fine, strong ram lamb, on Oct. 17th. This, so far as we know, is a record for this or any other breed in Canada, except the Dorset.

Mr. A. T. Gordon, Combscausway, has bought back the Shorthorn bull, Northern Stone, a full brother to the famous Argentine bull, Newton Stone, sold for £2,600. His sire was Corner Stone, and his dam Roan Nell, by Star of Morning. Mr. Young, Cadboll, Ross-shire, has purchased from Mr. Durno, Jackston, the 5-year-old bull, Royal Mint, bred at Collynie, sired by Scottish Fancy, dam Mistletoe, a Missie.

FOREIGN JUDGE AT INTERNATIONAL.

On account of Mr. Wm. Heap, of Manchester, England, who was originally asked to act as foreign judge at the International, being unable to come, the services of Mr. Thos. Sinclair, manager of Lord Rosebery's Dalmeny (Scotland) estate, have been secured, and he is expected to be on the ground the morning of the 30th. Mr. Sinclair is well fitted to place the awards in the classes which he will be called upon to adjudicate, as he has been for a number of years past a successful exhibitor at the annual Smithfield Fat-stock Show.

COLONEL BY MARRIAGE.

A traveller in Texas says that he was riding along a cattle trail near the New Mexico line, when he met a rather pompous-looking native of the region, who introduced himself as Colonel Higgins, of Devil's River.

"Were you a colonel in the Confederate army?" the traveller asked.

"No, sah."

"On the Union side, then?"

"No, sah; nevah was in no wah."

"Belong to the Texas Rangers?"

"No, sah; I do not."

"Ah, I see; you command one of the State militia regiments."

"No, sah; I don't. Don't know nothing about soldiering."

"Where, then, did you get the rank of colonel?"

"I 'se a kunnel by marriage, sah."

"By marriage? How's that?"

"I married the widow of a kunnel, sah—Kunnel Thompson, of Waco."

The proprietor of a tanyard was anxious to fix a suitable sign to his premises. Finally, a happy thought struck him.

He bored a hole through the door-post and stuck a calf's tail into it, with the tufted end outside.

After a while he saw a solemn-faced man standing near the door, looking at the sign. The tanner watched him a minute, and stepped out and addressed him:

"Good morning, sir!" he said.

"Good morning!" said the other, without taking his eyes off the sign.

"Do you want to buy leather?" asked the tanner.

"No."

"Perhaps you've got some hides to sell?"

"No."

"Are you a farmer?"

"No."

"What are you then?"

"I am a philosopher. I've been standing here for nearly an hour, trying to find out how that calf got through that hole."

While in Toronto last year William Jennings Bryan was asked by a friend concerning his plans if he failed for a third time to land the Presidency of the United States.

The big Nebraskan smiled, and told the following story:

"On the occasion of a prominent social event not long ago," he said, "a young man who had been regaling the inner man with something suspiciously stronger than tea or coffee strayed into the festivities.

"An attendant, noticing his condition, tapped him on the arm, and gently led him without.

"Some little time later the young man again blundered into the reception room.

"This time a firm hand was laid upon him and he was more rigorously escorted to the outside.

"A third time—an hour or so subsequently—the erring one was found within the forbidden precincts.

"This time there was no mercy. Stalwart custodians seized him bodily, carried him roughly from the place, and kicked him down the steps into the street.

"For some moments he lay numb and mystified. Then slowly he gathered himself together and staggered to his feet. He rubbed his forehead in dawning consciousness, and his dull eyes lit with dawning intelligence.

"I know what's the matter," he muttered at last, "they don't want me in there."

Congressman Francis W. Cushman, of Washington, some time ago had occasion to visit one of the noted physicians at the National Capital and was compelled for many weary minutes to cool his heels in the ante-room. Finally, his patience becoming exhausted, he summoned an attendant, to whom he said: "Present my compliments to the doctor, and tell him if I am not admitted in five minutes I shall get well again." The physician found it convenient to admit Mr. Cushman at once.

In making a sharp turn, the rear end of a street car struck an express wagon laden with jugs of whiskey. Nearly all the jugs were precipitated to the pavement, with the natural disastrous result. The driver of the wagon alighted, and, pointing at the pile of demolished earthenware, said to a bystander, "That's h—l, ain't it?"

The spectator, who happened to be a minister, replied, "Well, my friend, I don't know that I would say that, but it's at least the abode of departed spirits."

At the convention of the Irish race in Dublin, two speakers, who had come from the United States, contributed the following sentences in the course of their speeches. One of them, in giving some details of personal history, informed his hearers that "he had left Ireland 53 years before, a naked little boy, without a dollar in his pocket." Said the other: "Until last week, I had never set foot in the land of my birth."

An official of the United States Department of Commerce and Labor, who had been directed by his chief to draw up a summary of the conclusions of certain distinguished authorities on engineering, met with disaster not long ago when he had occasion to refer to certain statements of Mr. A. R. Colquhoun, the British Engineer.

The official had been told that after Mr. Colquhoun's name there should be placed the letters "M. I. C. E." (Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers). "That's easy to remember," the official had said, adopting an easy method of mnemonics. "M. I. C. E." spells "mice."

This memory system was of little avail, however, for when the official handed in his summary the letters after Mr. Colquhoun's name were R. A. T. S.