

Mr. North said the whole amount given for agriculture was a mere bagatelle. The main point was to have the best and most judicious expenditure of the money. That secured, the grant could not be too large for the benefit of the country.

Mr. Archibald, the chairman of the committee, stated that the Agricultural Committee would carefully consider the matters brought under their notice by the Board, and endeavor to meet the views of the Board in such a way as to enable them to carry out their work with success.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Board will meet again on Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

SINCE the Meeting, the Secretary of the Board has been furnished, through the kindness of the Hon. William Ross, Collector of H. M. Customs, with the following circular:

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA, }
2nd day of March, 1877. }

Present:—The Governor General in Council.

Whereas, the contagious cattle disease, known as "Rinderpest," prevails in many parts of Europe, and it is expedient, in order to prevent the introduction of the same into Canada, that the importation of cattle by sea be prohibited.—

His Excellency, on the recommendation of the Honorable the Minister of Agriculture, and under the provisions of the Act passed in the 32nd and 33rd years of Her Majesty's reign, and intituled "An Act respecting contagious diseases affecting animals," has been pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered: That from and after the date of this order the importation and introduction into any Port in Canada from Europe of neat cattle and of skins, hides, horns, hoofs or other parts of such animals, straw, fodder or other effects susceptible of conveying disease, be, and the same is hereby, prohibited till otherwise ordered.

W. A. HINSWORTH,
Clerk Privy Council.

10th March, 1877.

D. Matheson, Esq., V. P., in the chair.

Mr. Longworth presented, on behalf of the Auditing Committee, their report on the Treasurer's accounts, which had been examined and found correct. Balance in hand, \$1,903.92. Mr. L. likewise presented a draft of a bill for an Act to empower the Sessions of Counties to purchase suitable lands and erect buildings for the purpose of holding Agricultural Exhibitions. The draft was approved of and ordered to be transmitted to the Chairman of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly.

Donald Archibald, Esq., M. P. P.,

Chairman of the Committee, subsequently attended the Board meeting, when the provisions of the bill were discussed.

A correspondence with the Secretary of the St. Ann's Agricultural Society, in reference to certain irregularities, was read. This correspondence included the following explanatory letter from John Morrison, Esq., the Secretary of the Society:—

South Gut, Feb. 19, 1877.

DEAR SIR,—

Your note asking for explanations of entries made in statement of Annual Account of the St. Ann's Agricultural Society is to hand. You are aware that at the outset this Society claimed a certain latitude in the distribution of implements to its members, by reason of several of them being fishermen, and giving more attention to their fishing gear than they did to their farming gear, notwithstanding the fact of many of them having fair farms and capable of much improvement. It is an undisputed fact that the Society has done a vast amount of good to these people. Many who had been previously indifferent to any improvement in their farming, finding their labour facilitated by the means of improved implements, they acquired a better taste for farm labour, and the result is visible improvement. The seeds referred to were, black oats, turnip-seeds, and early rose potatoes. The implements were a few manure forks, and sprague churns. The cash referred to was to members who have been good supporters of the Society, but getting no returns for their subscriptions from year to year. In every instance we are satisfied that the money has been expended for purposes of improvement in Agriculture.

I am, dear sir,

Your obt servant,

JOHN MORRISON, Sec'y.

Prof. Lawson, Sec'y Board of Agric.

David McCurdy, Esq., M. P. P. for Victoria, attended the meeting by invitation of the Chairman, and, after hearing the state of the case, requested that the Board should make further enquiry before striking off the St. Ann's Society.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Colonel Starratt—

That as it appears from the accounts of the St. Ann's Society, as explained by Mr. Morrison, the Secretary, that the Society has not complied with the terms of the Act, which requires a minimum list of 40 members, subscribing each at least one dollar, whilst the St. Ann's accounts show \$51 received from members and \$30 paid back, making an exact increment in the Society's funds for the year of only \$21,

Therefore resolved, That the Society's grant for the year be withheld; but, as the Board are desirous for the continuance of a Society at St. Ann's, where it is calculated, if properly worked, to be of great benefit to the community, Mr. Ross, the member for District No. 6 is requested to make personal enquiry into the state of the Society's affairs, and to report fully to next meeting of the Board, so that such further action may be taken by the Board as the circumstances may suggest.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Colonel Starratt, and

Resolved, That hereafter no Agricultural Society be allowed to spend its funds in the purchase of seeds and small implements for gratuitous distribution among the members—except in the case of implements of improved character, not generally introduced into the Province,—and that, when such purchases are made, the Societies endeavor as far as possible to recover back from the members full cost and charges thereof; it being the desire of the Board that the funds of the Societies be husbanded in every possible way for the purchase of live stock.

The regulations for the Provincial Exhibition at Kentville were gone over and slightly modified. The Exhibition will be opened on Monday, 1st October, at 9 o'clock, a.m., and continue open during the day and evening for the reception and arrangement of articles and animals. The Exhibition will be open to the public on Tuesday, 2nd October, at 2 p.m., and each succeeding day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; also the buildings on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, from 7 to 10 p.m. Admission 25 cents; children 10 cents. Bands of music will be in daily attendance. The judges will meet October 2nd, at 9 a.m. On Friday, 5th, at 3 p.m., exhibits may be removed.

Whilst the Board were engaged in examining and revising the prize list, Thos. W. Chesley, Esq., appeared before them and requested that a change should be made in the time of holding the Provincial Exhibition. He said that the time selected by the Board, the first week of October, was too early for fruit and roots, and was moreover inconvenient for exhibitors in Annapolis county, on account of the holding of the Court there. The Chairman informed Mr. Chesley that the Board had considered the matter very fully, and had agreed at Truro in October last, and again, on reconsideration during the present meeting, that, all things considered, the first week of October was the latest period of the year that could be safely fixed for a general exhibition of live stock in this Province.

THE final revision of the Regulations and Prize List for the Provincial Agricultural Exhibition of 1877 having been completed, the Board directed the Secretary to return the corrected draft to W. Eaton, Esq., the Secretary of the Exhibition Committee, with an explanatory letter. With a view to judicious economy, and in consideration of the representations specially made to them by the delegates of the Exhibition Committee, the Board have endeavored so to adjust the necessary alterations in the Prize List as to prevent undue increase in the total amount of prizes. In some cases prizes