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Many valuable addresses were given at the various sessions. O. J. Kern, of Winnabago county, Ill., outlined what he considered should be done to educate the children of rural districts and pointed out the advantages of introducing nature study and manual training into country schools. Proper environment was essential to progress. Lantern slides were used to good effect.

Dr. D. A. Stewart, superintendent of the Sanitarium at Ninette, spoke on tuberculosis and dealt with means whereby much could be done to keep the dread disease in check. Pure air and cleanly conditions in school buildings and surroundings were mentioned as necessities.

Privileges and duties of citizens under democratic institutions were discussed by Rev. J. L. Brown, of Pilot Mound. Education of the individual was essential if the community and the country were to be properly governed, and a start must be made with the child.

During the convention a resolution was passed requesting that school inspectors notify trustees as to the dates on which they intend visiting certain schools. A resolution dealing with compulsory education was discussed with enthusiasm. Some considered all children should be obliged to attend regularly until 14 years old. J. R. Dutton preferred that compulsion be made only until pupil had passed the entrance. A delegate from the Mennonite section, of Russian parents but German born, thought the government was to blame if steps were not taken to ensure reasonable education of every citizen. Touching on separate schools he considered that if the people of a locality wanted to take up a language other than English and were willing to pay for it they should not be denied, as long as English was not neglected.

The question of compulsion proved to be a difficult one to solve. All realized that the more thorough the education the better for the province. Many stated that the secret lay in making the school attractive and supplying competent teachers. J. J. Dougan, secretary of the British Columbia Trustees Association, dealt briefly with the working of the law in the Pacific province.

The closing session was held at Manitoba Agricultural College, where Principal Black talked on education for vocation. He pointed out that education meant culture, and that culture made the gentleman and the true man.

Officers were elected as follows: President; A. M. Campbell, Argyle; vice-president, W. H. Bewell, Rosser; secretary-treasurer, John T. Haig, Winnipeg. Executive committee: Rev. J. L. Brown, Pilot Mound, J. W. Seater of Lothair; T. W. Knowles, of Emerson; D. A. Stewart, of Pilot Mound; W. R. Ross, of Holland; W. Iverach, Isabella.

B. C. Fruit Growers

At the annual meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association in British Columbia recently there was a very small attendance. After brief discussion it was decided that organization should be carried on under the provincial department of agriculture, and a reorganization meeting will be held at Kamloops in April. The total membership is 97, whereas it is considered it should be near 1,000. The custom has been to hold quarterly meetings, but in future it is proposed to direct attention to the work of exhibitions and packing and shipping the product. An attempt will be made to have all parts of the province represented at the April meeting.

Brandon Winter Fair

This week the greatest live-stock show ever held in the Canadian West is drawing large crowds to Brandon. In horses, cattle, sheep and swine numbers and quality indicate that the time is not far distant when a large percentage of prairie farmers will be interested in the stock industry. In Clydesdales the competition is particularly keen. Noted breeders from Ontario and Saskatchewan, realizing that it is well to establish a reputation now, have come to take prizes away from Manitoba's lovers of the Scotch horse.

Judging progressed well on Monday in the cattle classes, Sir Wm. Van Horne securing the Shorthorn championship on Spicy's Princess. J. D. McGregor won the Aberdeen-Angus championship, and later the grand championship open to beef breeds on his choice steer. J. G. Barron and W. H. English were strong competitors in the Shorthorn classes. Wm. Shields was the only exhibitor of Herefords. Sheep classes were comparatively well filled, A. J. McKay winning the specials in the long-wooled section.

At the cattle breeders' annual meeting a lively discussion took place over the question of public abattoirs. A committee was appointed to look into the matter and make suggestions.

Poultry and grain also form a large part of the display. The enlarged winter fair building has proven to be none too big for the accommodation of exhibits and visitors. Next week's issue of THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE will contain a detailed report.

Assist Public Abattoirs

Last Thursday a bill was introduced in the Manitoba legislature providing an appropriation of \$50,000 to assist in establishing and maintaining a public market and abattoir. It is entitled "An Act Respecting the Live Stock Industry," and gives the government power to enter into an agreement with the council of any city, the latter being empowered to incur a debt not exceeding \$200,000 in helping to establish the market and abattoir. Three commissioners, one of whom shall be the mayor of the city interested, are given control of the matter. The bill is being discussed in the house this week.

Road Construction Over Sloughs

A Saskatchewan subscriber writes as follows: "In grading prairie roads what is the best method of constructing earth grades over sloughs? What width should such grade be when completed?"

Perhaps some of our readers who have had experience in constructing such roads can give the necessary information. Very often the tendency to keep down expense results in undesirable roadways with deep and dangerous ditches along the side, or perhaps the bed is not high enough to remain in passable condition.

Summary of Seed Fair Exhibitions

The seed branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture issued last week, a summary of particulars regarding prize-winning and commendable seed exhibits at seed fairs in Alberta and Saskatchewan during the seed fair season of 1909. The report covers for Saskatchewan 46 local fairs and the provincial fair held at Regina, and for Alberta all but the fair held at Alix, which was too late to be reported. The number of fairs held in these two provinces has increased from 65 in 1908-09 to 80 in 1909-10. The bushels of seed grain offered for seed is this year 476,595, as compared with 167,010 offered at the fairs last year, a most gratifying increase and indicative of the value work which these fairs are doing in stimulating interest in good seed. The judging card used for the various grain classes are given in the summary, together with a detailed statement, giving the name and address of exhibitors, kind of grain and variety shown, prize won, weight per bushel, possible and awarded score, number of bushels for sale, price per bushel and judges' comments for each exhibit at all but four seed fairs in the two provinces.

Events of the Week

A snow-slide in the Canadian Rockies on Saturday resulted in the death of 62 men at work on the C.P.R. tracks.

Two representatives of the United States Tariff Board are in Ottawa, endeavoring to arrange more satisfactory tariffs between this country and the United States.

During the first month of the year there has been an increase of over 100 per cent. in the number of homesteads taken up in the West. The total number of entries for January was 2,698, as compared with 1,308 in January of last year, an increase of 1,390. Americans lead with 913 homestead entries and there were in addition 43 returning Canadians from the United States. The entries by Canadians totalled 661. English immigrants took 331 homesteads, Scotch 97, and Irish 29. The remaining 413 homesteads taken up were by people from other European countries.

The total value of the mineral production of Canada during 1909 was a little over \$90,000,000, an increase of nearly \$5,000,000, as compared with the preceding year. The total production of silver during the year is estimated at 27,878,590 ounces, valued at \$14,358,310, of which nearly \$13,000,000, is credited to the Cobalt mines. There was a slight decrease in the good production, which totalled about \$9,500,000. The Yukon gold output last year is estimated at \$3,960,000, an increase of \$360,000 over 1908.

The total production of nickel from the Sudbury deposits was 28,845 tons valued at the furnaces at \$3,913,012. An increase of 20 per cent. is shown in the production of pig iron in Canada last year as compared with 1908. The total production was 757,162 tons, valued at \$9,581,864, as compared with 630,835 tons valued at \$8,112,194 in 1908. Coal and coke were produced to the extent of \$10,411,955 tons, valued at \$24,431,351, a somewhat smaller production than in 1908 owing to the labor troubles at the Nova Scotia mines.

The Methodist church will establish a college at Regina. The building will cost a quarter of a million. The college will teach the matriculation course, besides business, music, and the first two years in arts of the University course.

Herbert J. Gladstone has been created a viscount and proceeds to South Africa as governor-general of the British South African dominions.

The political situation in Britain is no clearer. Asquith is credited with scoring over the Nationalist and Labor sections of his supporters in forcing the budget to first place in the government's program. While nobody has hopes of the present parliament continuing for any time, there is a general impression that more will be accomplished by the government at this session than was expected of it. The first division gave Asquith a majority of 31.

John D. Rockefeller is having a bill passed through the United States senate to provide a trust association with powers to manage the philanthropic enterprises in which he is interesting himself. It is said that John D. is aiming to give away practically his entire fortune.

The strike trouble in Philadelphia remains unsettled. The transit company refuse to meet the demands of their striking employees and 100,000 union men in various branches of industry in the city are threatening a sympathetic strike. Thousands of extra policemen and guards are on duty, but riots and pitched battles occur daily.

A Great Northern train in the Cascade Mountains, near Wellington, Wash., was swept off the track by an avalanche, carried into a gulley 500 feet below, and completely buried. The loss of life was heavy, latest reports estimating the death list at one hundred and fifty. The train had been stalled in the mountains for a week and was just beginning to descend the western slope, when the snowslide swept it away.

Suffolk Colt Show

Messrs. Jaques Bros., owners of the Suffolk Horse Ranch at Lamerton, Alta., and the largest importers and breeders of the Suffolk horse in Canada, held a colt show at their ranch on March 2nd. In every particular this was a decided success and in this country a new feature in live stock enterprise and live stock exhibitions. The show was an educational feature, more to enlighten the husbandmen and stockmen on the characteristics of the Suffolk breed and the results to be obtained from the crossing of Suffolk sires on common-bred mares, than to merely advertise their breed of stock for the purpose of sales. Messrs. Jaques do not find the latter necessary; already the demand has almost exceeded the supply. As breeders of Suffolks they are firmly convinced that no horse is better adapted for the work and climate of Western Canada, and that no other breed has the characteristics that so well adapt them for cross-breeding. Judging from the strong exhibition of colts at their ranch — colts with dams of all breeds and sizes — they are quite reasonable in their convictions. The Suffolk horse in England has many admirers. In Australia it is the predominating breed. In Canada the breed is not so well known as it should be, and the owners of the Suffolk Ranch are to be highly commended, not only for their efforts as importers and breeders of this horse but in their endeavors in this colt exhibition to demonstrate to the stockmen of the West the practical merits of the breed.

Prizes were offered for half-bred Suffolk colts, the first prize being \$50, and well worth the competition. The winning colt was a cross between a Shire mare and a Suffolk stallion and owned by Frank Tulloch, of Erskine. The fourth prize colt was also a half-bred Shire and Suffolk, while the second and third prize colts were sired by a Suffolk stallion and had a cayuse dam. Those colts showed the size and constitution of the sire, standing at ten months old equally as large as their dams. About twenty-five colts were out for competition.

The Suffolk Horse Ranch lies six miles northeast of Alix and contains some two thousand acres on the edge of Buffalo Lake. There are spacious stallion barns and large colt corrals. The breeding females wander over the prairies and rustle for their existence. Those animals are well blanketed with nature's covering and exhibit splendid thrift. They are mostly all imported animals and range in weight from 1600 to 1900 pounds, as though they were expressly constructed to perform the work of the prairies, and thrive despite the winds of the northern climate. A more recent importation made by Messrs. Jaques will be on exhibition at Regina, Medicine Hat and Calgary spring exhibitions.

Special Dairy Work

At a meeting of the executive of the Manitoba Dairy Association held last Saturday arrangements were made for the holding of a series of educational meetings in different parts of the province. The work will be supervised by the authorities at Manitoba Agricultural College. A committee was appointed to wait on the minister of agriculture to ask for financial assistance.

Another committee was selected to approach the transportation companies, with a view to remedying existing conditions in regard to excessive rates on milk and cream shipped over the railway lines of the province.

The elevator bill introduced into the Manitoba legislature is before the house this week, the second reading having been made on Monday. The government stand by the clauses that proved so obnoxious to the executive of the Grain Growers' Association.