

Dominion Shorthorn Breeders

The 19th annual meeting of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association was held in St. George's Hall, Toronto, Tuesday, Jan. 17th, and was attended by about three hundred officers and members, all parts of the Dominion being well represented. The meeting was opened by an address from the retiring president, Mr. W. Linton, of Aurora, who in suitable words referred to the different interests of the association, its past progress and future prospects, and the different questions to be dealt with at the present time.

The address was followed by the reading of the annual report by Secretary Henry Wade, which showed the registration of 4,873 bulls and 5,478 cows during the year, a total of 109,579 pedigrees being now in the herd books, with a balance of \$3,824.78 on hand, and a membership of 2,005, the past year.

In order to meet fairly the claims of some delegates that the funds of the association were not proportionately divided, the following arrangement for

Canadian breeders who are at the present time confined to the Canadian market, should have every opportunity to make the most of that market, and not be forced to share it with strangers, who are now peddling so-called pure-bred live stock through the country.

Sentiments of condolence were expressed regarding the death of the late John Miller, an engrossed memorial of which will be sent to the family.

The election of officers was next in order, and while the ballots for the new directors were being counted the time was pleasantly occupied by a speech from Senator W. C. Edwards, of Rockland, Ont. His open, generous sentiments regarding all phases of the Shorthorn industry, expressed in choice and eloquent language, won the approval of all. He had been a breeder of the Shorthorn since he was a boy, away back in 1861, he bred them because he loved them, and because he loved them he approved of the aims of the association. Blessed, as the country is, with a propitious climate for breeding good

cattle, a good climate and a good soil, Canada was better adapted for producing good cattle than the lands to the south of us, and would compete most favorably with the United States in the production of good breeding and market cattle. As a free trader he felt averse to the restrictions made by the government, and thought the restrictions made by the American government a very small piece of business. He expressed himself strongly in favor of the association retaining its independence in all respects, but thought that all other suggestions could be met by getting the endorsement of the government, which would ensure cheap freight rates, and retain their independence and power to conduct their own affairs. One of the institutions he would like to see established was a series of annual sales of pure-bred stock, conducted, not by the association or any other organization, but by the breeders themselves.

Mr. W. D. Flatt, of Hamilton, Ont., spoke of the past few years of Shorthorn history. It has been the past experience that cattle, like any other goods, were subject to rises and falls in current value.



Executive Committee Dominion Shorthorn Association for 1904. Reading from the right—Wm. Linton, Pres.; Henry Wade, Sec.-Treas.; W. G. Astle, 1st Vice-Pres.; Arthur Johnston, ex-Pres.; W. D. Flatt, Vice-Pres.; Ontario; John Miller, ex-Pres.; H. Gerald Wade, Asst. Sec.

the allotment of the prize money in the different provinces was arrived at in a meeting of the directors: British Columbia (Victoria) \$300; Alberta, (Calgary) \$300; Assiniboia, \$100; Manitoba (Winnipeg) \$500; Ontario (Toronto) \$1,500; Quebec (Sherbrooke or Quebec) \$100; New Brunswick (Fredericton or St. John) \$50; Prince Edward Island (Charlottetown) \$50; Maritime Provinces (Amherst) \$100; Northwest Territories \$150; total \$3,400. A question that met with some discussion was that of joining the Cattle Breeders' Association, which was brought forward by A. W. Smith, of Maple Lodge, and warmly seconded by A. Johnson, of Greenwood, Ont. The addition of the 2,000 names on the membership list to that of the cattle breeders, it was argued, would, by uniting forces on questions of moment, call for more consideration, than if either association alone were considered. Some spirited opposition was offered to this motion, and the sentiment of maintaining the autonomy of the association proved a strong factor in the discussion. The motion was lost.

During the years 1899 and 1900 cattle had been a good price. In the two years that followed the price had been too high for the country's best interests. Now that it was lower, the time was opportune for those desirous of starting in the business to purchase good stock and be ready for the time, sure to come, when they would again appreciate in value. The world wide popularity of the Shorthorn and long experience had demonstrated that the Shorthorn bull was the only one to use in "grading up" herds of grade or scrub cattle, and that the popularity of the Shorthorn throughout the world was never more clearly demonstrated than this present year, when the Marr and Duthie sales went to such a high average.

Among the prominent breeders present were: F. W. Brown, Portage la Prairie; J. G. Barron, Carberry, Man.; George Kinnon, Cottonwood, Assa.; C. C. Gardiner, Charlottetown, P.E.I.; Dr. A. G. Hopkins, Winnipeg.

For list of officers for 1905 see page 116.

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