

be successful in stamping it out. The work of the scattered sub-Experimental Stations was sketched. The efforts to secure the English markets through a system of cold storage were also eulogized upon, and much useful information was given. About ten millions of apple trees are growing in Ontario.

Dr. Saunders, Director of the Dominion Experimental Farms, Ottawa, gave an address upon "Manitoba and the North-west Territories as Markets for Fruits." The capabilities of a country as a fruit market depend upon its ability to produce fruit locally. Climatic peculiarities make the strawberry crop very uncertain. Raspberries can be produced to a limited extent; so may currants. Tree fruits have not succeeded, although thousands have been planted. Crab-apples and some Russian apples have been grown near Morden by a Mr. S even-o. They have also been produced at a few other points. Wild plums grow in the river valleys. Sand cherries vary much, and some of them have a little value. Saskatoon berries, much like our June berries, grow in the west. Eighty per cent. of the fruit used in the North-west is sent in from the United States. Peaches are grown in British Columbia which sell at 5c. per lb. Near the coast many kinds of fruit can be grown. British Columbia, nearer the east, produces a considerable variety of the larger fruits, which bring good prices in the mining towns.

Dr. Mills, President of the Ontario Agricultural College, gave some notes upon "Horticulture at the O. A. C." at Guelph. At the outset he emphasized the need of educated fruit growers. A knowledge of insect and fungoid diseases is imperative. They should know how to use the microscope. Dr. Mills emphasized the need of securing markets and better and cheaper transportation facilities.

#### FRIDAY'S MEETING.

"Co-operative fruit-growing" was discussed by Mr. McNeill, of Windsor. He claimed that co-operation may be as successful with fruit growers as it has been with dairymen. Co-operation among fruit growers is very general in New Jersey, Ohio, Michigan, California and other parts of the United States, and it has been very useful there. Growers in the vicinity of Windsor propose to place their sales of grapes in the hands of a small committee. The advantages claimed are:

1. They hope to secure better prices.—Buyers had played one grower against another—passing from one to the other and quoting prices.
2. Expenses of sales are less.
3. Could get better accommodation on the railroads.
4. Could open up new markets to better advantage.—One man now opens up a new market and his neighbors use it although they do not encounter the opening up expenses.
5. Grading will be better attended to. Irresponsible individual grading will cease.
6. Fruit will be distributed evenly among the markets. Now we have glut here and a scarcity there.

Mr. McNeill with his usual facility advocated co-operation which will in time become an accomplished fact in fruit-growing localities.



## Live Stock Meetings at Brantford

### The Opera House Gathering

The joint public meeting held in the Opera House, Brantford, on the Wednesday evening of the Provincial Fat Stock and Dairy Show was a pronounced success. The spacious building was crowded to excess with stock-breeders, farmers, and the citizens of Brantford. The Hon. A. S. Hardy, Premier of Ontario, occupied the chair, and in his opening remarks referred to the splendid exhibit of stock to be seen at the show.

The Hon. John Dryden, in reply to the address of welcome by Mayor Raymond, referred to the show as being the best ever held in the Province. The Fat Stock Show was an educator for quality. There was too much poor beef in the country, and education was needed along that line. It is quality that brings the price, not quantity. The market demands changes. Formerly the large, fat ox brought the highest price, but now smaller animals are wanted. The Fat Stock Show is also an educator for the bacon trade. There must be a discriminating price for quality. If the dealer and the packer wish the farmer to produce the kind of hog the trade requires they must pay him a higher price for it. Dealers pay about the same price for large, fat hogs as for good bacon hogs. Ontario can produce ten times more good bacon than she is now doing, and he would not stay his hand till Canadian bacon was in the same position as Canadian cheese. In the interest of the Province at large he was of the opinion that the show should go around in order to educate all sections. The interest of the whole province should be studied rather than any one section.

Mr. George McKerron, of Wisconsin, president of the American Oxford Down Record Association, who also replied to the address of welcome, paid a very high compliment to Ontario breeders. He was convinced that in Ontario there was as high a percentage of educated farmers as in any other portion of this continent. The Fat Stock Show is an evidence of this. Every animal shows the trained skill of some farmer, and also that this skill in breeding has been carried on for generations.

The important address of the evening was delivered by the Hon. Sydney Fisher, Dominion Minister of Agriculture. In the course of his address he referred to his recent visit to Great Britain, when he

found Canadians welcomed as they had never been before. There was an evident desire to give us credit. To a large extent prosperity depends upon live stock. The breeding of live stock is a higher science than the tilling of the soil. One of the sure tests of the prosperity of a people is their power to purchase in the markets of the world. In 1895 our total imports amounted to \$105,252,511; in 1896 to \$110,587,480; in 1897 to \$111,294,020, and for the fiscal year ending July, 98, \$130,678,807. We paid for this by exports as follows: For 1895, \$113,638,803; 1896, \$121,013,852; 1897, \$137,950,253, and for the year ending July 1st, 1898, \$164,113,500. This prosperity was still increasing. For the quarter ending October 1st, 1898, our exports reached \$43,000,000. In 1895 we exported of animals and their products \$35,656,394; in 1896, \$37,404,396; in 1897, \$40,368,260, and in 1898, \$46,136,138. Of agricultural products we exported, in 1895, \$18,992,503; in 1896, \$17,974,011; in 1897, \$25,694,267, and in 1898, \$43,727,768. As a further evidence of prosperity Mr. Fisher quoted figures to show that from 1896 to 1898 the value of our farm exports to other countries had increased 23 per cent.; pork, bacon and beans, 82 per cent.; butter, 94 per cent.; cheese, 25.91 per cent.; poultry, 430 per cent.; eggs, 55.53 per cent.; wheat, 200 per cent.; oats, almost 1000 per cent.; flour, 655.22 per cent.; oatmeal, 5.2 per cent, and peas 39 per cent. Mr. Fisher referred to his efforts in having the quarantine regulations abolished between Canada and the United States. The ninety-day quarantine had been in operation since 1893. During the four-and-a-half years of the quarantine Canada shipped to the United States 3,703 head, at a value of \$52,606. In the twenty-one months which have elapsed since the abrogation of the quarantine regulations, Canada had sent to the United States 146,462 head of cattle at a value of \$1,998,229. The outlook for the Canadian farmer was very bright. The great country to the south of us was increasing in population at the rate of one million persons a year. The United States was a great live stock raising country, and yet their live stock was less in value and number than it was five years ago. The horses in the United States numbered, in 1892, 15,498,140, in 1897, 14,364,667, or a decrease of 1,133,473. For the same period the number of cattle decreased by 7,617,455; sheep by over 8,000,000, and swine by about 11,797,743. It was evident, therefore, that the people of the United States would have to go somewhere to buy and the live stock men of Ontario are in a splendid position to meet them, although the increase in the number of cattle in Ontario for the same years as he had quoted for the United States was not very satisfactory. In 1892 there were 2,029,140 cattle in Ontario in 1897, 2,181,326, or an increase of only 153,186 head. There has been a decrease in Manitoba of 8,921 head, the figures being in 1892, 230,696, as against 221,775 in 1897. Mr. Fisher stated that when in England he found Canadian bacon surpassed by none, and the general complaint was that our dealers were not sending enough of it. Another trade that was attracting a great deal of attention just now was the poultry trade. There was an immense market in England for good poultry. The Canadian poultry raiser to get and keep the English market must learn to fatten and raise his poultry in the same way that the farmer raises his hogs. The idea of letting a fowl earn its own living about the barn, and expecting it to bring a good price in the market, would not do.

Prof. Curtiss, who succeeded Secretary of Agriculture Wilson as director of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Ames, Iowa, followed in an admirable address on "Improved Live Stock as a Factor in Agriculture," which was splendidly received. He referred to the work of the live stock associations of Canada as being models for all organizations of a similar character. Careful and intelligent observation of live stock is important. The farmer should be educated to know good stock. The breeder should have the right ideal before him, the right standard of excellence in order to succeed. He must also have his heart in the work. Intelligence is necessary in Agriculture. It is easier to find cabinet ministers than a good judge of live stock. The men who judge live stock are trained experts, and a really trained expert in live stock judging will command a higher salary at the great packing houses than a judge of the Supreme Court. The same good judgment should prevail on the farm as in the packing houses. Men fail in breeding the best stock because they do not know what a good animal is. College students who have had the training are, as a rule, better judges of live stock than the owners. At Omaha a shepherd was showing a sheep that was greatly admired. When asked when he was bred, replied that he was bred before he was born. It had taken fifty years to breed the animal. Systematic effort must be brought to bear on all farm work. The United States expect a good article, but will pay a good price for it. The quality of beef is not always the same. To illustrate this Prof. Curtiss referred to a chart illustrating certain experiments that had been carried on at the Iowa Station in feeding cattle. Do not gauge animals by the record they make while feeding. A Jersey steer, fed for 13 months, weighed at the end of the time 1,300 lbs., making a gain of 2 lbs. per day. A Hereford steer, fed for 14 months, weighed at the end of the time 1,600 lbs., making a gain of 2 3/100 lbs. per day. The two animals consumed the same amount of feed and made practically the same gain per day. To stop here the experiment would show that the one steer paid as well as the other. The steers were sold, and the Hereford brought 10 cents per cwt. more than the highest current price quoted at Chicago, while the Jersey sold for 2.12 1/2 cents below. The Hereford killed out 67 1/2 per cent. net carcass, while the Jersey killed out only 57 1/2 per cent. net weight. The Jersey killed out 32 1/2 per cent. in fat, and the Hereford only 15 per cent. The Hereford steer sold for 49 per cent. more than the Jersey steer. The animal which produces the cheaper is not always the better. It is quality that counts.

The address of Mrs. Hoodless, of Hamilton, on "Woman's Agri-