

under the rules to be framed by the government.

The measure was warmly received in the legislature and carried with the approval of both sides. The premier, in introducing it, frankly acknowledged that it was an experiment which possibly might not realize all that was looked for, but expressed confidence that if the right man could be secured for the place, the movement would be productive of much good to the farming interests of the province.

Since the passing of the act the government have been corresponding with parties in the Dominion and the United States with a view to obtaining the services of a gentleman possessing the special qualifications required in the new department, and we are glad to learn that they have been successful. Mr. Hermon H. Smith, B. Sc., of Ithaca, New York, has been chosen to fill the new chair. He is very highly recommended by the professors of Cornell university, under whom he studied. He graduated in the course of science, but took all the studies of the agricultural course as well. The son of a farmer, and himself a farmer, he determined, after completing his course at Cornell in 1883, to devote himself to agricultural teaching, and accordingly returned to the university and spent a year in post graduate study of chemistry and other sciences as specially related to agriculture. G. C. Caldwell, professor of agricultural and analytical chemistry in Cornell, certifies to Mr. Smith's enthusiasm for the work he has chosen for life, and to his qualifications for the position at Truro, being thoroughly acquainted with the practical details of farming, and especially dairy farming. In the university, he took all the lectures given by Dr. Law in veterinary science, and did some practical work besides, for which he gained a first prize. Prof. Caldwell adds: "In my own department of agricultural chemistry he is thoroughly proficient, having taken much extra work in it as a student, and besides having served as chemist for the Houghton farm experiment station for a period of nine months, till they were obliged to suspend the work for want of funds; in this capacity he made every variety of agricultural chemical analysis. He has laid a good foundation in botany, and I think also in entomology. He is irreproachable in character and a most industrious worker."

The very cordial manner in which the government's proposals were received in the legislature gives assurance that, in catering upon the duties of his new position, Mr. Smith will be warmly welcomed, and will have the best wishes of all for the success of his labors. Bringing, as he does, to the service an

ample knowledge of the practice and science of farming and great enthusiasm for his work, he seems to be admirably fitted for the important duties he has undertaken.

Mr. Smith is at present in the city. He will visit the Normal school at Truro to-day with Dr. Allison, superintendent of education, to make some preliminary arrangements, and will enter upon his duties on the 1st of October.—*Morning Chronicle*.

A CONTINENTAL POULTRY SHOW.

A most interesting show has recently been held in the Danish capital, opening on July 3rd and closing on July 6th; and, as it presents several novel features, which are different from anything I have seen before, I am sure that a description will be welcome. First, however, I must say something about the society under whose auspices the show was held. This is called "*Foreningen til Fjerkræavlens Fremme i Danmark*," or the society for the promotion of poultry-keeping in Denmark. It is under the patronage of her Majesty the Queen of Denmark, and, at the show just held, the queen not only gave a special prize, but, together with the king, crown prince and princess, visited the show, spending a couple of hours therein, and from what I saw took a very great interest in all its departments. The society named is a very influential one, not only in that there are many supporters of it who hold a high position in Denmark, but also because there are many members who are very nearly concerned in the poultry question. The Danes are nothing if they are not practical, and this society has for its defined object the encouragement and the promotion of poultry-keeping, not as a hobby, but for the profit which fowls can make. This object is kept in view, and so far as I have been able to learn, very great success has attended the work of the society. As is well known, Denmark is a country of small proprietors, by whom everything that will add to the earnings of the farm is developed. This has led to success in many ways, and the reports of the exports of eggs from Denmark are sufficient indication of the growth of the poultry interest. The society has some two thousand members, comprising all classes of the community, and the methods adopted for the dissemination of true knowledge upon this subject have been characterized by great judgment.

It has not been content with holding a show once a year, but more direct steps have been taken. Only one of these need here be dealt with. After a thorough examination of the various

breeds of poultry, not merely in Denmark but elsewhere, the society came to the conclusion that the Italian, or, as we call it, the Leghorn, was best suited to the climate, conditions and demands of the country. It is to be remembered that egg-production is the great object, and table qualities are regarded as of minor importance. This being so, the choice of the society was an eminently wise one, as the Leghorn is doubtless one of the best laying breeds we possess, though the Danes complain of the small size of the egg, which is really the only fault the breed has. Not content with this, which in itself would have been a very great service to the country, the society has taken steps to overcome the inertia or prejudices of the peasants, and has given to members of this class specimens of the breed, so as to enable them to improve their stocks. I was informed at the show that in consequence of these steps, there has been a very marked improvement in the quality of the fowls kept in Denmark.

The society has, I believe, only been in existence some six or seven years, but has every reason to be satisfied with what it has been enabled to do. Of course this could not have been done if it had not received support freely, and of a practical character. But it has deserved all the support received, which has not been merely from members of the society, but also from the Danish government, which contributed \$1,100 toward the show under notice, as well as granting the Rosenberg Castle Gardens for it. In fact the government has been as wise and enterprising, in proportion to the interests involved, with what it has done for poultry-keeping as for dairy farming, and in both these directions has set an example that might well be followed, and with benefit, by the governments of more powerful countries, who only too often forget, in their aspirations after spirited foreign policies and showy armaments, the real interests of the people. The fact already noted of the visit of the royal family to the show, indicates the way in which this branch of the farm economy is regarded, and presents an altogether different state of affairs to that existent in England. At the dinner which followed the show, the Danish Minister of War was present, and on one of the days on which the show was open, 20,000 persons visited it. All, it must be remembered, for a poultry show, for there was no other kind of farm stock on exhibition.

I have already stated that the show was held in the Rosenberg Castle Gardens, which are quite in the centre of the city, and which lent themselves to the purposes of the show in a very charming manner. The castle itself was