

and putting them to the best Canadian stallion that can be found, is the only practical plan.

That these mares be placed at Quebec, or in its immediate neighbourhood, where they can be under the care of Dr Couture, the government veterinary surgeon. That those to whose care they are entrusted shall keep them, for their work, so that they shall cost the government nothing, and that their produce shall belong to the government, to be disposed of in favour of the agricultural societies, or in any other way that shall be thought conducive to the desired result, that is, not only to prevent the extinction of the ancient Canadian race of horses, but, in addition, to spread them afresh about the country as far as it may seem advisable to do so.

6. *Number of students at the butter factories.*—The Council advised that instead of exacting from the owners of cheese- and butter-factories a report showing that they have had the minimum of 4 students, without saying for how long, it would be better to ask them how many students they have had, their names and addresses, and for how long a time each of them has remained at the factory.

7. *Revision and codification of the regulations.*—The council approves the revision of its regulations, as it appears in the published volume entitled: "Laws and orders in Council, concerning Agriculture, the Dairy-Industry, Arts and Manufactures and Regulations of the Council of Agriculture now in force; and especially the article 78, which defines the persons who have the right to vote at the annual elections.

The Council then proceeded with its elections.

Re-elected unanimously:

The Hon. H. G. Joly de Lotbinière, president.

M. J. Pilon, vice-president.

The out-going committees were re-elected unanimously; and the council adjourned.

ED. A. BARNARD,  
Secretary of the Council of Agriculture.  
(From the French).

The next meeting of the Dairymen's Association will be held at Montmagny on the 27th and 28th Jan. 1892.

Exercise for young cows—Is bedding indispensable?

The November number of "The New Dairy" treats the question of exercise for cows with great good sense.

Healthy young cows do very well, even tied to a sty for seven months in the year. None have experimented longer on the matter, very likely, than the French settlers in the Province of Quebec. With steady heavy cold, for months at a time, it is with us a question of permanent warm stabling, or no milk, and this experiment has already lasted for at least two hundred and fifty years.—Are our cows of Brittany and Normandy descent degenerating in consequence? I would pity the man who should try his lasting qualities by being tied by the neck of one of our young cows, on a free run, he after due training and she after seven months of close prison, and calving at that. As to their milking qualities, when well cared for, the Babcock tester shows an average of over 4% of butter fat in the milk of two year old heifers. As to quantity, we can show two small heifers, both in milk since February and March last, giving over twenty pounds each now, and which gave 36 and 42 lbs a day respectively at their best.

So much for close stabling and degeneration. This stock being kept within the city limits of Quebec, is open to inspection any day. It is stabled the year round, having two hours of free roam in the yard for five months, and constant stabling for seven months. Our calves as a rule are penned in the stable for the first year. The second year they have free roam

in country pastures. We try and have them calve at 24 months, after which we want each of them to do its duty as a mother and milker.

Of course our stables are well lighted, thoroughly ventilated and kept scrupulously clean. But each cow stands close to its neighbour, only three feet space in breadth being allowed to each. The climate being so cold, we must count on animal heat to keep our stables warm. The passages are as narrow as is compatible with comfort and cleanliness.

Now comes the question:—What is good bedding for animals?

In nature the cow selects a dry knoll. If straw be left there the cow very soon moves away to a dry spot elsewhere. Dampness is eschewed by most animals.—Again, straw is usually the ordinary bedding material of farmers. What is straw? A fodder which when well preserved and prepared is worth half its weight of similarly well preserved hay.—We may then well ask if hay is in its nature intended for bedding? Again is not straw or hay bedding, as generally used, a mass of dampness, just starting in the rotting process? Can such bedding help in the production of healthy milk? At all events here we cannot afford to rot our hay or even our valuable straw. Not one pound is used as litter the year round, in our cow stables. The cows stand on short dry boards and are kept perfectly clean,—all the manure falling in the manure gutter below, in one stable, and through steel bars direct into the manure cellar in the other. Thus, every pound of feeding material is used, for all it is worth, and good, healthy, rich milk produced in abundance.

ED. A. BARNARD.

The Vermont butter school.

The following information on the public school in actual operation at Burlington Vermont will prove interesting. We shall be thankful to Mr. S. A. Fisher for the full report kindly promised.

E. A. B.

Van Ness House, Burlington Vt. Dec. 10th.

Dear Mr. Joly,—I write to inform you that I have come down here to inspect the Dairy or Butter School and see how the pupils the Department have sent here to attend it are succeeding.

I may say at once that every thing pleases me very much. I find the five pupils sent under the auspices of the Department: Messrs. Côté, Lord, Bernatchez, Meroier and Hayes all hard at work and earnestly endeavouring to profit by what they see and hear. Also there are two more Messrs. Préfontaine and Brousseau, who have come down at their own expense, who also are doing good work and will profit much. These two do not expect to stay through the whole of the course. I am also very glad and proud to find that both Prof. Hills, the scientific chemist and lecturer, and Mr. Gurley, the practical mechanic and butter maker, are both much pleased with our young men and told me, of their own initiative, that among them are two or three who are the best pupils in the School. I can see myself that this is so; our men appearing to take hold of the work the most promptly and practically and to be the most intelligent questioners and answerers in the lectures. I think these five, we may be proud of them and that we can feel satisfied a good choice of delegates has been made.

The arrangements of the School are very complete and the building for the practical work though small is very well built, etc. Perhaps in some ways, with this example, we might improve on it with no extra expense. I speak thus for I am satisfied that we must do something of this nature another