

years, however, it is only since improvement in packing and improvements by producers in the production of a desirable type of bacon hog, that pork production had become a profitable industry. Canadian trade as compared with Danish in the English market was comparatively small, and our Danish competitors were receiving from one to two cents per pound more than we were. Danish bacon hogs were of a uniform type, and he advised all breeders to stick to the bacon type through depression and prosperity. Occasionally a panic goes over the country which causes breeders to sell their hogs before they have reached the proper weight. This not only has a depressing effect upon the market, but they found when these pigs were slaughtered that they produced from 10 to 20 per cent. less Wiltshire side than if they were properly finished and weighed 180 lbs. Another point of mutual interest to both farmers and packers was the regular supply of hogs. When the world's supply was greater than the demand, farmers stopped raising hogs. In the course of a few months things right themselves, and we find there are no hogs to market, and we lose our export trade. If the Canadian farmers would supply packers with a steady and desirable type of bacon hog, the Canadian producer could get ahead of the Danes, as the English market demands the best that can be produced, and will pay the price. "What about the restrictions placed on American hogs?" was asked. Mr. Bowman replied that he did not believe it would do the farmer any harm, and he believed the situation would soon right itself if the packers would let American bacon alone.

Prof. Day said his experience with stock foods led him to believe they were a negative quantity. There were some which would possibly act beneficially as a tonic if pigs were out of condition, but he advised all feeders to think twice before they paid out hard cash for stock foods which the agents refused to give the composition of.

Mr. H. Glendinning discussed "The Importance of the Bacon Trade to the Canadian Farmer." Many farmers had inquired from him during the past winter for the thick, fat hog. Should we go into the production of this type of hog, we would immediately have to meet the competition of the American pork, and reduced prices. Asked as to what was keeping up the price of the fat hog, Mr. Glendinning stated that the bacon hog was carrying the fat hog along with it, an assertion in which the majority present concurred.

Mr. Thos. McMillan took up the discussion, and stated that if we were going to keep up the fertility of our soil we must engage in a system of stock-raising. The Province is more prosperous now than ever before, and he attributed this largely to the increase in trade, specially live stock. He advised farmers to go into the business of hog-raising, as the capacity of the packing houses in Canada was over 60,000 per week, and we were only able to supply 15,000.

Thomas McMillan, Seaforth, discussed the finishing and marketing of beef cattle, pointing out the necessity of following the market closely throughout the year. He had found August to October the best time to buy steers for feeding, and April and May the most profitable time to dispose of them. In buying for feeding purposes, select animals that have been well done for up to the time of purchasing. Regularity in feeding, cleanliness and gentle treatment were prime essentials to successful feeding. The average cost of feed for fifty steers bought in the fall and sold in June, was \$18 per head. This was reckoning the ensilage at \$2.00 per ton; straw, \$1.50; grain, \$1.00 per hundred, and clover hay, \$6 per ton. In reply to an enquiry as to what was a good average gain from November to May, Mr. McMillan stated that fifty steers wintered by him made an average of 275 to 300 lbs. each.

Mr. Glendinning gave an address on the dairy female from birth to maturity. He advised allowing the calf to suck for a day or two to eliminate the possibility of over-feeding, which often proved fatal. A dairy calf need not be fed whole milk after it is one week old. When feeding separator milk, however, add a small handful of ground flaxseed to take the place of the fat separated from the milk. Feed the calf milk until it is six months old. Breed the heifer when she is 18 to 21 months old. During this first period of pregnancy is the critical period of her life, and attention and extra feed, specially during the last four months before parturition, will give very profitable returns. He advised raising calves from old cows which have proven their worth by performance.

D. Drummond advocated handling and rubbing the heifer's udder—but never drawing milk—the last few weeks of pregnancy, as it would develop it. Milk her during the first period of lactation nearly one year, as it would tend to form the milking habit.

Forest Reserves for Dominion.

The Canadian Minister of the Interior will introduce a bill this session of Parliament for the creation of forest reserves on Dominion lands. In the reserves proposed to be set aside there are about seventeen thousand square miles, and the principal forest areas are: Moose Mountain, Saskatchewan, 160 square miles; Beaver Hills, Saskatchewan, 267 square miles; Rocky Mountain Park, 4,500 square miles; Turtle Mountain, Manitoba, 110 square miles; Spruce Mountain, Manitoba, 255 square miles; Riding Mountain, Manitoba, 1,685 square miles; Duck Mountain, Manitoba, 1,307 square miles; Long Lake, British Columbia, 118 square miles. It is proposed that any order-in-council creating a forest reserve shall have all the permanency of an Act of Parliament, and cannot be amended or repealed save by order of the House.

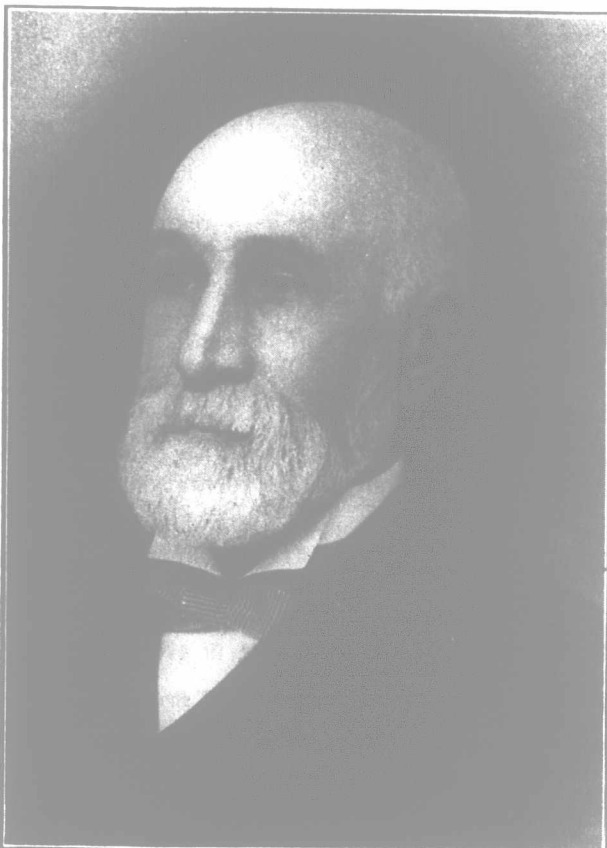
Two Pioneer Agricultural Society Officers.

Few Agricultural Society officers can boast a longer tenure of office than the two whose halftone portraits appear on this page. Mr. W. E. Roxburgh has, owing to ill health, resigned the position of Secretary-Treasurer of the East Peterborough, Ontario, Agricultural Society, after holding the office for 38 years. Mr. Frank Birdsall was elected President of the same society 38 years ago, and has been an officer ever since. For some years past he has been President repeatedly, and holds the office again for 1906.

From a struggling little show that used to travel



Frank Birdsall.



W. E. Roxburgh.

from one village to another, and with a total list of 577 entries, these gentlemen, always backed by the board of directors, have lived to see and helped to centralize it at Norwood, and now the number of entries runs over 2,000, with a prize-list of over \$1,500. Too much credit cannot be given to Mr. Roxburgh, the retiring Secretary, as he has helped by his genial manner to make the show the success that it is now. For many years, when the funds were low, Mr. Roxburgh, as Secretary-Treasurer, served without reward.

Disagrees, but Will Not Part.

Your paper is well worth the subscription money, even if we should disagree on some minor topics. I look upon it as one of the best publications of its kind, a credit to any other country. Beaver Lake, Alta. HENRY DERBY.

The Ottawa Dairy Test.

An interesting 48-hour milk test for pure-bred cows, conducted under the supervision of Mr. Thomas Gould, at the Eastern Ontario Live-stock Show at Ottawa, resulted in favor of Maid of Colantha, a Holstein cow, owned by N. Sangster, of Ormstown, Que. Her total number of points was 138.1, and her total number of pounds of milk in six milkings in the two days was 144 pounds. Prizes were awarded on the basis of 20 points for each pound of butter-fat, 4 points for solids not fat, and a point for each ten days in milk after the first 30 days. The following is the order of merit of the other breeds represented: Ayrshire, Shorthorn, Guernsey and Jersey. The first prize in each instance was \$25. Comparing the points made by the best pure-bred cows with those of the best grades, the grades came out ahead by one point. Results of the tests in all classes were very satisfactory, and in many instances eclipsed all previous records made here.

The Globe Favors Wood-lot Exemption.

Discussing editorially J. P. Downey's Bill, reintroduced into the Ontario Legislature this session, to enable municipalities to exempt from taxation unpastured woodlands, subject to certain limitations as to area, etc., the Toronto Globe quotes a committee appointed by the Massachusetts Legislature to consider the laws relative to the taxation of forest lands. This committee has made a report strongly favoring such exemption as that proposed in Mr. Downey's Bill. The report states that the most objectionable feature of the present system is that "it provides for taxing the value of the growing crop as well as the land upon which it grows." It says further, that "the growing crop is taxed, not only once or twice, but year after year, at an increasing valuation until it is cut, when the valuation is reduced to that of the land without the crop."

The Globe itself strongly favors the principle of Mr. Downey's Bill, and concludes its article with the statement that optional exemption of wood-lots will be a move in the direction of a sound economical policy towards private enterprise in forest reproduction.

The Mutual Fire Underwriters' Association of Ontario.

At the annual convention, held in Toronto, February 27th and 28th, between forty and fifty Mutual Companies were represented by sixty-eight delegates.

The address of the President, Levi Stauffer, was a brief resume of the work done, and the place occupied by the Association, being the Mutual Fire Insurance Companies of the Province, organized for mutual helpfulness. Excellent addresses were given by Jas. McEwen, Drayton; J. N. McKendrick, Galt; and Frank Haight, Waterloo. The report by the Ex-Com. on "Power in Farm Barns, and Commensurate Rate Applicable Thereto," was a clear setting forth of the increased hazard caused by the introduction of power in farm barns. The following rates, additional to the ordinary premium note of a company, was recommended and unanimously adopted:

1. Portable steam or gasoline engines, for threshing only, ordinary rate.

2. Portable gasoline or steam engine, used for other purposes than threshing, $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. additional on rate of premium note.

The engine to be placed at least 25 feet from any building or stack of straw or grain. Gasoline engine to be of the latest and most approved pattern—ignition by electric spark, gasoline supply to be pumped from container not less than 20 feet distant from the engine, and 45 feet distant from any building or stack of straw or grain, the restrictions governing the use of steam engines for threshing, adopted by the several companies, to apply.

3. For gasoline or steam engine, stationary, or power windmill erected on barn, 1 per cent. additional on premium note; the engine to be placed at least 40 feet distant from the barn, and enclosed in a first-class engine-house, communicating with the building by belt or shaft. Gasoline engine to be of the latest and most approved pattern—ignition by electric spark, gasoline to be supplied by pump from underground supply tank, at least 30 feet distant from the engine-house, and same distance from any building.

4. For gasoline engine placed inside the risk, 2 per cent. additional on premium note; the engine to be placed in a metal or brick-lined compartment, no communication to the main building except by closely-fitting shaft or belt, door opening to the outside only, the compartment to be thoroughly ventilated at bottom and top to the outside air. Same conditions as to engine and care of the gasoline as in Clause 3.

The introduction or installation of any power means the introduction and installation of four other conditions, viz.: First, more machinery is employed; second, heavier machinery; third, the machinery is all driven at a higher rate of speed; fourth, the machinery is more constantly in use. The report was signed by T. R. Mayberry, chairman of committee, and unanimously adopted.

The Executive Committee also by report recommended that the Government be asked to compile a report, gathered from the annual returns of Fire Insurance Companies, showing the causes of fire losses, the amount of the loss under each head and the total loss for the last five years, and publish the statement for public information, and also that the Government would take steps to suppress the ignition of all fires. The report and recommendations were heartily approved, and unanimously adopted.