

best Singers, Wm. McCrae was first and George Barber second. They were a very good lot. H. Debels, Kossuth, won the medal for best hog in the show, given by James Bowman, Guelph.

Cattle Sweepstakes.

The silver cup—a grand trophy—valued at \$250 offered for the best pair of fat animals of any age or breed brought out a large number of competitors. The prize has to be won twice before it becomes the property of the exhibitor. This year it went to J. Fried & Son, of Roseville, county of Waterloo, for a pair of roan heifers. The same exhibitor had a pair of Shorthorn steers, winners of first and second prizes, but his grade heifers were put first. The contest was close, and many butchers thought that the pair shown by James Leask, of Greenbank, would have been the winners. One of Fried's heifers was the heaviest animal in the show, scaling 2,195 pounds. For the Holliday Cup, given by Thomas Holliday, brewer, Guelph, and valued at \$75, the white Shorthorn steer shown by Harry Smith was the winner. This was another very close contest, the runner up being the black Polled Angus steer shown by Walter Hall, and considered by good judges the fattest animal, but he had not the lofty carriage and strong breed character of the winner. The same award carried with it the National Cream Separator, valued at \$75, given by the Raymond Manufacturing Co., of Guelph. This white steer, "Free Trade," won at this show in money and value \$210, and was sold for \$198. One of these prizes, the Holliday, has to be won twice by the exhibitor. This animal has already won many prizes which shows that there is lots of money in prize animals for the feeder. Next year there will be even more money offered for fat stock and the Chicago show will have one of the heaviest purses ever offered for fat stock in America. Feeders should begin early, and fit animals that will be a credit to Ontario.

Ontario Experimental Union

The Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Ontario Agricultural College

(Specially reported for FARMING.)

On the evening of Dec 6th, the twenty-first meeting of the Ontario Experimental Union opened with the annual supper held in the dining-hall of the college. The officers and students, and a large and representative gathering of the ex-students, representing most of the college terms, since the establishment of the college in 1874, were present, and did ample justice to the good things set before them. A considerable number of ladies also honored the supper with their presence.

Owing to the fact that the dining-hall was too small to accommodate everyone present, the usual speeches and toasts were omitted, with the exception of the toast to the Queen, which was proposed by Pres. Mills, and drunk with great enthusiasm. Afterwards "God Save the Queen" was sung very heartily by those present.

Before leaving the table, Pres. Mills spoke of the retirement of Mr. J. A. McIntosh, who had been the head of the mechanical department of the college since its establishment. The president spoke of the able manner in which Mr. McIntosh had always performed his duties, and of the deserved popularity which he had enjoyed among both officers and students. In concluding, he expressed his pleasure at Mr. McIntosh's presence, and called on him for a few words.

In rising to reply, the storm of applause which greeted him bore strong testimony of Mr. McIntosh's popularity. Mr. McIntosh spoke very briefly of the humble beginning of the college, and of the way in which all obstacles to its advancement had been overcome. He expressed great satisfaction with the present state of the college, especially when compared with its humble beginning in 1874.

When Mr. McIntosh resumed his seat, the students and

ex-students paid a further tribute to his popularity by singing "For he's a jolly good fellow."

After this the gathering repaired to the college halls and the reading-room, where the time was spent in conversation until the time of the evening meeting at 8 o'clock.

At 8 o'clock between six and seven hundred people were assembled in the gymnasium, which had been fitted up for the purpose, and tastefully decorated with evergreens and bunting by the students. Among the decorations, the Union Jack occupied a prominent place, testifying to the loyalty and patriotism of the students.

In the absence of the Hon. John Dryden, who was to have occupied the chair, Pres. Mills presided over the meeting. In opening he called attention to the fact that the meeting was intended primarily for students and ex-students, for the Union was a student's organization. He regretted that the speaking could not have taken place in the dining-hall as in the past.

A. E. Shuttleworth, Ph.D., B.A.Sc., the first speaker of the evening, expressed the welcome of the college to the ex-officers and ex-students. "The ties which are formed during college life," he said, "are never broken, but wherever a man may be, or whatever his occupation, he will be bound by a common love to his college and his college associates." The union served to bring together friends of old days, of every year of the 25 of the existence of the college. The O.A.C. had a good record for sending men back to the farm. Of 1,000 ex-students who had replied to letters inquiring as to their occupations, over 500 were directly engaged in agriculture. This was a good record, considering the fact that in the early days of the college, many of the students came from towns and cities and few from the rural districts. Our students are becoming appreciated in their own counties. They have real worth of character, education, industry, and gentlemanliness. He emphasized the necessity of politeness and gentlemanly bearing on the part of all who go forth from the college.

The college requires backing throughout the country, and its ex-students should be the ones to back it up most heartily. They owed something to their Alma Mater for the advantages they had enjoyed.

Nelson Monteith, B.S.A., M.P.P., spoke briefly on behalf of the ex-students. The annual re-union was a great cause for rejoicing. The number that was met here on the present occasion was great, but it was yet too small and he looked forward to the day when it should be much greater. The ex-students, wherever he had met them, were united in friendship, and in love for the college. The number sent back to the farm was, he believed, at present, 70 per cent. of the students attending, which, compared with other educational institutions, was very great. Throughout the country the graduates of the O.A.C. were highly appreciated, wherever they were found. He believed that the larger proportion of ex-students were found doing their duty to college, country and empire, as a result of the principles taught them at the O.A.C. In closing, he expressed the thanks of the ex-students for the kind reception they had received at the hands of the officers and students of the college.

THE COLLEGE FOR A QUARTER OF A CENTURY.

Dr. Jas. Mills, the next speaker, spoke on "The O.A.C. for a Quarter of a Century." He reviewed the history of the college during that time, pointing out the main facts connected with its foundation, progress, and the officers who had had charge of it. The Hon. John Carling, of London, was the originator of the movement which resulted in progress towards education along practical lines. In his report of 1869, addressed to Gov. Howland, Mr. Carling, then Com. of Agr. and Arts, drew attention to the need for such a training. In the same year Rev. W. F. Clark, of Guelph, was appointed a commissioner to visit the various schools of this sort then established, and report upon them. His report was favorable to the establishment of such a system of education. So, in pursuance of his previous intimation, in 1870 Mr. Carling recommended definitely such a scheme of education, and the result of his