

work of the union, a better interest is developed in the Ontario Agricultural College and a wholesome influence is exerted in many ways.

After congratulating the college staff on the student attendance, the president of the union, Mr. G. A. Brodie, Bethesda, Ont., said that farmers had learned, only through the daily press of any money emergency.

This was ample proof of the basic qualities of agriculture. The advantages of co-operation, he said, was evidenced in that experiments in agriculture alone had been conducted on 4,300 farms during the past year. Each of these experiments had been an object lesson and each experimenter had obtained seed therefrom of the very best varieties. He deplored the advance of noxious weeds in Ontario. An annual loss of fully 20 per cent. of the returns from our farms is due to the encroachment of pernicious weeds. They not only decrease the yields but the value of the farm as well.

CO-OPERATION NEEDED

Forestry came in for considerable consideration in his report. The world's timber supply, is about exhausted. He congratulated the Hon. Nelson Monteth, for the demonstration farm established in New Ontario. He welcomed the introduction of free rural mail delivery. This, too, together with the telephone, makes the farmer no longer isolated. He deplored the tactics of both political parties in the last election and referred to it as school boy play. What we want in our halls of parliament are independent, honest men who will have nothing to do with graft. The great need of farmers to-day is co-operation. The Grange is doing much towards this end but we must have more.

President Creelman at one of the seasons drew a very interesting comparison between Canadian and Latin farmers. The Italian and French peasants, he said, were content to farm a small quantity of land and farm it well. They apparently were perfectly happy to remain on their small patches under conditions which would make the Canadian farmer ready to give up business. He laid great emphasis on the intensive farming practice in Italy, France and Switzerland. He pointed out that while Italy was only twice the size of New York State, yet it has nearly produced 310,000,000 bushels of cereals in the course of a year, aside from their other agricultural products. A little land, well tilled, seemed to be their motto. It was his race that farmed their two, three, five and ten acres, which latter was considered a big farm, who lived frugally, wasting nothing. In France, he said, he saw people looking well fed, farming small sections not unlike the experimental plots at Guelph, and looking happier than people with 100 acres in America. The Italian or French peasant, he continued, would keep himself and his family on the waste resulting from the methods of Canadian farming. The Canadian farmer would, on the other hand, go out of business rather than put up with the lumbering oxen and the donkeys that the Continental agriculturists were content to use.

WEED ERADICATION

The sow thistle came in for considerable consideration at one of the sessions. The question was ably dealt with by J. E. Howitt, M. S. A., and was continued by such well known authorities as W. S. Fraser, of Bradford, and others. Co-operation was very applicable in the case of sow thistle. As the sow thistle blows from farm to another, it seemed necessary that some action should be taken to prevent careless farmers from seeding down the whole country. Why should such men be tolerated? It was asked, when a man with a vicious dog could be brought to time?

The educational advantages of

farmers' clubs was presented by Mr. G. A. Putnam, Supt. of Farmers' Institutes, in a paper dealing with this new branch of organization which has practically been undertaken by the Department of Agriculture. Farmers' clubs afford opportunity for the interchange of opinions which is not provided to the same degree in any other way.

The legislative control of feeding stuffs, on which the union has had considerable discussion, was again brought before the meeting by Prof. W. F. Gamble. As the purchase of concentrated feeding stuffs is often necessary to supplement the home-grown products, such as straw, which contained an excess of carbon hydrates and were wasteful fed in that way, it is necessary that farmers have definite knowledge of what they are buying. A committee composed of Professors Harcourt, Zavitz and Day was formed to communicate with and interview the proper authorities to have a law enacted to regulate the sale of concentrated feeding stuffs.

INCREASED YIELDS OF FARM CROPS

A feature of the report of Prof. G. A. Zavitz, on co-operative experiments with crops was the increase in the yields of various grains in Ontario. In 1898, there was devoted to the growing of barley, 48,000 acres in Ontario. In 1906, the area under barley had increased to 734,000 acres. The yield per acre had also increased in the decade 22½ per cent. The average yield of wheat per acre during the past ten years had increased 14 per cent., as compared with the previous similar period. Much of this had been brought about by the work of the Experimental Union.

The great importance of the work of the Experimental Union was ably brought out in a short address by Mr. J. G. Wilson, Supt. of Fairs and Exhibitions. The field crops in Ontario have a cash value of \$140,000,000 annually, which, in rough figures, represents 250,000 bushels of grain. The agricultural societies of Ontario had taken up the idea of improving the great work of crop improvement through standing field crop experiments.

Many other interesting and valuable papers and addresses were given, chief of which were the reports of co-operative experiments with vegetables and fruits at the farm of L. H. "The Value and Scope of Co-operative Associations in Ontario," by W. L. Smith, Toronto; "Results of Experiments with Fertilizers on Farm Crops," by Professors Harcourt and Zavitz; "Seed Inoculation with Legume Bacteria, by Ontario Farmers," by Professor Edwards; and an interesting paper by Mr. M. A. Carleton, Cerealist, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., reports of some of which appear elsewhere in this issue. Others will be published in subsequent issues.

The officers elected for the ensuing year were: President, J. O. Laird, Glenheim; Vice-President, A. S. Henry; Secretary, Fred G. A. Zavitz; Treasurer, W. J. Squire; Board of Control, President Creelman, F. R. Mallory, G. H. Carpenter, W. J. Lennox, and F. C. Nunick.

Officers of the Grange

The limited space under the cut on our front cover prevented the insertion of all the names of officers of the Grange. We herewith complete the list: Overseer, Miss Robinson, Middlemarch; Lecturer, J. L. Warren, Acton; Stewart, Peter Gilchrist, Ganabridge; Assistant-Stewart, J. J. Morrison, Arthur; Chaplain, James Falconer, Westview; Grasskeeper, James A. Glen, Glenworth; Ceres, Mrs. Fitcher, Middlemarch; Pomona, Miss McIven, St. Thomas; Flora, Miss Phelps, Whitby; Lady Assistant-Stewart, Mrs. Morcombe, Whitby.

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Western Butter in Montreal

Joe Burgess, Official Referee, Montreal

I cannot give you very much information in connection with western butter in Montreal, as I did not see much of your butter there.

What I did see, with the exception of one lot, would not compare very favorably with the best lots from the Eastern Townships; not because it was not as well made, or as nicely finished, for I believe the western men are well up in this respect, but simply on account of the flavor. The one exception referred to was a shipment of saltless butter from the Guelph College. Part of it contained preservatives. Personally, I preferred the saltless without preservatives, but both samples were of very fine quality and the butter expert of the firm told me that this was the kind of butter they usually receive from Guelph.

Now, it may be that part of our best butter does not reach the Montreal dealers, but they have the impression that with few exceptions the butter made in Western Ontario creameries is faulty in flavor and judging from what I saw, this is just about correct. The butter may be perfectly made but if the flavor is not right it cannot be classed as first grade and the result is that you get second grade prices and do not receive within one cent a pound of what is paid for the best Eastern/Townships' butter. You will

kindly remember that I am speaking of the prices you receive for your butter at Montreal, not what you receive on the local markets. It is simply a question of flavor and the Montreal people think there is a difference in value of at least one cent a pound between a clean, sweet flavor and one that is slightly stale.

I was called in to one of the warehouses to give a certificate on the quality of 500 packages of Eastern Townships butter that was being shipped to South Africa. This butter was from a number of creameries and had been in the cold store for some time. There was some variation in salt and color, but the flavor was sound on every package. I had examined part of it two months previous and the flavor was just as sound as when it was put away. Now, I just saw one lot of Western Ontario but-

Butter
Butter comes
when
Windsor
Dairy
Salt
is used. It's so pure
and well-savoured.
At all grocers'

*An address delivered last week at the Creamery Meeting at the O. A. C. Guelph.