

numbers. Beef cattle are scarce, and stockers hard to get, but a number of the feeders have been fortunate in securing sufficient of a good type, in rather better condition than usual, to fill their stables. Cattle-fattening has made fertile farms and contributed its share to the prosperity of this excellent district. A great deal of drainage has been completed, and many new farm buildings erected and old ones improved.

Creamery Meeting at Guelph.

The annual creamery meeting for Western Ontario was held in the lecture-room of the Dairy School, Guelph, Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 8th, 1909, and proved to be the best meeting that has been held for some years. There were between 75 and 100 creamerymen, and others interested, present. J. J. Parsons, President of the Western Dairyman's Association, occupied the chair. Prof. Dean welcomed most heartily the joint-stock and private owners of creameries, the creamery managers, buttermakers and their assistants; the butter merchants, whom he wished would keep the average price of butter to 30 cents per pound the year round; the cream-haulers, of whom he hoped some were present; the producers of cream, creamery instructors; and last, but not least, the butter consumers.

INSTRUCTION WORK.

Frank Hearn, Chief Instructor, then gave a brief report of the instruction work during the

past season. There were 73 creameries, with 15,307 patrons sending cream, 1,362 more than in 1908; 3,280 tons of butter were made, or an increase of 10 tons. This did not include a large quantity of cream shipped to cities for family use and ice-cream, or cream sent to Port Huron to be made into butter. The average test of cream for the Southern creameries was 26 per cent., an increase of 2 per cent. over last year. The average for the Northern creameries was 23.2 per cent., or an increase of 3.2 per cent. Total average was 24.8 per cent., or 2.8 higher than last season. This is one of the improvements worked for, but coming very slow, as better results would be obtained if the average test was nearer 30 per cent. The oil test is gradually being superseded by the Babcock, there being only 10 of the former, and 63 using the latter; 67 are cream-gathered creameries, 5 cream-gathered and separator, and only one receiving all whole milk and separating it at the creamery; 49 creameries use the pipette for sampling the cream for testing, 9 using the scales weighing 18 grams of the cream, and 5 using pipettes and scales. There were 386 moisture tests made; the average moisture content was 11.66 per cent., last year 11.33 per cent.; 55 samples were over 16 per cent. These were obtained from 26 creameries. The highest average test was 15.9, and lowest 13.61. The instructors visited 416 patrons; 21 creameries collect the cream in individual cans, 22 in large cans, 9 in jacketed cans, 1 using small cans, and 17 gathering the cream in tanks. The average temperature

of the refrigerators was 43.7 per cent.; and over \$13,000 was spent in building new creameries, repairing old ones, and new equipment.

A popular feature of the meeting this year was the informal discussion of topics suggested on the printed sheets. Among the topics discussed were: Grading Cream; Collection of Cream; Making Babcock Tests; Improving the Cream Supply; Visiting Patrons, etc.; Improving the Quality of Butter, and other subjects. Some of the details brought out in the discussion will be published next week.

Death of Mortimer Levering.

The stock-breeders throughout Canada, as well as the United States, who knew him, will deeply regret to learn of the death, which occurred on December 3rd, of Mortimer Levering, Secretary of the International Live-stock Association, and the American Shetland Pony Club. Mr. Levering was a man whom to know was to admire and to love, for his genial manner and gentle disposition. He was sagacious, fair-minded and courteous, a born gentleman, a man of splendid business ability, while possessed of a rich fund of wholesome humor which served to render him a charming story-teller and a most agreeable and entertaining companion. The news of his passing will cause genuine sorrow to a host of admiring friends, who will miss him in the gatherings of stockmen, in which he was a prominent personality.

Ontario Winter Fair a Great Success.

Enlarged Building Already Overcrowded.

Having broadened its premises this year by a two-story 260 x 113-foot addition, at an expenditure of fifty thousand dollars, contributed by the Ontario Department of Agriculture and the City of Guelph, the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair finds itself facing the necessity of another extension as great as or larger than the one just made. Growth of the several departments, together with the addition of the Ontario Horse-breeders' Exhibition, formerly held in Toronto during February, increased the demand for space out of proportion to the extension of floor area. When it is stated that the whole stabling accommodation was occupied, with sheep pens crowded as they never were before, and ninety or a hundred horses stabled outside the building, some idea of the situation is conveyed. When it is learned, further, that the seats about the horse and cattle ring, which are estimated to accommodate 1,000 people, and which timid spirits were afraid might never be filled, were actually crowded during every session that judging was in progress, with as many more spectators crowding about the ringside below, and hundreds of others turning away because they could not get close enough to see anything, another doubt is settled. Indeed, it is estimated that three thousand people would have occupied seats during part of the time, had the benches been available. And, notwithstanding the crowd here gathered, the passages and lecture-room were thronged with eager spectators and seekers after knowledge. In this connection, it is pleasing to note that, owing to a judicious arrangement of the programme, which spread the horse-judging out over four days, with cattle-judging interspersed, the horse department did not in any way seriously detract from, but rather added to the interest in the other departments of the Fair, drawing, as it did, a so much larger attendance. Exact figures of attendance are not available as we write, and, indeed, are impossible to obtain, owing to the large proportion of persons who enter repeatedly on their Farmer's Institute passes, in which, by the way, a regular traffic developed, hundreds being sold at the stations, in the city and on the trains. Some relative indication, however, is afforded by the cash gate receipts, which, on the first day this year amounted to \$290, as against \$180 on the corresponding day last year; and at the end of the second day they were about \$10 in excess of last year's total. In all, the total attendance can not have fallen far short of double last year's record. Doubtless, the novelty of the new building contributed to the phenomenal result, but, on the other hand, the Fair itself, especially with the horse department added, may be expected to draw increasingly as time goes on, so that, as noted above, the directors are hard up against the problem of again greatly enlarging the accommodation. Opinion seems settled that it would not be fair to expect Guelph to do anything further in that direction. It is rather a matter for the Provincial Government's attention. How to accomplish it, is a difficult problem. The new extension has been built out over the market square as far as it may go. On the west and north it is bounded by the street, and eastwardly extension was forbidden for fear of darkening windows of the City Hall, at the end of the old building. Perhaps it should be here explained that the present ground-floor of the extension contains three rows of 36 horse stalls each, a modern dairy cattle stable 61 x 51 feet, and a six-light illumined judging

arena 170 x 43 feet, next to the north wall of the old building. The seats around this arena are mainly on its north side, with a few at each end. The second story is thus dispensed with in the greater part of the new area, in order to allow for the seats. The two things urgently needed are more seating accommodation, and more space for exhibits. The latter might be accomplished by adding another story to the whole building, putting the poultry on the upper floor, as is done at Ottawa; sheep, pigs and seeds on the second floor, with, perhaps, some cattle as well, leaving more room on the ground floor for horses. The seating accommodation about the arena might then be increased by tearing down part of the north wall of the old building, and raising another gallery on the south side of the arena, extending it back into what is now the second floor. Another and perhaps a better plan, would be to take over the present city hall, flanking it by continuing the new extension to the eastern extremity, thus permitting a lengthening of the judging arena and seating gallery, with additional stables underneath. It is improbable that anything will be done for a year or two, but the problem must be considered, and early action taken, unless present expectations of growth are disappointed. Here is indeed a problem for the Provincial Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Duff; in fact, for the whole department and Government.

Guelphites would not be averse to a new city hall, and an equitable arrangement should be capable of being effected by which both fair and city would benefit.

Beef Cattle.

The beef cattle classes were well filled, and, although the rings did not contain the long line-ups of first class butcher's types that may be seen at the International, top places were in most cases grazed by worthy examples of the breeders' and feeders' art. Particular mention is deserved by the sections limited to amateurs only, which brought out a number of animals that stood well up in the open competition. Geo. D. and J. A. McMillan, of Greenbank, were represented in the amateur department by two grade Shorthorn-sired by Gloster's Choice, a yearling steer and a yearling heifer, which won for them five firsts and one second, the latter in the open class for the Shorthorn special. Unable to attend themselves, their cattle were shown by their neighbor, Mr. Leask. All the beef cattle were capably judged by Robert Miller, of Stoneville, and Jas. Smith, of Rockland, Ont.

Shorthorns—Shorthorn steers, 2 years and under 3, were headed by a smooth, low set roan called Kronie, exhibited by Jos. Stone, of Saintfield. He handled well, and was pronounced by the judges one of the finest beef propositions that had come under their hands in years. Second was won by the well-known exhibitor, John Brown & Sons, of Galt, on a rather plainer, not quite so close to the ground type. Yearling steers uncovered the grand champion of the show in Dunrobin Villager, a big, thick, well-grown and nicely finished steer, weighing 1,800 pounds at 27 months of age. Although handling a triple soft, he was not so severely faulted on that score as he would

have been a year ago, when a very firm-handling animal, expected by the judges to kill out a model carcass, turned out hard, tallowy, and with an extremely small eye of beef. Mr. Miller explained, last week, in giving his decision and reasons for the judgment, that since this experience he would require two or three strong examples to lead him to place the same stress on firm handling as he had formerly done. To return to the class, Dunrobin Villager is a get of Nonpareil Eclipse, was bred by D. Gurn & Son, Beaverton, was first in his class here last year, and was shown this year by the veteran exhibitor, James Leask, of Greenbank. Second in the yearling Shorthorn class was even a more attractive-looking proposition, called Silver Nugget, by Gold Drop, not, however, so big, nor quite so well covered with flesh. In third place was a thick, useful-looking steer by Archer, exhibited by Jos. Stone. The calves were headed by a Scottish Hero get called Young Hero, shown by Joseph Walsh, of Mosborough. Beside him was W. A. Douglas' British Flag, by Imported Joy o' Morning. First of the two year old Shorthorn heifers was John Barr's Broadbooks Lily, and second was Kyle Bros.' Fanny, by Defiance. A pair of yearling heifers were shown by A. F. & G. Auld, of Eden Mills, premier position going to one called Victor's Violet. An outstanding winner from the killer's standpoint, in the heifer-calf section, was John Currie's roan Beauty 2nd, next to her was Auld's Pleasant Valley Mysie, a get of Ben Lomond, out of Lancaster Princess, English Lady, in third place, is probably the best heifer from the breeder's standpoint and may develop into the best yearling, but was hardly so even in thickness of fleshing as the one above her. Awards:

Steer, 2 years and under 3—1, Jos. Stone, Saintfield; 2, John Brown & Sons, Galt; 3, John Barr, Blyth. Steer, 1 year and under 2—1, Jas. Leask; 2, A. Barber, Guelph; 3, Jos. Stone; 4, Jas. Leask; 5, Kyle Bros., Ayr. Steer under 1 year—1, John Walsh, Mosborough; 2, W. A. Douglas, Tuscarora; 3, James Leask; 4 and 5, Leslie Bros., Rockwood. Heifer, 2 years and under 3—1, John Barr; 2, Kyle Bros.; 3, John Brown & Sons; 4, L. Fried, Roseville. Heifer, 1 year and under 2—1 and 2, A. F. & G. Auld, Eden Mills. Heifer under 1 year—1, John Currie, Barrie Hill; 2, A. F. & G. Auld; 3, John M. Taylor, Guelph; 4 and 5, Frank Smith, Scotland.

Herefords and Aberdeen-Angus—These were not very numerous shown, although a number of excellent beef cattle were forward in this class. Herefords were exhibited by the F. W. Stone Stock Co., Guelph; and the polled cattle by Jas. Bowman, of Guelph; Thomas B. Broadfoot, of Fergus; Hugh McDougall, of Guelph; and John Lowe, of Flora. In a pair of two-year old steers or heifers, Bowman's Elm Park Rosebud 7th deserved the honor over the Stone entry, which was a heifer of medium quality. Among a quartette of yearling steers or heifers, Broadfoot went easy to the top with a splendid beef type called Elm Park Mayflower 10th, by John Park Ringleader 2nd, combining excellent type and finish. McDougall's second-prize heifer was of a similar type, but not quite so thick in the valuable cuts. His third-prize heifer, Bossy Bright, was not quite as good either in handling or in conformation as the other. A Stone entry was fourth. John Lowe