

# Annual Convention at M. A. C.

## Agricultural Societies and Dairymen hold their Annual Meetings. Addresses and Discussions of much value were heard

The Manitoba Agricultural Societies' convention which was held from February 14 to 17, was largely attended and the work during the past year as presented by the heads of the various departments, showed a divided advance.

The convention was called to order by J. G. Barron of Carberry, and the first order of business was the election of a secretary. W. W. Thompson, a fifth year student of the college, who assisted Principal Black during the past year was elected.

### Directors' Report

In the directors' report one of the criticisms was that there was not enough attention devoted to the sheep raising industry. Only in two or three cases were good sheep exhibited at the shows and in the majority of cases none were shown. The directors advised that more attention be paid to the sheep industry by the societies in the future. During the past year over 100 agricultural extension meetings had been held. However, the directors, from the standpoint of attaining greater results, advised that more meetings be held for the discussion of agricultural topics. The returns for the past year showed that 163 independent meetings had been held. The directors regretted that this number was not larger. Twenty-three meetings for women were arranged for and, as a result of these, fourteen household science associations were formed, and three societies which had been independent had decided to join them.

Good farming competitions were held as in former years, but owing to the unfavorable weather of last spring and summer several of these were cancelled. Six societies, however, carried their competitions through and thirty-nine farms were examined by the judges. Competitions in the fields of standing grain were introduced in connection with the good farming work, and to still further encourage the selection of good grain for seed purposes, a special class was added to the prize list at the provincial seed grain fair, open only to grain from fields which were entered in the field crop competitions. Only four societies conducted these competitions in 1910, but it was hoped that the importance of the work would be generally recognized and that more societies would take it up in 1911.

### Financial Report

The financial report showed a total balance on November 30, of \$12,436.06 as compared with a balance of \$12,436.41 on December 1, 1909. Total grants from various sources were \$10,506.90 and expenses were as follows: Amount paid in prizes, \$44,760.73; of officers and delegates' expenses \$1,308.61.

In the discussion that followed, all spoke in the highest praise of Principal Black's management. D. A. McConnell stated that the general product of the country could be doubled if the weeds were kept down. A. H. English urged that each member of the society should go out and interest the indifferent farmer and teach him to adopt better methods of farming.

### Plowing Matches

E. W. Jones, a student of the Agricultural college, spoke on the advantages of plowing matches. He pointed out that the solution of the weed problem, was interesting the farmer himself and not by weed seed acts. The lessons to learn from plowing matches were: the handling of the plow, the opening of the land, the covering up of the weeds, the general management of the horses, and the manner of the men themselves. A trip through the country showed the necessity of holding plowing matches. He thought that more credit was due to the man who wins a prize at a plowing match than one who won with a colt at the fair. In the discussion that followed, Capt. Smith of Birds Hill, said he thought that a change should be made in the score card for judging plowing and that more points be given for depth, and less for levelling, as good depth was more important. J. Garvin, Birtle, thought that the requirements of a good plowing match were: First—Courteous and energetic management. Second—Men as judges from a distance who were thoroughly reliable and honest; and thirdly—the arrange-

ment of the program for the boys. The Birtle institute gave a championship cup open to all, giving the men a handicap of ten points.

### Weed Inspection

T. Rogers of Carberry, stated that he thought that if the weed inspectors were given more power, they would enforce the keeping down of weeds. H. W. Dayton, Virden, thought that some arrangement should be arrived at for the government to increase the prizes and thus prevent lack of interest through a few men winning every year, thereby causing the continual losers to give up trying. Principal Black pointed out that a special grant was now made to agricultural societies if asked for to provide prizes for plowing matches.

### Improvement of Societies

Prof. W. H. Peters, in dealing with the improvement of agricultural societies took up the stock department of shows. He pointed out that the local show was one of the best methods of educating the people generally on correct types, and more especially market types, of animals. The live stock exhibits should be so managed that not only would the visitor find the show a good medium for advertising, but the visitors would learn where to go when they wanted to buy. A judging ring should be provided and if one could not be afforded fenced off, a few posts and a wire would not cost much and would give exhibitors a chance to display their stock and the judge to do his work.

W. J. Crowe, inspector of butter making, said that the agricultural societies should work to have every farm home in their district represented at the annual show. He urged that in connection with

Moved by S. R. Henderson, Louise Bridge, and seconded by Wm. Bredt, Kildonan, that "we, the delegates representing all the agricultural societies in the province of Manitoba, have been informed by your government, and through the gentlemen who have visited the proposed agricultural site in St. Vital of the action taken by your government in securing such a commodious and suitable site for the agricultural college to replace the present site, which although well selected, is much too small for the purpose of the college, and for the increasing demands of agricultural education. At a previous meeting we represented to the government the fact that the present site was too small, and we appreciate greatly the fact that you have given effect to our views so expressed, and heartily congratulate you and the farmers of this province on having secured such an excellent, commodious and convenient site, which we understand is of about 600 acres. This area we consider none too large for the future needs of our Agricultural college, and we trust that in the interest of the farmers of Manitoba and their sons and daughters that you will allow no influence to persuade you to set apart any portion of it for other than agricultural or strictly technical educational purposes."

### Well Balanced Prize List

J. J. Golden, deputy minister of agriculture, addressed the convention very strongly on the necessity of a well balanced prize list and thought that care should be taken that a fair distribution was made, so that a \$100 horse would not be awarded a prize of the same value as that of a stallion worth \$3,000, as is seen so often in the prize lists. He pointed out that side attractions of a chance or

part of Manitoba east of Portage la Prairie, S. R. Henderson, Louise Bridge and A. Fraser, Emerson.

Northwestern district, all that part of Manitoba west of Portage la Prairie and north of the C.P.R. main line, A. D. McConnell, Hamiota, and S. Laframboise, Birtle.

Southwestern district, all that part of Manitoba west of Portage la Prairie and south of the C.P.R. main line, including towns on that line, H. W. Dayton, Virden, and R. Jackson, Hartney.

The directors at the close of the session elected A. D. McConnell president, and H. W. Dayton, Virden, vice-president.

### DAIRYMEN MEET

The Manitoba Dairymen Association held a very successful convention at the college in conjunction with the Agricultural societies.

In the course of his address, president J. P. O. Allaire, of St. Boniface, stated that the country was productive but that the dairymen must go in more for crop rotation. He dwelt at considerable length on the benefits the dairymen individually and collectively had derived from the Manitoba Agricultural college and presented facts to show that the milk supply had doubled as had the butter product; and he also showed that the cheese output had gained considerably in importance.

### Tuberculosis in Cattle

P. B. Tustin, chief of the food division in Winnipeg health department, discussed "Causes and prevention of tuberculosis," illustrated by an exhibit of tubercular specimens showing the disease in cattle, hogs, poultry, and human beings. Cattle became infected with the germ in three ways; by eating food contaminated with the bacilli, by inoculation, by breathing impure air. The first method of infection was most common. When a cow infected with the disease coughed, the germs were brought up to the mouth, but because she could not spit the mucus was swallowed and became mixed with the food and passed out in the manure with the undigested food. It had been estimated that there were as many as thirty-seven million of tubercular bacilli in the manure of a cow for one day.

Stables, said Mr. Tustin, should be 32 feet wide. This allowed for a feed passage in front of the cows, and a free circulation of air. It was bad to have cows' stalls arranged so that the cow breathed directly against the wall. Cows could not get too much fresh air; they needed it to keep them healthy. At a temperature of from 40 to 50 degrees the best milk supply was obtained. The farmer should have a thermometer in the stable and keep the temperature as near as possible to a fixed point.

### Cheese Inspection

I. Villeneuve, inspector of cheese factories, stated in his report that thirty-one factories had been in operation, ten of which had made improvements to the extent of \$4,170 in putting in more up-to-date machinery and improving old buildings. Improvement could, however, be made by putting in a better water supply, repairing drainage, weedy tanks, and floors, and improving curing rooms. The amount of milk delivered at the cheese factories from May 1 to November 1, was 9,417,231 pounds with an average of four per cent. butter fat. The amount of cheese made in this period was 923,258 pounds, the average amount of milk required to make a pound of cheese being 19.3 pounds.

### Creamery Inspection

W. J. Crowe, inspector of creameries, stated that milk should be separated as soon as milked. The setting of the separator was of absolute necessity. It must be set solid and level and run at a regular speed. The bowl must be warmed and moistened before putting in the milk. These few points seemed to be the chief sources of the farmers' failures.

There were twenty-three creameries in operation; seven of them being central ones were running all winter. The output for the year of creamery butter was 2,993,358 pounds, while the average price paid the farmer was 23 cents per pound, making a total of \$689,85.23.

It was recommended that representatives should be appointed in different

Continued on Page 11

## CANADA'S TARIFF LAWS

or "Where Industry leans on the Politician"

Every man, woman and child in Canada should be most deeply interested in this subject. "Sixty Years of Protection in Canada," by Edward Porritt, is the story of the tariff in Canada since 1846. Many regard the Tariff as a very dry and uninteresting subject. But Mr. Porritt takes out the dryness and makes it most interesting. Every farmer could spend a number of pleasant evenings with this book and at the same time have his eyes opened to the iniquity of the tariff laws of Canada. Every farmer would then understand why he has to pay out \$200 a year to support the manufacturers when he could buy the same articles cheaper elsewhere. The book contains 478 pages and is fully indexed. This book is kept in stock in The Guide office and will be sent promptly by return mail to any address, post paid, for \$1.50.

BOOK DEPARTMENT . . . GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE, WINNIPEG

one day shows the directors endeavor to have all the judging done by 1.30 p.m. so that visitors might have time to see the winners with the cards on them. In connection with dairy exhibits, he urged more care in the method of display and that more prominence be given to uniform articles. He suggested a prize for samples of correctly ripened cream, as a means of education in butter making and stated that one package of butter should not compete for more than one prize in connection with the sweepstakes. He thought a prize offered yearly to those who had not previously won at any exhibition would encourage new exhibitors to come in and would be an attractive feature.

### North Dakota Professor

Prof. J. H. Hovestadt, of the North Dakota Agricultural college, spoke on the advantages of agricultural meetings. Education, the professor defined as a very expensive thing, but ignorance was ten times more costly. There had been a chasm between the farmer and the college and the experimental stations which the farmers' institutes had to some extent filled. It was the purpose of extension work to fill the gap to a greater extent.

### College Site

In connection with the new college site the following resolution was passed:

gambling nature, countenanced by many fairs, had a detrimental effect, and that the department this year intended to force that section of the act, which allows for the discontinuing of grants to fairs permitting such attractions on the grounds.

The discouraging of the professional winner was also advocated by Mr. Golden. A man with a good horse should not be allowed to take him from fair to fair, winning the prizes from the farmers of the neighborhood. Meetings after the fairs were also advocated, where the farmer could get advice from the judges regarding the placing of awards during the day, as well as other matters.

### Good Farming Competitions

Prof. S. A. Bedford gave a short address on the value of good farming competitions. Much good had already been done in the districts of those societies which had held those competitions last year. The score cards or lines on which the awards were made were discussed, and their values pointed out in helping to improve not only the condition of the land on the farm, but the appearance of the buildings both inside and out.

### Election of Officers

The election of directors for the three divisions of the province resulted as follows: Eastern district, comprising all that