

the amount devoted annually to purposes of instruction.

There is, however, a very great advantage to accrue from the proposed amalgamation that cannot be estimated in dollars and cents. This advantage, we conceive, will arise from the appointment of a permanent secretary, who, under the direction of the joint board, will be the chief executive officer of the two associations, and who will devote, as was said above, his whole time and energy and ability to the promotion of the dairy interests of the province as a whole. It is only necessary to point to the great advantage that has resulted in the management of the Farmers' Institute system of the province from the appointment of a permanent superintendent to be convinced that similar advantages will result from having one person entrusted with the management of the official dairy interests of the entire province.

These advantages are, perhaps, obvious enough, but it may be well to indicate a few of them. The permanent secretary would, of course, see that all the instruction and inspection provided by the joint board was efficient and uniform. His office would be a sort of dairy bureau for the province, where information of every sort relating to dairying and dairy farming could be obtained. As his whole time and energy and ability would be devoted to the duties of his position, he would naturally watch the development of dairying in other countries—in the United States, England, Ireland, Scotland, the Channel Islands, France, Switzerland, Denmark, and Sweden—and be alert to bring under the notice of Ontario dairymen any improved methods or new processes he might learn of. He would also be able to act as a means of communication between the Ministers of Agriculture for the province and the Dominion on the one hand, and the members of the joint board and of the two dairy associations on the other. He would also be able to look after the public meetings held for the benefit of the dairying interests, and see that they were properly advertised, or "worked up," as the phrase is, and that they were provided with the best sort of speakers and lecturers, and that the good results accruing from these meetings were made to cover as wide a ground as possible. He would also be a means of disseminating dairy information among dairymen and dairy farmers, by means of bulletins, reports, newspaper articles, etc.

In fact, in every way by which co-operation among individual workers and concentration in directive effort can be of benefit to any industry we conceive that the proposed plan of amalga-

tion of the cheesemaking and buttermaking interests into one common interest will be of great benefit to the dairy industry of the province as a whole. The two associations, one in the east and one in the west, made up of buttermakers and cheesemakers in common, each managed by its own board, the union of these two boards into one joint board, to take charge of all dairy matters which concern both east and west, the appointment of a permanent secretary who shall be the servant of both the eastern board and of the western board, and also of the joint board, and who shall be the chief executive officer for dairying interests throughout the whole province; these, taken together, constitute such a plan for co-operation in individual effort and concentration in directive management as, we believe, will be found thoroughly workable, decidedly economical of expense, and greatly advantageous to the country.

A MEETING OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THREE ASSOCIATIONS APPROVE OF THE PLAN.

Since the above was written a meeting of authorized representatives of the three associations concerned has been held, at which the plan of amalgamation, as outlined above, has been approved. The meeting took place in the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, on December 30th. Those present were: D. Derbyshire, Brockville, president; A. Wenger, Ayton, William Halliday, Chesley, R. I. Graham, Belleville, representing the Creameries' Association; A. F. McLaren, M.P., Stratford, John S. Pearce, London, A. Pattullo, M.P.P., Woodstock, J. W. Wheaton, secretary, London, and R. M. Ballantyne, Stratford, representing the Western Dairymen's Association; and Messrs. T. B. Carlow, Warkworth, John R. Dargavel, Elgin, William Eager, Morrisburg, and R. G. Murphy, secretary, Elgin, representing the Eastern Dairymen's Association.

On motion, Mr. Henry Wade was made chairman, and Mr. R. G. Murphy secretary, of this joint meeting. An invitation to attend the meeting was sent to the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. John Dryden, and was promptly accepted.

After a lengthy discussion, it was moved by Mr. D. Derbyshire, seconded by Mr. A. F. McLaren, and carried unanimously, "That the three associations, as now existing, be amalgamated into two new associations, to be called the Butter and Cheese Associations of Eastern and Western Ontario, respectively, with an executive committee of three from each as a central advisory board."

It may now be considered that the reunion of