

grounds and buildings, give good prizes to farmers for bringing in their stock, spend a good sum in paint and ink in prizes for races. The masses will come, and when they get there charge high for everything. Of course this could not be repeated. The prosperity of agriculturists is only good to such for what they can get out of it, and the agricultural interest is an excellent plank to build on.

Questions for your consideration: 1. Will it be best to continue holding agricultural exhibitions, or would it be better to change them into fairs? 2. Should there be any limit to their sphere of action? 3. Would they be better under the control of the Dominion or the Provincial Governments, municipal corporations, incorporate bodies or private enterprise?

THE UNION EXHIBITION AND WESTERN FAIR.

At the Provincial the prize stock was divided, part going to the Union Exhibition at Hamilton and part to the Western Fair, London. The exhibit in the cattle department and in fruit probably excelled in quality that exhibited in London, and, on the whole, a very creditable display was made. The attendance was not to be compared to that at London; the implement manufacturers have always found London an excellent locality to secure orders at, and in some departments the machinery exhibited exceeded that shown at any other exhibition in the Dominion. The vegetable and fruit exhibit was much superior to that made in Toronto or Guelph. The Crystal Palace was not quite as well fitted as usual, and the cattle and sheep departments have not for many years been so meagerly attended by exhibitors or visitors; this should be the most important part of the Exhibition. The race course and other attractions absorbed the interest and attention of the Managers to the dissatisfaction of many of our most honorable and best stock men. Many left their stock at home and more anticipate doing so in future. Formerly this Exhibition was a great success; this was attributed to the amusements, as thousands will go for amusements that care nothing for the utility of the Exhibition. The mass favor the latter course, although many consider it must tend to the injury of the agriculturist; as directors cannot serve two masters equally well, and as the amusements are the most popular, agriculture and agriculturists must, under the existing laws, take the second position.

The Industrial is not an agricultural exhibition exclusively, and it would not therefore be just to criticize it as such, but it only falls within our jurisdiction to comment upon the agricultural displays. If the exhibition as a whole acts prejudicially to our agricultural interests, it is our part to advocate amelioration—either by a change in the rules of the Industrial or by the establishment of purely agricultural exhibitions. The Toronto show is confessedly a mere money making machine for coining "filthy lucre" for the citizens of Toronto; but it may accomplish this and at the same time be a tolerable success from the standpoint of industrial education. The demoralizing effect still continues, however.

Prepare to organize a farmers' club in your neighborhood.

Farmers' Clubs.

Dominion Farmers' Council.

[The Dominion Farmers' Council meets on the third Saturday of every month at 2 o'clock p. m. All communications should be addressed to the Secretary, W. A. MACDONALD, London, Ont.]

Our readers will scarcely recognize the Middlesex Agricultural Council under its new name. The September meeting was held on the 4th ult., instead of on the usual date, viz: the third Saturday of the month, at which meeting the name of the Council was changed to the DOMINION FARMERS' COUNCIL.

The meeting was called mainly for the purpose of passing the new Constitution and By-laws, as revised by a committee appointed for that purpose, and of settling some unfinished business.

THE REVISED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

Henry Anderson, chairman of the committee appointed to revise the Constitution and By-laws, presented the committee's report. The report was adopted.

It was resolved that two pamphlets be published, the one containing the Constitution and By-laws of the Council, with introductory observations relating to the origin of the Council, and to the importance of farmers' organizations, and the other containing a form of Constitution and By-laws suitable for Farmers' Clubs, with rules as to how to organize them. John Weld was appointed to oversee the printing of the pamphlets. These pamphlets will be mailed free to all parties announcing their intention to establish Farmers' Clubs, applications for same to be sent to the Secretary.

CHANGE OF OFFICERS.

W. A. Macdonald tendered his resignation as vice-president, and Henry Anderson resigned the secretaryship. The resignations were accepted. Henry Anderson was then appointed vice-president and W. A. Macdonald secretary, the offices of corresponding and recording secretaries having been combined into one.

DAIRY INSTRUMENTS AND TESTS.

PRESIDENT LEITCH—Under the heading of unfinished business, I wish to ask what should be done with those dairy instruments ordered from Germany by the Council.

W. A. MACDONALD—I have much pleasure in announcing the safe arrival of the instruments which you instructed me to order direct from the manufacturer. I have been making diligent research as to the accuracy of these instruments, having received numerous reports of tests from the United States, Germany and France, and I have come to the firm conclusion that we have struck a bonanza. They supply a long-felt want in our butter and cheese industry.

W. WELD—How much did the instruments cost?

W. A. MACDONALD—The total cost delivered in London, including freight and duty, was \$1.80 each for the lactoscopes, and \$8.40 for the complete set of instruments. The lactoscopes have been on sale in our markets at \$9 each. This is merely a taste of what a Farmer's Council can do in every department of farming should they set earnestly to work.

The Secretary then proceeded to explain the nature of the experiments required by our far-

mers and dairymen and how they should be performed, adding that he had ordered from manufacturers a complete set specially adapted to testing the butter producing capacities of the various sorts of cream.

It was resolved that a lactoscope be sent free to each Farmers' Club organized under the auspices of the Council on condition that such Club send to the Secretary of the Council reports of certain tests required to be made by the Club, that members of the Council be privileged to purchase a lactoscope at cost price, and that the complete set of instruments be retained by the Council for the purpose of conducting the tests mentioned by the Secretary.

ENCOURAGING FARMERS' CLUBS.

W. WELD.—I appreciate your efforts in attempting to organize Farmers' Clubs in different portions of the Dominion, and I assure you the support of the ADVOCATE so long as you continue to act honorably, faithfully and independently. For the purpose of aiding you in the noble work which you have so successfully begun, permit me to say that all Farmers' Clubs organized under the auspices of the Council, will be entitled to the ADVOCATE at reduced rates, viz: 75 cents a year, instead of \$1.00, the ordinary rate.

CHEESE AND FRUITS AT THE COLONIAL.

Mr. Weld addressed the Council, giving some of his observations at the Intercolonial Exhibition. He said there was a great difficulty in procuring Canadian cheese at any of the restaurants, where it was supposed to be had. After the Exhibition had been open for some time, there were on the Colonial market some samples of cheese which were said to be of Canadian make. A white cheese was sold in small pieces at 8d per pound. By its side were small pieces of colored cheese, composed of not more than one-half new milk, and another quality was labelled at 7d per pound. I tested the cheese exhibited by Mr. Millar, and although not fully ripe, I considered it better than any other quality exposed for sale. There were also apples of inferior quality which were nominally Canadian. I never saw such inferior stuff shipped from this locality. They sold for 4d per pound. I believe arrangements could be made for erecting a store house in this city for apples, where they could be shipped, preserved, dried, or converted into cider, applebutter, etc., according to the demand of the various markets for these commodities. The carrying out of such a scheme would, he believed, enhance the already well established reputation of this city as a fruit centre, and would exalt Canada's reputation abroad.

Mr. T. D. Millar, Ingersoll, Ont., one of our leading cheese men, was introduced to the Council by Mr. Weld, and was requested to offer a few suggestions. He said Canada was not known in England or Ireland; all on this continent were "Americans." But United States cheese was now sold as Canadian. The Americans were dying to get control of the Canadian cheese trade. In the great markets of London and Glasgow, all was American cheese, the name of Canada not being mentioned. We should have houses in London and Glasgow specially for our own cheese, with Liverpool as our receiving port, and we should engage men to represent our interests. The affair might be a joint-stock concern. While