

meeting this year is convincing evidence of its increasing popularity among farmers. Speakers of note from American colleges and distinguished visitors among, whom the Hon. S. A. Fisher, M.M. Dechêne and Duffy from Quebec, created special interest. A great number of ex-students of the College, from all parts of the province, had gathered as usual. Many of them through lack of time had not been present to the College for years past. To such the view of the improvements effected was no little cause of wonder and interest.

The most interesting and practical feature of the Union was the report given by Mr. Zavitz on the results of the experiments conducted throughout the province in testing farm-crops. The following is a list of the varieties which stood this year at the head of the list :

Leguminous crops f. green fodder.	Grass-Peas.
Mixed grains . . . .	Oats 1½ bu., peas 1 bu.
Millets . . . . .	Japanese Panicle.
Grasses . . . . .	Fall Oat Grass.
Clovers . . . . .	Mammoth Red.
Buckwheat . . . . .	Silver Hull.
Spring Wheat . . . . .	Rio Grande.
Barley . . . . .	Mondscheni.
Oats . . . . .	Siberian.
Peas . . . . .	Early Britain.
Beans . . . . .	White Wonder.
Carrots . . . . .	Pearse's Half-long white.
Swede Turnips . . . .	Hartley Bronze Top.
Fall Turnips . . . .	Purple-top Mammoth.
Corns . . . . .	Mastadon Dent.
Potatoes . . . . .	American Wonder.
Winter Wheat . . . .	Dawson's Golden Chaff.

Of the fertilizers tested, the following have given the best results :

Fertilizers with Corn . . . .	Nitrate of Potash
“ “ Mangels. . .	Nitrate of Soda

Many important facts obtained from investigations carried on in the different branches of agriculture were stated successively by the professors of Dairying, Horticulture, Biology, and Physics, of the O. A. C. Each statement, though brief, represented many hours of hard and careful work, and to all those who took part in it the country is deeply indebted. Special mention shall be made in another article of the results obtained from the work accomplished in soil physics. The conservation of soil moisture is a question of as great an importance to the farmers

of Quebec as to those of Ontario, and the results of this year's experiments were so conclusive in favor of better systems of culture, that many will certainly follow in this new path.

CHAS. MORTUREUX.

## Swine.

### EXPERIMENTS ON FEEDING HOGS AT THE ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Thirty-six pure-bred hogs were purchased when from 7 to 9 weeks old. They were divided into three groups, each group containing two hogs of each of six different breeds. One group was fed in pens with small outside yards. From July 4th to August 19th the ration was wheat middlings ; from August 19th to Sept. 12th it was equal parts by weight of peas, barley and shorts. When the carcasses came out of the salt the condition of four was positively firm ; one was slightly tender and the remaining seven ranged from decidedly tender to soft. Another group was kept in the same building in exactly similar pens and fed exactly the same ration ; but about two pounds of whey were fed with each pound of meal. When these carcasses came out of the salt only one showed any sign of tenderness and the remaining eleven were first-class as regards firmness. Such a striking difference cannot be accounted for on any other basis than that the whey was responsible for the superiority of the second group. The third group was allowed to run of a half-acre lot and fed exactly the same ration as the first group. This group came out of the salt in decidedly better condition than the first group, but not equal to the group which received whey. By far the greater amount of tenderness was found among the lighter and leaner hogs, and since several unthrifty hogs had been purposely put into the third group, the group was placed at a disadvantage. The hogs in the third group, which were heavy and fat enough for Wiltshire bacon, were all firm but one.

Twelve strong, fleshy, store grade hogs, fresh from the stubble, and averaging about 109 pounds each live weight, were also purchased. These were put on full feed in pens for six weeks before slaughtering. Part were fed cornmeal alone, part were fed a two-thirds ration of cornmeal with all