

Western Dairymen's Association.

We are sorry that this is the only meeting we ever attended that we regret our outlay. We have for a series of years strongly commended the usefulness of this Association, and have advised our readers to attend the meetings of the Association, as we believe this to have been an institution highly beneficial to the dairying interests. We deplore the degeneracy of these meetings. Formerly they were controlled by the farmers and their families, who appointed officers from among themselves. The members vied with each other in furnishing valuable information, and made the meetings interesting and of great value to those present. The society was progressing favorably and doing great good before a Government grant was given to it. This last meeting contrasted very unfavorably with those formerly held; now an M. P. P. fills the President's chair; another dealer fills the vice chair; ditto, ditto with some of the other leading offices.

These commercial gentlemen have succeeded in ousting the farmers, and now appoint officers from among themselves and their friends. Paid speakers attend the meetings; these, with some of the paid writers, are anticipating office. In this meeting the really plain, practical farmer was scarcely seen and seldom heard. Cannot some scheme be devised to restore the interest of the farmers and their families? These offices should be filled by practical farmers, and not by dealers and jobbers.

Why cannot leading factorymen fill the President's chair, Secretary and Treasurer's offices, just as well as leading mercantile men, lawyers, etc.? We think it is time there was a change, and unless there is such a change, we venture to predict that the time is not far distant when we shall have a number of smaller conventions, and we question very much if such conventions (a number of them) held in the rural sections would not be of much more benefit to the real dairymen of the country than the present one, held as it is in the principal towns. These local or rural conventions could be held at such points as would give the farmer and dairyman an opportunity to attend, and they could be managed in such a way that the expenses would be very trifling, and they need not extend over one day. In this way every farmer could come to them and go home the same night. Speakers could be procured who would give addresses free by paying their expenses. It would require only a little exertion and good management on the part of two or three factorymen to make these meetings a success. The fact is, we question very much if the money granted by the Government could be better spent for a few years than by employing one or two good men to attend these meetings and lecture. We throw out these ideas and hints, and hope some of our subscribers will take the matter up and give us their ideas and opinions on this question.

Between ten and eleven o'clock at night, when most farmers had left the meeting, an ex-member of the defunct Provincial Board took the opportunity to attack the editor of this journal for inserting an extract which appears on page 30 of the January issue of the ADVOCATE, on the inefficiency of the Lactometer test. The great sin was that such information had been given to the farmers, which, in the opinion of the manipulators of the Association, should have been withheld. The speaker then attempted to draw the Association into his personal affairs, and in the vilest terms to denounce the editor for some strictures which appeared in an article on the Dairymen's Convention, held in 1882 (see page 67, March 1882), and challenged him to reply before the meeting. The hour being too late, an impatient hearing was accorded,

and the meeting broke up in confusion, amidst which some resolution was declared carried; what the nature of this was we were unable to understand or ascertain. We would have treated the matter with the contempt which it deserves, only for the garbled and incorrect statements which appeared in some papers. Ample time and opportunity had been given to reply to those strictures through the columns of the ADVOCATE, especially as at the time we stated that "should any person acquainted with the facts openly show that we have formed erroneous conclusions, or are stating anything contrary to our convictions, we shall be pleased to insert their opinions, even if they occupy two columns."

On the Wing.

We were present for a short time during the recent meeting of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, held in Toronto. Mr. W. Saunders, of London, is the present President; Mr. Roy, of Owen Sound, and Mr. Beadle, of St. Catharines, the Vice-Presidents. The attendance varied from 25 to 60 members during the session. Many useful subjects were discussed and many papers read by members, and many others were handed in for publication. They passed a sweeping resolution against the poor sparrows, to the following effect: That the English sparrow is injurious to the fruit grower and farmer, and steps should be taken to destroy them. There was not a dissenting voice to this resolution. The system of planting too many varieties of apples was considered, but the meeting failed to unite in commending any particular five varieties as best suited to all parts, as many localities differ in climate, soil, etc. The following varieties appeared to obtain the largest number of advocates: Baldwin, Ben Davis, Canada Red, Northern Spy and Golden Russett. Some commended the American Pippin and Pomme Gris, and for the new apples, or those not much known, the Hastings and Mann varieties were spoken of as being well adapted to the northern parts of Ontario. March was spoken of as the best time to prune orchards, and no orchard should be planted unless the ground is well drained. Unleached ashes were most highly commended as the best and cheapest fertilizer for the orchard. Greater care in assorting and packing apples for shipping was commended, placing the apples of even size in barrels by themselves; and care in not shipping a bad or damaged apple was commended for profit to both the shipper and to Canadians. More extensive planting was recommended as a safe and sure source of profit, if properly done and attended to.

The notice of the grant of the Ontario Government of \$50,000 for the encouragement of tree planting along the roads, was loudly cheered. Some new varieties of fruit were exhibited. Mr. Marcon, of Guelph, exhibited some nice looking potatoes, and the Association has extended its operations by electing a Toronto seedsman as chairman on vegetables. We consider this the best meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association we have been present at. Whether the opening of the Association to all other branches is judicious or not, might perhaps be a good subject for discussion at the next meeting. We do not mean the opening of the doors for all to hear, as they are now open free to all who may choose to attend; but whether those who wish to ascertain all they can about fruit might not care about devoting so much of their time to other branches. As it was, it cost one farmer \$12 to attend, and one fruit raiser from a distance it cost five days and \$25. It is our impression that people would rather attend at particular times for particular purposes. Perhaps other subjects might be added and stated days or times could be set apart for particular subjects, and the public

informed in time, so as to make arrangements for attending, when subjects of interest to them might be discussed.

After attending the meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association, on our return we left the train at Waterdown Station and proceeded to the

CREAMERY OF MR. VALANCEY E. FULLER.

Here we found the dairymaid in the act of churning. The cream is raised from the milk on the Fairlamb principle, that is, by setting the milk in deep cans, surrounding the cans with water, and keeping the temperature of the water as near to fifty degrees as possible. The cream is effectually separated in four hours. The full particulars of making and utensils used have been previously published in this journal.

A REMARKABLE FACT.

Mr. Fuller informed us that he could procure double the quantity of cream from milk set in the Fairlamb cans, than he would from the same quantity set in the old shallow pans; but he said that in churning he would procure no more butter from one than the other.

We were astonished at the very small quantity of milk required to produce such an enormous quantity of butter, and the very large proportion of cream to the quantity of milk. Although we had often read about the wonderful production of cream from the Jersey cattle, we were more than astonished when we saw the milk, cream and butter, and you would be also had you seen them. When we examine the books and see the enormous quantities of butter produced from one of these little butter machines (we mean the Jersey cow), the facts of the prices realized for the butter, and the prices realized for the animals, we are struck with wonder and amazement.

We now pass to the cow stable, which to outside appearance showed no signs of having anything of extra value about, for there was nothing but a very common, old-fashioned set of buildings. But on entering, what a contrast! The old buildings had been remodelled internally, with neat stalls, concrete floors, and a closed water trough running each side of the building, just in front of the cattle. In this trough the water is running all the time, but is so arranged that the cows can have a drink at a proper time, and the water then covered up. This is the best arrangement we have yet seen. The water is pure, cool, spring water; it is forced up to the stable by an hydraulic ram, which is run by a small stream of water in a ravine a few hundred yards distant. This water is running all the time; a broom can be run along the trough at any time, and the water is always kept as clean as it comes from the spring. We remarked to Mr. Fuller that he might be raising trout in his cow stable. He replied that he would show what he was doing for trout presently. We walked up and down the stable twice, viewing all the animals from before and behind. We were never so much pleased by viewing a herd of Jerseys; in fact we never had seen such a fine lot on any farm, and we must say we never thought so highly of them before. Their beautiful, fine faces, their slender legs, their kid-like skins, their escutcheons and milk bags all had charms for us, for we admire a good Jersey as much as we admire a fine Shorthorn, Hereford or any other distinct class. But we would here remark that the majority of farmers become wedded to particular breeds of animals. Many breeders of the larger classes of the bovine race cannot see the beauty or merits of any other breed but the one they possess. It is well that all do not see alike. A good farmer may be an excellent judge of a Shorthorn, but may know nothing about a Jersey or an Ayrshire, as the points sought for in a real fine milking Jersey would at once disqualify a Shorthorn from taking a prize in any exhibition.