

Manitoba Stockmen's Convention.

The Manitoba Live-stock Convention week is always a busy one in the City of Winnipeg, and this year proved to be no exception. Although the crowd did not appear large in the spacious Cockshutt warehouse, which was kindly loaned by the company for the conventions, yet the attendance showed a substantial increase as compared with the last annual meeting.

Sheep and Swine Breeders' Association.

The first meeting of the convention was held on Monday evening, Feb. 22nd, when the Sheep- and Swine-breeders transacted their annual business. The President, F. W. Brown, in opening the meeting, reviewed the progress of the association during the past year. In speaking of the Winnipeg Exhibition, he regretted that the show of swine had not shown that improvement which it should. The fact was that most of the breeders had been able to dispose of their best stock at remunerative prices for breeding purposes. This, however, he did not consider a discouraging sign; it rather showed that the demand for pure-bred swine was increasing, and he trusted that the West could give a good account of itself at the Dominion Exhibition to be held this year in Winnipeg.

THE SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT.

In his annual report the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. G. H. Greig, pointed out that while the association had not accomplished all that they aimed for during the past year, a great deal had been gained at the annual meeting of the Dominion Swine-breeders recently held in Toronto, the sum of \$300 had been granted to supplement the prizes at the Dominion Exhibition this year, and \$40 to Brandon. He was also in possession of information to the effect that the C.P.R. had in prospect the building of a sale barn for live stock. He suggested that the association lay before the C.P.R. the advisability of erecting that barn on the Exhibition grounds, where it would render the double purpose of a sale barn and provide housing and showing accommodation at the annual exhibitions or winter fairs. He gave a synopsis of his own work during the year. He reported on his trip through the West with the American agricultural editors—Calgary, Spring Show, was visited, and two trips had been taken to the East, and on one of these he had visited Guelph Winter Fair.

The Secretary also reported on the attempt on the part of the joint executive committees of the live-stock associations to establish a Winter Show and sale, which had not been successful. He deprecated the action of the Department of Agriculture in withholding from publication a full report of the addresses and discussions delivered and engaged in at the last annual meeting, only a short synopsis of the transactions having been published. He pointed out that it was a matter of great importance that delegates should be sent to Ottawa from Manitoba in connection with the formation of a National Live-stock Association, and that such delegates should be men who would express the views of the West and of Western breeders, and not personal sentiments. The financial statement was submitted and approved. The accounts were as follows:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

| Receipts. | |
|--|----------|
| Cash on hand | \$178.79 |
| Government grant | 200.00 |
| Membership fees | 58.00 |
| Refund convention expenses, per | 29.17 |
| | \$465.96 |
| Expenditures. | |
| Office rent and furnishings | \$ 62.48 |
| Convention expenses | 78.42 |
| Stenographer, stationery and postage | 45.05 |
| Diplomas | 47.12 |
| Directors' expenses | 17.10 |
| Secretary's salary | 100.00 |
| Cash on hand | 115.79 |
| | \$465.96 |

NEW CONSTITUTION.

The Secretary then intimated that in accordance with previous arrangements he had drafted a new constitution for the association. The need for such a constitution was apparent to every member, and the aims of the new draft was to have a constitution uniform in all essential points with the constitutions of kindred societies in the Dominion. Two clauses in the draft were changed. It was resolved to dispense with the

office of 2nd Vice-president, and on the motion of Mr. Bray it was resolved to alter the clause making the calendar year the year of the association to read, that officers be elected to hold office until the installation of their successors, the calendar year to remain as the financial year of the association. On the motion of Mr. And. Graham, the constitution as amended in those two clauses was approved, and accepted as read.

EXHIBITION REFORM.

Mr. W. C. Johnstone stated that the matter of accommodation for the attendants of live stock in the exhibition buildings was far from satisfactory. In fact, the places allotted to men to sleep in were filthy, and in every respect inadequate.

The following resolution was then moved by W. J. Black, "Farmer's Advocate": "That the Director of Experimental Farms be asked to increase the facilities for experimenting in the feeding of hogs for market at the Brandon Experimental Farm." In support of the motion, the mover pointed out the great need for increased education and light on the subject. He had met a few farmers who, even in these days when hogs were selling at 4½c. a pound at country points,



Mr. G. H. Greig.

Live-stock Commissioner for Manitoba and the Territories

could make a profit. Many, however, were unable to make the industry pay at such prices, and a great many who continue in the business admit that they do not know whether hog raising is leaving them a profit or not. Under these conditions it was highly necessary that increased facilities for becoming possessed of reliable information be established by enlarging the work on the Experimental Farms. Mr. E. R. James, Rosser, seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. Chester Thompson, representative on the Winnipeg Fair Board for last season, submitted his report, which showed a satisfactory state of affairs.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the following gentlemen being elected:

President—Jas. Bray, Longburn.
Vice-president—Chester Thompson.
Directors representing breeds:
Berkshires—F. W. Brown.
Yorkshires—And. Graham.
Tamworths—W. E. Baldwin.
Poland-Chinas—J. Klassen.
Chester Whites—A. E. Thompson, St. James.
Sheep—Cotswolds and Leicesters—A. D. Gambley.
Shropshires—D. E. Corbett.
Oxfords—J. B. Jickling.

Hampshires and Southdowns—W. W. Fraser, Emerson.

Representative on Winnipeg Fair Board—W. G. Styles, Rosser.

An additional Hon. Director was appointed to the Winnipeg Fair Board, the occasion for which had arisen through the extra work which the Dominion Exhibition will entail. Mr. W. G. Washington, Ninga, was elected to the office.

The question of the National Live-stock Convention at Ottawa was then considered, and it was agreed to appoint a delegate to take the position of either of the two ex-officio delegates in the event of either of them being unable to attend. Mr. And. Graham was appointed to act in case of such an emergency occurring.

The meeting was attended by a large number of breeders, and much interest was taken in the proceedings.

Horse-breeders' Meeting.

The Horse-breeders met in annual session on Tuesday morning, with President J. A. S. Macmillan in the chair, who in his opening remarks congratulated Secretary Greig for his interesting programme. He believed that for the population no country possessed a larger number of horsemen than Canada.

The Secretary-Treasurer then read his report, which was in its main features similar to the report presented at the meeting of Sheep- and Swine-breeders.

The financial statement was as follows:

| RECEIPTS. | |
|--|----------|
| Cash on hand | \$ 5.41 |
| Government grant | 200.00 |
| Membership fees | 68.00 |
| | \$273.41 |
| EXPENDITURES. | |
| Expenses of 1903 convention | \$ 62.76 |
| Stenographers, stationery and post | 37.18 |
| Office rent and furnishings | 72.94 |
| Secretary's salary | 100.00 |
| Cash on hand | 53 |
| | \$273.41 |

A question arose as to the advisability of imposing a duty on horses imported from U. S. the same as that charged on horses crossing from Canada to the United States. Mr. Greig explained that at the time the delegation representing different associations approached the Government, his association was unable to send a delegate to Ottawa on account of a low state of the exchequer. They had hoped to have had Mr. N. Boyd, M.P., to represent them, but, unfortunately, at the time the matter was brought up he happened to be away from Ottawa. Nothing had been done in the matter, and it was still under consideration by the Government.

R. I. M. Power, representative director on the Winnipeg Fair Board, submitted a comprehensive and instructive report. He congratulated the association on the quality of the horses and the number of entries at the Industrial Exhibition. He stated that it was doubtful if a better collection of Clydesdale stallions could be got together in any part of the world than that shown at Winnipeg Fair. The increased number of entries was the cause of a good deal of dissatisfaction on the part of exhibitors in the horse classes. Accommodation was inadequate to the requirements, and criticism of the management of the board was freely expressed. The directors remedied the conditions and removed the grievance, however, by building a lean-to as soon and as quickly as it was possible to do so, and matters came off smoothly afterwards. In that connection he believed that the exhibitors could remove a good deal of prevailing perplexity on the part of directors, and facilitate preparatory work generally, by making their entries as early as possible. He had made a strong representation to the board to enlarge the racing stables, and compel the owners of race horses to occupy these stables only, the trouble now being caused by a large number of race-horses occupying the exhibitors' stables. Under the materially increased prizes and other extra inducements to accompany the Dominion Exhibition, he (Mr. Power) anticipated a great impetus being given to the furtherance of the interests of horse-breeding in the West.

Dr. Henderson reported a good show at Carleton Place. There were many good horses in that district, and there was every indication of a good show next year.

Dr. Thompson, representative to the fair at Killarney, reported that the show, in spite of some drawbacks in the way of unfinished buildings, was a good one, and there were some good horses there.

The matter of the omission on the part of the Provincial Government to print the full transactions of the association, was taken up in the following resolution, moved by Mr. Stephen Benson, Neepawa, and seconded by Mr. And. Graham, Pomeroy:

"Whereas, in printing the last annual report