

THE FARM BULLETIN.

## Nova Scotia Agricultural College

The Nova Scotia Agricultural College at Truro began its seventh annual session on November 1st last, with an initial enrollment of nearly 50 per cent. in advance of any previous enrollment. Owing to the labor required to handle the apple crop in Nova Scotia, a number of regular students are not able to enter the College until December and January. Consequently, in previous years the attendance at the regular course has usually increased 25% or more. The enrollment on the 1st of November last was 66, as compared with 43 a year ago, and 17 six years ago. It is likely that the enrollment for this year will increase to about 90. Upper Canada readers, of course, understand that the constituency of the Nova Scotia Agricultural College is several times smaller than that of similar institutions in Canada, and will, of course, judge the attendance accordingly. It is certainly most satisfactory to all interested in agricultural education in the East to record a steady growth which is being made at the N. S. Agricultural College. Even more satisfactory to report than the increased attendance is the actual evidences of improvements in farming, due to the influence of the graduates of the College. Over 90 per cent. of the students who have thus far attended the Nova Scotia Agricultural College are engaged in farming, and it is significant that the larger proportion of new students have come to the College from the localities where the earlier students have come from, being influenced by the improvement noticed in their methods. One new creamery in King's county, a second one in course of construction in Yarmouth County, and a third one being organized in Cumberland County, all managed by Agricultural College graduates, are practical evidences of the influence the College is having in the development of the agricultural industry of the Province. Many more evidences might be quoted, but enough is now apparent to make the people of Nova Scotia realize the wisdom of their investment in the agricultural college.

The College management purposes adding several new features to their short course held during the first two weeks of January. Over 300 students attended the last session, and everything points to a still larger attendance in January next. One of the new features will be a class in running of gasoline engines, with more especial reference to power spraying. It is also proposed to greatly strengthen the ladies' part of the short course, and make this increasingly attractive. The people of Nova Scotia have responded so well to the efforts of the Agricultural College that the management feel thoroughly confident in making every preparation for increasing numbers of students in all courses.

M. CUMMING.

## North Dumfries Annual Plowing Match.

The fourth annual plowing match of the North Dumfries Plowmen's Association, of which Alex. Edgar is president, and F. C. Hart, District Agricultural Representative, secretary-treasurer, was held this year on Friday, October 27th, on the splendid farm of Richard Dean, four miles from the Village of Ayr. Although the weather was rough and cold, there were about 250 persons present to view the match. There are many good plowmen in the Township of North Dumfries, and those who took part in the various classes were exceptionally good. The work of the boys under sixteen was particularly noteworthy, and received much favorable comment. Simpson Rennie, of Toronto, was judge, and, after the match, spoke a few words to those present, pointing out the value of good plowing in combatting the many weed pests of the present day. All plows had skimmers, in accordance with the rules. Will Barrie won the cup for best plowing of the match. This cup was held in 1909 by Reg. Wright, and in 1910 by Mr. Cochrane.

## Taft as a Dairyman.

President Wm. H. Taft, in his address before the National Dairy Show, at Chicago, announced that he had acquired one of the noted cows that produce from 1,000 to 1,400 pounds of milk a day in a year, and therefore may be expected to do something to help in keeping up the home supplies of the nation. He told the audience that when he was in the Philippines as administrator, he reported a cow to the governor that had been giving supplies of milk to the people in his honor, in the absence of the president. One of the principal causes of mortality in the Philippines is the lack of milk. Mr. Taft certainly is a great benefactor of the people on a generous supply of milk to the district. The White House cow is said to be the best of the breed, Wayne by name.

## Death of Sir John Carling.

The death of Sir John Carling, at his home in London, Ont., on Monday, October 6th, in the 84th year of his age, has removed a prominent and highly-esteemed son and citizen of Canada, a man of splendid stature and physique, of kindly disposition and unflinching integrity, admired and respected wherever known. His father, Thomas Carling, came to Canada from Yorkshire, England, in 1818, and ten years later John was born, in London Township. He received his education in the City of London, and advanced to the position of first citizen. In 1857, at the age of 29 years, he was elected to the old Parliament of Canada, and continued as a representative in that house until confederation. In 1862 he was appointed Receiver-General in the Macdonald-Cartier Government. Later he was Commissioner of Public Works and Agriculture in the Sandfield-Macdonald Government of Ontario, and he established at Mimico the first experimental farm in Canada, but the site was subsequently changed to Guelph by his successor in office. In 1882 he entered Sir John Macdonald's Government as Postmaster-General, and became Minister of Agriculture for the Dominion in 1885, an office in which



The Late Sir John Carling, K.C.M.G.

he took the greatest interest and pride, and which he continued to fill under Sir John Abbott, but ceased to hold under Sir John Thompson. He was called to the Senate in 1891, but resigned the following year to become a candidate for the House of Commons. He was created a K. C. M. G. in 1893, and called to the Senate for the second time in 1896. As Minister of Agriculture in the House of Commons, he was instrumental in establishing, in 1886, the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa, and in the appointment of Dr. William Saunders as the competent Director of that useful institution, the foundation of the splendid system of experimental and demonstration farms since established in the various Provinces of the Dominion. The office of Dairy Commissioner at Ottawa was also brought into existence during the regime of Sir John Carling, and the services of Prof. Jas. W. Robertson, then at the Guelph Agricultural College, enlisted in the public service of the Dominion.

In the American Agricultural Press currency is given the rumor that the retirement of James Wilson, U. S. Secretary of Agriculture, is on the tapis. He enjoys the distinction of having been in the Cabinet of three Presidents: McKinley, Roosevelt and Taft. Among the names mentioned as a possible successor, are Dean Bailey, of the New York Agricultural College; Dean Russell, of Wisconsin; and Congressman Scott, of Kansas.

In the first-page editorial of this issue, discussing the regeneration of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, the name of the Botanist, Hans T. Gussow, was inadvertently omitted among those of the Central Experimental Farm staff. His work is not confined to that of the institution itself, beyond which, also, that of the Poultry Branch, Mr. Gilbert, has greatly extended.

Recent civil-service appointments Gazette are: H. W. Eastham, to be Assistant Entomologist, and Jas. M. Swaine, Assistant Entomologist, Experimental Farm.

## World Crops.

The new number of the bulletin, "The Publications of the International Agricultural Institute," gives the latest data concerning the wheat, rye, barley, oat and corn crops of the world.

Estimates of the wheat crop received by the Institute from twenty countries of the Northern Hemisphere (Austria and the Ottoman Empire being the only important omissions), show a total of 3,048,927,000 bushels, compared with 3,034,879,000 for the same countries last year. The 1911 production of the countries so far reported is thus 100.5 per cent. of last year's production.

No estimates have yet been made for the countries of the Southern Hemisphere—Australia, New Zealand, Argentina and Chili, whose harvest will begin in December.

For fifteen countries reporting, the rye crop of 1911 is 1,364,804,000 bushels, compared with 1,416,169,000 for the same countries last year.

Estimates for barley in 18 countries show a total of 1,127,858,000 bushels, compared with 1,128,121,000 last year.

The oat crop of 17 countries so far reported is 2,838,221,000 bushels, compared with 3,151,125,000 last year.

The bulletin contains many brief articles and summaries of articles, written by scientific experimenters and others, which have appeared in official bulletins and other trustworthy publications issued by the foremost agricultural countries of the world.

References are made to the following subjects, which are of peculiar interest :

The Karite or Butter-tree grows in Central Africa, and from which a vegetable butter is produced. The tree grows to a height of nearly 54 feet. The butter is made from the fatty substance found in the seeds. The butter has a slight odor of cocoa. It finds a ready sale in European markets.

An item refers to the product of a cross between the tomato and the pepper, known as the peppermato. In appearance it resembles the tomato. As the tomato and pepper plants are closely related, it is supposed that the tomato blossom was fertilized with the pollen from the capsicum.

It has been concluded by an Italian investigator who has gone deeply into the study of the form and performance of cows, that the largest production of milk corresponds with the largest girth and the heaviest weight of the animal.

Under the head of Farm Machinery, a description is given of an electric wind motor used in Danish agriculture. The apparatus includes a windmill, a dynamo, a battery with automatic accumulators, a switchboard, and an automatic tension regulator for lighting purposes. The installation expenses for a farm with forty incandescent lamps and a 3 to 5 horse-power motor is said to be about \$1,435.

A method of determining the age of eggs is described. It is to float the eggs in a large tumbler of water in which has been dissolved a tablespoonful of ordinary table salt. An egg one day old will fall to the bottom of the glass; if older, it does not reach the bottom; if three days old, it sinks only just below the surface, and the older the egg, the more it protrudes above the surface of the liquid.

Nineteen hundred and ten was a banner year for farmers in Antigonish County, Nova Scotia; crops and market prices were very good. The crops and produce of 1911 are good, but so far the market prices are comparatively low. Good hind quarters of beef are 6 and 7 cents, as compared with 8 and 9 cents in 1910; lambs (live),  $5\frac{1}{2}$  cents, compared with  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cents in 1910; pork (dressed),  $4\frac{1}{2}$  and 7 cents, against 10 and 11 cents in 1910; potatoes, 40c. per bush., against 45 and 50 cents in 1910; butter, 20 to 25 cents per pound against 20 to 25 cents in 1910; eggs, 22 cents per dozen, against 21 cents in 1910; oats, 50 cents per bushel, against 45 cents in 1910; chickens (dressed), 12 and 13 cents per pound, same in 1910.

A certain farmer last spring bought a cream separator and raised a number of pigs on the skimmed milk and other food. Now the price of pork is so low he is greatly disappointed. Eggs, butter and chickens are scarce.

JAMES McCONNELL.

Our subscription to your paper must be due by this time, or nearly so. Enclosed you will find a money order for the renewal of same. While we are engaged almost entirely in fruit-growing, we find in your paper many suggestions intended more directly for those engaged in general agriculture, but which aid us a great deal in solving our problems. The basis of farming is also the basis of fruit-growing, and what will apply to one will apply to the other.—(W. A. Wright, West Sumnerland, B. C.)