

The Agricultural and Experimental Union.

The fourteenth annual meeting of the above society was held at the Ontario Agricultural College, on the 22nd and 23rd of December.

There was a larger attendance of ex-students and visitors than in former years. This was doubtless owing to the attractiveness of the programme, which, in addition to ex-students, included the names of men who are acknowledged to be leaders in their several departments.

The meeting was opened by the President, Nelson Montieth, B. S. A., giving an appropriate address, and after other routine business had been concluded, G. F. Marsh, B. S. A., presented a report of his work in compiling a register of all students who have attended the Ontario College. The greater number of these are farming in Ontario, though they have been reported from all parts of the world. A number are holding responsible positions in agricultural colleges. Over two-thirds of those who have attended are still farming.

It is gratifying to state that the reports received show that a much larger proportion of the students who have attended of late years remain on their farms than those of earlier years.

Reports were given of the horticultural and agricultural experiments carried on through the year. These co-operative tests are carried on by members of the Union and farmers who are interested in this work, and have now assumed enormous proportions, there being over three hundred experiments in different parts of the province.

John Burns, of Kirkton, gave a practical and interesting paper on country roads, which we will publish at an early date.

John Hannah, Secretary Ontario Creameries Association, gave an address upon the factors necessary to the advancement of the dairy industry in Ontario.

Prof. F. Shutt, Chemist, Experimental Farm, Ottawa, gave a very scientific address on chemistry of barnyard manure. His remarks were chiefly based upon analysis prepared at the Experimental Station, Ottawa.

In the evening the annual supper was held, when speeches were delivered by the Hon. John Dryden; Wm. Muloch, Vice-Chancellor of Toronto University; C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Professors, Visitors, Ex-students and Students.

J. J. McKenzie, Bureau of Health, Toronto, gave a paper on the vitality and development of the fowl brood germ (*Bacillus Alvei*). The data were obtained from original work in growing the germs in different cultures. His studies have been of great value to bee-keepers.

F. A. Gammell, President Ontario Bee-keepers' Association; Wm. McEvoy, Government fowl brood inspector, and others, joined in a very animated discussion on this subject.

D. Buchanan, B. S. A., read a paper on the improvement of the social condition of the farmers.

One of the most interesting papers delivered, as was shown by the length of time the speaker was kept on the floor and number of questions he was plied with, was that given by Prof. L. H. Bailey, of Cornell University, on recent progress in Horticulture. He reviewed the great progress which has been made of late years in all the branches of this industry, concluding with an account of some of their experiments, especially that on the effect of electric light upon the growth of different plants.

An entertainment given by the College Literary Society closed one of the most successful meetings which the Experimental Union has ever held. A number of the papers and much of the discussion will be published at an early date in the *Advocate*.

We call the attention of Canadian breeders of Shorthorns to the letters of Messrs. Gibson and Wade, of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, and of Mr. J. H. Pickersell, of the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association, which appear among the stock gossip in this number. The appeal made to the breeders of the red, white and roans should meet with a hearty response. We have been informed that the Association representing the Jerseys are taking active steps to secure a large exhibit of this breed, and that the cows selected and sent by them shall be comfortably housed in Chicago months before the tests are to be conducted. In fact many or all of them will calve there. Associations representing other breeds would do well to follow this example. Breeders in Manitoba and the Territories are appealed to as well as those in Ontario and the east. What we desire to see, and what the Canadian Shorthorn Breeders' Association desire, is united action on the part of all Canadians.

Live Stock for the World's Fair.

The Pure-bred Cattle Breeders' Association having taken the initiatory steps towards a live stock exhibit from the province of Manitoba and the Territories, for the World's Fair, W. S. Lister, Secretary of said Association, acting upon advice of the Minister of Agriculture, advertised for a meeting of "all parties interested in having an exhibit of live stock of all kinds at the Chicago Exposition to be held on January 4th, 1893, in the city hall, Winnipeg."

In response to this advertisement there was a fairly representative meeting. Among those present from the outside points were: Dr. Rutherford, M. P. P., Jas. Bray, Portage la Prairie; W. S. Lister, Middlechurch; S. A. Bedford, J. D. McGregor, Robert Hall, Brandon; Leslie Smith, Wawanesa; John Hettle, M. P. P., John Kinettle, Boissevain; R. D. Foley, Manitou. Many of the prominent breeders and owners of stock living in the city were also present at the meeting.

Robert Hall, President of the Cattle Breeders' Association, was elected to the chair, and W. S. Lister, Secretary of the Cattle Breeders' Association, was appointed secretary.

After fully discussing the advisability of making a cattle exhibit, in which Mr. Bedford, of Experimental Farm, Brandon, and Mr. Greig, of the "Advocate," favoured sending an exhibit of steers only, but the majority of those present thought that Manitoba should be represented by breeding cattle, a resolution, moved by R. D. Foley, seconded by J. D. McGregor, to that effect, was carried.

The horse interests were next discussed, and a petition, asking the Government to send an exhibit of horses, was moved and seconded by Dr. Hinman, V. S., and David McGregor, respectively, and carried.

It was also resolved to request the Government to send exhibits of sheep, swine, poultry and dogs, on motion of Dr. Hinman, seconded by James Bray, Portage la Prairie.

The list of men considered capable of selecting the cattle exhibit was published in December issue of the "Advocate." The following were named by this meeting as suitable men to make selections in the respective classes:—

STANDARD-BRED HORSES.

Dr. Little, Winnipeg; David McGregor, Winnipeg; Dr. Hinman, Winnipeg; George Cochrane, Morden; Nat. Boydd, Carberry; Dr. Smith, Winnipeg.

THOROUGH-BRED AND OTHER LIGHT HORSES.

W. L. Puxley, Winnipeg; Dr. Mat. Young, Manitou; T. G. Ferris, Portage la Prairie; J. Jenkinson, Winnipeg; Adam Paterson, Winnipeg; David McGregor, Winnipeg.

HEAVY DRAUGHT HORSES.

Wm. Risk, Winnipeg; J. D. McGregor, Brandon; James Elder, Virden; J. Carruth, Portage la Prairie; R. D. Foley, Manitou.

SHEEP AND SWINE.

Leslie Smith; A. A. McArthur; R. D. Foley; James Glennie.

The following resolution, was proposed by Dr. Rutherford, that an Executive Committee, consisting of five members, be elected, to look after the work. The idea was acted upon, and W. S. Lister, George H. Greig, Dr. Hinman, Wm. Risk and H. H. Chadwick, were appointed the committee, and instructed that their work should be to ascertain where the best live stock in the country was, and to keep members of the association and breeders well posted as to progress of arrangements, also to do everything to expedite matters and make the exhibit a success. Carried. The meeting then adjourned.

The Executive Committee met immediately on the close of the meeting, and elected Geo. H. Greig Secretary. They decided to interview the Minister of Agriculture next day, January 5th, the Secretary to arrange a meeting. Adjourned.

The Executive Committee, as arranged, interviewed the Minister of Agriculture on January 5th. That gentleman expressed himself pleased with the prompt action taken by the breeders, and also by the appointment of the Committee—and desired them to take immediate steps to ascertain the names of all those who had stock they wished to enter for the World's Fair, and also stated that he would do all in his power to have an exhibit worthy of the Province. Breeders who have eligible beasts are respectfully requested to send their names and addresses, also the number, age and breed of their animals, to George H. Greig, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

It is a pity similar action had not been taken a year ago—better late than never. A good exhibit from Manitoba will do more to advertise the country

than could be obtained by expending ten times or perhaps twenty times the amount in any other way. Now is Manitoba's chance. Why have not the farmers of each of the Western Territories and British Columbia taken action long ago? Settlers are wanted in all these countries; it is to the farmers' interests that they be brought in. The Governments are ready and willing to give any reasonable assistance, but they are the servants of the people, and desire the people to make their wishes known. If the inhabitants, the farmers, the livestock men, do not want the country advertised; if they are opposed to such a course; if farmers do not want settlers or neighbors; if they do not want their lands to grow in value, which they will if the population grows more dense; if the live stock men do not want to extend their markets for pure-bred animals, why should the cabinets stir themselves? These bodies watch the temper of the people; if the country makes a demand, these gentlemen recognize it, and give the necessary assistance. We cannot expect aid unless we try earnestly to help ourselves and make our wants known.

Mr. N. Awrey's Address.

The address delivered by Mr. Awrey, M. P. P., Commissioner for Ontario to the World's Columbian Exhibition, and President of the Agriculture and Arts Association of the same province, is undoubtedly one of the best annual addresses, if not the best, ever delivered by a president of that time-honored body. Not only is it of interest to Ontario farmers, but should be a stimulant to dwellers in Manitoba, the west and the provinces by the sea.

Ontario is looked upon as the banner province by many. In this speech we get a glimpse of the reason; we see why her stockmen are known throughout America. Among all the provinces of Canada, she was the first to take active steps to advertise our country to the world, formerly at Philadelphia and again at Chicago. What her people are doing is clearly portrayed by Mr. Awrey. What they hope to do and what they doubtless will accomplish, is also set forth by that gentleman. Manitoba is following in her foot steps as regards the Columbian Exhibition, yet we would have our people know what Ontario is doing, and what sort of a man her commissioner is. Let us all take note of his wise and patriotic words, and unite in placing Canada in the foremost rank among the nations. What he says of Ontario is doubly true of Manitoba. Her needs are greater and her efforts should be likewise.

We agree with Mr. Franklin when he says the scheduling of Canadian cattle is an outrage, and disagree with Mr. Awrey when he says it may be a blessing in disguise. It is not a blessing in any shape, nor will it ever be. True, it would be better if Canadians could fatten all store cattle and export them when finished, yet we all know that there are hundreds of men both east and west who cannot do this, and others who will not. The scheduling of the cattle goes only to make their condition worse. The fact remains that these men must now sell at a less price than heretofore, but the chief grievance is that although Canadians should feed their cattle and ship only the prime fitted beasts, the order remains the same—these must also be slaughtered at arrival. It is a great mistake for public men to condone a mishap of this kind. Let them teach and encourage Canadian farmers to feed their cattle, but in no case should they call a national loss as this is a blessing; it is an evil without a redeeming feature, and should be so recognized and so spoken of by all our public men.

A writer in the Wisconsin Farmer is the author of the following sensible article:—A young couple in early life buy a farm that will keep sixteen to eighteen cows. They go in debt for a large share of the purchase price, but by industry and economy succeed finally in paying it. An only son has grown to young manhood, and begins to talk of securing a home of his own. His parents begin at once to say: "Our farm is too small for two families." So, as an adjoining farm is for sale, the boy buys. Suppose, on the contrary, the father had taken his interest money, and indeed his surplus income for a few years, and expended the amount in buying extra fertilizer, procuring better stock—in short, making the old farm produce more than both farms will. How much better every way! Many advantages come from intensive rather than extensive farming. Ontario as well as Manitoba is to-day suffering because many Canadian farmers have overreached themselves in their desire to own large farms. A small farm thoroughly and wisely worked is much preferable than a large one when the owner has only enough capital to buy or work a small one.