

The Agricultural Gazette

The Official Bulletin of the Dominion Cattle, Sheep, and Swine Breeders' Associations, and of the Farmers' Institute System of the Province of Ontario.

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THE DOMINION CATTLE, SHEEP, AND SWINE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

Annual Membership Fees:—Cattle Breeders' \$1; Sheep Breeders', \$1; Swine Breeders', \$2.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP.

Each member receives a free copy of each publication issued by the Association to which he belongs, during the year in which he is a member. In the case of the Swine Breeders' Association this includes a copy of the Swine Record.

A member of the Swine Breeders' Association is allowed to register pigs at 50c. per head; non-members are charged \$1.00 per head.

A member of the Sheep Breeders' Associations allowed to register sheep at 50c. per head, while non-members are charged \$1.00.

The name and address of each member, and the stock he has for sale, are published once a month. Over 10,000 copies of this directory are mailed monthly. Copies are sent to each Agricultural College and each Experiment Station in Canada and the United States, also to prominent breeders and probable buyers resident in Canada, the United States and elsewhere.

A member of an Association will only be allowed to advertise stock corresponding to the Association to which he belongs; that is, to advertise cattle he must be a member of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association, to advertise sheep he must be a member of the Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association, and to advertise swine he must be a member of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association.

The list of cattle, sheep, and swine for sale will be published in the third issue of each month. Members having stock for sale, in order that they may be included in the Gazette, are required to notify the undersigned by letter on or before the 9th of each month, of the number, breed, age, and sex of the animals. Should a member fail to do this his name will not appear in that issue. The data will be published in the most condensed form.

F. W. HOBSON, Secretary.
Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ont.

Farmers' Institutes of Ontario.

Announcement of Superintendent.

A fair indication of the interest taken in Farmers' Institute work by those actively engaged in agriculture in this province, is the fact that the total number of members from January to July, 1899, is 457 in advance of the total membership for the same period of 1898. Not only is this the case, but those who are members are exceedingly anxious to receive all reports and bulletins issued by the Department of Agriculture. This is proved by the fact that should any report or bulletin fail to come to hand at the proper time a card of enquiry is sure to be received by the department. The audiences at the various meetings are composed of a better class of people than formerly; meetings are better conducted, and are more thoroughly advertised. While the development of local talent is very noticeable, there is, in some districts, still room for improvement in this respect; on the whole, however, the progress made in the employment of local talent and in the carrying on of meetings generally has been very satisfactory.

MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE.

The attendance at meetings this year, as reported by the officers of the local Institutes, was 119,402. This number, however, falls short of the actual attendance for the reason that reports from several Institutes have not been received. Altogether 677 meetings were held this year, as compared with 658 last year.

TWO ADDRESSES ONLY EACH DAY SHOULD BE GIVEN.

During previous years it has been the custom for delegates attending meetings to speak as long and as often as the officers of the local Institutes might think desirable. Owing to this the delegates in some cases have not

been able to do as good work in the latter meetings of a division as they did in the earlier ones. Last year this fact was brought by the superintendent to the attention of the officers of the Institutes, and as a result the average number of addresses at each meeting was slightly decreased. This year it will be in the best interests of the work if positive instructions be given to each delegate to deliver but two addresses each day.

SUCCESSFUL MEETINGS DUE TO GOOD MANAGEMENT.

In order that meetings shall be successful the necessary preparation therefor should begin at the annual meeting. That is to say at the annual meeting efficient officers and directors should be elected and suitable places and halls chosen. It must be remembered that the director of the district in which the meeting is to be held is a member of the executive until after the meeting is held. Upon the shoulders of the director should fall the main work of looking after the details and the arrangements for holding the meeting. For example, he should see that the local interest is thoroughly worked up and that the advertisements of the meeting are systematically and thoroughly distributed. The director should, therefore, be both capable and willing. If an efficient local director is elected the secretary-treasurer will be relieved of a great portion of the work which would otherwise fall upon him. Not only so, but this work can always be better done, and be done with less expense and less trouble, by someone in the district than by an outsider. But at the same time it must not be forgotten that it is the duty of the secretary-treasurer to see that the work is properly done. When no one else does it he must do it himself. Where a meeting is a failure it

is generally for lack of proper management. Occasionally outside causes may injure the meeting, but as a rule in all cases of non success, blame may be properly attached to the executive officer.

SOME ILLUSTRATIONS.

As to how much success depends on proper management the case of West Lambton may be taken as an illustration. The membership for that Institute for 1898 was 78. With a change in the management the membership for this year (1899) to July ran up to 294. A further illustration may be seen in the history of East Algoma. In that district the Institute dragged out a sorry sort of existence for several years and finally died. In 1895 the membership was 107, and the total attendance of meetings held was 513. In 1896 the membership was 75 and the attendance at meetings 332. In 1897 the membership had dwindled to 16 and no meetings were held. The management claimed that it was impossible to keep up an interest in Institute work, and the Institute practically went out of existence. In the summer of 1898 a reorganization meeting was held and an entirely new board of officers and directors was appointed. The result was that though no meeting but that of re organization was held in that year, before the end of the year over 100 members had joined the Institute. For the present year the membership to July is 141, and the attendance at meetings held 761.

WHAT WILL BE DONE IN CASES OF LACK OF INTEREST.

Sometimes it has happened that even when a meeting has been properly advertised, and all the work preparatory to holding it thoroughly done, no interest has been taken in the meeting by the people of the locality for whose more special benefit the meeting was held and the lecturers sent. When this occurs in future no lecturers will be sent for meetings to be held in a locality that proves itself so indifferent until there is evidence that some interest will be taken in the meetings when they are held there.

WHERE MEETINGS SHOULD NOT BE HELD.

The local authorities of each place where a meeting is proposed to be held should take sufficient interest in the work to provide a hall or other place for holding entirely free of cost to the Farmers' Institute. I would recommend that no meeting be held in any place where the local authorities are not able and willing to comply with this condition. If they cannot or will not do this much for the benefit of