

perhaps be more advantageous to the interests of the Association than any that has been as yet suggested. My journal will be out on the first of the month, and if you will select what is most suitable for the patrons and the whole of the farmers of this country, I will circulate them free of charge. . . . if you want any extra copies I will have them sent out also by the middle of the month. . . . I will not only send the articles to my subscribers scattered over the Dominion, but to any names you may furnish me free of expense."

Mr. Ballantyne has long been one of the principal lights on the committee of management. It was through his influence that Mr. Richardson was kept out of the Presidency and Mr. Casswell elected. This was when Mr. B. desired the position and was a candidate; thus the wires were pulled, he is in full power, and in fact, in our opinion, has been for many years.

Can you not foresee an injury being done to the country from withholding information from its legitimate channel? Mr. Arnold's address asked for, had in previous years been granted to the ADVOCATE, and the punctual and proper return had always been acknowledged. No valid reason can now be given by Mr. B. why the address should not have been furnished, nor why Mr. Weld should not have been allowed to publish the report when offering to do it free of charge.

Many dairymen have for years looked on Mr. Arnold as the most useful and practical instructor on dairying on this continent, and as is too often the case, those who really do the most good get but poorly rewarded. As a token of esteem and reward, it was proposed to get up a testimonial for this worthy, and we might add, ill-used gentleman. It was deemed proper to obtain Mr. Ballantyne's consent before such a resolution could carry. Mr. B. gave his consent cheerfully and commended the step. The resolution was put and carried, and \$45 paid in without solicitation. But afterwards when the Secretary and Treasurer asked Mr. B. to aid the project, he immediately threw cold water on it.

A hint has been thrown to us insinuating that Mr. B. actually wished to deprive Mr. Arnold of the high name he has and claim Mr. Arnold's plans as his own, and that speakers were actually engaged with our Government money to try to establish such an injustice as a precedent in Canada, and that years of wordy warfare have been the result. This step has not been looked on as tending to raise the standard of honor or the dairy interest. Oh! how some preach! But where is honor and justice in their practice? Thus speakers can be selected of any stripe or color, or to serve any emergency—can be drawn from any place to suit anywhere. Mr. Ballantyne's sway must be felt in the Eastern as well as the Western Association, consequently his selected speakers and lauders have the best time of the Convention allotted to them, and the whole dairy interest is thus diverted from the utility of its course. Instead of giving information on the dairy business, the Dairymen's Convention appears to be turning into a large political advertising scheme. Many were the complaints we heard about the valuable time that had been lost to the dairy interest at both of the Conventions, and Mr. Ballantyne's cards have been so well played that it is very doubtful if there will ever be as good a Convention held again as there were before the Government took charge of the institution. There can be no doubt but a great deal of valuable information has been spread, and that good has been done and will be done by this Association this year, but taking into consideration the following points, it is very doubtful if the cost is justified:

1st. The perversion of the Dairymen's Association into a personal and selfish faction cannot tend to the advancement of the real interest for which the Association received the grant.

2nd. Whether the attempt to withhold agricultural information from those who desire it and pay for it, is not tending to check rather than encourage beneficial enterprises, and the spread of agricultural information.

3rd. In tending to lower the standard of morality by encouraging deception with the public money.

Despite the usefulness and the great good done by this Association, the interest in it is already on the wane, and the great cause is this, that it is driving many practical and really first-class dairymen away because there has been shown a strong tendency to use it as a party institution; that the dairy interest has been compelled to take a second position; that wire-pullers have employed the funds and the time of the meeting to try to elevate party men for party purposes, and the interest, utility and honor of the institution have been trampled in the dust. This is much to be regretted, and we deem it our duty to try and use our influence to prevent its failure. Three more meetings like the three last have been, the Government of the country cannot sanction, neither will the people tolerate it. Hard as some may think the above remarks to be, no really honorable, truthful or independent person who attended these meetings, or is acquainted with the real facts, will pretend to deny them. But all has not yet been told. Should any person acquainted with the facts openly show that we have formed erroneous conclusions, or are stating anything contrary to our convictions, we should be pleased to insert their opinions, even if they occupy two columns.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The address of L. B. Arnold we publish in full, as we have always considered that more really sound, practical and valuable information has been given by him, and gained by steady application and tests of the most practical and useful character. His addresses always contain many useful and new ideas, that is, if there is anything new in dairying or its application.

X. A. Willard is the dairy orator. He is a good speaker, but his address contains much that has appeared and is too long to afford the space. Mr. Willard has a good faculty of observation and selecting good matter.

Hon. Harris Lewis is a very valuable aid to Dairy Conventions, thoroughly practical, very humorous, and has a ready answer to every practical question; he also has a happy knack of soothing a trouble and putting a meeting in good spirits. He gave a most valuable account of his experience with Meadow Fescue, and considers it the best grass we have for permanent pastures. His information about this grass alone must be of immense value to this Dominion, as from his practical experience and information this will now be noised about and introduced to a great extent. But few will be willing to credit the good done by Mr. Harris to our Dominion. As yet few have tried the grass. We advise every one to try a little this year, if you have not already tried it; and if you have, get more. Mr. Lewis is a strong advocate of a variety of grasses in our pastures. He has tried and found the beneficial results from personal experience and practice on his own farm, and now highly recommends it to others. We never heard or read a more convincing proof than the words from this plain, unassuming, honorable, practical farmer. His words will prove a text for thousands in Canada to dilate on and show what good they are doing, but few will eventually credit this gentleman with the good he has done in convincing some of the leading farmers of our Dominion. The profits from his teaching amply repay a hundred-fold the small sum paid to him.

Prof. Wetherall, of Boston, read an interesting paper on "Feed and Feeding." In feeding, the object was to lessen the cost and to increase quality and quantity. Grass contains all the essential elements in due proportion; oil cake and some other foods do not. He cited an experiment that he had made with 100 sheep, divided into lots of 10, and placed half in cold and half in warm sheds. With one-fourth less food, there were three pounds more per sheep in favor of closed sheds. He spoke of the value of saving grass in as green a condition as possible, and said he put in clover somewhat green alternating it with layers of dry straw. One acre of corn was equal to four acres of grass. The speaker closed an able address by stating he had more confidence in the dairy than in beef.

Prof. Roberts, of Cornell University, spoke of the importance of proper breeding, and depreciated strongly the use of miniature animals. This latter

occasioned a deficiency in vitality and a tendency to disease. Shelter and proper care were all important, and striking examples of the result of want of proper care were given. More care, as a rule, was given by breeders of horses. He did not think in-breeding was of much good; it was, however, the best thing, when there was no superior stock outside—what was gained by selection was usually lost by unavoidable mistakes. To perpetuate the milk qualities of a breed the animals must be kept under as favorable circumstances as those under which they were bred.

The Rev. W. F. Clarke also gave an interesting address.

Of course those who have heard the greater portion of the valuable hints again and again, as it is no easy matter to have been accustomed to attend these Conventions bring out new and valuable suggestions; but the continuation of impressing good lessons on the public in different forms tends to good results. The greater portion of the real practical information has been given through the ADVOCATE, therefore we must not weary you by too oft a repetition, or too much on this subject at one time. We hope to treat more on this Convention and the addresses in future issues.

Mr. Tilson, of Tilsonburg, gave his experience on soiling, an account of cost of food, description of and cost of the silo he had erected. He informed the meeting that he had prepared an article on this subject for the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. We shall be pleased to insert Mr. Tilson's own description as soon as it arrives at our office.

The Eastern Ontario Dairymen's Convention.

This Convention was held in Belleville on the 7th, 8th and 9th ult. We presume the attendance was larger than usual. The number of prominent dairy writers and orators, and the number of professors assembled, we presume was the largest ever brought together in Canada. The same addresses as were delivered at the Western Convention were given by Messrs. Arnold, Willard, Lewis, Roberts, Wetherall and Clark; also, Prof. Bell, of Belleville, and Brown, of the School of Agriculture, delivered addresses. A vast deal of useful information was contained in each address. Some of the addresses were, we thought, rather long. There were not a great many new ideas brought forward, but the reviving of old, good and tried practices in new forms or by different means tends to do good. Prof. Brown being looked on as the representative of agriculture in Canada, was listened to with great patience. He treated on the different grasses, showed samples and gave a diagram showing the length of time that each kind was available for food, and strongly recommended sowing more mixed grasses for our pastures. He commended the following list as the most suitable for Canada:

- Lucerne.
- Red Clover.
- Italian } for soiling.
- Perennial }
- Fan oat grass.
- Timothy.
- Orchard.
- Meadow Fescue.
- Kentucky blue grass.
- Red-top.

The Hon. Harris Lewis, who is much impressed with the great benefit of sowing different grasses, and has long since advocated it, said Mr. Brown's suggestions in regard to sowing a larger number of grasses would be worth forty times the cost of the College if the farmers would only practice it; although he could not recommend some of the grasses that Mr. Brown had commended, as he had tried them and found they would not answer. He stated that his farm in Western New York was similar to ours in Canada, and if they would not thrive or live there, they would not live here. His experience would also differ very much from Mr. Brown's diagram showing the value of grasses.