FARMING

. ILLUSTRATED WERKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO FARMING AND THE PARMER'S INTERESTS.

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TOPICS FOR THE WEEK.

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Cattlemen's Request Granted.

Just before going to press we were informed that the committee appointed by the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association to interview the Hon. Mr Fisher in reference to the quarantine regulations had done so, and that he had consented to appoint competent vetermarians to test all cattle purchased for exportation to Canada before leaving Great Britain. Mr. Fisher also informed the committee that, at the urgent request of the Hon. John Dryden, he had made arrangements for testing some cattle that are now on the water en route for Canada before they left England, and that these cattle would be admitted without being subjected to the tuberculin test at the port of entry, on presentation of the certificate of the British veterinarian that they were free from tuberculosis before leaving. This important concession should stimulate the importation of purebred cattle into Canada, and we shall undoubtedly see a large influx of new, young blood in the near future. Even now several of our prominent cattle breeders have intimated their intention of making large importations as soon as possible.

Beef Cattle Trade.

At the annual meeting of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association, held in Brantford last week, the following address was delivered by the president, Mr. Ino. I. Hobson, of Guelph, Ont., and as it contains many points of value to cattle breeders, we publish it in full.

Mr. Hobson spent the early portion of the summer in a tour through Western Canada and the later portion and the fall in Great Britain, and gave special attention to studying the needs of the beef cattle trade, especially in the latter place, and therefore, the information contained in this address will be of practical value to the live stock trade of Canada and to agriculture in general:

"The members of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association have much reason to congratulate themselves on the favorable conditions under which we now meet. For a number of years past the business of farming has been anything but prosperous, and it required men of a very sanguine temperament to see any bright lining in the dark clouds which pressed heavily on the farmer. At last those clouds have lifted, and the business of the country shows a more healthy state. The higher price of wheat is apparently having a noticeable influence on many of the other products of the farm. Already the improved condition of farming is being feit in every city and town in the country. Business men are more hopeful, manufacturers are busy everywhere, and in many cases are crowded with orders, and working overtime. Speaking, however, more directly of those interests which it is hoped will be henefited by the work done by this association, we find that the total shipment of cheese from Montreal up to the present time is very much greater than for the corresponding period of last year and at exceedingly satisfactory prices. What that means to the dairy farmer and the country generally can be realized when it is stated, that it is estimated by those competent to speak on the matter that from twelve to thirteen million dollars will be received this year for cheese exported. In butter also, an unusually large and profitable business has been done, the increase in the exports being greatly in

excess of the corresponding periods of last year, while the prices obtained in the latter part of the season, at least, leaves a good margin for profit.

"Looking at the business done directly in cattle, and glancing for a moment at what has been going on in Manitoba and the Western Territories of Canada, we see that business has been very profitable to the farmer and the ranchman, and causes them, with good reason, to be very hopeful for the future. The possibilities of the future of that country appear to be very great. There is now an absolute certainty that there are great mineral deposits in British Columbia, Northwestern Ontario, and the Klondyke, the development of which will certainly go on at an ever increasing rate for some years to come. Besides the vast number of men engaged in mining, there will be the great work of railroad construction. Considering that these men will not only be non-producers of food products, but, on the contrary, will be large con sumers, it will be readily seen that it is not too much to expect that there will be a large western demand for live stock and its products. When out West this summer, I was told by some of the large ranchmen that prices had at that time gone up \$5 a head for cattle, and I was further informed that Pat Burns, of Nelson, had contracted to have delivered to him one thousand cattle a month for twelve months.

"That the mines of this western country will add largely to our national wealth goes without saying, but it will not be in the value of the minerals taken from these mines which alone constitute the increased wealth, but the impetus which it will give to farming and stock raising in that great western land will be of still greater value, and will be an important factor towards the more rapid settlement of the rich lands of Manitoba, and particularly that splendid section of country so peculiarly adapted to stock raising and mixed farming, familiarly known as the Red Deer and Edmonton coun-While speaking of this western country we may for a moment refer to what has been done through the instrumentality of this association in the matter of obtaining greatly .educed rates for shipping all sorts of pedigreed stock to Manitoba and the Territories. It is not too much to say that the good work done by the Cattle Breeders' Association in this direction alone is of more real money value to the country than the whole cost of carrying on the work from the days of its mauguration until the present time. It has given an impetus to the business of breeding good stock in the east; it has given us a market for all our surplus, and what is of still greater importance, the distribution of so much good stock will raise the average quality of the stock throughout all that vast section of country from Winnipeg to the Rocky Mountains. There are yet some minor matters of detail to be attended to in this transi port business which came under my notice lastsummer when in that part of the country, and which I purpose bringing before the executive of the association.

"While in Britain during part of the summer and fall of this year, I made it my special business to enquire into the working of the live stock and dressed meat trade between Canada and that country. I enquired into it in a general way in Liverpool and Glasgow, but more particularly in London. In the latter city, where I spent nearly three weeks, I had letters of introduction to Mr. Philcox, Superintendent of the Deptford Live Cattle Market, Mr. Cooper, chairman of the meat trade section of the London Chamber of Commerce, also chairman of the Meat Markets' Association of the great central meat market, as well