

as factors in promoting education and science, our fairs must not stand still. The fair of ten or twenty years ago will not answer the purpose of to day any more than the hundreds of other things in vogue a decade ago fill the purpose now. The fair of this year cannot fill the requirements for next year, and hence managers must be on the lookout for new things and ready to consider new methods that appeal for recognition and that seem likely to contribute to the general interests; nor should we wait for appeals; rather it is our province to seek out the things that should be represented from year to year, for the consideration of the public, and to study up new methods of simplifying and imparting the information and knowledge than come within the scope of the fair."

The writer follows this up with a strong endorsement of live stock sales at agricultural fairs, and points out that the time is ripe for their introduction. This, we think, is something that local fairs might profitably take up. It would certainly put the holding of the fair to a practical use and should encourage a large and better exhibit of live stock. The difficulty of making fairs pay is referred to. The income and outgo must always, in proper fair management, be as studiously observed as in any successful mercantile enterprise of magnitude.

A well-ordered system should govern all the details of the fair. Where a fair can afford to pay an energetic individual to manage these details he should be secured, otherwise there should be such a division and sub division of the work of the various departments that every detail will be thoroughly looked after. The attractiveness of a show depends largely upon the way the exhibits are arranged. Great taste and care should be exercised in this line. Then, every fair should have a special woman's department that should be given all the prominence possible.

On the score of special attractions, the *Statesman* says: "Some critics deplore the prominence given to these, holding that the fair proper suffers in consequence. This may, in some instances, be true, but it does not necessarily follow. The fair of to-day cannot be the fair of a quarter or half century ago. Our people and people's tastes have changed wonderfully during all these vanished years. The "attractions" have come to stay. It does not follow that standard features of the fair must in consequence be slighted in the smallest degree. Probably no clientage is more diversified and difficult to please than that of a fair. Is it not the part of wisdom, then, to cater to as many tastes as possible?"

The advertising of the fair is an important affair, and a fair management is lucky if it can secure a secretary or manager who is an adept in this line. No matter how good the fair may be, unless it is properly advertised success cannot be looked for. It pays to advertise. On this point the writer says:

"Use the local papers generously. Have your advertisements well written, and do not be niggardly in the amount of space used. Use display "ads," local reading notices and illustrations, i. you can get a few good ones. Do extensive bill posting everywhere within the territory from which you expect to draw your patronage. Use plenty of plain date sheets, so that "he who runs may read." Use large size letters on type posters; do not attempt to get too much detail on them; leave that for newspaper advertising."

In addition to this we might state that there can be no better medium for advertising the larger fairs than by using the agricultural press. The purely agricultural paper is read carefully by every breeder in the country, and a fair notice in its columns is sure to be noticed by him.

Closed Township Fairs

By James Kirkwood, Ospringe, Ont.

In getting up a paper on this subject I find it a hard matter to draw the line between what you would call a limited and an unlimited show, for we see around us that,

where two or more municipalities join together and hold a show, it is an advantage to all concerned. I will, however, give you some reasons why I think a limited show is preferable to an unlimited one.

Limited societies stand in the same relation, as an educator, as the public school does to the high school, and the public school is necessary to train the young mind, to fit it for attending the high school. The advantage of a closed show is that it encourages parties to become exhibitors who would be hard to persuade to become members if an unlimited or large show were held.

By becoming members of a limited society they become interested and bring their neighbors together to compete for prizes, while it would take a great deal of persuasion to get them to become members of an unlimited show. Shows that are confined exclusively to the rural inhabitants, farmers and others in the township being the only competitors for prizes, have a tendency to become more social in their character.

A farmer desirous of obtaining a prize over his neighbor will pay more attention to his stock, grain, roots, or whatever article he intends to exhibit than he otherwise would, had he not intended to show, and he is the means of stirring up his neighbor to do the same thing, and by so doing brings the articles to the show in as good a shape as he can with the means at his disposal. If it is an animal it is in a more matured shape than it otherwise would have been. The same thing will apply to mechanics. They will use the very best material that can be got, and by skill and workmanship will get the article up in the very latest style, be it waggon, buggy, sleigh, or cutter, or any other article that they may choose to manufacture. It is the boundary being limited that gives encouragement to a beginner.

Then, again, when the boundary is limited, it means that the resources to pay prizes are also limited. This makes it necessary to do away with all other attractions and to make it a purely agricultural show.

One advantage that a limited show has over an unlimited one is that in almost any settlement the settlers are more equal and there are fewer professionals. Another advantage is that the board of management is divided more equally over the territory which it takes in, and because of this the territory is better canvassed, and the show is better talked up, and the people are more in touch with each other than they would be if the society was an unlimited one, and where the directorate is chosen in or around a city, town, or village where the show is held. For it is necessary for the board of managers to meet and discuss with each other, and make arrangements for the best way of conducting the show.

San Jose Scale Commission

(Specially Reported for "Farming")

The San Jose Scale Commissioners held a series of meetings at various points in the south-western counties of Ontario during the first two weeks of this month.

At Chatham they heard the evidence of Mr. John Van Horn, into whose orchard the scale had been introduced on nursery stock from Parry Bros., New Jersey, in 1892 or 1893. The Parry Bros. subsequently warned him to examine these trees for scale; he found it, but not before it had spread into an adjoining orchard. He treated some trees with a lime and sulphur solution and with whale oil soap; one of them was entirely cured. He has faith in this treatment, but he was not allowed to continue it on his slightly affected trees. His orchard was inspected in 1898; he was required to burn 110 trees, for which he received \$38.75.

Mr. Frank Wilson contended that the dissatisfaction had arisen on account of the lack of tact on the part of the officials and the low compensation.

The majority of the witnesses at Chatham, St. Thomas and Leamington thought it the duty of the Government to go on and try to stamp the insect out if possible, but to allow the sufferers higher compensation. At Kingsville,