

## The Live Stock Breeders.

The second annual convention of the Manitoba live stock breeders, held under the auspices of the Sheep and Swine breeders' and the Pure-bred Cattle breeders' associations, met in Winnipeg last week and were largely attended, and probably the most successful meeting ever held. The following officers were elected for the Sheep and Swine Breeder's association: President, Wm. Kitson, Burnside; first vice-president W. W. Fraser, Emerson; second vice-president, Robert Lang, Oak Lake; secretary treasurer, G. H. Greig; directors, (sheep), James Bray, Thomas McCartney, — McMillan, James Vance (swine), James Elder, A. B. Potter, A. Graham and S. J. Thompson, M.P.P.; auditors, Richard Waugh and S. A. Bedford, representatives to provincial fairs, (Winnipeg Industrial), A. Graham, Pomeroy; Portage la Prairie, President Kitson; Brandon. — Leitch; Carberry, S. J. Thompson, M.P.P.; Regina, A. McKay. The appointment of representatives to the other provincial shows was referred to a committee who will report later.

A committee was appointed to wait upon the provincial government with a request for an annual grant to the association. A. Graham urged the association to use their influence with the legislature to assist the Winnipeg Industrial exhibition company with a liberal annual grant. The Winnipeg exhibition is, he said, essentially a provincial one and as such should secure the support of the government. The great bulk of the prize money goes annually to the country exhibitors: the city council and the citizens are liberal supporters of the exhibition, and the stock breeders, and all classes of agriculturists should show their appreciation of an enterprise, which has for its aim the advancement of the whole province, by lending it every support and assistance possible. Mr. Graham paid a high compliment to the directors and manager of the Industrial.

At the meeting of the cattle breeders the president called attention to the association's lack of funds to enable them to carry out the objects of the association, and recommended the appointment of a committee to wait upon the government and ask for a grant, which would be devoted to the payment of special prizes for pure bred stock. The following committee was appointed accordingly: Walter Lynch, J. S. Robson, H. O. Aycarst, and the secretary G. H. Greig.

The prize list was then taken up, and some important changes in classification were suggested to be recommended to the Industrial exhibition directors. A great deal of interest was manifested in this question, a majority of the members speaking to it, and it was finally decided to leave the details of re-arranging the prize list with the directors, who were granted full power to act.

In the afternoon a joint meeting of the two associations was held, Mr. Bedford in the chair.

James Riddle, of Tobacco Creek, read a paper on the "Adaptability of Manitoba for the Raising of Sheep, and their Management."

Dr. Rutherford, M.P.P., spoke on the "Principles of Breeding." The doctor prefaced his remark by a short dissertation on the great advantages which are afforded by mixed farming. He warned breeders against perpetuating diseased or poor strains, and especially to guard against the dreaded pest tuberculosis.

President Aycarst read a short paper "A Retrospective and Prospective View of the Cattle Breeding Industry," in which he traced the history of the cattle trade in Manitoba, from its small beginning to the present, contrasting the time, a few years ago, when cattle were imported for food supply, with last year, when the province exported 22,000 head of live cattle.

"Mutton Sheep in Manitoba," by Mr.

William Wallace, of Niverville, was an instructive paper showing the possibilities of successful sheep farming, and its importance on the future welfare of the province.

At the evening session Mr. Long read a paper on, "How I Am Feeding My Breeding Stock This Winter." "A Criticism of the Papers on Swine in the 1895 Bulletin," was read by W. W. Fraser of Emerson. Mr. Fraser hoped that the transportation companies would see the justice of making concessions, which would tend to the mutual benefit of the railways and the stockmen.

Angus McKay, superintendent of the Indian Head experimental farm, read a paper on, "The Swine Industry of the Northwest Territories." He pointed out the folly of farmers putting all their energies and hopes into wheat-growing and neglecting those branches of farming that would ensure them a comfortable living, if not a large profit. One of these was hog raising. He would not advise the establishment of hog ranches. Mr. McKay advised fattening before the extreme cold weather set in.

Mr. Walter Lynch, of Westbourne, told "Why I like the Shorthorns," in an entertaining and instructive paper. He made a strong plea for the Shorthorns as a general purpose, good, allround breed of cattle, which combines more points of excellence than any other class.

David Munro moved the following resolution which was seconded by Walter Lynch and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, that the joint associations of the Pure Bred Cattle Breeders and the Sheep and Swine Breeders desire to express their appreciation of the liberal encouragement given by the local government to these interests and the dairy industry, and believing as we do that the pure bred stock industry lies at the very foundation of the dairy interest, and of the prime beef, pork and mutton production of the province, that we strongly urge upon them the desirability of giving a grant of at least \$5,000 to the Winnipeg Industrial exhibition association for the continued usefulness of this very successful and popular institution; and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the provincial government.

It was moved by W. W. Fraser and resolved that a deputation wait upon the railway and express companies re the reduction of freight and express rates on pure bred stock for breeding purposes in less than car lots.

S. A. Bedford, of the Brandon experimental farm, read a practical paper on "Fattening Steers." He went into the details of keeping and feeding steers for fattening, giving the figures of quantities of food, description of feed, with opinions as to the most profitable kind, and a calculation of the profits derivable from the sale of properly fed animals.

In answer to an inquiry Angus McKay related his experience with Austrian brome grass and recommended its culture as an excellent pasture grass, of vigorous and early growth and good for curing purposes.

Addresses by L. A. Hamilton, president of the Winnipeg Industrial and Hon. Robt. Watson, concluded the proceedings.

## Winnipeg Board of Trade.

A meeting of the council of the board was held Thursday afternoon, when a letter was read from the chamber of commerce at Rochester, N. Y., which enclosed a resolution expressing the favorable opinion of the members of that chamber to the establishment of an international arbitration board, to settle all disputes on matters arising between Great Britain and the United States. The Rochester chamber asked the Winnipeg board to express an opinion in the matter. A favorable resolution will be forwarded to Rochester.

Several communications from the Hon. J. F. Wood, comptroller of customs, were read, relating to the immediate removal of the customs postal package office from the present examining warehouse in the southern end of the city to the postoffice building. Mr. Wood enclosed a letter from the minister of public works, stating that orders had already been given to proceed at once with the necessary work.

Regarding the question of the removal of the customs house from its present inconvenient site to a more central one, the council appointed a committee to again take up the matter and press for a change.

F. H. Mathewson, E. L. Drowry and J. E. Steen were appointed as delegates from the board to the immigration convention.

The council has taken another three years' lease of their present offices in the grain exchange block, from N. Bawlf.

The matter of the bill introduced in the house of commons at Ottawa by Mr. Mulock, M. P., to reduce the legal rate of interest from 6 per cent to 4 per cent, was discussed at some length, it having been referred to the council by the Bankers' association at Winnipeg and Montreal. It was the unanimous opinion of the council that it would be very much opposed to all interests in this country that a change from six per cent should be made under the conditions existing in this country; and a resolution was ordered to be prepared to that effect, which will be forwarded to the minister of finance.

An invitation to the board to appoint delegates to the second congress of chambers of commerce for the British empire, which will be held in London in June next was left in the hands of the president.

## Heavy Expenditure Proposed.

After the wine at the opening of the Manitoba legislature about the insufficiency of the revenue to meet the requirements of the province, the proposal so soon made to vastly increase the provincial liability, will come as a surprise. On Thursday the premier moved a resolution to the effect that it is expedient to assist the construction of a railway running in a northwesterly direction, west of Lake Manitoba, to a point west of Lake Dauphin, by guaranteeing the principal and interest of the first mortgage bonds of the company to the amount of eight thousand dollars per mile, said bonds bearing four per cent interest, and maturing at the end of thirty years, and by exempting the said railway company, its property and franchises from taxation during the period of such guarantee, provided, that the said bonds and interest thereon shall be a first charge upon the said line of railway, and its revenues and franchises, rolling stock and equipment.

The Dauphin district is admittedly a fine section of country, and it is no doubt desirable that it should be opened up, if we do not pay too dearly for it. The price asked in this case seems pretty heavy. This guarantee means a liability of about \$2,000,000 against the province. The road, as proposed, would also parallel the Manitoba and Northwestern for some distance, and so far as this would be the case, it is certainly an altogether unwarranted expenditure. Provincial aid should certainly not be given to any portion of the road running through a district which is already so well served. As the premier has reserved his explanation of the matter until the second reading of the bill, the details of the proposed enterprise are lacking at the moment, so that full criticism cannot now be made.

Last Saturday, says the Brandon Times, the retail grocery business of the Whitelaw Trading Company was closed, and hereafter the whole energies of the firm will be devoted to wholesaling.