

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

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CONTENTS.

EDITORIAL:—

101—Illustration. 102—Topgallant Clydesdales; Meeting of the Central Canada Agricultural Society.

STOCK:—

102—Mr. John A. McGillivray's Horned Dorsets at Chicago.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:—

103—Veterinary; Miscellaneous.

DAIRY:—

104—Questions for Factorymen; Western Dairymen's Association.

FARM:—

106—Death of Mr. Wm. Russell; Spring Grains, Corn, Potatoes and Roots. 111—The Dispersion of Cairnbrogie Stud of Clydesdales and Hackneys; Artificial Manure. 112—Farm Wastes; Our Prize Essays; Intensive Farming; Veitch's as a Crop for Ensilage; Bone Phosphates. 113—Freeman's Potato Contest; The Work Done in Ontario by Dr. Barnardo.

APIARY:—

114—Melting Old Combs; The Apiary; Mr. Pringle Replies to Mr. Ferguson.

THE QUIET HOUR:—115.

MINNIE MAY:—115.

UNCLE TOM:—116.

STOCK GOSSIP:—117 to 121.

ADVERTISEMENTS:—117 to 124.

Very heavy Asiatics are better off bedded down with leaves or straw than given a roost. At most, a roost for such birds should not exceed one foot in height.

A scratching pen is a necessity in every well arranged poultry house. It should be under the same roof with the roosting room, and if in a sheltered position, the south side may be left open.

How little some people know about Canada. The Ontario Minister of Agriculture has received a letter from a New Zealand firm asking particulars about the butter industry of this country, as it wishes to ship New Zealand butter to us by the C. P. R. Steamships. The inquirers will be told that we have plenty of butter in Canada, and also some to spare for our less fortunate neighbors.

Give the boys an interest in the farm; give them a pure-bred colt or calf and see the interest taken in the feed and care; the pedigree is soon familiar, and the foundation is made for a successful breeder of that boy, and he will not leave the farm. We know boys who were given a pair of pigs, and they soon had a herd of pedigreed swine. A pair of pedigree lambs in the hands of the boys soon makes a flock of sheep—the pride of the farm.

patrons for tampering with their milk; thirty-three of these pleaded guilty, and the other two were proven guilty, the fines running from five to fifteen dollars and costs. These fines, in his opinion, were altogether too small, for in some cases the patrons admitted that they had been systematically adding water to the milk for weeks. In one case, the adulteration was so great that for every dollar the patron received for milk he had received a dollar and a-half for water.

There was a Babcock tester in thirty-five of the factories which he visited. He believed that this was the only fair way to pay for milk, for in every case where the system was adopted, the milk they received had a much better flavor than formerly, owing to the additional care given it by the patron; the natural result is that a corresponding improvement in the quality of the cheese was observable. In addition to the above, the Babcock has a tendency to induce the patrons to feed their cows more liberally, and give them better care generally.

In regard to the making of the tests, he would recommend that a number of factories, say ten or twelve, should co-operate and engage some competent person to do the testing. It would not cost as much as it does at present, and would be much more satisfactory to all concerned.

Mr. Millar closed by urging upon the cheesemakers the more strict attention to details, and especially the more careful boxing of the cheese.

Mr. J. L. Leach complained that he had not been able to obtain the services of Mr. Millar last year, and suggested that, as the work had grown to such an enormous extent, the Association should employ another man, so that no factories should be neglected.

In speaking of the Babcock test, Mr. Scott, Sparta, said that a few of his patrons had kicked, but it was principally because he had not furnished the patrons with full information so that they understood what they were doing. He expected to put the Babcock back in his factory next season.

Mr. Pearce considered that there was no excuse for a cheesemaker not knowing how to run a Babcock tester.

In answer to a question on the cause of variations in the butterfat, Mr. John Robertson said that it might be due to variations in the strength of acid, but it was more likely to be due to the condition of cows. A cow must be in a normal condition to give a reliable test of butterfat. When two or more cows in a herd were running, he had known the milk to drop down greatly in the amount of butterfat.

PROF. FLETCHER ON "BUGS."

This was the comprehensive title of an address, brimful of useful information, delivered by Prof. Fletcher, Dominion Entomologist. There was, he said, a tremendous amount of loss sustained by agriculture from injurious insects, fungus diseases and noxious weeds. Two-thirds of this loss could be saved if people would only apply the proper remedies at the right time. Injurious insects, he said, were on the increase, owing to the larger area of cultivation. He showed the necessity of keeping down weeds, for insects which fed on native plants would spread to cultivated plants and thus affect the food supply. He explained the different stages in the life of an insect, and how this knowledge enabled us to apply the remedies at the right moment. Insects were of two great classes—those that sucked the blood or juice from animals or plants, and those which had biting jaws. A mixture of soapsuds and coal oil in the form of an emulsion would kill the suckers, while it would be necessary to apply poison of some kind to destroy the second class. Among preventative methods, the most important were high culture, clean farming and rotation of crops. The active remedies comprised the application of all the well-known insecticides. These he discussed at length, and explained the best methods of preparation and application. Unslaked lime, used in the same proportion as the Paris green, has been found to prevent the injuring of tender foliage, such as plums, by the effects of the Paris green.

In speaking of the horn fly, he thought that it would gradually grow less, until it ceased to be considered a pest.

HON. JOHN DRYDEN.

When the general discussion had concluded, the Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture, was introduced to the audience, who received him with great enthusiasm. "The first thing I want to say," he began, "is that this is certainly a grand meeting." He was pleased to be present and see that twenty-five years of earnest and incessant work had brought its deserved reward, and to-day Ontario stands first among all competitors as a producer of the finest cheese that the market demands. He congratulated the Association upon its success, and commended the action of the Association in increasing the number of meetings held under its patronage. This action will have the effect of bringing the farmer and cheesemaker nearer together. The cheesemaker is helpless to produce the best product unless he has the hearty co-operation of the farmer, who furnishes the milk; on the other hand, the farmer is equally helpless without the services of the cheesemaker.

He then referred to the returns which were sent in to his department, which showed that there was a falling off of nearly six million pounds of milk per month during the dry summer. This was too

much of a reduction and should be guarded against by growing a sufficient quantity of green fodder, and then the cows, like those of the men who lived in Ohio, would never know when there had been a drought. He closed by saying that he was satisfied with the return which the Government money which had been invested in the Western Dairymen's Association was making. It has been well-spent money, and whoever happens to be in the Legislature cannot do better than to continue the grant to the Association.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon session was held in the Salvation Army Barracks, and, commodious as it was, there was scarcely room for all who were present.

When Mr. C. E. Chadwick, the venerable Honorary Secretary of the Association and father of the organization, rose to address the meeting, he was greeted with an enthusiastic welcome and continuous cheering. He said that it was gratifying to him to find such an assemblage, for, looking back five and twenty years, he could say that this was the most successful convention that he had ever witnessed. He gave a few statistics to show the great improvement which had been made in the wealth of the country; this, he said, was largely due to the efforts of the Ontario dairymen. All credit was due to the resolute and determined men who had contributed to make out of the forest a fertile field. They had heard it said on too many occasions that the country was going to the dogs, and that our people were leaving it to go to a better, but he defied them to find one on the face of the earth. It had been said that our land was depreciating in value, but taking it on the whole, there was not a country in the world where the depreciation had not been greater than it had been in Canada.

Mr. John Gould, of Ohio, and Mr. D. M. McPherson were then called upon to stand a severe cross-questioning in regard to the papers which they had delivered. In the discussion, Mr. McPherson further explained his plan of establishing small model farms throughout the country. A farmer, he said, must have an income greater than his outlay, or he would soon be sold out by the sheriff. It costs more for a farmer to live now than it did formerly, but he thought that this expensive living had come to stay, and that the successful man must devote his energies to the economy of production.

In regard to dehorning, he said that he would not dehorn until the animals were one or two years old. Mr. Gould was again called to describe his method of filling a silo and the cultivation of the corn to a deeply interested audience.

Prof. Robertson recounted the triumphs which were won at the World's Fair, and impressed upon the audience the lessons which they had taught. Above all, Prof. Robertson appealed to the dairymen not to relax their efforts or to rest upon their laurels, but to strive to accomplish in the future still more glorious victories.

Resolutions were adopted tendering the thanks of the Association and the hearty appreciation of the dairymen to Mr. A. F. McLaren, who acted as judge at the World's Fair; to the Dairy Commissioner for his services in selecting the cheese, and to the buyers who responded to his invitation and devoted considerable time to the selection of goods for the exhibit; to the town of Ingersoll and the Board of Trade, and to the speakers who have all aided in the success of this the largest and most enthusiastic gathering ever held by the Dairymen's Association.

Closing speeches were then made by Mr. Pattullo, Senator Read, Mr. Derbyshire and Mr. Ballantyne.

THE ANNUAL BANQUET.

The citizens of Ingersoll entertained the dairymen to a banquet on the last night of the convention, the memories of which will linger long in the hearts of those whose privilege it was to be of the company. After the delicacies of the menu had been thoroughly discussed, the toast of "The Queen" was honored in a fitting manner. Mr. John Gould, of Ohio, was called upon to speak on behalf of his fellow-countrymen, in response to the toast, "Our neighbors." Dairymen, he said, were brothers the world over, no matter under what government they might chance to live.

"The Canadian Parliament" was the next toast, and it was replied to by Senator Read, of Belleville, who though over eighty years of age is still hale and hearty, and takes as much interest in dairying as ever. Sir Richard Cartwright, who represents this riding in the Dominion Parliament, was greeted with an outburst of applause on rising to speak to the same toast. He had no intention of discussing politics, for he believed that they had met together for the purpose of discussing something better than politics.

He spoke in high terms of the good which the Dairymen's Association was doing in the country, and referred to the importance of this gigantic industry. He believed that the great success of the past was only a foretaste of what was to come in the future.

HON. THOS. BALLANTYNE.

In response to the toast, "Canadian Dairying," Mr. Ballantyne gave a brief history of the development of the cheesemaking system now in vogue, and which had its birth at Ingersoll. He referred to the pioneers of the business as men whom the country should be proud to honor. Cheesemakers