

1-2 GEORGE V., A. 1911

Middlesex are two counties that are as good as any that I have had anything to do with. Elgin also has been good.

Q. I have a petition here—I have not had it up my sleeve for several days, I only got it to-day—it is from fifty residents of the township of Mosa and Newbury in Middlesex county asking that this Bill be passed. I suppose you do not know anything about that petition? There are over fifty signatures to it asking that his Bill be passed by the House.

Mr. BEATON.—Are they horse breeders?

The CHAIRMAN.—They do not pretend to be, but they are residents of the county.

*By Mr. Monk:*

Q. Do you know any of those people who signed that petition?—A. I do not know many, I know some of them and I know they are not horse breeders, and there are some names there that I am not acquainted with, therefore I cannot say as to them.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Some of them are farmers are they not?—A. Well, as far as I know, but I am not posted as to that.

Q. Well, the county of Elgin adjoining your county, is that as good a horse breeding county as yours?—A. I think Middlesex is best, but Elgin is good although it used to be better than it is to-day.

Q. But it is a good horse breeding county?—A. It is a good horse breeding county; but I might say one thing for your benefit, that during the time the St. Thomas race track was in existence, whether that was the cause or not I am not prepared to say, there were many more good standard-bred horses in that county, than there is to-day. They did away with their track, but they are building another track at the present time and I think it will be in operation next year.

Q. This is a resolution I received to-day; it is dated February 8, although I received it this afternoon, or if not this afternoon this forenoon:—

Moved by W. B. Roberts, and seconded by Arthur Olde, that in the opinion of the farmers of this institute meeting held at Union on the 4th day of February, 1910, that it would be in the interest of the people if Mr. H. H. Miller's Bill *re* Anti-Horse Race Gambling Bill became law, believing as we do that it would not injure horse-breeding, but would add greatly to the good morals of this country.

That was carried unanimously by the East Elgin Farmers' Institute?—A. I know a great many men throughout the county of Elgin.

Q. This is moved by W. B. Roberts and seconded by Arthur Olde; do you know them?—A. Neither one of them is a horseman to my knowledge. I have never known them to have a good horse, that is a good road horse. I do not know anything about the heavy horses.

*By Mr. Moss:*

Q. Did you ever hear about this Farmers' Institute?—A. No.

Q. You have no knowledge how many trotting horse races are held?—A. No, I do not.

Q. Do you ever attend the horse races?—A. I do not, generally speaking; Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa meetings are about all that I know of. I have never attended one.

Witness discharged.

The CHAIRMAN.—I might as well put in at this stage this telegram:—

Vancouver, February 17, 1910.—Local option league British Columbia, representing twenty-two thousand electors and many thousands others, urge passing of Anti-Gambling Bill.—D SPENCER, Supt.