

able. Brantford, Canada, was selected for the next place of meeting; and as this is only the second time in twenty years that the society will meet in Canada a very large attendance is expected. Mr. R. F. Holtermann, of that place, is the Secretary.

"The age for bees to go into winter quarters" was taken up. Many had been feeding bees to stimulate them to brood-rearing until the latter part of October, or even November. It was suggested that bees were, perhaps, like people—the little children and the old people suffered most from a severe winter, and probably the young, sensitive, and not yet hardened bees would suffer also—those bees nearly worn out. Instances were given where bees had wintered successfully where none had been bred after the latter part of July, and again, where they had wintered well and the queen had not ceased laying until November 1st. The majority thought they would like the queen to cease laying about September 1st.

In connection with this it would be well to remember that the bees may have a little brood up to a certain date, and yet the majority by far may be very old bees. It is therefore desirable that the queen deposit a large number of eggs, and then cease her labors about that time for the remainder of the season.

"When should bees commence brood-rearing in the spring?" was another topic for discussion. There appears to be a very strong diversity of opinion upon this subject, and so widely different are the opinions that it would be well to conduct some experiments in this direction. Some claimed they did not want bees to commence brood-rearing until within four weeks of the commencement of the clover harvest. A number did not want their bees to rear any brood whilst in their winter quarters, claiming that the bees lost heart and did not advance as rapidly after setting out as those who did not commence until out. On the other hand, some want four or five combs of solid brood in the hive by the time the bees are let out of their winter quarters, about April 10th. It appears that the advocates of the latter system are right, except in exceptional cases; for strong colonies are what we require, and lack of them so often means no honey. Of course, care should be taken that entrances are contracted; warm quilts or cushions are placed above the frames, and the brood prevented from chilling. Whilst brood may be desirable in spring, all appeared to condemn stimulative feeding as tending to make the bees fly out at times when they should remain at home.

In giving the experiences of the season, there were many very discouraging reports, and the season has indeed been a very unremunerative one to bee-keepers. One member suggested that no one should make a special business of bee-keeping unless he had his stock out of debt and had enough to live on for a year ahead, when another jumped up and said that had been his idea last year, but now after two bad years he would say he ought to have enough for two. They are all looking forward to a succession of prosperous years; and one first-class honey year will make up for a succession of bad seasons. It was advised that poultry, fruit or some other pursuit be combined with bee-keeping.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Few realize that millions of pounds of honey are wasted because there are not a sufficient number of bees kept to gather it.

The Provincial Exhibition.

During the time of holding the Provincial Exhibition, the public was treated to a good deal of bombast regarding the continuation of the Exhibition. A few thoughtful and vigorous speeches were made, and some earnest work done; but much that was said then, and written since, has been thrust upon the public without that amount of thought or study that should have been given to this subject. Mr. McCrae's speech may be fairly said to represent one line of thought on this subject; Mr. Dryden's article, which will be found on page 331 of this number, represents the other view; Mr. Drury's speech, which we reported, put things in a very clear light. The continuance or discontinuance of this exhibition should be thoroughly discussed. The entire community are interested in the question. The coming year, no doubt, is a critical one in the life of this institution. Farmer's Clubs and Institutes, as well as the press, should very carefully and thoroughly consider this matter, laying aside any personal or political feelings.

Commercial.

FARMERS' ADVOCATE OFFICE,
November 1, 1888.

The month of October has been wet and showery; still, the water that has fallen has been much needed.

WHEAT.

This commodity has had more attention the past month or six weeks than it has seen for many months before; in fact, years have passed since we have seen such permanent changes in the wheat markets of the world. While there is, no doubt, a serious deficiency in the production of wheat in the United States and Canada, there is, no doubt, that both these countries have an abundance for all home requirements, but they have enough and to spare.

In reviewing the wheat trade on Tuesday, Irwin, Green & Co., of Chicago, said:—"In the wheat markets of the world prices were never in a more anomalous condition than they are now. New York relatively higher than Liverpool, Chicago away above the point at which it is possible to ship to the seaboard, and Minneapolis higher than this city, form a series of inversion which is so palpably artificial that it cannot be maintained. While it continues exports to Europe from the Atlantic coast of the United States can not be made, except that some flour may move on old orders. Meanwhile, the wants of the importing people of the old world are being supplied freely by other countries, and from our Pacific slope. Russia, in particular, is loosing up as able to contribute something like 40,000,000 bushels over and above the total of her exports of last year, and the area from which wheat growers in India can help to feed Europe is largely increased by the rise in prices in the United Kingdom. Each week's experience renders it more apparent that the bread eaters on the other side of the Atlantic can supply their wants more cheaply elsewhere, at least till much later in the crop year. The time may come, before another harvest, when they will be compelled to pay what is at present asked by American sellers, but that time is not now."

The *Levant Herald* says that the exports of grain from Odessa during the past year have been 55,800,000 bushels, showing an increase of 19,600,000 bushels over the shipments of the previous year. These total shipments were valued at \$63,750,000. In 1887 the wheat shipments from Odessa amounted to 20,833,333 bushels, showing an excess over the previous year of 9,966,667 bushels. The Odessa wheat exports form 29 per cent. of the whole wheat export of the Russian Empire from all ports. In 1887 England imported 8,400,000 bushels of wheat from Odessa. After England, the chief importers are France, Italy and Turkey. The current season, however, will far exceed any previous records; the grain shipments will, it is stated, be of enormous amount. For November shipments alone upwards of two hundred British vessels are already chartered. The Southwestern Railway Company are bringing down 600 wagons of grain daily, whilst by water from the Dnieper and Dniester the daily arrivals aggregate 458,733 bushels, or in all about 600,000 bushels.

While speculation may force the price of wheat still higher, yet the possibilities are that we may see lower prices before very long. While there is evidence of a surplus remaining, it would seem very unreasonable to expect the disparity in values between our markets and those abroad to further widen, except under the influence of temporary overselling by rash speculative operators. Wheat has now reached a price that should satisfy any

reasonable farmer, and much more than the most sanguine expected six months ago. We again repeat what we said last month, viz., that farmers who have wheat to sell should market the same and put the money in circulation.

LIVE STOCK.

The Montreal Gazette reports the market as follows—Oct 30th: Although there has been no material change in the condition of the British live stock trade, a somewhat firmer tone has been manifested, and, if anything, the general situation has made a slight recovery from the recent severe depression, which broke values to such a low point, yet it will be noticed that even that point was considerably above the price in the preceding three years at this period. Receipts have been less heavy but fully equal to requirements, while the weather has been warm for the season. At Liverpool to-day prime Canadian steers were at 11c., good to choice at 10½c., poor to medium at 9½c., and inferior and bulls at 7c. @ 8½c. The sheep trade was fair at steady prices. At Liverpool to-day best sheep were at 13c., secondary grades 11c. @ 12c., merinos 10½c. @ 11½c., and inferior and rams 8c. @ 9½c. The foregoing quotations are calculated on the basis of \$4.80 in the £. Refrigerated beef is cabled as follows: Liverpool, 5½d. for hindquarters, and 3½d. for forequarters per lb.; London—hindquarters 2s. 8d., and forequarters 1s. 6d. per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

CLOVER SEED.

Reports of the clover seed crop of the United States points to a shortage compared with last year. New York State and Pennsylvania are said to have very little seed, not enough for their own requirements. Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia, are short, and the same applies to all the clover-seed-growing states, except Northern Ohio. This state is said to have the best and finest crop of seed of any state in the Union. From these facts it behooves every farmer to take good care of what he has.

APPLES.

The following report of the London, England, apple market, is as follows:—Oct. 20, 1888—Arrivals from Canada for the week are 13,800 barrels. Canadian apples have arrived in very bad condition, owing to the shipments being nearly all soft, early fruit, and consequently prices have been very low, paying from 4s. 3d. @ 10s. per bbl. The low prices realized for Canadian fruit had a depressing influence on the markets and better sorts; but it may be, that these low prices will bring forward an increased demand, and we confidently look forward to better prices next week for good stock.

CHEESE.

The Montreal Gazette reviews the situation very fully, as follows:—Cheese has undergone no substantial change, but the undertone of the market has a firm expression, with holders confident and not exercising any pressure to sell. Statistically the position appears healthy, and there is no serious effort apparent, even on the part of the bears, to make it out otherwise. Advices from points east of Toronto indicate that practically all the September make has been moved or is moving, leaving only the October make in the country, which, as is now generally conceded, is light. The large combinations show a material shrinkage, while in many cases the smaller factories are running far behind last year, so that when navigation closes it looks as if stocks would not be excessive. From this date last year, to the close of navigation, we shipped about 150,000 boxes, and should that quantity go out this season, the stock carried over promises to be in much smaller compass than was the case last year. The exports from New York have continued light, only 6,000 boxes for the week. Exports from New York, from May 1 to October 23, were 55,438,720 pounds, against 60,229,568 in 1887, a decrease of 4,849,848 pounds; while the receipts during the same time decreased 28,200 packages. If we allow 65 pounds to the box for Montreal shipments to October 27, we find a total of 65,234,000 pounds, against 65,733,287 to November 30, 1887, which shows that we have shipped considerably more than New York, but, of course, the States goods will have to be deducted from that total. Last year 4,725,979 pounds States cheese was shipped via Montreal to November 30, and it is not expected that that amount will be exceeded this year. It would appear that the aggregate shipments from New York and Montreal this season will fall below last year unless we ship heavily during the next three weeks. The cable was unchanged, at 5½s. A Liverpool cable, dated yesterday, says: "The cheese market is quiet, with a good demand for finest September, while for colored cheese, at 52s. to 54s., the demand is chiefly for consumption. An improvement in the demand is expected soon."

BUTTER.

The country has been well cleaned up of creamery, in fact all the make has been bought up, and 25½c. has been paid for September made butter. The demand seems to have been for home consumption, shippers doing nothing. The home demand for creamery butter is steadily growing, and the day is not very far distant when every respectable grocer in the towns and cities will be obliged to keep this article and the finest class of dairy output; and the dairy woman who makes anything else but fine butter will have some trouble to find a market for her goods.