

changes should be made. The scheme proposed involves a co-ordination of all the agricultural organizations of the county under one central organization. No name has been determined upon—in fact all the details have not been worked out definitely, but it would result in something of the nature of a County Board of Agriculture. This would include representatives of the Farmers' Clubs, of the Agricultural and Horticultural Fruit Growers, Co-operative and other Societies, representatives of the Township Councils, Women's Institutes, Board of Trade or Publicity Association. With these for the first year would be included representatives of the present Institutes. This organization would be supported by provincial and municipal grants, and would plan, in co-operation with the District Representatives, the work to be carried on in that County, naming the places for meetings, short courses, etc. The plans for this co-ordinating agricultural organization received considerable comment, mostly favorable, and it is probable that something definite will be done within a short time.

NEEDS OF AGRICULTURE.

The main discussion on agricultural affairs took place on a resolution submitted by the Opposition, being moved by Thos. Marshall, Member for Lincoln, as follows:

"That in view of the serious decline in our rural population, accompanied by a marked falling off in food production, in the face of Ontario's unsurpassed agricultural possibilities and millions of acres of unoccupied agricultural land, this House is of the opinion that a great advance in the agricultural policy of the Government is one of the most urgent and vital needs of Ontario to-day, such policy to include—(1) Making more available to rural communities the scientific and technical knowledge taught in our agricultural college, by the establishment of agricultural schools and demonstration farms throughout the Province; (2) The inauguration of an effective system of rural credits; (3) The development of co-operative effort in buying and selling; (4) Financial assistance by way of loans at a low rate of interest, on the security of land and improvements, to assist desirable settlers in establishing themselves in the newer parts of the Province, and to enable farmers in the older parts of the Province to improve and increase the productivity of their lands."

To this the Minister replied. He said the nature and causes of the decline in rural population were well known, and quoting recent figures from the Bureau of Industries statistics he showed conclusively that Ontario's food production was increasing and not falling off.

As to the question of demonstration farms, he claimed that farm demonstrations, which had been the policy of the Department for the past few years, were more effective as an educational agency. As to agricultural schools, he pointed out that they could not be established until sentiment would support them, and if the time came when that would be the case, and he seemed to think that such a time would come, it would be due to the preliminary work which had been done by the District Representatives in inculcating in the rising generation a desire for agricultural instruction, which had been absent a few years ago.

On the question of rural credits and loans he said the Department had collected a considerable amount of information and the subject was receiving consideration, but no definite announcement could be made at the present time.

The motion was voted down by the Government, and the following submitted:

"This House recognizes the soundness and stability of Ontario Agriculture as emphasized by the recent industrial and financial crisis through which the Province, in common with the rest of the world, has passed, and this House notes with satisfaction the improved conditions of the agri-

cultural industry as illustrated among other things by higher standards and increased returns per acre, and this House desires to place on record its appreciation of the encouragement of agricultural instruction in schools; the appointment of District Representatives; the holding of Short Courses and Rural School Fairs, the giving of farm demonstrations and the encouragement to co-operative organization and effort, and this House commends the well-defined policy of the Government to continue this work and to take such other steps as may be necessary and to aid the development of the newer districts, by the construction of roads; the carrying on of experimental work in farming, the advancing of seed to settlers and every other practical method."

GOOD ROADS.

The new Minister of Public Works, Honorable F. G. Macdormid, emphasized his first Session by two important Bills on the very important subject of good roads. One was an Amendment to the Highway Improvement Act, under which most of the highway improvement has been done during the past twelve years or more. This amendment increased the amount of aid from the Province from one-third as in the past to 40%. It also made the members of County Councils personally liable for seeing that all money raised by an issue of debentures for road construction should be used for this purpose and no other.

The other Bill was cited as the Ontario Highways Act, and follows up the recommendations of the Highway Commission which was appointed over a year ago. It contains many important provisions, one of the most important being that the Province will contribute a sum equal to 20% of monies expended by a County upon the maintenance and repair of roads under the Highway Improvement Act. It also provides that the Province will contribute up to \$150 for the salary of a road overseer or foreman appointed by any township municipality. Provision is also made whereby suburban roads leading into cities of over 10,000 may be constructed under a Commission, and the cost borne on a ratio of 30% by the County, 30% by the city or town and 40% by the Province, providing that the amount contributed by the Province shall not exceed \$4,000 per mile.

Similarly, provision is made for the construction of any road which is designated by the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council as a main road, and which shall be constructed by a Board of Trustees of not more than five members. Provincial aid to such a road is on the same basis as suburban roads. Power is also given to the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council to prohibit or regulate the erection of sign boards and fix a license fee for the same. It is not expected that this Act will become effective this year unless in exceptional cases where the County Council at their June Session are prepared to proceed. The Act or any portion of it may be brought into force by a Proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor-in-Council.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR AGRICULTURE.

	(Including Capital Account)	1914	1915
1. Civil Government, Printing Reports and Bulletins, Statistics, Miscellaneous.....		\$ 69,218.13	\$ 69,775.00
2. Agricultural College.....		395,658.00	350,893.29
3. Agricultural and Horticultural Societies Branch.....		163,905.25	163,700.00
4. Live Stock Branch.....		54,125.00	57,325.00
5. Institutes Branch.....		41,200.00	41,000.00
6. Dairy Branch.....		64,175.00	64,150.00
7. Fruit Branch.....		64,175.00	62,025.00
8. Colonization and Immigration.....		140,776.37	137,125.00
9. Ontario Veterinary College.....		208,300.00	68,095.30
10. District Representatives.....		40,600.00	40,600.00
11. Demonstration Farm.....		10,000.00	10,000.00
		\$1,252,132.75	\$1,064,688.59

Toronto, Montreal, Buffalo, and Other Leading Markets.

Toronto.

Receipts at the Union Stock-yards, West Toronto, on Monday, April 12, were 103 cars, comprising 2,139 cattle, 601 hogs, 173 sheep, 236 calves, and 17 horses. Quality of fat cattle was fair to good, with no fancy heavy cattle on sale. High price was \$7.60 for a good to choice head of steers. Good butchers' steers and heifers, \$7 to \$7.25; medium, \$6.60 to \$6.90; cows, \$3.75 to \$6.50; bulls, \$5.50 to \$6.70; feeders, \$6 to \$6.50; stockers, \$5 to \$5.75; milkers, \$50 to \$80; calves, \$4 to \$9.50. Sheep, \$6 to \$8.50; lambs, \$10 to \$12; spring lambs, \$5 to \$7 each. Hogs, \$9.25 weight of cars.

REVIEW OF LAST WEEK'S MARKETS

The total receipts of live stock at the City and Union Stock-yards for the past week were:

	City.	Union.	Total.
Cars.....	39	321	360
Cattle.....	465	3,955	4,420
Hogs.....	534	8,715	9,249
Sheep.....	284	350	634
Calves.....	78	1,343	1,421
Horses.....	292	332	624

The total receipts of live stock at the two markets for the corresponding week of 1914 were:

	City.	Union.	Total.
Cars.....	4	304	312
Cattle.....	19	2,817	2,836
Hogs.....	183	8,614	8,797
Sheep.....	—	964	964
Calves.....	—	1,522	1,522
Horses.....	2	232	234

The combined receipts of live stock at the two markets for the past week show an increase of 18 cars, 1,521 cattle, 121 hogs, and 330 horses, but a decrease of 270 sheep and lambs, and 101 calves, compared with the corresponding week of 1914.

Receipts of cattle were liberal during the past week, while hogs and calves were fairly plentiful, but sheep and lambs were very scarce. With the exception of choice, heavy cattle, which were not as high in value, all other classes were firm. There were two loads of choice steers, and only two, that sold at \$8, the next highest price by the load being \$7.75, and at the close of the week we doubt very much if these prices could have been repeated for the same quality, as there is not much demand for these heavy cattle. John Brown, of Galt, had one of the choice loads of steers, that weighed 1,350 lbs., which sold at the \$8 mark, and the other was J. Simonton, of Chatham, who had the other load, weighing 1,400 lbs., who also obtained \$8. They were two of the best loads of cattle seen on this market since Christmas, and both loads were sold by the commission firm of Corbett, Hall & Coughlin, to the Swift Canadian Company. Choice handy-weight steers and heifers

weighing 900 to 1,100 lbs., were the best sellers all week, at prices ranging from \$7 to \$7.60. Fat cows and bulls sold well, at higher values, especially the cows, as will be seen by prices given below. Stockers and feeders were in demand at high prices. Milk and springers were none too plentiful, and were being looked for, at firm values, reaching up to \$95 for choice quality. Veal calves were more plentiful, and all classes of them sold from \$1 to \$2 per cwt. cheaper. Sheep and lambs were scarce, and sold at the highest prices of the season thus far. Hogs sold at firm prices all week.

Butchers' Cattle.—Choice heavy steers, such as used to be exported, sold at \$7.75 to \$8; choice butchers' cattle, steers and heifers, \$7.25 to \$7.60; good, common, \$6.25 to \$6.60; choice cows, \$6.25 to \$6.60; good cows, \$5.75 to \$6.15; medium cows, \$5.25 to \$5.60; common cows, \$4.75 to \$5; cutters,

Extra Postage Required.

As pointed out in our issue of April 1, page 536, the war stamp taxes go into effect April 15. On and after that date it will be necessary to add an extra cent to letters and cards posted. A card or letter that ordinarily required a 1 cent stamp will now require 2 cents and one formerly carried by a 2 cent stamp will require 3 cents (a two and a one). Do not forget this as letters not bearing the extra "war stamp" will go to the dead letter office or be returned to the sender. Subscribers, contributors and advertisers, as well as all others, should bear this in mind. The tax may be paid by the special stamp marked "war tax" or by an ordinary 1 cent stamp.

Postage stamps may be used for the prepayment of war duties on bank cheques, bills of exchange, promissory notes, express money orders, proprietary or patent medicines, perfumery, wines or champagne, as well as upon letters and postcards, postal notes and post office money orders, the intention being to provide facilities in those portions of the country where excise stamps are not readily available.

Postal money orders, express money orders, bank cheques and receipts to banks by depositors must bear a 2 cent stamp and postal notes a 1 cent stamp. The issuer of a cheque and the purchaser of the money order or postal note pays this amount. A penalty of \$50 is provided for the person who neglects to place the necessary stamp on a cheque or savings bank receipt.

The Maritime Horse Show, held in Amherst, N. S., April 7, 8 and 9, drew a good attendance. Exhibits were somewhat smaller in some classes, but on the whole the show was a success, and the attendance totalled fully 10 per cent. more than that of last year. Soldiers stationed at Amherst helped to swell the attendance very appreciably. Drifting ice in Pictou Harbor and the Northumberland Straits prevented the Prince Edward Island exhibit from reaching the show. Space does not permit of a full report this issue, but in our Horse Department April 22 there will appear a full report of the show. The management are to be congratulated upon its good success in war time.

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