

Dr. Maria Montessori

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

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closed this year with the handsome balance of \$4,654.07.

A matter of discussion before the Associations representing the dairy breeds was that of shortening the period of the test for the Record of Performance. Any change in this direction would depreciate the high value of the Canadian test, and the Association decided to have it remain as it is.

One condition, however, which is aggravating to stock breeders is the freedom allowed to bulls in the local neighborhoods, and the Secretary was instructed to communicate with all Provincial Governments, asking that they legislate more stringent laws to regulate and severely penalize the freedom of such bulls.

A recommendation will be forwarded to the Record Office, asking that they keep a card index for the progeny of bulls as they now do for cows and that a flat rate of 50 cents be established for recording ancestors, both dead and living.

The following grants were voted for the different exhibitions: Toronto, \$150.00. London, Quebec, Charlottetown, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Edmonton, Reed Deer and New Westminster will receive \$50.00. Saskatoon will receive \$25.00 and Sherbrooke \$75.00. Victoria (Dominion) will get \$150.00, as will the National Live Stock, Horticultural and Dairy Show.

Officers: President, P. D. McArthur, North Georgetown, Que.; Vice-President, A. H. Trimble, Red Deer, Alta.; Secretary, W. F. Stephen, Huntington, Que.; Directors, John McKee, Norwich; W. W. Ballantyne, Stratford; Alex. Hume, Menie; Wm. Stewart, Menie; Frank Harris, Mount Elgin; A. S. Turner, Ryckman's Corners.

Delegates to fair boards: Toronto, Wm. Ballantyne; London, A. Kains and Geo. Hill; Ottawa, R. R. Ness; Sherbrooke, Jas. Borden; Halifax, John Retson; Charlottetown, Jas. Easton; Brandon, Wm. Braid; Regina, F. Harrison; Red Deer, A. H. Trimble; Calgary, R. Ness; Winnipeg, W. J. Briggs; Edmonton, J. G. Clarke; New Westminster, E. A. Wells; Quebec, Nap. Lachapelle; Victoria, S. Shannon; Amherst, F. S. Black; Ottawa (Winter Fair), Jas. Bryson; Prince Albert, A. Millar; Vancouver, Jas. Thompson.

The Interest in Standard-breds is Dominion Wide.

A goodly number of Standard-bred promoters gathered to the Prince George Hotel on February 3rd. Some came as far as 2,000 miles to assist in outlining the future program in the interests of their favorite horse. The past year has been a prosperous one for 560 individuals have been registered, 93 have been transferred, and the memberships amounted to 146. The Secretary-Treasurer's report showed the assets to exceed the liabilities by \$2,520.06, leaving the association financially strong.

During the proceedings some discussion arose over the withholding of grants to exhibitions which had not complied with the rules governing the grants. It was decided to make no concessions in the matter whatever, but adhere firmly to the rules of the Association. This stand was not taken from a financial viewpoint, but in the best interests of the future of the breed.

The New Canadian Trotting Association, born last year as an affiliated society, was the subject for some animated discussion. The committee found difficulty in securing a Dominion charter so they directed their efforts towards a Provincial charter, which might in time make the acquisition of a Dominion charter more feasible. This did not meet with unanimous approval, but the proceedings being of a technical nature, the matter was left in abeyance to be dealt with by the Society.

Correspondence from the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa indicated that steps were being taken to put Standard-breds and Hackneys on the same footing as Thoroughbreds in respect to government bonuses to stallions for service in breeding and raising army remounts throughout Canada.

The total grants to exhibitions for 1914 amounts to \$1,000, to be divided in \$50.00 bonuses to 20 fairs. This \$50.00 will be divided between the best stallion any age, and best mare with foal by side, of this breed.

The following officers were elected: Hon. President, O. B. Sheppard, Toronto; President, J. Wesley Allison, Morrisburg; 1st Vice-President, W. J. Cowan, Cannington; Secretary-Treasurer, J. W. Brant, Ottawa; Directors, G. S. McCall, St. Thomas; R. J. Speers, Wilkie, Sask.; C. W. Spears, Brandon, Man.; J. M. Baldwin, Killarney, Man.; C. W. McLean, Brockville; Hon. Clifford Sifton, Ottawa; S. A. Proctor, Toronto; Alex. McLaren, Buckingham, Que.; Dr. W. E. Baker, Hamilton; H. Ashley, Foxboro; Hon. John Richards, Bideford, P. E. I.; Ald. Sam McBride, Toronto; Auditor, G. L. Blatch, Ottawa; Representative to Canadian National Exhibition, O. B. Sheppard.

The Canadian Pony Society.

An interesting and important meeting of the Canadian Pony Society was held in the Prince George Hotel on February 5th. The Secretary-Treasurer, G. de W. Green, in his report, congratulated the society on a prosperous year in 1913. Starting with a balance on hand of \$143.70, there is now to its credit in the bank \$562.09. Membership fees were \$92, as compared with \$76.00 in 1912, and registration fees \$453.40, as against \$139.85, a very satisfactory increase in both cases. The pony classes at the Toronto Spring Show and the Canadian National were better filled than they have been for some years with ponies of a splendid type. Reports from other shows were to the same effect. During 1913 no fewer than 359 ponies of different breeds were imported into this Dominion, which showed the increasing popularity of this class. From Great Britain came 55 males and 273 females, and from the United States seven males and 24 females. In 1912 the number brought in was very small.

The following officers were elected: President, Charles Lovejoy, Mimico; 1st Vice-President, W. J. Langton, Toronto; 2nd Vice-President, J. M. Gardhouse, Weston; Hon. President, T. A. Cox, Brantford; Secretary-Treasurer, G. de W. Green, Toronto. Directors, Jos. Creetch, Lambton Mills; H. M. Robinson, Toronto; Fred Richardson, Columbus; Robert Graham, Claremont; T. Cussion, Whitby; B. Mothersill, Oshawa; J. E. Marlies, Hartney, Man.; E. Watson, Hudson Heights, Que.; John Miller, jr., Ashburn.

Ontario Berkshire Breeders' Society.

The growing attendance at the Ontario Berkshire Breeders' meetings maintains a spirit of enthusiasm for patrons of the "Blacks." The President, John Kelly, gave voice to this in his address and, as forward steps, suggested that auction sales be held at the fall fairs that breeders might dispose of their stock to good advantage.

In order to encourage competition in the bacon classes and bring out a strong exhibit of Berkshires the Association will duplicate all prizes won by pure-bred Berkshires to the extent of 50 per cent. in those classes at the three winter fairs in 1914.

The financial statement showed the Association to have \$76.51 on hand and the coming year will turn \$150.00 more into the treasury than it has in the past from the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association. This additional amount will be dispensed to the various fairs and increased prizes.

The Canadian National, Guelph Winter Fair and National Live Stock, Horticultural and Dairy Show will each receive grants of \$75.00. The Ottawa Winter Fair will receive \$50.00, while the Central Canada Exhibition (Ottawa) and the Western Fair (London) each receive \$40.00.

The officers for the ensuing year are: President, P. J. McEwen, Kirck; Vice-President, J. M. Vandewick, Cainsville; Secretary, A. P. Westervelt, Toronto; Directors, J. D. Brien, Ridgeway; Frank Teasdale, Brampton; John Kelly, Shakespear; Adam Thompson and S. Dolson, Norval Station; Executive Committee, P. J. McEwen, John Kelly and J. D. Brien.

Banquets.

During the week of meetings several banquets were tendered the stockmen by the societies and associated enterprises, all of which were thoroughly enjoyed.

The patrons of the Holstein met in Nasmith's Parlors on the evening of February 4th, and thoroughly enjoyed a sumptuous repast, supplemented with speeches and music.

The Ayrshire banquet, held on the same evening in the Prince George Hotel, was the most successful in the history of Ayrshire festivities. Nothing was lacking to make the evening a pleasant one, as well as inspiring and instructive.

The complementary banquet tendered the stockmen of Canada by the "Canadian Farm" was enjoyed by representatives from one end of Canada to the other. The large dining-room of the Grand Union Hotel was completely filled with men of different politics, opinions and creeds, yet a feeling of good fellowship permeated the entire assembly, and all were profuse in voicing their appreciations of the princely hospitality of the host, W. Moore. Among the speakers were: Hon. Martin Burrell, Hon. Geo. P. Graham, Wm. Wmth, M. P., Hon. Jas. Duff, Dr. Rutherford and John Bright. Music and song supplemented the speeches and substantial spread on the tables, and all were so admirably blended as to leave a lasting impression on the memory of the guests.

Ontario Fairs Had A Good Year.

On Thursday and Friday of last week the 14th annual convention of the Ontario Fairs and Exhibitions Associations was held in the Forester's Hall, Toronto. A large number of delegates were present, showing, as the Secretary said, that agricultural societies in this province are not slipping backward, but are forging ahead towards the pinnacle of perfection. The President, Dr. W. A. Crow, of Chesley, in his address, reviewed the condition of the Association as it applied to last year's work. The various societies were more fortunate in 1913 than in 1912, by being favored with better weather, which means almost everything to a county or township exhibition. Dr. Crow advised the convention to ask the Federal Government for more money to aid in the carrying on of this work. He also believed that district directors should be allotted more money for the purpose of furthering the work of their districts.

To avoid the conflicting of dates of fall fairs it was advised that each director call a meeting of each district to arrange the dates throughout the district, so as not to conflict with one another. It was his opinion that standing field crop competitions and showing of grain and sheaves from the fields entered therein is proving a valuable asset to the educative end of exhibitions.

Secretary J. Lockie Wilson, in his annual report, stated that a spirit of optimism permeated the several hundred reports which he had received from the various societies. Exhibits of live stock were never so numerous and of such a high quality as was the occasion last year. Roots and vegetables in some sections, owing to the fact that the crop was a failure, did not make as large a showing last fall as upon former occasions. Gate receipts at the fairs were large, and as a consequence only a little over \$3,600 of the appropriation to meet bad weather conditions was required to settle the claims made. It was pointed out by Mr. Wilson that the Act as it now stands is scarcely fair to societies which have been unfortunate enough to have experienced bad weather for two or three years in succession, seeing that it is based on one-half the difference between the gate receipts of the current year and the average of those of three previous years. He recommended that the wording of the Act be changed to read, "The average of the gate receipt of three previous normal years." An important duty, as a district director, he believed to call a meeting in a central location to be attended by at least one delegate, from each agricultural society, where questions pertaining to these societies, and the arranging of fair dates to avoid conflicting could be discussed, and he took it upon himself to endeavor to arrange that departmental judges could only be sent to the societies, the dates of whose exhibitions have been fixed in such a district meeting. One hundred and ninety-nine judges were sent out by the Association to fairs and exhibitions in 1912, and in 1913 this had increased to 242. The appropriation for this branch of the work was not large enough, and twenty societies whose applications came in late had to be refused. This is a good record. It was pointed out that no man sent to judge all breeds of cattle is likely to give as good satisfaction as where a dairy specialist is provided for the dairy cattle and a beef breeder for the beef cattle.

Field crop competitions have been carried on for seven years, and 3,500 farmers have taken part in these competitions. Nearly 100 judges were required to judge the fields of 159 societies the past season. Nearly 200 societies entered, but, owing to drought and other conditions, some were unable to remain in the competition to the end. Prizes in all amounted to \$1,500 for sheep and grain. Splendid exhibits were put on at the various shows in the fall, and the department has been retaining and distributing through the agricultural specialists the winning grain. Six hundred bushels of prize-winning grain and potatoes have thus been disseminated.

It is a matter of regret for the secretary that certain agricultural societies again in 1913 permitted the use of gambling devices on their grounds, where for the paltry sum of \$5.00 hundreds of dollars were filched from the pockets of the unwary. Grants to such societies are withheld.

The proper weights for the classification of Heavy Draft Agricultural and General-purpose horses have been decided upon. The directors were told that the prize lists are revised to comply with these regulations. Mr. Wilson thought that it would be wise to have exhibitors in these classes, when making entry, required to file certificates of weights of horses. Heavy Draft horses matured should weigh 1,500 pounds and upwards, Agricultural horses from 1,350 to 1,500, General-purpose from 1,150 to 1,350 lbs. The minimum height should be 15.3 for General-purpose animals.

Following the President's address a lengthy discussion was entered into after which Prof. S. B. McCready took up the co-operation of agricultural and horticultural societies with the depart-