

Manitoba and the West

Western Live Stock Affairs—A Good Suggestion—Varied Nationalities in the West—Crop Reports

By our Western Correspondent

The annual meetings of the Territorial Stockmen's Association were, through lack of space, not reported in our last issue. These meetings are each year increasing in interest and importance and the increased attendance shows that the cattle and horse breeders of the Territories are fully aware of the advantages of concerted action for the advancement of their common interests.

The only important business matter before the meeting of the Cattle Breeders, was the proposal to change the name of the association to the "Territorial Cattle-breeders' Association" by striking out the words "Pure-Bred" which after some discussion was accepted. The members believe that by this means they will interest a larger membership than at present. The program included prominent eastern visitors. Wm. Smith of Columbus, Ont., and Prof. Day of the Ontario Agricultural College, gave short addresses. Hon. Dr. Elliott, the Territorial Commissioner of Agriculture complimented the association on the work done in the past with the limited assistance afforded them by the Government. He expressed the hope that financial aid might be increased in the near future in order that the funds at their disposal might be more in keeping with the importance of the work they were doing. The following officers were elected for 1903: President, P. Talbot, Lacombe; 1st Vice President, Jno. A. Turner, Calgary; 2nd Vice Pres., D. H. Andrews, Crane Lake, Assa.; Directors, Hon. Wm. Beresford, Calgary; R. Seaton, Regina; J. D. McGregor, Stair, Assa.; D. E. Adams, Calgary; J. C. Pope, Regina.

The chief matters under discussion by the horsemen were the customs valuation of horses imported from the United States, fraudulent U. S. Percheron certificates, and the syndicate system of purchasing stallions. The speakers generally took the view that a higher minimum customs valuation is required to prevent the importation of inferior stock. This view was supported by F. W. Hodson, Live Stock Commissioner, who stated that Ontario was also being filled up with cheap trash from the ranches of the Western States. A resolution was adopted favoring the minimum valuation of \$50. The one-sidedness of the present situation as regards the import of pedigreed stock into Canada and its export from this country to the U. S. also came in for some criticism and the meeting considered the Canadian Government should impose regulations equally stringent as those of the States. The statement was also made that many inferior stallions are being brought into Canada as "settlers

effects," these being frequently unregistered and ineligible for registration. The insufficiency of the present veterinary inspection at customs ports was criticized. The Mounted Police veterinarians have so many and such varied duties that they are not always at hand when called on to inspect horses. There should be a provision for holding such horses until properly inspected instead of passing them on the certificate of a sergeant or some other officer whose qualifications are unequal to such duties. The principal speakers were Hon. Dr. Elliott, Wm. Smith, Columbus, Ont.; Jno. A. Turner, Calgary; W. R. Stewart, Meadow-Creek, Alta., and F. W. Hodson.

Among other matters under discussion was the proposal of the Territorial Government to accept for registration in their books all stallions, whether pure-bred or grade in order that the public might be fully informed concerning the breeding of all these animals and not unknowingly employ an undesirable stallion because he sported a pretentious name and number from some eastern or southern studbook.

The following officers were elected:—President, W. R. Stewart, Meadow Creek, Alta.; 1st Vice, Jno. A. Turner, Calgary; 2nd Vice, D. H. Andrews, Crane Lake, Assa.; Directors, Hon. Wm. Beresford, Calgary; W. L. Christie, High River, Alta.; J. R. Thompson, Calgary; E. J. Swann, Dewdney, Alta.; J. R. Creamer, V. S., Qu'Appelle; R. G. Robinson, Calgary; A. H. Rickford, High River.

An excellent suggestion was made by F. W. Hodson. He believes that much good might be accomplished by a convention of delegates from all the provinces meeting at regular periods to consider matters of common interest. Such a body should have great weight at Ottawa and its influence would undoubtedly be felt in the matters of customs regulations, etc., discussed at this convention.

There has been some jealousy and a great deal of friction, due to various causes, between the Breeders' Associations of the East and West, and if a gathering of all parties can be arranged on such a basis that all will be fairly represented, much good would undoubtedly result. Speaking for the West we believe that this proposal will meet with favor. Three or four delegates from each provincial organization would constitute a body which would be sufficiently large to carry weight yet not too large for expeditious transaction of business.

The Greenway sale advertised for the 25th June is an event of no small importance to the breeders of this province. The Hon. Thomas Greenway has been buying for years

the choicest animals to be found in the East, and has built up a herd whose reputation is international. Over fifty head of pure breeding are listed for sale. We might mention Sittytton Hero 7th who has won first honors for three successive years at Winnipeg and secured second place at the Pan-American, where he was beaten by Lord Banfi (imported) who afterwards was sold for \$5,000. A number of this bull's get are offered. The females offered include many prize-winners among whom is Matchless 25th, the winning yearling four years ago at Toronto. A fine lot of Yorkshire hogs are also to be sold.

The arrivals in Western Canada during the month of May include Austrians, Belgians, Bohemians, French, Finns, Germans, English, Welsh, Scotch, Irish, Hungarians, Italians, Poles, Russians, Galicians, Danes, Icelanders, Swedish, Norwegians, Yankees and Canadians. Out of a total of 19,126 composed as above there were 1,913 Canadians, 391 of whom returned from the United States, after settling in that country. The greater portion of these returned Canadians came from Dakota, Minnesota, Kansas, and Illinois.

The publication of facts similar to the above has given rise to a great deal of comment which would be amusing were it not foolish. Newspapers at home and abroad see a serious menace to our civil institutions in these "hordes" of foreigners. Let them calm their troubled spirits with the knowledge of the fact that it is not land alone that brings these people to our country, they are equally attracted by the very institutions which they are supposed to menace. They are seekers after freedom from civil oppression as well as land-hunters. They will be good citizens unless some industrial magnate corrals them in his coal mine or chains them to his railway line.

We are pleased to note that the millers of the United States in convention assembled have placed on record their appreciation of the fact that Canada has become an element in the grain and flour markets of the world. We are equally pleased to see that they are seeking a means of removing the present competition between Canadian and American grain. Their proposal to admit Canadian grain free of duty would be better received were they to include barley and oats in the free list with wheat. Grinding Canadian wheat in the United States would not lower wheat in that country, while it would increase competition in our markets.

The Barr colonists are becoming more hopeful since the Dominion Government Immigration officials have superseded the Rev. Mr. Barr in the direction of affairs. Many tales are told of hardships suffered under the Barr regime. Among other facts brought to light is that the colonists were systematically plundered by the Barr stores.

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