

CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

FINAL SESSIONS—TRANSFERENCE OF AFFAIRS TO THE GOVERNMENT.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, Halifax, June 30.—Present: Israel Longworth, V. P., chairman; Hon. Isidore LeBlanc, Arichat; David Matheson, Pictou; John McKeon, Mabou; Colonel W. E. Starratt, Paradise; Professor Lawson, secretary.

The chairman explained that, in absence of Major-General Laurie, the president of the board, who was now engaged in military service in the North-West territory, he had called the board together, but at a later period than was previously arranged, hoping that the president would be able to be present. Unfortunately he could not be here in time to preside over the board at their final deliberations, which could not be prolonged beyond the 30th of June, when the organization would cease to exist in virtue of the act recently passed for its abolition. Mr. Longworth thought of preparing a few notes on the work that had been done by the board in the past, but, whilst this might be a fitting time to review the board's work, yet there was the possibility of any reference to it now being misapprehended, and on second thoughts he felt more inclined to adopt the safe historical method of allowing facts to ripen; the board's work so far is matter of history, and he knew that there was but one sentiment in the board—that it will gratify them if what they have done in the past can be utilized either as a basis or a guide for the more advanced work that may be expected in the future.

A letter was read from Mr. Charles E. Brown, Yarmouth, apologizing for his absence from the meeting, on the ground that the attendance of distant members was not necessary to wind up the affairs of the board and hand over their property and work to their successors.

Prof. Lawson, the secretary, read a letter from Major-General Laurie, the president, dated Moose Jaw, June 17th, in which he says:

"Express my kindly farewell, in an official capacity, to my fellow members of the central board. I have never met, in Canada, a public body more earnest in its endeavors to resist abuses and jobbery and more thoroughly clean in its record; and I trust that the organization which succeeds will, in the future, point to as good results, obtained for the same outlay, and to equal progress attained through its efforts and by its encouragement. The members of the board and the province at large owe you very much for the valuable attainments you have not failed to utilize for the advancement of our agriculture, as well as the zeal and real interest you have at all times shown in any local or provincial efforts to

further agricultural progress. I trust your successor will be as single minded. I do not dare to hope that he will be as well qualified for the position."

The board directed the president's letter to be engrossed in the minutes.

The treasurer submitted his accounts from March, when they were balanced for submission to the house of assembly, to the present date. On motion of Hon. Isidore LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Matheson, Colonel Starratt and Mr. McKeen were appointed a committee to audit the accounts and report.

Application, correspondence and bye-laws of the Enfield Agricultural society were submitted by the secretary, and read. Moved by Colonel Starratt, seconded by Mr. Matheson and passed, that the Enfield Agricultural society, in the county of Hants, be recognized as organized in terms of the act. The bye-laws were considered in detail, and approved of and sanctioned, with certain alterations.

The chairman read the report of the agricultural committee of the house of assembly. In reference to their recommendation that ten per cent. be paid on the first cost of importation of horses, sheep, and Holstein and Hereford cattle, on applications to be approved by the board, the board think it proper to leave this matter to their successors, as the board's functions would likely cease before proper arrangements for inspection could be made or necessary guarantees secured preparatory to paying the ten per cent grants. As apparent, but unavoidable, delay has already occurred, the board hope that no time will be lost now in making necessary arrangements, so that the premiums may be paid.

On motion of Mr. Matheson, seconded by Colonel Starratt, the bye-laws of the New Town Agricultural Society were amended by changing the number for a quorum to eleven instead of twenty-one.

A correspondence was read in reference to the grant to this society for 1884. It appears that the society sent in two separate lists of subscriptions without specifying which one was intended to qualify for the grant for the year, and the grant was given upon the one showing the smaller amount of subscriptions. Moved by Mr. Matheson, seconded by Colonel Starratt, and resolved, that the society be recommended to furnish any required explanations to the government, and that the board recommend their application to favourable consideration with a view to remedy in distribution of next annual grant in Guysborough county.

On a point submitted by said society, the board expressed the opinion that a society cannot hold meetings or carry on operations out of its own county.

July 1.—Present: Same members, I. Longworth, V. P., in the chair.

Colonel Starratt presented the auditors' report on the treasurer's accounts, which were found to be correct and properly vouched. Balance due to treasurer, \$126.57; liabilities to be met at bank, by warrants issued to societies and not yet drawn, \$253.05. Deposit receipt for stock farm fund, with interest to date, \$1,921.70. On motion of Hon. Mr. LeBlanc, seconded by Mr. Matheson, the report of the auditors was approved of and adopted.

At 3 p. m. the board met with Hon. W. S. Fielding, provincial secretary, and made arrangements for carrying out the provision of the fourth section of chapter twelve of the acts of 1885, which requires the board to hand over to the secretary for agriculture, or such other person as shall be appointed by his honor the governor-in-council for that purpose, all "moneys, books, papers and other property belonging to the central board." For this purpose the property of the board was deposited in the speaker's room, and consists as follows:

1. Deposit receipt in People's bank, Halifax, dated March, 1st, 1883, for \$1,769.91, at 4 per cent. interest, being amount of stock farm fund. The accrued interest amounts to \$158.79, so that the total value of the deposit at date is \$1,921.70.
2. Treasurer's accounts and vouchers to date, as audited by the board, showing a final balance due to treasurer of \$126.57, and amount of grants to societies for 1884 not yet drawn, but for which warrants have been issued, of \$253.05; this has to be met at the bank.
3. A box containing the following herd registers of Nova Scotia cattle. New register of Jersey cows, vol. I., nos. 1 to 126; new register of Jersey bulls, vol. I., Nos. 1 to 90; new register of Ayrshire cows, vol. I., Nos. 1 to 214; new register of Ayrshire bulls, vol. I., Nos. 1 to 188; new register of Polled-Angus bulls, vol. I., Nos. 1 to 10; new register of Polled-Angus cows, vol. I., Nos. 1 to 16; new register of Short Horn cows, vol. I., Nos. 1 to 212; new register of Short Horn bulls, vol. I., Nos. 1 to 245; new register of Guernsey bulls, vol. I., Nos. 1 to 6; new register of Guernsey cows, vol. I.; new register of Devon bulls, vol. I.; new register of Devon cows, vol. I.
4. Old Devon register of Nova Scotia, 1 vol.
5. Old Ayrshire register of Nova Scotia, 1 vol.
6. Old Jersey register of Nova Scotia, 1 vol.
7. Old Short Horn register of Nova Scotia, 1 vol.
8. Original Nova Scotia stock register and stud book, 1 vol.
9. American Short Horn herd book, consolidated, vol. I.
10. Canada herd book, vol. II.
11. Jersey herd register of American Jersey Cattle club, vols. I to XVIII., bound in 6 vols.
12. New Brunswick herd books, 1882 and 1883.