

some \$3,000,000 have been expended in Northern Ontario within the past thirty years, we should add a similar amount, or even more, to be drawn upon by the counties in rotation as they comply with the conditions laid down for provincial aid. Not till then will the good roads movement receive a general impetus.

J. F. BEAM,
Vice-President Ontario Good Roads Association.
Black Creek P.O., Ont., March 6, 1899.

Live Stock at the Ottawa Fair

To the Editor of FARMING:

Since the principal fairs to be held this year have now selected their dates, no doubt the breeders throughout the western, as well as the eastern sections of the country, will be thinking out a circuit, I would respectfully suggest the following:

After showing at Toronto, split up, which they usually do between London and Quebec, clearing from the latter cities on Friday, 15th September, arriving in Ottawa Monday, September 18th, being the second week of the latter exhibition and the latest date for receiving live stock upon their grounds. None of the stock shown at any of the western fairs can very well show at Sherbrooke on account of the early dates which they select; but the breeders showing at Sherbrooke could also form a circuit taking in Quebec and Ottawa, all stock returning from the Ottawa show free, in accordance with the various railway arrangements heretofore existing, and which will likely be repeated this year as usual.

E. McMAHON,
Secretary Central Canada Exhibition Association.
Ottawa, Ont., March 9, 1899.

Nova Scotia Farmers' and Dairymen's Convention.

To the Editor of FARMING:

The fourth annual convention of this association was the largest and most successful ever held in the province. The sessions were held in the famous old historic town of Annapolis Royal, which boasts of being the second oldest town site to be found in North America. The president, J. Rufus Starr, in his annual address, spoke strongly on the urgent necessity existing for agricultural education in this province which is only awakening to its possibilities. He further strongly advised more hearty co-operation among the farmers, especially along the line of cheese and butter-factory work. There are few, if any, districts in the world with better natural advantages for dairying, and its profitable adjunct pork-production, than this splendid Annapolis valley.

Prof. Shutt gave a most interesting address upon the results of his experiments in handling farm-yard manure. These have been embodied in a bulletin issued from the C.E.F., a copy of which can be had for the asking. Mr. Shutt advised the feeding of the coarse grain on the farm, retaining by this means 75-85 per cent. of the fertility. It is greater wisdom to conserve the fertility by careful handling of the farm-yard manure than by investing large sums in commercial fertilizers. In order to make a more permanent impression upon his hearers Mr. Shutt very kindly distributed printed sheets, giving a summary of his work along this line. It is a good precedent.

In a pithy address, full of good things, Hon. Sidney Fisher, dealing with agriculture in general, scored a splendid success. He reproached the farmers of Nova Scotia with allowing their brethren in Ontario to still supply Maritime markets with the best in beef, mutton, and pork. There is no disability of soil or climate as an excuse of this, it is because the farmers down here are not alive to their great advantages and possibilities.

Dealing with the question of dairying, Editor Hubbard, of the *Co-operative Farmer*, emphasized the importance of

a pure water supply and food free from objectionable taints and odors in the production of No. 1 cheese or butter. He protested against the feeding of large quantities of turnips to dairy cows. Turnips are a part of the staple ration with eastern dairymen. Mr. Hubbard told his audience that, while the local consumer might not object to turnip butter, it would be impossible to export it to the English market, which finally must be our common goal.

Mr. R. Robertson, formerly a successful breeder of Ayrshires in Quebec, now superintendent of the Nappan Farm, gave many valuable pointers on dairying in general. Being a warm admirer of the "special purpose" dairy cow, he advised the farmer to waste no time with stock unsuited for the business. He encouraged the dairymen by stating that, although he had had a long and varied experience in dairying, he could produce a pound of butter in Nova Scotia as cheaply as he could anywhere else. Mr. Robertson advocates "all the year round" dairying; he has facts and figures proving its advantage. At the farm he experimented with four fall cows and four spring-calving ones of nearly equal merit. In the year the former made \$10.75 more profit than the latter, and also marketed nearly fifty per cent. more of the feeding-stuffs grown on the farm.

The location of a new school of agriculture and horticulture was a very live question at the convention. All were agreed that it was essential that the school should be established. There is a strong friendly rivalry between East and West to secure it, but the good people of King's County think they have the strongest claim owing to their favorable conditions of soil and climate. A strong resolution was passed urging the Government to take action in the matter at an early date.

In this province there is at least one model creamery, that operated by the Acadia Dairy Co. at Wolfville. Mr. F. M. Logan, who has managed the business for five years, gave an interesting account of his methods. The company manage a retail business in Halifax, keeping a man and team constantly employed in delivering their goods direct to the consumer. A large quantity of the butter made is put up in three and five-pound earthenware crocks, which are durable, cheap, and easily kept clean. At the Halifax Exhibition, 1898, Mr. T. J. Dillon awarded an exhibit of Mr. Logan's butter 99½ points. How is that, Ontario creamery men? It costs 2½ cents per lb. to deliver this butter, which sells for 23 to 25 cents. Last year the company manufactured nearly \$16,000 worth of cheese and butter. Patrons of this creamery have netted as high as 18 cents per lb. of butter fat. Ontario sends thousands of dollars' worth of butter to Halifax every year. Mr. Logan can see no good reason why this should not be made in the province, but those who can grow apples netting \$3 per barrel will naturally be slow to go into dairying.

Mr. J. E. Hopkins, who was formerly a successful farmer and cheesemaker near Ingersoll, but who for six years has been Dairy Superintendent in Nova Scotia, urged the farmers to work more on co-operative lines in the dairy business. He claimed that Nova Scotia is to-day making as good butter as is to be found anywhere, but not in large enough quantities. Mr. Hopkins has done a great work, both in the Dairy School and among the factories, in improving the quality of the dairy products of this province.

Your correspondent came over from New Brunswick specially to discuss "Breeding and Feeding of the Bacon Pig." This question is a very live one just at present, as a strong company have commenced work on the erection of a pork-packing house at Middleton. There are very few bacon type pigs to be found in this country. Mr. McGill left last week for Ontario, to purchase a carload of breeding stock to be distributed among the farmers. At present there is no establishment of this kind operating in this province.

This valley of Annapolis is a most delightful spot, quite justifying the claims of the natives that it is truly "earth's paradise."

Kentville, N.S., Feb. 28th, 1899. J. J. FERGUSON.