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### Good Roads Suggestions

The Ontario good roads system, the results it has produced, the cost of putting roads in proper shape, the machinery necessary to do the work at the least possible cost, these were some of the questions discussed at the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Ontario Good Roads Association held last week in Toronto. The meeting was honored by the presence of His Honor, the Lieut.-Governor, Hon. J. M. Gibson, who in the course of his address remarked that every mile of good roads constructed by municipalty is an object lesson to the other municipalities to do the same thing and thus give the people ideal highways.

In the course of a brief address on "What Country Roads Have Accomplished," Mr. A. W. Campbell, Deputy Minister of Public Works, said that the improvements in roads, bridges and culverts had been something marvellous. Mr. Campbell declared that there was too much taxation at the present for road improvement purposes. In his opinion there was a heap of carelessness and unnecessary waste, which comes from so many causes, in the expenditure of money for road improvement in some parts of the Province. He did not believe in expending large sums of money and threatening the people with dangerous taxation until they were given good returns.

"Whereas, the Province has, with a lavish hand, aided our privately owned railways which provide the long haul to market for our farm products;

"Resolved, that the province now provide more liberal aid for the equally important short haul of the same products from the farm to the highway by increasing the present grant from one-third to one-half the cost for good roads under county system."

This resolution was moved by Mr. J. F. Bean of Welland at the close of his address on "The True Solution of the Good Roads Problem." The resolution was carried.

"The first and foremost piece of machinery in road building is, in my estimation, a good, intelligent man, a man with brains," said A. J. Davidson, superintendent of streets, Galt. One of the most important features in good road work is good drainage.

Papers were also read by Reeve G. L. Telfer, Paris; Messrs. G. W. Bennett, Peterboro.; W. D. Annis, Scarboro.; J. D. Evans, Lexington; Jas. A. Bell, county engineer of Elgin; Charles Talbot, county engineer of Middlesex; Frank Barker, county engineer of York; C. H. Hicks, Humber; R. H. Jupp, Simcoe; J. W. Gage, Warden of Wentworth county; R. E. Taylor, Picton; A. McE. Rankin, Collin's Bay; W. B. Rittenhouse of Beausville and others.

K. W. McKay read the auditors' report, showing that a balance of \$233,077 remained. The receipts of last year were \$305,93, and an expenditure of \$72,86. He moved that the secretary, Col. J. E. Farewell, be presented with \$50 in recognition of his services. Officers were re-elected.

### Farming in the Yukon

Some interesting information on agricultural conditions in the Yukon valley is presented by Major W. P. Richardson, president of the board of road commissioners for Alaska. He states in his annual report, that the permanent population is increasing every year, that more families are locating in the country and the cultivation of gardens and fields gives evidence of fixed habitation. Repeated experiments have shown that splendid crops of barley and oats farmers have not known of a crop failure.

There is a general campaign for more agricultural development in the interior of Alaska. The experiment station at Kodiak has developed a hardy breed of cattle that stand the climate and thrive on the native grass. The animals are being introduced into different sections and are proving valuable acquisition to the farming districts. Grasses grow to perfection, and all the ordinary vegetables produce excellent crops. The original ideas of the farmers are gradually disappearing and farms are taking the places of what was formerly thought to be barren glacial deserts.

### Dairying Abroad

The fact that our Canadian cheese and butter factories are very inferior to many of those in such Danish countries as Denmark, Holland and France, was clearly shown by Dairy Commissioner J. A. Ruddick at the recent conventions of the Eastern and Western Dairymen's Associations. Illustrations of dairy scenes in other countries were shown on a large screen by means of stereoscopic views.

In Holland and Denmark, the farmers nearly all own their own dairies. They build them in a most substantial manner. Most of the buildings are made of stone or brick and cost many thousands of dollars. When the farmers decide to erect a factory, they go to their banker and give a joint note. Arrangements are frequently made by which these notes are not to be paid back for 50 years. Payments are made on them yearly. So convinced are the banking institutions of the stability of the dairy industry in those countries that they do not hesitate to advance the farmers money in this way. An illustration of a creamery in Holland that had cost \$50,000 and that had been put up by the farmers themselves, was shown. When one looked at the views of these creameries that were shown and then thought of the miserable little factories that are located in sections in Eastern Ontario and in the Province of Quebec, it helped to explain why Denmark and Holland have made such a success of dairying.

### COWS IN THE HOME

In Holland, the farmers frequently keep the cows in their own homes. Mr. Ruddick showed a diagram of the floor plan of a farm house which had a bedroom, living-room, dairy and the cow stable all on the one floor. Mr. Ruddick explained that the cow stable was kept so scrupulously clean that there were never any objectionable odors.

In Denmark, every package of butter has to be branded before it is exported. The brand does not discriminate between the different grades of butter, it being used on all grades. Some years ago, Denmark found that their cows were exporting butter to Great Britain as Danish butter. To prevent this, Danish butter is now branded.

An illustration was shown of a factory in New Zealand that made 140 cheeses in a day. Another illustration showed a scene on a rough farm from which 8,000 lbs. of milk a day was sent to the factory.

Recently Japan has commenced to manufacture dairy products. A farm in Japan was shown where 140 Ayrshire cows were kept. Most of these cows were purchased in Canada, and Mr. Ruddick stated that he had received word that they were doing well in Japan.

**Putting up Silos.**—The shortage of hay and straw the last two years has forced the farmers in this section to raise more corn. Silos are being put up on all sides. One man has erected 15 silos for farmers living within a few miles of Howick.—Hector Gordon, Chateauguay Co., Ont.

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