

School Inspector R. P. Steeves said that the problem of conserving or developing the farming resources of the Province was largely a matter of education. In many parts of the Province the method of farming had exhausted the soil, and, though the brawn and sinew of the people remained the same, whole districts were being depopulated. If the farmer had sufficient education to realize that cultivation may be made to increase the fertility of the soil, he would never feel called upon to tell his son to get an education, in order that he might get a livelihood without so much expenditure of energy upon a grudging soil. He is unable to realize the possibilities or dignity of his own calling. He said the present system of instruction did not put us in intelligent relation to the soil, out of which all must derive subsistence. Its purpose seems to be mainly to prepare its pupils to become teachers.

On Tuesday morning the Association met in the Arctic Rink. Prof. Cumming, of the College of Agriculture, Truro, N. S., addressed a large gathering of farmers upon the need of more attention being given to cattle on the farm. He thought the greatest drawback to the success of the farmer of New Brunswick was because he paid more attention to lumbering and fishing than to his farm. As a result, they had impoverished their lands, and were turning their eyes to the West; but the fact was, the land was more fertile in most sections than the land in the West. The farmer's policy of cutting hay for export was a great mistake. It impoverished the soil quickly. The right policy was to feed the hay to the cattle and horses, and so make possible the returns to the soil of those elements taken up by the grass. Men who raised hay for export were not farmers at all; they were simply land-miners, robbing the soil of its producing properties. In 1901 the Maritime Provinces had 300,000 milch cows, and the production of milk averaged about 3,000 pounds. A little attention to breeding and feeding would easily increase the production to 6,000 pounds per cow. If the farmers of the Province kept as many cows as they might easily do, the annual output of our dairies could be increased at least eight times, say, to a value of \$80,000,000 per year. Denmark, which is no bigger than New Brunswick alone, does a dairy business of over \$100,000,000 a year.

The reports of the Vice-Presidents of the different counties consisted, for the most part, of a statement of the crops and weather. After the reception of the reports of the Vice-Presidents, W. W. Hubbard, Secretary of Agriculture, addressed the meeting on the need of co-operation, and the relation of the Department of Agriculture to the Farmer's Societies. He said that, on account of co-operation, the Danish farmers were twenty-five years ahead of the farmers of New Brunswick.

A discussion followed upon the subject, "Can Farms be Successfully Managed Without Live Stock?" This was mainly a speaking duel between those who followed the example of the potato-growers of Maine and the beef-feeders and dairymen. Commercial fertilizers were the mainstay of the potato-grower. But, seeing we have not the market the Maine potato-grower has, the farmer who depended on his stock to keep up the fertility of his soil seemed to think himself in the better position.

On Wednesday morning, Dr. Standish, of the N. S. Agricultural College, Truro, held the attention of the farmers for hours while he explained the various points to be considered in the judging and breeding of horses. "With all due respect to the inventors," said the doctor, "the horse, as a motor power, is never likely to be superseded. In the West, where the traction engine might be supposed to have found its best field of usefulness, horses were in greater demand than ever before. Farmers could not adopt a more profitable industry than horse-raising. No product yielded such large returns, or was easier upon the soil."

Thursday meeting, the closing one of the Convention, opened with an address by the President, on the subject of fertilizers, in the course of which he advocated the purchase, by the various societies, of ingredients for making the complete fertilizer.

Premier Hazen then addressed the farmers in a most complimentary speech. I did not notice that the Premier committed himself to anything much in particular, but he left us with the statement that "Farming was a business which, in the interest of the Province, must be attended to, and if this duty was properly carried out, increased prosperity must result."

The officers for the ensuing year are: President, S. B. Hatheway, Kingsclear; Vice-Pres., Walter Stevens, St. Stephen; Recording Secretary, Bliss M. Fawcett, Sackville; Treasurer, H. H. Smith, Blissville.

RESOLUTIONS.

Moved by W. H. Bell, of St. John, and seconded by J. H. Schofield: Whereas it is advisable to amend the Dairy Act, therefore, resolved:

1. If a petition signed by a majority of the patrons of any creamery or cheese factory, be forwarded to the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, requesting an official test of a composite sample of

cream at said creamery or cheese factory, the Hon. Minister of Agriculture shall give directions to a competent official of his department to make such tests.

2. Said official to be required to appear before a magistrate or notary public, and make a sworn affidavit that he shall carefully test such composite samples of cream in strict justice to all parties concerned.

3. Said official to be empowered to take a sworn affidavit of the proprietor or manager of said creamery, and that the proprietor or manager be required to make a sworn affidavit before each testing time, to the effect that he believes such composite samples of cream to have been carefully and intelligently collected, and that said marked bottle contains an average of the cream sent by such patron, as marked since the last testing time.

4. Said official shall continue to test monthly, or more often, if necessary, the composite samples of cream of said creamery, until two-thirds of the patrons of said creamery shall signify their desire that such official test shall cease.

5. Clause (c), section 21, of the Dairy Industry Act, relating to penalties, shall apply to this addition.

6. Forms of affidavit, etc., to be supplied by the Department of Agriculture.

Another resolution urged legislation to provide for the early construction of the St. John Valley Railway, assisted by a Government guarantee of bonds.

That election of officers of the Association should be carried out entirely by vote of the Association as a body, was the gist of another motion.

Another resolution was offered by J. H. Schofield, to the effect that it had been shown by facts and figures that the average production of dairy stock made no profitable returns, and that the keeping of stock was necessary to keep up the fertility of the farms; and, further, that the market of this class of product had now reached about as high as it is likely to get; therefore, the only remedy lay in increasing of the production of the individual, without the corresponding increase in cost to produce.

Having in view the increase in expense occasioned by such methods, the local Government should be petitioned to grant a bonus based on the individual production, to meet this extra cost.

A lengthy discussion followed, but eventually the resolution carried, and Mr. Schofield, S. B. Hatheway, Mr. Roach, and G. E. Fisher, were appointed a committee to interview the Government.

The New Brunswick Fruit-growers' Association opened on the morning of February 24th, with a fair attendance. A few points from this convention will appear next week.

W. L. McP.

The Guelph Sale.

There was a good attendance at the seventh annual auction sale of Shorthorn cattle, held at Guelph, on March 2nd, under the auspices of the Guelph Fat-stock Club, and the quality of the stock offered was of a somewhat higher standard than in former years, many of the animals being of considerable merit, and practically all in good thriving condition. Prices were governed largely by merit. When the animal was up to a pretty good standard, it sold for \$100 or over. Following is a list of those sold for \$100 and upwards:

Matchless Marquis, calved Sept., 1908; John Pirie, Winterburn	\$115
Senator Fox, Jan., 1909; W. A. Burnett, Salem	
Lustre 15th, Jan., 1902; S. Pugh, Milverton	110
Missie Marquis, Oct., 1908; A. Robinson, Eden Mills	128
Sutton Belle 7th, April, 1906; E. V. Thompson, Guelph	125
Jim McDonald, Dec., 1908; Geo. Haennell, Ariss	117
Jealous Hero, May, 1909; Neil Black, Corwhin	110
Senator Aureole, March, 1909; H. Wilkinson, Varney	118
Collini Minstrel, Sept., 1908; J. R. Kitchen, Corwhin	100
Royal Hero, Sept., 1908; John Kelly, Shakespeare	100
	110

Death claimed last week a stalwart among Canadian fruit-growers, in the person of Murray Pettit, of Winona, Wentworth Co., Ont., in his 67th year. Mr. Pettit was a man of marked individuality, an extensive fruit-grower, a prominent member of the Ontario Fruit-growers' Association, of which he was a past president, and had charge of one of the local fruit-experiment stations, doing much valuable experimental work with grapes.

The short courses in stock and seed judging, held at various points throughout Ontario this winter, have been very successful. Twenty-three have been held, with an average attendance of about 200 persons at each session.

The rabies situation in Western Ontario is growing more serious.

What is Doing in Essex.

The corn exhibit, held in the Town of Essex during the first week of February, is apparently bearing fruit. Groups of farmers may often be discovered earnestly discussing some topic of interest suggested by lectures delivered on different days of the exhibition.

What the results of such discussions may be, is very difficult to determine, but they cannot fail in bringing some good. The main subject of conversation are corn-growing and underdraining among the farmers of North and Centre Essex, while in Southern and Western portions it is confined more closely to fruit, vegetables and tobacco. In the former sections, it is hoped that it will result in greater pains being manifested in a thorough and more intelligent preparation of the soil for the reception of the seed, and also a more careful selection of suitable seed, both as to variety and quality, than has hitherto been displayed.

The steady winter weather, of unusual length, has seriously interfered with the farmers' plans, so far as draining has been concerned. Previous seasons (at least for many years) have given spells of open weather, enabling farmers to push forward ditching at a season when other farm work was not demanding attention. Notwithstanding this fact, fullest preparations are being made for an extended advance in this most beneficial undertaking. Farmers along the front are busy preparing their hotbeds, evidently believing that a hard, steady winter will be followed by an early spring. Prospects for fruit and vegetables are very bright. The ever-increasing demand for choice early fruit and vegetables, coupled with better shipping facilities made possible by electric railways, is giving encouragement to farmers along Lake Erie. They are seeking to augment their profits by increasing the acreage planted, and also by using a greater amount of fertilizing matter. Probabilities are that "The Heintz Factory" will require a larger stock and greater variety of vegetables to meet the demands made upon their business, than during past season. Even at the present time, many contracts have been entered upon for the production and deliverance of required grade of vegetables.

A. E.

Dairy Development in P. E. Island.

An increase of 8,314,839 pounds of milk supplied Prince Edward Island cheese factories in 1909, over 1908, and an increase of \$67,214.93 in the gross value of the cheese output, was reported at the annual meeting of the Prince Edward Island Dairymen's Association, held in Charlottetown on February 22nd. The increase of milk supplied for buttermaking was 3,270,433 pounds, and the increase in gross value of butter made was \$22,328.30, making a total increase of \$89,543.23 in value of output from the dairy stations of the Province. This is an encouraging increase over 1908, which in turn had registered a considerable increase over 1907. The average price for cheese last season was 11.16 cents.

A discussion took place respecting the facilities for transporting cheese from the factories on the Island to the ocean steamers. Complaints were made of cheese being delayed in the hot weather on the P. E. Island Railway, taking two days for them to reach Charlottetown from the factories in the outlying sections, and resulting in them being received by the exporters in a heated condition. This discussion resulted in a resolution asking the Dominion Minister of Agriculture and the Dairy and Cold-storage Commissioner to provide ice cars on the P. E. Island Railway for the transportation of cheese and butter during the hot weather, between the factories and the shipping points.

The Provincial Government had intimated their willingness to grant a sum of money to be given in prizes to those sending the greatest quantity of milk to a cheese factory or creamery. A committee was appointed by the Association to confer with the Commissioner of Agriculture as to the plan on which the prizes would be awarded.

W. S.

Pure-bred Stock for the West.

A large shipment of pure-bred live stock was sent to Western Canada last week by the Live-stock Associations of Ontario. The shipment, which filled a long palace horse-car and a fitted box car, consisted of 17 horses, 12 cattle, and 27 sheep. Clydesdales were largely in the majority among the horses, there being 13 Clydesdales, 2 Shires, 1 Thoroughbred, and 1 Standard-bred. There were 3 Shorthorns, 1 Jerseys, 2 Aberdeen-Angus, 1 Ayrshire, and 2 Holsteins. The sheep were Shropshires, Oxford and Suffolks. Much of the stock was purchased by Western breeders on personal inspection, and the balance was secured through correspondence. Buyers were represented by 22 parties in the West, whose shipping stations are scattered from Winnipeg to Calgary. It is expected that another shipment will go out the latter part of March or early in April. Parties requiring space should send their application to the Secretary, A. P. Westervelt, Toronto.