

properly managed, it would be the best way to exciting emulation among farmers, and hastening the introduction of the most important improvements into a district."

In a report, dated May 20th, 1851, presented to parliament by the Agricultural Society of Lower-Canada, we find at page 14, the following remark :

"The Directors of the Agricultural Society of Lower-Canada believe that in addition to the prizes for these important objects, there is one that is already offered by some counties, and which is the most necessary of all, because the influence it would exercise would be of the most useful and advantageous kind to the farming of Lower-Canada; it is the offering of one or more prizes for the best cultivated farms. Doubtless, the prize should be the leading prize of all, for it often happens, in Canada as well as elsewhere, that a farmer who wins one, two, or even three prizes for a few fat beasts, or for a bushel of fine grain, has the worst cultivated farm in his parish; thus these prizes produce by no means the result expected from them by the legislature, while on the contrary, suitable rewards offered for the best cultivated farms, would arouse among our farmers a spirit of emulation, a spirit it is so desirable to see possessed and preserved by them."

It was in 1785, under the auspices of Lord Dorchester, that the first Agricultural Society was established in Canada.

In its first report, its object was stated to be "the judicious cultivation of the land." That should be the aim and object of every Agricultural Association.

The Association of the Farmers of France, composed of the best agronomes of that country, gives prizes every year to the farmers of the best cultivated farms. (1)

Thus, the best judges, while admitting the usefulness of exhibition, declare that competitions of the best cultivated farms, and of standing-crops, are as useful, if not more necessary to the improvement of farming.

(Translated by the Editor).

(To be continued)

Swine.

DOMINION SWINE BREEDERS' ASS'N.

The annual meeting was held during the fat stock show at London on December 13. President George Green presided, and spoke on the importance of adopting the best known methods of feeding, and dealt with the relation between packer and feeder, claiming the former was taking too much out of the latter. Wm. Jones, of Mount Elgin, was elected president, and G. B. Hood, of Guelph, vice-president. A very interesting address was delivered by Prof. Day, his subject being "The Bacon Hog Question." He held that the most important question for the swine breeder to settle satisfactorily was that of the advisability of feeding none but bacon type hogs. The only way to get at an answer was to carefully study the markets for pork and pork products. Investigations had shown that almost the entire home and foreign demand was nearly, and could be wholly, supplied by hogs of the bacon type, if marketed at different seasons and ages. It seemed that hogs of the bacon type were to be the only ones of the future, and it behooved breeders to master the art of feeding and breeding them.

R. Spuires, of Carman, recently killed two spring pigs seven months old that dressed 190 and 250 pounds each. No effort had been made to produce exhibition growth.

An American exchange says: A pig with an upright ear is brighter, more intelligent and more active and restless than the lop eared sort, and that the bacon types are more active and more hardy than the lard sorts. Is this so?

By purchasing a boar when reasonably small the expense is not very great, and you can feed and develop him largely according to your own ideas. A breeding boar should not be forced too rapidly in growth, and ought not to be made too fat. A steady growth and development and a good, thrifty condition is what is most desirable in a breeding boar.—N. W. Farmer.



(1) So does the R. A. S. of England, to the best cultivated farms in the four or five counties in the neighbourhood of the town in which its annual meeting is held. Ed.