

Manitoba Dairymen Have a Great Convention

The Annual Convention of the Manitoba Dairymen's Association, held at the Manitoba Agricultural College recently, will go down in the history of Western Canada as one of the most enthusiastic and most educational affairs ever held west of the Great Lakes. The large crowds present at all the sessions were direct evidence that the dairy industry in Manitoba is gaining in popularity.

Important business, such as resolutions to be forwarded to railway companies in connection with the hauling and handling of milk and the competition of grade cows with pure breeds in milking contests at exhibitions, was done. David Munroe, of St. Charles, for the past few years president of the Association, dropped out this year and was succeeded by W. B. Gilroy of the Copenhagen Creamery at MacGregor; Jno. M. Champion of Reburn, one of the oldest members of the organization, was made a life member.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, W. B. Gilroy; Vice-President, David Munroe, St. Charles; 2nd Vice-President, T. Scott, Meadow Lea; Representative to Winnipeg Exhibition, Prof. Carson; Winnipeg Exhibition, L. A. Gibson; Directors: W. M. Champion, J. O. P. Allaire, A. Rocan, La Broquerie; Geo. Steele, M. P. P., Cypress River; Jno. Gill, Brandon.

The report of the secretary showed that the association had made rapid progress. A former membership of about 80 already totals over 100. Three years ago, the attendance at the Annual Convention was not large enough to permit of the election of officers. Altogether, the general enthusiasm is such as to indicate that many farmers have turned their attention more and more to dairying.

TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS DISCUSSED.

A problem of securing better methods of bringing milk into Winnipeg was discussed at some length. It was felt that the railways should be approached on the matter and if satisfaction could not be obtained from them, the railway commission should be solicited.

A resolution regarding this matter was carried unanimously. It was in effect that in view of the fact that the railway companies, with headquarters in Winnipeg, have decided to alter the mode of transportation of milk over their systems by changing the handling of same from their express to the baggage department, which necessarily entails much hardship on consignees, and that said companies have refused to lift cream and milk at flag systems along their systems, thus causing detriment to these products, this Dairy Association do hereby petition the said companies to look into these matters and take immediate steps to have the grievance remedied.

The question of milking contests at the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition was brought under discussion. Objects were taken last year to the milking competition of pure breeds and grades being in the same class. The opinion seemed to be that grade cows should be permitted to compete.

Regarding the matter of an agricultural publication for the members of the Association, the consensus of opinion was that a western publication would be more likely to increase the membership of the Association than an eastern paper. The members were given choice between The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World for one year or Farm Crops for two years for the membership fee of one dollar.

REVIEW OF SEASON'S WORK

The past year's work in dairying in Manitoba was reviewed by Prof. Car-

son. He stated that while in 1906 there had been an increase in butter production of 600,000 lbs., in 1907, there had been a decrease of over 12 per cent. In comparison with the decrease in Ontario, however, which was 30 per cent., and in Alberta 40 per cent. the Manitoba situation was not so alarming. The returns showed the number of dairy cows in the Province to be on the increase, which promises well for another year. Nearly all the cheese factories and creameries were inspected once during the year, some of them twice. Thirteen thousand dollars had been spent on improvements on cheese factories, of which there were now about 40 in the Province. About \$10,000 was spent on creameries. It was expected that during 1908, three or four creameries and as many cheese factories will be added to the list. N. J. Kuneman, inspector of cheese factories, dealt with some of the difficulties met with in making cheese. These will be treated more fully in a current issue.

In dealing with the creamery development throughout the province, L. A. Gibson, inspector of creameries, referred particularly to the question of moisture content, and discussed the amount of moisture at the standpoint of the manufacturer and consumer. Great progress had been noticed. Cow testing has been a boon and was very popular.

Mr. Geo. Matheson of Shellmoun discussed the advantages and disadvantages of grading cream. His remarks appear elsewhere in this issue. In the discussion which followed this address, the prevailing opinion seemed to be that in order to have a high grade product, grading was necessary.

Some good papers on general topics were presented at the evening sessions of the convention before large crowds. Synopsis of some of these will appear in later issues. Great enthusiasm prevailed until the last session was at an end. The new officers are encouraged by the enthusiasm manifested and the increased membership. Every possible effort will be put forth this season to double the output of dairy products and increase the usefulness of the Manitoba Dairymen's Association.

A Change in Cow Testing Work

Canada's first cow testing association was established at Cowansville, Que. Now there are 53 such associations in Canada, and inquiries are constantly being received from other counties about the system. It tends to show the farmer which cow pays him, and which does not, also which cow fails soonest, and needs replacing by never said company. It takes into account, too, the cost of producing milk.

Speaking at the Cowansville convention, on the question of cow testing, Dairy Commissioner J. A. Ruddle, said that we do not produce enough milk in Canada. In Holland, on a hundred acre farm, the pasturing is so good, that they keep 35 head of cows, each giving 8,000 pounds of milk a year, 25 heifers, 2 horses, 25 sheep and 25 calves, with the purchase of linseed in the winters. The summer feed was all obtained off the 100 acres. Three acres of pasture was sufficient for two cows. They had sub-irrigation, even in dry seasons, from the nearness of the sea.

The cost of this test is heavy on the Government, and they had proposed to charge the dairy cow a year for doing this testing. The farmers had objected to this and it was decided to arrange, where possible, for the testing to be done by local cheese or butter makers, who knew their business and had a reputation for being careful in their work. The Government would pay the men a small fee and then it would not cost

the farmer anything. Cowansville Creamery, under the management of Mr. T. W. Dunn, was very likely to take it up for its section. The test will enable a man to increase the annual yield of his herd by 1,000 pounds per cow. There are, at least, 2,000,000 cows in Canada, so it is easy to figure out what such a gain a cow would amount to.

Shire Horse Man.—Owing to the small attendance at the special meeting of the Canadian Shire Horse Assoc. to revise the constitution, that was

held at the Walker House, Toronto, on Friday last, the revision of the constitution was deferred until the next annual meeting. The secretary was instructed to issue a circular to all parties having Shire horses eligible for registration, notifying them that entries for volume 2 of the Stud Book would close on October 1st, 1908. Mr. J. M. Cardhouse, President, occupied the chair.

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