

Special Ottawa Correspondence

Ottawa, July 29.—The American Society of Refrigerating Engineers has conferred the honor of membership upon the Dominion Dairy Commissioner, J. A. Ruddick, by electing him an associate member. This action has been in recognition of his work on behalf of the cold storage in warehouse and transit of Canadian food exports. Mr. Ruddick has accepted to the request of the society to give a paper at the next annual convention. The subject will be Cold Storage in Canada. The convention is to be held in New York next December.

The new arrangement of the work of the Health of Animals Branch and the Live Stock Commissioner's Branch of the Department of Agriculture, placing them under the one head, is looked upon with favor by some and with doubt by others. Many stockmen, while admitting that the branches are closely allied, think that each is sufficiently important to have a separate head. A good deal of talk, however, is placed on the new Live Stock Commissioner, Dr. J. G. Rutherford, who is also, and has been for some time, Veterinary Director General. He will hold the two offices. The Health of Animals Branch is the more important of the two from the standpoint of annual expenditure. It cost in 1905-06 the sum of \$450,000 to most important one in view of the fact that the interests involved amount to a billion and a half of dollars.

Dr. John Gunion Rutherford is well known in Canada, and in the United States, especially to stockmen. He has resided in both countries. Though a thoroughly acclimatized Canadian, his ancestry was thoroughly and typically Scotch, a race that as veterinarians has excelled in stock raising. The son of a United Presbyterian clergyman, Dr. Rutherford was born at Mountain Cross, Peebleshire, and received his early education at the Glasgow High School. As a young man he served an apprenticeship with some of the best known cattle feeders and stockmen of Scotland, and later attended lectures in veterinary science at Edinburgh. He came to Canada in 1872, being then 18 years of age. His first experience in Canada was as a student at the Guelph Agricultural College, where he studied agriculture and passed a very good examination. He subsequently attended the Ontario Veterinary College at Toronto, and also spent a summer on the famous Bow Park Farm. The young doctor then pursued his veterinary studies further in the old country and returning to Canada was graduated with honors at the Ontario Veterinary College. He then practiced in New York State, Tennessee, Kentucky and the West Indies, and finally settled in a private practice in the town of Portage la Prairie. There, besides building up a very wide and lucrative practice, he took an active part in the life of the community and was a prominent member of the leading societies. It was chiefly through his instrumentality that the Veterinary Association of Manitoba was formed. He was also one of the founders of the Portage la Prairie general hospital and president of the local St. Andrew's Society. Dr. Rutherford's career is well known. He entered political life in the Manitoba legislature and then in the Dominion house. In 1902 he was appointed Canadian veterinary inspec-

tor and steadily and surely has built up the branch to its present efficiency. As a work as veterinary director of general and live stock commissioner will be watched with the greatest interest.

The Department of Agriculture has received a letter from the South African Government giving an encouraging outlook for the shipment of Canadian apples to that country. The Government states that it is sending over two men to look up a source of supply for apple shipments to South Africa during the whole of the season. The trade will be given an experimental trial. The letter gives at the same time a warning that fruit infected by scab or attacked by the codling moth will be destroyed without remuneration to the shippers. The Fruit Division will place any fruit grower or shipper who so desires in communication with the South African agents.

A similar communication to the Department of Trade and Commerce notes the possible advantage to Canada in the heavy duties about to be imposed by France against Spain. It is thought that these duties will create in France a market for Canadian apples and thus will be afforded another surplus outlet for this class of Canadian produce. The letter was sent to the department by the Canadian commercial agent at Paris.

A. P. Westervelt has announced that the next Eastern Ontario Poultry and Live Stock Show will be held at Ottawa on March 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th. A total prize list of \$4,430 will be awarded. The show will be held in the new building of the Central Canada Exhibition Association, and is expected to be the most successful in the history of the show. The new building affords good accommodation for both exhibitors and visitors.

Our New Zealand Letter

TO THE FARMING WORLD.

PETROLEUM

This is hardly a subject for an agricultural paper, but seeing that farmers as a class are the principal consumers, it is a subject that should engage their attention. At Taranaki boring operations have been proceeding for over 40 years, and the surface waters of swamps in many parts of the district have oil floating on them. At last, after much labor and expense, they have succeeded in striking the real article, at a depth of over 2,000 feet. The crude oil comes with a good pressure, and rises some 15 feet above the surface. It is expected that we shall now have sufficient for the whole of New Zealand's requirements. Boring rights have been secured for miles around the successful area and land has consequently risen by leaps and bounds. The general public seem very suspicious of an American syndicate and talk sardoniously of the "Standard Oil Trust." But so far few shares have changed hands and it is the general wish that the company should be owned locally. The original nominal value of shares was £5 (25 dol.), which have shot up to £50, £60 and £75, but few will part even at that, and intend holding for further developments. The season has continued very mild up till the last few days—warm showers and warm weather, and have only experienced but very few frosts.

SHEEP

have maintained the high prices that ruled of late and have even risen a little higher.

CATTLE

There has been quite an alteration in prices; beef has fallen several shillings per 100 lbs. lower, while stores have dropped about 2s. per head. But there has been quite a fluctuation through the recent sales. At the commencement there was a fair demand in anticipation of the increased demand for forward grown steers to finish on turnips; then they were crowded in and at once dropped 20s., and very small cattle, calves in particular, have been at very low rates, but in consequence of the shortage in sheep and consequent slightly higher prices have forced graziers, in many instances, to put in orders for considerable numbers of ewes and lambs and 18 months old cattle, which have caused quite a rise from the slump that ruled with that class of stock. And also a rise in any cattle forward and grown enough for tarraps.

WHEAT

We are not (in the north) very much interested in that cereal, as with us it is principally grown to make sure of a good straw stack for cattle when running on the turnips. But in the south, principally Canterbury and Otago, the crops have not been up to the usual even ordinary returns, and it has been stated that we shall not have any over requirements for home consumption. Others think there will be a million bushels available for export, and those interested particularly are now advocating your method of the fresherman being compelled to furnish returns, as at present there is no authentic return except from growers who only form an estimate at the time of statistical collection and many now assert that their returns are a third and even less of their expectations. The highest estimate is an average of 30 bushels, but others say 28 and even less. This is about our lowest average, as only the very best land adapted for its growth is usually used.

Our International Exhibition, to be held in Christ Church November next, is looked forward to with great expectation, and I am pleased to learn that Canada will be well represented, and from my experience at St. Louis World's Fair and at Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, she will give a good account of herself. Why not send some of your best cattle?

WAINGARO.

Another Stalwart Gone

One by one the old stalwarts are passing away. The death of Mr. Wm. Dawson, Victoria, Ont., who passed away on July 13th last, adds another to the long list. In his native county of Norfolk he was well and favorably known, having been prominently identified with the dairy industry of that district. He was a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and was for some years a director of the old Agricultural and Arts Association. In this capacity he did much to further the interests of agriculture in Ontario.

A Friend Indeed

Mr. W. H. Hills, Shelburne Co., Quebec, in replying to three new subscriptions, says: "I am only a 'young' fellow and will be 75 years of age August 3rd, 1906. The reason I make the offer to get new subscribers to your paper is because I feel that every farmer ought to have it for a guide to help him in general farm work."