

in judging dairy sires and dams. Such is the only accurate test of the breeding ability of a dairy individual, and, as such, it has been applied with most encouraging success in the granting of awards to dairy cattle in one of the most progressive countries of Europe. As a matter of fact, the application of this test, in passing judgment upon the animals exhibited, has been one of the important factors in establishing upon a sure footing the dairy industry of that country.

Time will not permit to enter into a further discussion of this principle, either with respect to the difficulties to be anticipated or the advantages to be derived as the result of its adoption. I think my statement of it has been reasonably clear, and I hope the arguments which led up to it may have been sufficiently definite to indicate the need of a departure from the present system. We want a system, gentlemen, that will encourage much more effectively the private breeder; a system that will put a premium upon breeding ability; a system that will unearth from obscurity the breeding records of individuals that are making good, in order that their value may be preserved and taken advantage of by the farmers of their own community. We want a system that will avoid placing a fictitious value upon appearance and finish, and that will set up a standard based upon a combination of utility and beauty. We want a system, above all else, that, following natural laws and business principles, will put such information in the hands of farmers and breeders generally as will enable them to breed better stock.

That the system advocated will assist in accomplishing these ends, I have confidence to believe. To be able to induce this association to lend its influence toward advocating and making possible its adoption, even if only experimentally or in a modified form, would be an honor, indeed. If we can create a system—this or another—which will measurably comply with the suggested requirements, and get adequate financial assistance behind it, we shall be able to revolutionize, almost, the breeding of live stock in Canada. It has been suggested that we have in the Dominion conditions for the building up of a great live-stock industry, second to that of no other country. Granting this to be so, it will be well to remember that public exhibitions constitute almost the most effective agency in promoting successfully a progressive movement toward the adoption of improved methods in general breeding practice. That a wise and consistent organization of the breeding classes is fundamentally important, will be conceded without question. The great interests involved, both private and public, merit, and in fact demand a very careful and deliberate review of the existing situation. If we are proceeding in the wrong direction, it is time to turn back. If we are drifting, without any well-defined goal in sight, we have need to get to our feet and blaze a new trail. If our ambition is short of possible achievement, an opportunity presents itself which it becomes a duty to accept. That opportunity, gentlemen, I honestly believe, is more vital in its insistence, more comprehensive in its outlook, more far-reaching in its possibilities than you or I can at present realize. It offers, in part, as you will concede, a solution for many of the difficult problems which have retarded a much-wished-for improvement in the breeding of Canadian live stock, and, if taken advantage of, may go far toward establishing permanently the high position, previously referred to, of one of the most important industries deserving of recognition in the economy of Canada's advancement.

Shorthorn Breeders Aiming at Dual-Purpose Standard.

A large and representative quota of Shorthorn breeders were present at the annual meeting of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, held in the Temple Building, Toronto, Feb. 6th.

A point given much prominence in all of the speeches was that breeders should pay more attention to the production of milk. Peter White, K. C., of Pembroke, the president of the Association, showed how conditions had worked out in favor of the dairy interests. Formerly, when the Western ranches were at the height of their prosperity, very heavy milking propensities were not required—in fact, not desirable—on the open range, and as Shorthorn breeders were breeding possibly more than they thought to suit the rancher, they lost sight of the fact that the Shorthorn is a milk cow, and were rather encouraged to breed with the ideal of perfect beef form constantly in mind. Also, as pointed out by Mr. White, the Eastern farmer, on high-priced land, because he could not compete with this cheaply-produced beef, has been forced into dairying, which has given the breeders of special dairy breeds of cattle a good opportunity to strengthen their ground in Eastern Canada. The president believed that in recent years the Shorthorn breeder of good bulls has not had that share of the patronage of the Eastern farmer to which he is entitled, but there now appears to be

an increasing demand for Shorthorn bulls from a good milking dam to head dairy herds. The kind of Shorthorn we must produce if we are to take full advantage of the opportunities which the future has in store for breeders is the cow which can pay her way handsomely at the pail, raise a lusty calf that can be fed off at a good price, and she herself, when one of her daughters is able to fill her place in the herd better than she ever did, take on flesh rapidly when dry, and go to the block a good carcass, still making profit for her owner.

R. W. Caswell, of Saskatoon, Sask., dwelt on the value of the milking strain in Shorthorns, as did also Robert Miller, of Stouffville, Ont., who believed that there is a place for the special beef animal, but the great cosmopolitan breed of this country is bound to be the dual-purpose cattle, a breed that will produce good steers and good milk, and the pure-bred Shorthorn is the breed to fill the bill.

A. W. Smith, of Maple Lodge, had no hesitancy in saying that the Shorthorn is the cow for the general farmer, and he believed that it would be to the advantage of the breed to have an appendix added to the present form of herdbook which would make provision for the registration of cows in a record of production, on a similar basis to that employed in the special dairy breeds.

From the discussion, it was evident that the feeling of the entire meeting was in the direction of encouraging higher milk production, and thus more firmly establish the Shorthorn breed as the leading dual-purpose, farmer's breed in Canada.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Registrations during 1911 numbered 7,340; transfers, 2,639. The receipts showed \$14,121.36, and disbursements \$11,078.92, leaving a balance of \$3,042.44, or an increase of \$786.66 over that of a year ago. The Association has a paid membership of 1,592. In registrations, during 1911, Ontario led with 4,742; Manitoba had 1,061, Alberta 535, Saskatchewan 454, Quebec 279, United States 151, Nova Scotia 119, New Brunswick 45, Prince Edward Island 30, and British Columbia 14.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The address of Peter White was so well received that a resolution was passed that it be published in pamphlet form and circulated amongst all those interested in cattle-breeding. No red-letter events transpired during 1911, but the year was one of steady business and steady progress, and the breed is claiming yearly the interest of the general public to an extent not even approximately accorded to any other breed of cattle. Canadian show-yard successes at home and abroad were referred to with pleasure. Sales during the year by public auction set a high-water mark for recent years, and there is an increasing demand for what are called "farmer's bulls," which indicates the premier position of the Shorthorn as a farmer's breed. The resignation of Dr. J. G. Rutherford as Dominion Veterinary Inspector-General and Live-stock Commissioner, was deplored, and the new form of railway contract referred to.

Canada was pointed out to be naturally a beefing country, and the bonanza beef business being a thing of the past, beef is scarce, and, in a word, continued President White, beef will never again be cheap in the sense in which it has been; and, with the business properly organized, the slaughtering and the retailer can each be suitably rewarded, the producer more suitably rewarded than hitherto, and at the same time the consumer pay a somewhat smaller price relatively to the cost of production. Dairying has been cited as more profitable than beef production, because the dairyman has been able to receive a higher price for his product, relatively, to the cost of production, due to better organization, larger Government assistance, and to the fact that the public, owing to our conditions, have been able to obtain cheap beef, produced on cheap land, but never cheap dairy products produced on cheap land. Dairyman also have a better system of co-operative manufacture and a quasi co-operative method of selling what constitutes an advantage over the beef-raiser. These have placed the dairy business on a firm basis, and "I doubt very seriously," said Mr. White, "whether a pound of prime beef can be produced at less cost than can a pound of butter, where all conditions as to land value, cost of labor, interest on investment, and every other element entering into the cost of production are considered; and yet no one seems to think it out of the way to pay 25 cents for a pound of butter, but 25 cents for a pound of choice porterhouse is simply preposterous." Conditions will change and population will increase, and the demand for the right kind of cattle will become tremendous.

Prof. H. S. Arkell, Assistant Live-stock Commissioner, briefly reviewed the outlook for the beef cattle industry in Canada. He stated that, in looking into the larger markets of Canada, he found that there had been, in 1911, a decrease of 17 per cent. in the number of animals marketed as compared with the previous year. The export trade had shown a decrease of nearly 60 per cent.

during the past two years, and Western Canada is now receiving beef from the East, which is contrary to former conditions. Existing conditions are forcing the farmer out of beef-raising, because he can make more money for dairying. He believed that the hope of the beef industry was in the encouragement and increased breeding of the dual-purpose Shorthorn.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

That all grants to exhibitions made now and hereafter be upon the following conditions:

1. That each society or association obtaining a grant shall offer as much prize-money (not being an equivalent to a grant from any breed association) for Shorthorns as for any other breed of cattle, and, in addition, duplicate the grant made by this Association.

2. The above shall not apply to Winter Fairs.

3. That the money shall not be paid over until the executive committee are satisfied that each animal, except grades at Winter Fairs, winning prize-money has been recorded in the Dominion Shorthorn Herdbook on or previous to the day of exhibition, and that each is bona fide the property of the exhibitor at the time of the winning of the prize; and that, in the event that the whole of the prize-money actually awarded, and paid out by the exhibition association for Shorthorns is not equal to or greater than twice the amount granted by this association, then the grant of this Association will be reduced proportionately.

That this Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, in convention assembled at Toronto, this sixth day of February, 1912, request the Hon. Martin Burrell, the Dominion Minister of Agriculture, to introduce at this session of Parliament a bill embodying the draft of a new live-stock pedigree act, prepared by a representative committee appointed to represent the Canadian breeders, and that each member present urge on his respective representative in the House of Commons the necessity for the passing of such an act.

LIBERAL GRANTS TO EXHIBITIONS.

Grants were made to exhibitions as follows: Canadian National, Toronto, \$1,000; Western Fair, London, \$250; Ontario Provincial Winter Fair, Guelph, \$225; Eastern Ontario Winter Fair, Ottawa, \$175; Winnipeg, \$200; Brandon, \$200; Regina, \$200; Saskatoon, \$200; Calgary, \$200; Edmonton, \$200; Sherbrooke, \$100; Halifax, \$100; Regina, Calgary and Brandon Winter Fairs, \$100 each; Toronto Junction Winter Live-stock Show, \$50; Amherst Winter Fair, \$50—a total of \$3,450.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

President, Peter White, K. C., Pembroke, Ont.; Vice-President, Harry Smith, Hay, Ont.; 2nd Vice-President, P. M. Brett, Regina, Sask.; Secretary-Treas., W. G. Pettit, Freeman, Ont. Directors—(A list)—W. A. Dryden, Brooklin, Ont.; W. D. Cargill, Cargill, Ont.; S. Dymont, Barrie, Ont.; J. M. Gardhouse, Weston, Ont.; A. E. Meyer, Guelph, Ont. (B list)—John Gardhouse, Highfield, Guelph, Ont.; John T. Gibson, Denfield, Ont.; J. A. Watt, Salem, Ont.; James Leask, Greenbank, Ont.; C. A. Archibald, Truro, N. S. (C list)—Wm. Smith, Columbus, Ont.; J. G. Barron, Carberry, Man.; J. A. McClary, Quebec; J. T. Mitchell, Burlington, Ont.; Robert Amos, Moffat, Ont.

Executive and Finance Committee.—Peter White, K. C., Pembroke, Ont.; Harry Smith, Hay, Ont.; Robert Miller, Stouffville, Ont.; J. M. Gardhouse, Weston, Ont.; Capt. T. E. Robson, London, Ont.; W. G. Pettit, Freeman, Ont.

Some Pigs.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have been requested to give a few details of how I fed a recent bunch of hogs to a weight of 248 pounds at six months of age. First, I think you must have good sows, and always keep them well fed (but never shut up in close pens) until farrowing. I find oats, with a little wheat, the best I can feed, both for sow and pigs. I do not wean until the pigs get to eating well, and keep on feeding oats and wheat, about 10 pounds of wheat to 100 pounds of oats, finely ground. The pigs are thus kept in good growing condition, with the freedom of the yard or orchard, until four to four and a half months old; then I shut them up, and feed fairly heavy on oats, barley and wheat. The older they get, the heavier I make their feed—the last three weeks, about one bushel oats, four bushels barley, and two of wheat. That is what I fed the lot referred to, but, in addition, they have had skim milk from birth. I could have turned this same lot off some time before, but prices were too low. This lot did not take \$25 worth of grain. In February, 1910, the same kind of hogs were sold—10 hogs, 204 pounds each, at \$8.50 per 100 pounds; and Sept., 1910, 12 hogs, 5 months 14 days old, 208 pounds each, sold at \$8.60—a fairly good showing.

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