

DAIRY.

Annual Convention of the Eastern Dairymen's Association at Peterboro.

The 17th Annual Convention of the Dairymen's Association of Eastern Ontario was held at Peterboro, on Jan. 3rd and 4th. These annual gatherings are usually very successful, and contribute largely to promote, develop and improve the great dairy industry of this Province. They furnish an opportunity for dairymen to come together and compare methods and acquire knowledge of the best practices in all branches of the business, besides stimulating—through the enthusiasm which such a large gathering brings—those interested in the trade to greater zeal and more determination to make it a success. The array of speakers is always the best to be had, and, consequently, a profitable as well as a pleasant time is usually looked forward to.

With respect to the meeting at Peterboro, it cannot be considered an unqualified success. The addresses delivered were of the highest order, and were full of facts, truths and food for the dairyman and farmer, but the attendance was exceedingly small, considering the importance of the organization and the large dairy interests of eastern Ontario. It does seem a shame that such capital addresses as were delivered at Peterboro should be heard by only about 125 dairymen and others, and that practical men should be under the expense of coming from Ottawa, Guelph, Toronto and other places to waste their energies on so scanty a crowd. Surely someone has blundered, and there must be something seriously wrong in the working of the organization controlling the convention. If the meeting had been properly advertised, and the attention of dairymen drawn to the importance of the gathering, there is no doubt but what the hall would have been crowded and the convention a success in every particular. An association that receives \$2,750 from the Government to carry on its work should see that such an important branch of its work as the annual convention should be a success.

Without appearing at all dictactic or showing a spirit of fault-finding, it may not be amiss just here to point out in what respects the arrangements seemed to be lacking, and it is hoped that our eastern friends will take in good part what is said, as it is given with the view of stimulating them to do better, and to make the work of the Association of more value to the dairymen of the eastern portion of this Province.

The mere fact of sending out a limited number of post cards with the announcement of the Convention and the list of speakers is not at all sufficient to secure a crowd. A definite programme should be published and the meeting "boomed" through the press, as a number of people only hear of such gatherings in this way. The action of the managers in announcing that such men as Prof. Roberts, of Cornell University, and ex-Gov. Hoard, would deliver specially prepared addresses (these men were conspicuous by their absence) is an advertising scheme that should not be countenanced by so important an organization as the Dairymen's Association of Eastern Ontario, or by any honest man. The arrangement for each day's proceedings was poor—in fact, there was no definite arrangement at all. Everything was run "hap-hazard." The speakers themselves did not know when their turn was to come, and the curiosity of the audience seemed to be aroused as to what was coming next. It is hoped that the management of this Association will endeavor, in the future, to make their annual meetings more of a success in point of attendance, interest and arrangement of programme.

THE FIRST SESSION

of the Convention began at 10 a. m., in the Opera House, with President Bissell in the chair. Among the noted dairymen present from a distance were: D. Derbyshire, Brockville, President O. C. Association; R. G. Murphy, Elgin; G. G. Publow, Perth; J. M. Drummond, Keene; James Whitton, Wellman's Corners; J. T. Warrington, Belleville; W. S. Cook, Belleville; Wm. Eager, Morrisburg; A. W. Grant, Montreal; D. Ewing, Cobourg; J. S. Pearce, London; J. A. Ruddick, Woodstock; Prof. Dean, Guelph; J. B. McEwan, Brockville; C. Richardson, St. Marys; E. J. Madden, Newburg; A. Pattullo, Woodstock; J. W. Wheaton, London, Secretary W. O. D. Association.

THE PRESIDENT read his annual report, which was largely complimentary to the dairymen for their able response in sending cheese to the World's Fair, and congratulatory in reference to the splendid success of Ontario cheese at Chicago, which would help us in years to come. What is wanted now is to stir up the farmers, so that all will do as well as the best are now doing in the way of making the most out of their cows, by caring properly for the milk and in providing suitable food, so that the best possible results will follow to all those engaged in the business. He thanked the Hon. Jno. Dryden, Minister of Agriculture, for his able assistance to the Association, and was especially thankful for the establishment of the Dairy School at Guelph, which would enable our cheesemakers to thoroughly equip themselves for better work. He complimented very highly Prof. Robertson for his excellent management of the cheese exhibit at the World's Fair.

SHORT, PITHY ADDRESSES

were then made by D. Derbyshire, J. T. Warrington, A. W. Grant, and James Whitton, dealing chiefly with the better education of the farmer, the success at Chicago, and the market for Canadian cheese.

Prof. Dean, Guelph, who had just arrived, was called upon and urged the adoption of a certain standard for each cow in the quantity of milk she gives. He said that a number of the dairymen in eastern Ontario had set up a standard of 3,000 lbs. of milk per cow. This was too low and should be doubled. A cow should give at least 6,000 lbs. of milk every year, or make 250 lbs. of butter. A great many cows will do this if they get the proper food and have the right training.

The President's report was then adopted, and the standing committees appointed.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION

began at 2 p. m., when Instructor G. G. Publow presented his fourth annual report, which was full of facts and suggestions that would be helpful to the cheesemakers. He had spent 147 days in testing milk and giving instructions during the season of 1892.

After finishing his report, Mr. Publow answered a number of questions put to him by the cheesemakers present.

Prof. DEAN then gave a valuable and interesting address on "Science in the Dairy." He distinguished very accurately between theory and practice as applied to the dairying business, and said that he found that for everything every man had a theory. Nearly all the improvements and advances in dairying were due to the application of science. He cited the development in the process of taking the cream from the milk, gradually coming up from wooden pans to the present almost perfect system. A dollar owned by a man who was both a scientific and a practical man would produce much more than it would in the hands of one who was neither, or who possessed only one of these qualities. Prof. Dean also considered the question of breeding and feeding dairy cows, the proper care of milk and the method of testing it. He touched lightly on the matter of cheese making and the methods to be pursued.

MR. G. H. BENSLEY, Instructor and Inspector for Peterboro, Northumberland, and parts of Hastings and Prince Edward Counties, reported that he had tested 3,318 samples of milk, and found that only eleven had been tampered with. The offending persons had been properly dealt with.

MR. J. B. McEWAN read an exhaustive paper on the subject of "Dairy School Work," in which was contained a great number of valuable hints and suggestions for cheesemakers.

MR. A. PATTULLO, editor of the Sentinel-Review, Woodstock, and President of the Oxford Dairymen's Association, was called upon by the chairman and made a very interesting address. He dealt chiefly with the early history of the dairy industry in Oxford County, and made reference to the importance of the industry to-day that had originated from so small a beginning. He spoke in admiration of the good work being done by the Agricultural College, Guelph, and the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, and urged the importance of cleanliness in the dairy. He also touched on the importance of developing the home market for dairy products, and of having good roads.

He was followed by J. W. WHEATON, Secretary of the Dairymen's Association of Western Ontario, who spoke briefly in reference to the good work that the dairymen are doing for this country, and referred to efforts being put forth by the Western Association to reach the patron of the cheese factory. He showed that upwards of 9,000 patrons and dairymen had been given practical information in reference to all branches of dairying, through local meetings and local conventions held under the auspices of the Western Association last winter.

THE EVENING SESSION

opened at 7:30 p. m., with Mr. James Kendry, mayor of Peterboro, in the chair. The Mayor, Mr. Wm. Cluxton, Mr. M. A. Sanderson, and Police Magistrate Dumble, all spoke, making reference to the importance of the dairy industry, and regretting that the citizens of Peterboro were not able to do more towards welcoming the convention to the city, which was due to the season of the year and the lack of time.

MR. J. A. RUDDICK of the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, spoke on the question of winter dairying in Ontario. He said that in 1891-2 there were only two winter creameries in operation in Ontario; there were now 21, five of which were operated as Government dairy stations. During the week ending December 22, these five Government stations had produced 7,800 pounds of butter.

MR. J. S. PEARCE, London's well-known seedsmen, and one of the judges of the butter exhibit at Chicago, referred in terms of regret to the rivalry which existed among the factories, and thought that some amicable understanding should be arrived at among them which would lead to co-operation and assistance in the manufacture of cheese. He said that as far as the exhibits of butter at the Fair were concerned, those from the United States were ahead of Canada.

MR. C. C. JAMES, M. A., Deputy Minister of Agriculture, was heartily welcomed by the audience when he rose to speak. He said that no ques-

tion so important as the cheese industry had been brought before the Canadian public during the past ten years. It would become us to be modest over our success, however. Speaking of the splendid triumph achieved by Ontario at the Chicago Exhibition, he said that although Canada had taken so many more prizes, the United States had really learned more about cheesemaking than we had, from the exhibits made there. In this country, however, whatever diversity of opinion there might exist on other questions, there was no difference in regard to cheese. This was a platform on which the whole people was united, and it was one in which there were no politics.

Prof. ROBERTSON made one of his characteristic speeches, full of good advice, on the question of dairying. He said that it was because so many farmers had no definite plan of work in view that there were so many failures. It was only he who pursued a fixed, intelligent method, and who never floated with the tide, who found himself in the vortex of financial security. If he allowed himself to become lost in the mists of uncertainty, he was certain to go niggardly poor to the end of his life. He pointed out the benefit to the farmer of the experimental institutions which had been established by Government. To give these advantages their full worth, however, the farmer must wake up and take a pride in his occupation. He must not consider his occupation anything but the most noble. In addition to this, he must show persistent effort. The World's Fair should have taught him something in this direction. Prof. Robertson then dwelt at some length on the Canadian dairy exhibit at Chicago, and the prominence it would give Ontario in the eyes of the world.

The Association re-assembled at 10 o'clock, President Bissell in the chair. Mr. C. C. James, M. A., opened the proceedings with a capital address on dairy statistics. He based his remarks on figures furnished during 1892 by 43 cheese factories in Ontario, which went to show that in the seven months from April to November, of that year, 300,000 pounds of milk less than in 1892 had been used at these factories. This was owing to the unfavorable weather, and the lack of pasturage, and the question he asked his audience was whether it was possible by any crop-growing to keep up the supply of milk when the pasture was bare. Was the farmer going to be able in any way to control matters that such an enormous shrinkage in the cheese output as had occurred in 1893 would not again take place? It was on this point that the farmer was going to absolutely succeed or make a partial failure. Every dairyman should look ahead and have a supply of succulent fodder to tide his cows over this dry season.

PROFESSOR SHUTT dealt with the value of Indian corn as a fodder. It was this which had been more instrumental than anything else in making dairying what it was. By its means winter dairying was not only made possible, but was made a financial success. It was a good, succulent and cheap fodder, and enabled the dairymen to keep up the flow of milk for two and even three months beyond the usual period, and its value when the pasture was used up was readily apparent. Of all the coarse and bulky fodders it afforded the largest amount of cattle food per acre. But not only was it a cheap crop; it likewise cleaned the land, and was of immense value in this respect to farmers who grew grain. Professor Shutt divided fodder for cattle into two classes—(1) wheat, rye, linseed meal, bran and others of similar nature, which were called concentrated fodder, because of the large proportion of albuminoids they contained; and (2) the coarse and bulky fodder, as grass, clover, straw, etc. Both of these classes, he said, must form a part of every cow's rations. The bulky fodder was as necessary for the cow's digestive organs as the concentrated, because the stomach required a certain amount of distension. The combination, however, must be a proper one, as neither possessed to the requisite extent the necessary constituents of the other. He placed corn at the head of the coarse fodders. It was relished by the animals, and it was succulent if preserved in silos. He emphasized the value of succulency in fodder, as it was chiefly instrumental in making the milk flow. It was due to the succulency of the grass in June, he said, that the flow of milk was so great then. In speaking of the cheapness of corn as a fodder, the Professor said that four tons of it were about equal to one ton of hay. Sixteen tons of corn would, then, be equal to four tons of hay, and sixteen tons of corn could be grown on an acre, whereas the yield of hay was two tons to the acre, so that twice the amount of fodder to the acre could be grown by raising corn instead of hay. The speaker then gave particulars regarding the planting and cutting of corn, and the nature of the ground most suitable for growing it. It should not be planted too thickly nor in heavy soil, but rather in light clay. The early glazing state was the best period at which to cut it.

Prof. ROBERTSON then touched briefly on the points made by Mr. James, and urged the necessity of overcoming unfavorable climatic conditions by means of a reserve supply of succulent fodder. He then read a letter from Mr. E. D. Tilson, Tilsonburg, regarding the severe drought of the summer, and the manner in which it was surmounted by the use of ensilage. Mr. Tilson had 20 tons of ensilage left over from last year, and fed 40 cows on it during the summer. During July and August