

knew, would be of great importance if success attended the efforts of those who are endeavoring to secure it.

INSTITUTE WORK.

This was a step in the right direction when the system was inaugurated. He said that it was the intention of the department to hold at least one hundred meetings each year, but owing to the outbreak of smallpox in the northern part of the province the meetings in that section were abandoned for a time.

In referring to the possibilities of the future he said that in 1891 three million acres only produced \$7,000,000 worth of farm produce, but now he thought that it would produce \$15,000,000 worth.

In closing he said that he hoped nothing would be introduced in the meetings that would dampen the ardor of those in attendance. We should all work in harmony regardless of our own political views which would bring success to our undertakings.

GENERAL PURPOSE COW.

After the county vice-presidents' reports were read, which in nearly every case referred to the excellent crops and the increasing interest taken along dairy lines, the president called on Mr. Bliss Fawcett, of Sackville, to read his paper on beef raising. Mr. Fawcett, who, by the way, is one of those general-purpose cow admirers, gave his ideas of what a general-purpose cow was. She was, he said, a square-built cow that would give two pails of 4.2 per cent. milk and at the same time would make a first-class beef cow, when we wished to make beef of her. A lively discussion took place over this paper, which I do not think won any more admirers for Mr. Fawcett's cow.

The evening session was occupied by the addresses and discussion on agricultural education. Addresses were made by W. W. Hubbard, Dr. Inch, Hon. Chas. H. La Billois and Dr. Mullen.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

W. W. Hubbard referred to the great needs of our people giving more attention to agriculture, and thought that by discussing the subject at this meeting when representatives were here from all over the province, a greater interest could be worked up and the people would return home better able to discuss the question in their own local societies.

The speaker gave a clear idea how technical education was first started in the States. In England large agricultural colleges were opened, but had not proved a success. He thought a small plot of land at each country school, where different crops could be grown, would have a tendency to enthuse the small pupils there by keeping their minds on the farm work. The Rose, Thistle and Shamrock was beautifully rendered by the Normal School students, after the address, and a lively discussion followed, in which J. E. Starr, Nova Scotia; Howard Trueman, Point de Bute; Geo. E. Baxter, of Andover, and others took part.

Dr. Saunders was next called upon and made some reference to agricultural education. He said that it was conceded now by all that a farmer had to be made from some other than the half-witted boy who was usually selected. Education, he said, was the only grand work upon which to work the rest of our lives, and those who think they have finished this work on leaving the schools were to be pitied.

He wished to speak for a short time to the ladies upon the subject of plants, which adorned our homes. The doctor went thoroughly into the subject, naming many of the different varieties, giving the treatment they required, and concluded by saying that no home was complete without an assortment of flowers.

The morning session of the second day was taken up by the papers read by J. F. Tilley on Dairying, and H. Mitchell on Curing Rooms. A grand discussion followed in which many practical points were brought out.

In the afternoon Mr. Robt. Robertson, of the Nappan

farm, gave an excellent address on the "Importance of Live Stock to Agricultural Prosperity." The speaker referred to the question of breeding, and showed the great development of this branch of farming in Ontario. Bringing in live stock by the Government, he thought, had a damaging effect upon those who would like to enter into the work in our own provinces. He had no place on his farm for the so called general purpose cow, and the farmers of this country should first determine in their own minds what they want their stock for, then breed for that purpose. Mr. Robertson's address was well received, and he was asked many questions upon the work of breeding and feeding.

E. B. Elderkin, of the Maritime Stock Breeders' Association, then gave an address, in which he spoke of the association to which he belonged. He referred to the stock of the Maritime Provinces, and claimed we had a good class upon which to work. He thought that our farmers should get the special purpose stock for special work.

Dr. Saunders, being the next speaker, addressed the meeting upon "Natural and Artificial Fertilizers." The speaker compared the value of different kinds of fertilizer, and spoke of the great necessity of properly caring for it, showing the great loss incurred by allowing it to leach. A lively discussion followed the doctor's address.

The evening session was taken up with an excellent address by J. K. Flemming, M.P.P., on the "Review of the 19th Century." Mr. Flemming is a pleasing speaker, and handled the subject in an able manner.

OFFICERS FOR 1900.

On Thursday morning the following officers for the ensuing year were elected: A. G. Dickson, president; O. M. Wetmore, vice-president; James R. Taylor, recording secretary; W. W. Hubbard, corresponding secretary; B. M. Fawcett, treasurer. Vice-presidents for counties: Restigouche, James E. Stewart; Gloucester, John Kenny; Northumberland, C. Dickson; Kent, J. J. Jardine; Westmoreland, Howard Trueman; Albert, E. Colpitts; Kings, David M. Hamm; Queens, A. E. McAlpine; Sunbury, C. F. McLean; York, Frank R. Brook; Carleton, James Good; Charlotte, Stephen Scott; St. John, S. Creighton; Madawaska, Levi Soncie.

After the election of officers the following took part: Exhibition of dressed poultry and discussion led by Messrs. Geo. E. Baxter, Andover, and W. S. Tompkins, Southampton; "Potato Growing," by O. W. Wetmore, Clifton, N.B.; "Wheat Growing," Geo. J. Dickson, Chatham, N.B.; "Results of Selecting Productive Varieties of Cereals for Sowing," by Dr. Saunders; "Onion Growing," by W. M. Thurrott, Manguerville; "How to Make the Farm Pay," by John E. Starr, Kings Co., N.S.; "The English Market for Canadian Products," by Henry Wilmot, Belmont.

All the above subjects were ably handled by the several speakers, and grand discussions followed each address.

Prof. J. W. Robertson gave an excellent address on "Pork Raising," but as his time was very limited the discussion of the subject was necessarily short.

British Columbia Letter

By our own Correspondent

Farmers are still farming in British Columbia, but the talk has been latterly of other things than agriculture. The war in South Africa has become a vivid reality to a good many of us here. The infantry contingent has gone, and Strathcona's Horse have gone, and not a few ranches up and down the country are one man short in consequence. The young men who perforce must remain at home are now expending their military ardor in the formation of local volunteer corps. In a sense the weather favors the movement. There is leisure to meet and talk these things over while it alternately snows and thaws and freezes and rains. How would it have been had the idea been started in the midst of the spring work or the harvest?