

or Maine as it is in Canada. This is simply shameful; and shows either that our woolen manufacturers do not understand their business, or that they are imposing upon the public by the exaction of extortionate prices.

### Agricultural Intelligence.

#### THE AMENDED AGRICULTURAL BILL.

During the past season of the Ontario Legislature several amendments and additions have been made to the Agricultural Bill. A manual embodying these alterations, together with the original Act, is now, we are informed, in the hands of the printer, and will shortly be issued by the Commissioners of Agriculture, for the information of Agricultural Societies, and others interested therein. In briefly noticing these changes, we shall consider them in connection with the organization to which they refer, rather than in the order in the Amendment Bill. These organizations are the Agricultural and Arts Associations, the County and Township Agricultural Societies, Mechanics' Institutes, the Veterinary Colleges, the Fruit Growers' Association, and the Entomological Society.

With regard to the Agricultural and Arts Associations, the most important change is that which enacts that all the members of the Council shall retire annually, instead as heretofore, only four of their members; and that a fresh election shall take place every year—the retiring members being, however, eligible for re-election. This provision places the executive body completely under the control of the county societies, who will now certainly have only themselves to blame if the affairs of the association are not wisely conducted. Any useless or obnoxious member of the Council can be removed at the end of the year, while those who prove themselves efficient and worthy of confidence may be retained in their office as long as their constituents please, and they are themselves willing to serve.

An arrangement of minor consequence in reference to the Council is an alteration in the time allowed for the return of their report to the Commissioners. It is now enacted that this shall be sent in by the first day of April, instead of the first of July, with a supplementary report of the Provincial Exhibition, within thirty days

of holding it. This will give the Commissioner more time for the preparation of his annual report before the meeting of Parliament.

The amendments affecting Agricultural Societies are chiefly respecting matters of detail. On two clauses of the old Act are rendered more definite; it is required that one week's public notice be given of the annual meeting; the time for sending in the affidavits is extended, in the case of county societies to the first of September, and to the first of August for township societies. The latter are also permitted to hold a show in the same township as the county society, provided the place of exhibition be not within five miles of the county show. No person under eighteen years of age is allowed to vote at the annual meeting, and no subscription paid after the pole has been duly opened for the election of officers will entitle a member to vote in such cases; the time for taking votes is also very properly limited. Stricter regulations are made in regard to the certificates of delegates, in order chiefly to prevent unauthorized persons voting or otherwise representing societies. Legal provision is made for the holding and conveying property by Agricultural Societies, in certain cases in which the power of giving a title was heretofore somewhat doubtful. The city of Toronto is put on the same footing with other electoral divisions in respect to the proportion of funds to be raised by its Agricultural Society to entitle it to the Government grant—namely, one-third, instead of the exceptional amount of two-thirds as heretofore.

The only change affecting Mechanics' Institutes has reference to the amount of grant allowed, which is now increased to a donation of \$400 instead of \$200, and in place of being equal to the amount raised and expended by the Institute, is now double the sum so contributed.

The clause relating to the Veterinary College simply incorporate that body, and give it a legal status, empowering it to grant diplomas, and entitling its members to receive professional fees as witnesses in Courts of Justice, and making it illegal for any who are not members of a recognized Veterinary College to style themselves as such.

The annual grant to the Fruit Growers' Association is increased from \$350 to \$500.

The practical importance of entomology and the claim of the Entomological Society