

all that was necessary for the welfare of the farmer if left to themselves, and that partizan spirit of the worst and most dangerous kind is likely to be fostered by it.

Many unscrupulous dealers have changed the names of wheats introduced by us, and by means of trading agents to deceive the farmers, obtained notes under such false representations as to merit most severe punishment.

Both the Dominion and Provincial Governments are now expending considerable money in experimenting and importing.

NOVELTIES IN WHEAT.

The objections to the Indian wheats are that the flour made from them will not rise as well as that from our grain, nor has it as good a color; although the nutritive qualities may be good, its appearance excludes it from the tables of those who can afford a better article.

The "Bulls" and "Bears," also manipulators of the bucket-shop frauds, who have ruined so many, even the late President of the U. S., and one of our leading cheesemen, deserved censure for the undue fluctuations of the price of wheat. Some have endeavored to frighten our wheat producers by the prospective output of the Argentine Republic. There is no doubt but large quantities of wheat will be raised there, but its quality, the locality and manipulators of it are more allied to the southern hemisphere. The wheat will be required in other parts of the world. Thus we have not much to be alarmed about from that country.

The Dominion Government has taken the whole country by surprise by its wheat donations. Some of the leading Ontario wheat growers suspected something unsatisfactory in the mode of the manipulation of the prize list in Toronto last fall; also a suspicion was raised as to the name and quality of some of the much lauded wheat.

At the Exhibition at Montreal, the Ontario men exposed the deception, which caused a hushing up of the affair. We now extract the following from the Nor'-west Farmer for March:

THE RUSSIAN WHEAT.

The Winnipeg Board of Trade has sat down very heavily on the latest novelties in wheat. That of last spring's importation is let down with a modified condemnation. It was late last spring in coming here, and the only sample found equal to the original importation, that from Mowbray, is pronounced worth 5 cents less than No. 1 Hard Red Fyfe. Farmers who hold the produce of the sample bags sent out last year by Professor Saunders, should still give it another trial, under as favorable conditions as possible, using smut preventatives to keep it in as good shape as possible for this season's sowing. It is scarcely necessary for purposes of experiment that more of such samples should be distributed. If sown in this province on Government account, Ladoga wheat should be sown en bloc, so as to minimize the risk of its getting mixed among Red Fyfe growing in its neighborhood. Azof wheat, another variety from which much was hoped, is also being forsaken by the Portage farmers. The far famed Kubanka is still more cruelly condemned, or at least the sample called by that name, that was sent in by Professor Saunders. Ontario farmers, by the score, called it "goose wheat," and the Toronto and Winnipeg boards confirm their adverse judgment. The Kubanka wheat of Mark Lane is a valuable milling wheat. What is here shown by that name is condemned and denounced. The men who have paid fancy prices for it, will need to grow it under quarantine, if they grow it at all, for one bushel of it in a carload that has got mixed even by accident, would make the whole go rejected. It is now in order

for the original owners of "Kubanka" and "Saxonka" wheat to prove that our millers and traders, in condemning those varieties, have, through haste or ignorance, made a blundering deliverance.

F. Shore said that Ontario would still have to grow wheat, for although the Northwest could grow large quantities in favorable seasons, yet this supply could not be depended upon regularly, and Ontario wheat was always in demand for the best grades of flour.

John Kennedy said that in the Northwestern States the crop was also very unreliable.

East Middlesex Farmers' Institute.

A meeting of the above organization was held at Dorchester on the 19th of last month. The meeting was active and well attended.

A paper on Ornamental Trees, prepared by Mr. John McAnish, was discussed at considerable length, in which some good points were brought forward. Some of the members stated that evergreens taken from a swamp were more certain to grow than those grown on high land; the reason being that the roots were nearer the surface, and, therefore, could be easier preserved in those grown on the low lands. If trees had been grown too closely in rows and the roots had become matted, the best plan was to dig a trench along both sides of the row (as far from the trees as possible), laying the entire row flat, and then separating the trees, preserving the roots at the expense of the earth left on them. It was very injurious to expose the roots of trees to the frost, and therefore the taking up of trees in winter was not followed with good results. It was generally overlooked, when planting trees, that these trees would grow large and occupy a large space.

Mr. F. Shore, in a paper on Drainage, drew attention to the advantages obtained by drainage, in both wet and dry seasons. He stated that an open main-drain was very objectionable, as it required cleaning out, wasted land, was a trap for live-stock, and, especially if crossing a field obliquely, added to the cost of cultivation. These drawbacks outweighed by far the cost of a large tile drain. Drains in heavy clay soil should be dug in dry weather when the soil was dry enough to prevent puddling. The earth being dry when filled in, always remained porous and permitted the water to run through. For the drainage of quicksand he recommended placing boards under the tile and securing the joints with collars, or placing sods around them.

In the discussion that followed it was stated that drains did not commence to draw in heavy clay soil for three or four years after they were laid, but after that time they worked successfully. The importance of draining such soils in dry weather was strongly endorsed. For the drainage of quicksand it was recommended to put a layer of clay under the tile and around the joints. One speaker related his success in the drainage of such lands by putting stone in the bottom of the drain, leveling these and laying the tile on them.

A paper on Wheat, read by Mr. W. Weld, fully reported in the proceedings of the "Dominion Farmers' Council," caused considerable discussion. The practice of harrowing a partially winter-killed crop, as described by the writer of the paper, was endorsed by a large number of speakers. A number of questions asked and answered showed that the meeting favored a firm soil for the cultivation of wheat, especially if fol-

lowing peas sown after breaking from sod. A shallow cultivation and a firm soil reduced the liability of an attack by the wire worm.

In his paper on Manures, Mr. Thomas Baty pictured to the farmers the loss they suffered by not saving their farm-yard manure better. To prevent the well-known losses by washing or leaching and overheating, he kept his manure under cover and let his cattle tramp over it. The liquids he caught in a barrel and spread them occasionally over the heap.

In the discussion that followed this paper the theory of increasing the soil fertility by returning only the manure of the products grown on the farm, no matter how well taken care of, was thoroughly exposed. The advantage of mixing the manure from all kinds of stock was also alluded to. One of the members stated that he drew his manure out to the field as soon as it was made. One member, having difficulty to retain the liquids in the manure, having but little straw, was advised by a representative of the ADVOCATE to use dry muck, earth or sawdust. The first two did not only absorb the liquids, but also the gases that might be formed, especially ammonia. He also warned the farmers present not to use fresh ashes on their manure heap, as they acted directly opposite to gypsum, which was used to absorb the ammonia and retard fermentation.

Mr. Scott read a paper on Ensilage, in which he spoke of it in great praise. His method was to fill a silo, having perfectly smooth walls two to four feet, each day, till full, and then simply cover it with straw. No weighting was required.

Prof. Robertson said that the corn was in the best condition when the ears just began to glaze. It should be sown early, for it was more injurious to be caught by the frost once in the fall than to be nipped several times by it in spring. Planting the corn in drills, three feet apart, was much preferable to broadcast sowing. In Wisconsin, where ensilage had gained great favor, they followed the same method of curing as that described above. Filling in the cut corn in that way generated enough heat to kill the germs causing the decay.

Mr. W. L. Brown spoke strongly against ensilage, and said that, according to Sir J. B. Lawes, it could not be considered a success in England.

Mr. W. Weld said that although it might have been a success in other countries, growing different crops and having different climates, it was not necessarily advantageous for Canadian circumstances, especially where turnips could be raised, and the large Southern corn which was generally used to the best advantage for this purpose could not be successfully grown. He advised the meeting to be very cautious in trying it.

Prof. Robertson's address on the Dairy Cow was very instructive and listened to with marked attention. He opened his remarks by drawing attention to the fact that the selling price did not determine the profits, but the difference between it and the cost of production. The cost of production of the milk could be materially reduced, for the milk delivered to the cheese factories last year, given by 275,000 cows, could have been obtained from 175,000 good milkers. The cow which he intended to picture to them had been claimed by the breeders of all classes of dairy stock to be an exact description of their breed. The development of the organs of respiration, circulation and digestion were as important in the milking as in the beefing breeds. In the