

rapidly deteriorates and goes to pieces. The heating system, fortunately, was still intact and gave excellent satisfaction. Windows were repaired, doors were made to swing again, floors were mended and the domestic science department was thoroughly cleaned.

Five of the ex-students took charge of serving lunches during the course and probably in no way did the influence, which the school exerted when in use, become more visible than in the effectiveness of this work, in charge of the ladies.

The course opened at 10 a.m., February 7th, with an attendance of seventeen and a general feeling that the venture was doomed to failure. Everybody seemed disappointed. However, the lectures were taken up with enthusiasm and made as practical as possible. The crowd was somewhat larger in the afternoon, with indications of life and reserve force. On Tuesday the signs were more cheering; appearances showed that the people realized that there was something taking place in the Consolidated School. Wednesday morning brought a crowd and before noon the lecture room was filled. The lectures were given by Mr. Andrew McCrae, who has one of the best Ayrshire herds in Canada, and by Mr. Harvey Mitchell, a veteran dairyman of the Maritime Provinces. Discussions revealed that men were thinking very hard and were prepared to give expression in no uncertain way as to what might be accomplished, if a few of the old difficulties that had made trouble, were forgotten. Suggestions made by elderly men at such meetings have excellent effect. The atmosphere around the school seemed laden with that influence which draws people together in a common cause for mutual benefit. The work of organisation was quickly placed in the hands of com-

mittees, which were to report on the Friday evening following. Discussions, earnestly carried on by groups after the lectures exhibited only too clearly that all were anxious for some progressive move in agricultural organization. It must not be supposed that this section is one where financial matters are a difficulty, because all are well-to-do.

The judging of grains and tillage operations are of paramount interest in this section but live stock is becoming of much greater import yearly. Live stock judging was carried on so far as possible under existing conditions, and to supplement this, illustrated live stock talks were given. Plant diseases, weeds, clovers, underdrainage, soils and poultry were all discussed as fully as the time would allow. Each session took the form of a conference rather than that of a lecture.

The work in the hands of the committees was of the greatest interest and everyone eagerly looked forward to Friday evening. The night was clear and moonlight. The sleighing was good and before seven o'clock the assembly room was crowded with people, ranging in years from ten to seventy—two hundred and fifty were in attendance. A short programme was rendered and the usual formalities at such courses complied with but most interest seemed to centre on some routine business which had to be arranged and on the reports of the committees.

The Farmers' Institutes on the Island are very active; they are more like Farmers' Clubs. The people could not by law form another one, so they joined with the Strathcona Institute and the Secretary in a very short time enrolled 52 new members.

Two cheese and butter factories had been established in the past, owing to a difference of opinion, very close