

FARMING

VOL. XVII.

SEPTEMBER 12th, 1899

No. 2

Mr. F. W. Hodson Resigns He Becomes Dominion Live Stock Commissioner

At a meeting of the directors of the Dominion Live Stock Associations, held in the Farmers' Institute tent, on the evening of Sept. 6th, Mr. F. W. Hodson tendered his resignation as secretary of these organizations, to take effect at the end of the year. Mr. Hodson, who has been the chief executive officer of these associations for several years, has received the appointment of Live Stock Commissioner from the Dominion Government, and will in future devote his energies to improving the live stock interests of the whole Dominion. While the associations will lose a most valuable officer, to whose untiring efforts the present flourishing condition of the live stock association work in this province is almost entirely due, the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa is to be congratulated in securing a person so well fitted as Mr. Hodson is to carry on the work it has outlined for him. At a later date we hope to be able to give a more detailed and fuller account of Mr. Hodson's splendid services to the purebred live stock interests of the province.

At the meeting already referred to the directors did a very wise thing in appointing Mr. A. P. Westervelt, for five years Mr. Hodson's able assistant, to succeed to the secretaryship upon his retirement. Outside of Mr. Hodson himself we know of no one better qualified to take up the work and carry it on in the same aggressive manner as heretofore than Mr. Westervelt. For several years he has carried out the details of the work connected with the associations, and more particularly in connection with the shipments of pure-bred stock to the West. This is the most important branch of the work and the associations are to be congratulated in having secured as their chief executive officer one so thoroughly familiar with all the details, and who will be able to carry it on along the same lines as formerly.

Some Valuable Cows Die at the Fair

The Cause Purely Local. No Contagious
Disease Existed

During the first week of the Fair several valuable cows on exhibition died very suddenly, causing no little excitement among the live stock exhibitors. Various rumors were afloat as to the cause of death, the report gaining ground that some contagious disease existed. This made a thorough investigation of the matter necessary, and we are glad to be able to state that the report of the investigating committee, which is given below, shows clearly that the cause of death was entirely local, and that no contagious disease whatever existed among any of the cattle affected. The committee consisted of Andrew Smith, V.S., Hon. John Dryden and John I. Hobson, who presented the following report:

"The Cattle Committee to-day received the report of the veterinaries appointed to investigate the cause of the mortality among the cattle. The report showed the cause of death to be entirely local, no disease of a contagious

character existing among any of the cattle affected. The death in each case had been caused by too much forcing and certain manipulation of the udder with a view to improve its appearance, coupled with the extreme heat at the time. In each case it was a voluntary act by those in charge leading to a very great loss to the owners."

We have no desire to make any comment on this report other than to state that we trust the present instance will be a valuable lesson to those who adopt such practices as indicated above in order to gain favor in the prize ring. It is only fair to the Industrial Exhibition Association and to the breeders of this province to give the fullest publicity to this report in order to set matters right in regard to the exact cause of the loss of so many animals, and to show that no disease of a contagious character existed.

Meetings at the Fair

American Shropshire Association.

For the first time in its history the American Shropshire Registry Association met last week in Canada. The meeting took place at Shaftesbury Hall on Sept. 4th, and there was a fairly large attendance of Canadian and American Shropshire breeders. The Hon. John Dryden, who is president of the association, presided. In his opening remarks he briefly sketched the history of the association which was formed in 1884. Though it had a small beginning it was to-day the largest live-stock association known. They had a membership of nearly two thousand in fifteen years and it was increasing at the rate of one hundred to two hundred annually. This success was largely due to the excellence of the breed which the association represented. On the Toronto Fair grounds would be found Shropshire sheep as near the ideal at which they were aiming as could be found anywhere.

Mr. Mortimer Levering, Lafayette, Indiana, Secretary-Treasurer, presented an informal report. Owing to the change of date in the financial year no financial report was presented. The association derived a large part of its support from Canadian breeders and the utmost harmony prevailed between American and Canadian breeders. The total membership was 1,950, and the last certificate issued was numbered 129,200. The number of pedigrees was 12,117, and the number of transfers last year, 2,444. The fee for registering imported stock was reduced from \$1 to 50 cents a head.

The election of officers resulted in the return of the old board.

Eastern Dairymen.

The directors of the Cheese and Butter Association of Eastern Ontario met in the Farmers' Institute tent on Sept. 5th. President D. Derbyshire, of Brockville, presided. Others present were R. G. Murphy, secretary; P. R. Daly, treasurer; T. B. Carlow, Jas. B. Whitton, L. L. Gallagher, John R. Dargavel, Edward Kidd, Wm. Eager, Henry Wade and John McTavish. The principal business was deciding the place for holding the next annual convention. The Town of Madoc sent an invitation offering a free hall and \$200 if the meetings were held there. On motion it was unanimously decided to hold the next annual convention at Madoc, Ont., on January 10, 11 and 12 next. The board was generally in favor of sending an exhibit of dairy