

Manitoba and the West

(By Our Western Correspondent.)

Manitoba Dairy Association

An innovation, and one that proved of great interest was the exhibition of winter butter under the auspices of the Manitoba Dairy Association. Although the time for preparation for the exhibition had been very short (the program is having been announced at a very late date) the exhibit was a very creditable one, and gives great promise for the future, if the association decide, as they doubtless will, to carry on this programme in future. The butter was of excellent quality, as is shown by the scores. The prizes were awarded to exhibitors scoring 95, 94, 93, respectively. The judging was done by J. A. Ruddick, Chief of the Dairy Division, Ottawa, and it was generally considered that his scoring was somewhat severe. He also judged for the benefit of the audience several exhibits from the Dairy School and others brought to the convention for the purpose. He urged the use of a better quality of parchment paper than was employed by most of the exhibitors, and laid special emphasis on the importance of a carefully finished print or package. He also devoted some time to scoring samples of cheese.

The first dairy session was held in the evening of the 19th. Premier Roblin was present and for the first time publicly announced the policy of the Government on the question of an agricultural college. He stated that so far as the funds at the disposal of the government would go in that direction the college would be made efficient and up to date in every respect. He stated that it would include a course in domestic science for girls. From his remarks we are inclined to think that it is the intention of the government to follow the Minnesota model in the Manitoba college. Professor Haecher, of Minnesota, was the next speaker and devoted his time to demonstrating that dairying is the surest, though not the easiest method of making money on the farm, and that it is the ultimate destiny of the grain growing countries to engage also in dairying, to keep up or restore the fertility of the land. He quoted the examples of Wisconsin and Iowa to prove this. "Some new things in Dairying" was the subject of an address by Mr. Ruddick. He referred generally to the improvement in our knowledge of the requirements of dairying, and the discoveries of scientific investigators. He then referred particularly to special requirements of the Manitoba butter and cheese makers, and drew attention to the need of better curing rooms, telling how these should be constructed to secure the best results at the minimum cost. He also illustrated the results secured by curing cheese at low temperature and by dipping in paraffin.

He advocated many changes in present systems of handling cream.

The business meeting was held in the forenoon of the 20th. After receiving reports of the year's work from officers and representatives on fair boards the officers for the year were elected as follows. Pres. W. M. Champion, Reaburn; Vice-Pres. R. Waugh, Winnipeg; 2nd Vice-Pres., U. S. Jory, Crystal City; Directors, W. B. Gilroy, J. T. Regehr, C. A. Murray, D. Munroe, Wm. Grassick, E. A. Struthers, W. Ryan, A. Whitlaw, S. B. Hodgson. The Directors met after the meeting, and on the refusal of Mr. Harcourt, elected Geo. H. Greig, Secretary-treasurer.

THE COMMON COW

Professor Haecher gave an interesting address on the results to be obtained from the "common" cow. The professor inclines to the theory that results depend on having a thorough understanding of the individual animal, and studying her capacity for manufacturing feed into milk, rather than the employment of specially prepared and expensive concentrated feeds. He has proven that with the common cow and the common feeds of Minnesota and Manitoba equal results can be obtained as from the most expensively balanced ration.

The afternoon was chiefly devoted to the judging. At the same session Prof. Grisdale gave an interesting account of the successful venture made by the government, in collecting farmers' eggs by the cream waggons at two creameries. An interesting discussion on the variation in cream tests was lead by Dairy Supt. C. A. Murray, illustrated by charts of the results of tests at the Dairy School.

THE HORSE BREEDERS

The 13th annual convention of the Manitoba Horse Breeders' Association opened on Thursday, Feb. 19th. The opening remarks of the President, Dr. S. J. Thompson, Provincial Veterinarian, dealt chiefly with the syndicate stallion. He greatly deplored the want of judgment shown by farmers' syndicates in their purchases.

The following officers were elected for 1903:—President, J. A. S. MacMillan, Brandon; vice-pres. Dr. Taylor, Portage la Prairie; 2nd vice-pres., Dr. Henderson, Carberry. Directors—Clydesdales, A. E. August, Bates, Shires, Jas. Connon, Cypress River; Coach, E. H. Muir, High Bluff; Hackneys, J. A. Mitchell, Winnipeg; Thoroughbreds, R. I. M. Power, Carberry; Belgians, H. Galbraith, Hartney; Standard breds, S. Benson, Neepawa. Three additional directors: N. Boyd, M. P. J. G. Washington, Ninga, and S. J. Thompson, Winnipeg.

The question of changing the method of awarding the society's diplomas was discussed and the advisability of making the award for

stallion and three of his get was warmly supported by some members who contend that stallions which are not in good condition as the result of heavy service frequently lose awards to which they are justly entitled on their merits as foal getters. By showing foals also this would be counteracted, and merit rather than condition would be honored.

A report which had been presented by the executives of each of the associations to their various bodies was presented at this meeting also. It reviewed the joint action of the executive committees of the several breeders' associations looking toward the appointment of a joint secretary for these associations whose salary would be paid jointly by them and by the Dominion Government. The executives had pledged themselves to pay \$100 each and office expenses of the secretary. The balance of the salary was to be paid by the Dominion Government. The report asked for amendments to the constitution of the Executive Committees to give effect to this arrangement.

HORSE JUDGING

The afternoon meeting was addressed by Col. McCrae who dealt with the question of horse judging. He devoted the most of his time to the heavy breeds, there being two heavy draft animals provided for demonstration. This lecture was followed with great interest, and at some points the discussion was animated but not entirely unanimous. The speaker pointed out the profitable nature of the British horse market and advised breeders to endeavor to supply the class of horses demanded by that market. He commented on the favorable opinions which Canadian horses have won over there and advised that this advantage be pushed. He concluded by a detailed lecture on judging illustrated by use of the score card.

GOES TO THE TERRITORIES

At the convention of the Dairy Association considerable surprise was expressed at the refusal of Geo. Harcourt, B.S.A., to accept the secretaryship for another year. The reason for the refusal is now learned in the announcement of Mr. Harcourt's appointment as Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes and Fairs for the Territories. Mr. Harcourt has been editor of the North West Farmer for the past five years, during which time he has been an active member of all the breeders and other organizations and an active worker in every movement for agricultural advancement.

He is the second agricultural editor the North-West Farmer for the government service within the year. In other countries the movement is in the other direction, and government institutions have great difficulty in retaining their staff—the inducements offered by the agricultural press being greater than those of the colleges and experiment stations.