

### The Provincial Spring Horse Show.

At a meeting of the Canadian Clydesdale Association, in Toronto, it was resolved to make a grant of \$250 to the Agriculture and Arts Association, and that they be asked to furnish the balance to complete the price list, the same as in 1894. It was resolved that the horse show be held on the 5th and 6th April next, and that two judges and a referee be appointed for 1895. Robert Beith, Bowmanville, and David Pluff, Spring Hill, were appointed judges; and John Lee, Highgate, and Thos. Good, Richmond, referees. Resolved, that the same rule as applied to the Canadian-bred Clydesdales in 1893 be adopted. Messrs. R. Davies, R. Graham, John Davidson and R. Miller were appointed a committee to attend the horse show of 1895; and A. Johnson, R. Graham and Peter Christie, a committee to collect subscriptions. R. Davies was appointed a member of the Special Committee to act with the Special Committee of the Agriculture and Arts Association.

The Hackney breeders contributed \$10 and the Shire men \$20.

#### A JOINT MEETING.

At a subsequent joint meeting of the Clydesdale Association and the Agriculture and Arts Association (Mr. J. C. Snell in the chair) it was resolved: "That we accept the proposition of the Clydesdale Association as to a partnership in the horse show, and that the show be held in the month of April, and in the first week, if possible."

It was also decided that the Prince of Wales' prize be awarded to the Shire horses this year. Also, in view of the fact that we have not yet been able to secure the armory, that the Special Committee be empowered to secure the most suitable place for holding the show, either in partnership with the Hunt Club or not, they to receive half the profits, and we to pay half the expenses of advertising and fitting up the building. Also, that the prize list for stallions be provided by the Agriculture and Arts Association, and the prizes for extra events, such as driving, jumping, etc., by the Hunt Club.

It was further decided that, in case the Hunt Club do not join with us, the Special Committee be empowered to offer special prizes for driving, jumping, etc., to the extent of \$500; and that, in case no attractions can be secured within reasonable terms, the show be again held in the old drill shed.

The following judges were appointed: Thoroughbred horses—Dr. Tremaine, Buffalo, N. Y.; Dr. Sweetapple, Toronto; alternate, W. Fuller, Woodstock. Carriage or Coach—Charles Brodie, V. S., Claremont; E. P. Lowes, Brampton; alternate, James Henderson, St. Mary's. Standard-bred—Charles Eaid, Simcoe; John Scott, Galt; alternate, C. Brown, Toronto. Hackneys—R. C. Stericker, Springfield, Ill.; alternate, John Holderness, Toronto. Suffolk Punch and Shires—J. Y. Ormsby, Toronto; R. Gibson, Delaware; alternate, Alexander Doherty, Ellesmere. Clydesdales—R. Beith, Bowmanville; David Pluff, Spring Hill. Referees—John Lee, Highgate; Thomas Good, Richmond.

### Capt. Young on "The Battle of the Breeds."

Noticing in the ADVOCATE the criticism of Mr. J. C. Snell on my paper in the 1893 report of the Swine Breeders' Association (I was not able to attend the late annual meeting at Guelph), I beg a little space in your valuable journal to reply to my friend and brother breeder. We did not expect to convince Mr. Snell of the superiority of the Poland-China over the Berkshires; what we wrote was more for men who have not as yet decided what breed to invest in, and in pointing out the preference of the American people (especially the Western men) for the Poland-China, we referred to a class who have informed themselves on the merits of the different breeds before adopting the mainstay of the pork breeds (at least so they think). If any breed can be made to succeed as a scavenger, what may we expect when, in the hands of the progressive farmer, he is fed as no doubt Mr. Snell does? As to his ears being an advantage in the way Mr. Snell speaks, we can't see why, if a Berkshire were in the same position, that his eyes would take any harm, but we think the plums would be sorted out just as surely as by our favorite.

As an argument that the Poland-Chinas are not preferred to Berkshires, he cites his sales of the latter, and says Americans do not come to Canada for the former. We think Mr. Snell will agree that England is the home of the Berkshire, and as he draws fresh blood from the home country, so do we Poland-China breeders draw on the American breeders for fresh strains. Is it not just as unfair for us to assert that because Poland-China breeders ship more or less to England and the continent (and Mr. Snell is not so likely to) that the Berkshire is not still a favorite there? No, sir, the argument won't hold. Still, Mr. Snell talks of the battle of the home-made breeds, black, white and red, and says the Berkshire, with conscious superiority, sails majestically ahead. Although he claims an independent position, it is easy to see the direction the wind bloweth. Come, own up, friend Snell, and admit that the stand in your criticism is similar to the one in the proverbial old lady's, where she said she could be convinced, but she would like to see the man who could convince her. Mr. Snell does not like to let an assertion go unchallenged where his favorite breed is in question, and we relish an encounter of that sort. Any one who espouses the cause of a breed should not let a

challenge go unanswered, provided he has a worthy cause to defend. In conclusion, this is the first criticism we have seen on the paper in question, and we take it for granted that the other breeders are willing to concede the truth of the assertions contained therein. I believe in competition, and when a friend of mine wanted to try Berkshire, I directed him to Mr. Snell and Mr. Coxworth, and he purchased one of each, so you see I was willing to carry out the opinions of my paper. In conclusion, I offer the right hand of fellowship and good will to my brother breeders, and wish the ADVOCATE the success it so well deserves.

A. W. YOUNG, Tupperville, Ont.

### DAIRY.

#### A Convention of Buttermakers at Chesley.

The tenth annual Convention of the Ontario Creamery Association was held in the village of Chesley, Bruce Co., Jan. 8th, 9th, 10th. This locality has a very intelligent and enterprising population of farmers, who have hitherto been successfully engaged in the feeding of cattle, but within the last few years have seen fit to change their line of action, and engage in what now appears to offer a more remunerative return for skill and labor. The people are not heard complaining of hard times, and of the unprofitable drudgery connected with agriculture, but have come to the conclusion that they are in the best business in the world.

**Corn Growing for the Silo.**—Mr. John Gould, of Ohio, said the practice of feeding dairy stock hay, as compared with corn ensilage, was much like burning green wood, or coal with a large per cent. of clinkers, for the reason that ordinary hay contains less feeding value than corn, and only 61 per cent. of it is digestible, while 78 per cent. of silage is assimilated by the consuming animal. The nutriment obtained from hay is chiefly starch; just so with corn. Which furnishes the most remunerative returns from the same amount of labor and expense? The corn that will mature and yield the largest crop should be chosen. Corn, as a crop, requires a liberal supply of decayed vegetable manure, plenty of moisture and heat. An easy and practical way of obtaining the first, is to spread fresh stable manure on sod, and plow it down about four inches. Now, by fermentation, the temperature is materially raised; therefore, two of the conditions are at once obtained with very little trouble. Before planting corn, the surface soil should be worked up very finely; then plant the corn in straight rows from 3½ to 4 feet apart, not more than 2 inches deep. As soon as the corn appears above ground, it should be gone over with a harrow, with short teeth, every three or four days for about three weeks. This serves to keep down all weeds and forms a mulch of loose soil to hinder evaporation. An acre of good corn uses 300 tons of water during its season of growth; therefore the necessity of saving every drop of moisture possible. The cultivation between the rows should never be more than an inch deep, because of the far-reaching lateral roots that ramify the soil very near the surface, often extending 4½ feet from the stalk, and it is not uncommon for under-roots to go down 2 to 3 or even 4 feet in friable soil.

**The Silo.**—Cows give more milk in summer than in winter, under ordinary conditions; therefore it behooves feeders to supply as nearly as possible summer conditions in food and warmth during the winter. If winter dairying is to be successfully carried on, corn ensilage more nearly approaches grass than anything else we can provide. Corn fodder loses in drying 22 per cent. of its digestibility, and, if left out in the shock till April, it will take 300 lbs. to equal 100 lbs. the previous autumn. The advantage of the silo comes in again in the little space required to store a winter's supply of fodder,—just one-seventh of that needed to hold the same amount of hay. Mr. Gould's silo is made of two thicknesses of inch-lumber, dressed on one side, with tar-paper between. The depth should not be less than 20 feet, and may be 35 with better effect. All the floor necessary is dry earth, basin shaped. The walls should be painted with gas tar, made as thin as paint, with gasoline. Curtains of tar-paper were recommended to be placed over the inside of feeding doors as the silo was being filled. Last autumn no covering was put on the ensilage, except about twenty pails of water, which caused an air-proof mould to form on the surface in a very short time. The entire loss on the top was fifteen bushels.

After remarking that a good cow was something like a poet—born, not made, Mr. Gould recommended feeding just twice a day in winter, because, as a rule, the food fed at that season is much slower to digest than fresh, green grass, which is taken at not more than three meals when she has her own way in a good pasture. She should have pure water constantly before her, he thought, because a cow in milk takes about 100 lbs. daily. Now, if this is taken from an icy stream, or trough, at one drink, surely it is not hard to see that it will require a great draught of animal heat to raise it to the temperature of the body. The fact is, that a cow should be treated the same as any other mother, be she bovine, equine, or human, if she is to perform her function at a profit to her owner.

**Co-operative Dairying** is the only profitable plan for the future, in Mr. Gould's opinion, in order to meet competition. Unless we co-operate, a uniform

product cannot be made. Another advantage is the great saving of apparatus. It is estimated that an ordinary sized creamery will save its patrons at least \$200 in equipment alone.

**When to Dry Cows.**—The time for dry cows is August and September, Mr. Gould thinks, when pastures are dry, flies bad, and farm work most pressing. By this system men get pay for winter food. If they do not, the yearly profits cannot amount to much.

What sort of cow to use? was a question asked Mr. Gould. Farmers seldom have much money for doubtful speculation. In view of this fact, it was advised that the best possible use be made of the stock on hand, by culling out all unprofitable animals, retaining only the best and most thrifty. Then purchase a pure-bred sire, of one of the dairy breeds, being sure that his ancestry were healthy, robust and liberal producers of good milk. Breed up, keeping heifers from only the best cows; keep them growing rapidly from the first without taking on fat. Their flesh should be nearly all red meat. In buying a cow, be suspicious of those whose udders, when milked out, empty right down to a flat, flabby skin, as they almost invariably give very poor milk.

**"The Constituents of Corn."**—This paper, a scientific one, by Prof. Shutt, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, bore out many of John Gould's practical teachings. The value of corn at the different stages of cutting may be represented by 14 at tasseling, 28 at silk, and 42 when the grain begins to dent; therefore the value of thin sowing and a long season of growth. To those who object to the slight acid smell of ensilage, it may be well to know that it is nothing more than the first step in digestion, the acid being hydrochloric, which is present in considerable quantities in the stomach of a cow or sheep at any time. The stalks and leaves of corn are equally valuable, containing the same substances as the grain, but very much more dilute or less concentrated.

**The Preservation of Manures** received a good share of attention from Prof. Shutt. Seventy-five per cent. of the food a cow eats is returned to the land in manure; the most valuable and easily lost is in the liquid; therefore the necessity of close stable floors and the use of sufficient litter to absorb all moisture. Cut straw was highly recommended as an absorbent, in the absence of which dried swamp muck or sawdust may well be used. Manures from different kinds of stock should be mixed and kept moist, or there is danger of much nitrogen being lost in the form of ammonia. Land plaster, if scattered on a heating manure pile, enters into chemical combination with the ammonia and hinders waste. No manure pile should be subjected to washing and leaching, or the available plant-food, which is largely in liquid form, will be lost in the drainage water. Wood ashes should never be used with farm-yard manure, because a destructive chemical change would go on liberating nitrogen.

**Value of Education to Dairymen.**—Mr. J. S. Pearce said the most successful business men are constant students; they put in long hours of close application, and succeed in proportion to their understanding of the lines with which they have to deal. The business of dairying has many knotty problems to deal with, and only those who know the relation of cause and effect in the dairy can hope to make the best use of his fodder and labor. Mr. Pearce is of the opinion that the time is not far distant when a butter or cheesemaker who applies at a factory for a situation will be asked to show a certificate from one of the recognized dairy schools before he can secure the position.

**The Influence of Good Roads on Dairying.**—Mr. A. Pattullo, Woodstock: It is necessary to economize expense in every possible way. The haulage of milk to factories is a considerable item, being less where the roads are kept in best repair. In some districts the cost is only three cents per hundred pounds, while in others it reaches seventeen cents for the same quantity, the difference being largely due to the condition of the roads. The average cost just now is about eight cents, while, if the roads were all as good as they may easily be made, the cost would drop to three cents per hundred pounds, which would furnish quite a nice nest-egg of profit in many of the large factories.

**Creaming Milk.** The principal points in Prof. Dean's address were the results of creaming milk by the different methods now in vogue. As a result of two years' careful experiments, it was learned that the average loss from the use of the shallow pan was 3.26 pounds from 1,000 pounds of milk; by using the deep-pail creamer, the loss was 1.63 pounds, and from the separator plan, the loss of fat was left in 1,000 pounds of skimmed milk, the first year: while the experiments of the second year showed a difference of 3.57 from pans, 2.93 from creamers and 1.32 from separator. The loss from a creamery using the milk of 500 cows would be \$300 from separator creaming; \$700 from deep-pail, and \$1,000 from the shallow-pans system. Shallow pans gave best results in a temperature of about 50°; deep pails at 45°, and separator at from 57° to 67° Fahr.

Prof. Jas. W. Paterson, Dairy Commissioner, Ottawa, said: Extra active churning is materially aided by the addition of a fresh cow to the herd at intervals of a year or so. Turnip flavor is a great objection which may be gotten rid of by keeping cream at a temperature of 45° degrees for fifteen minutes. It is a fact that these