

## AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEETS GLOUCESTER FARMERS

Carleton Place, Sept. 1.—The Agricultural Commission arrived here today, after meeting the farmers at Pettit Rocher, Bathurst, Stonehaven and Grand Anse. At Pettit Rocher the large hall above the school house was completely filled with residents of the district, fully 400 being in attendance. Rev. Fr. Carter, president and upon the platform besides the commissioners were Rev. A. Sornany, St. Therese, and A. J. H. Stewart.

Hon. Dr. Landry, speaking in French, at some length outlined the objects of the commission, what was hoped to be accomplished by it, and invited the farmers generally to express their opinion upon all matters connected with their business.

The evidence showed that there were no farms for sale in the Parish, and that there were applications in for Crown Lands beyond the amount surveyed or to which roads were built.

B. H. Cormier, speaking for the Agricultural Society, said they found it extremely difficult to keep up the interest in the society, they had about 55 members, and devoted their funds to the importation of stock. Cattle for milk production were required; they had tried the Ayrshire but found them rather tender, now they were trying Holsteins. Alex. Doucet having imported some purebreds, B. H. Cormier asked the opinion of the commissioner upon the value of the Holsteins for the district. Commissioner Hubbard replied that the Holstein breed was perhaps

The Best Milk Producing Breed Known

but they were cattle that for best results required a large amount of food, and that without having to hunt for it. The experience throughout the province was that the Ayrshires were rather harder than Holsteins and better able to hunt for their food on pasture. For meat production Holsteins were not the favorites with the butchers, being coarser boned and the meat of rather a coarse fibre. For dairy purposes, however, under suitable conditions, they were perhaps the largest producers known. It was shown that cheese factories had been running at Pettit Rocher and Bathurst for a short time each summer and some of the farmers said the returns were very satisfactory; the season, however, was very short and there was not a satisfactory market for the butter made at home before the factories started and after they closed. Mr. Doucet said he had been patronizing a butter factory at Bathurst last season run by Mrs. Harris, from seven cows he had realized \$40 per month and was well pleased with the business. Many of those present thought it would be a good idea to have a factory upon

The Cream Gathering Plan

worked up and to run as long as possible each year. There was an extended discussion upon the feeding of dairy cattle both summer and winter, enquiries being made as to the value of alfalfa and other fodder plants. Commissioner Hubbard outlined a system of winter feeding followed by many successful dairymen and advised the sowing of alfalfa in small plots to test its adaptability for the soil and climate. He urged that Ontario grown alfalfa seed be procured, if possible. B. H. Cormier testified to the great assistance the cheese factories were and did not want to see them abandoned for the butter business. Sheep were found to be satisfactory stock and the Shropshire was the breed best adapted to the district. The Leicester which had been imported did not seem to stand the climate. The evidence seemed to show that apple growing had not been very successful, some men reporting fair results in a small way, others telling how many trees had lately died. The opinion of the meeting seemed to be that the district could best be helped by giving more money to the agricultural societies; farmers' institute meetings did not seem to have been popular.

A Criticism.

Rev. A. Sornany, speaking in French, scored the commission for not conducting all the proceedings in the French language and found fault with the government for its distribution of road money in so far as his portion of the parish was concerned.

Hon. Dr. Landry replied to the Rev. gentleman's strictures, both speakers arousing considerable enthusiasm.

A. J. H. Stewart strongly advised the farmers to strengthen their agricultural society and thereby be in a position to secure the best assistance from the agricultural department. He also outlined amid applause, the policy which he was endeavoring to have the government pursue in regard to colonization, which meant that lands suitable for agriculture, especially those adjacent to settlements, should as soon as they were applied for be reserved from timber leases and the lumber growing upon them reserved under proper conditions for the settlers. He considered the way that new settlers had been treated in the past in the county of Gloucester to be a disgrace to any government and against the interests of the country. It was shown by the evidence that bona fide settlers had had great difficulty in getting their grants and in some cases had been unable to do so, while lumbermen had stripped their lands bare of timber and in some cases where the settlers had cut wood on what should have been their own land, they had been prosecuted by the lumbermen for trespass.

### THE BATHURST MEETING.

The meeting at Bathurst on Saturday evening in the court house was well attended by representative

farmers. John Miller presided and among those present were—P. J. Fowler, Richard Bell, Alex. Kerr, Richard Willis, T. E. Carter, John McIntosh, Patrick Kelly, Albert Payne, John Brown, N. A. Landry, J. R. Shirley, John Moody, Jos. Melanson, J. J. Melanson, Peter J. Melanson, Jos. Melanson, Robert Good, Jos. D. Doucet, Frank Meahan, Jas. Armstrong, Alex. Ferguson, A. R. Alexander, P. J. Veinot, J. J. Harrington, J. B. Hachey, Alex. White, Jos. White, Alex. Faraingham, F. A. Dixon, Jos. Hachey, A. J. H. Stewart, Robt. Willis and John Power. Very few farms were reported as in the market, and there was a good demand for any land that was available for purchase or settlement.

The Agricultural Society had in the past brought Ayrshire and Shorthorn cattle, Leicester sheep, and Yorkshire and Chester pigs, with good results. The cheese factory last year had paid 90 cents per cwt. for milk, but, unfortunately, the proprietor had gone away without settling some of his bills, and as a consequence, many of the patrons had losses. These men were a little shy about patronizing the factory this year although it was run by another man. Some farmers present said they were able to realize \$6 per cow per month for milk sent to the factory and were well satisfied. Many of those present were anxious that a butter factory to run as long as possible in the year should be established. More pure bred stock of all kinds were added and the Agricultural Societies had a little more money to work with, it was thought much good could be done. Mr. Carter thought if 50 or 60 good heavy fleeces could be brought into the district they would find ready purchasers and would be a great help to the farmers. Sheep were reported as almost extinct on account of the ravages of dogs. There was an extended discussion in reference to the

Advisability of Taxing Dogs.

Mr. Carter suggested that the Agricultural Society in each parish should be given the power to collect the dog tax for agricultural purposes. It was also felt by those present that more Agricultural Societies were needed; the parish of Bathurst needed at least two, as some of the people were too far removed from the town of Bathurst to conveniently attend meetings there. Those present at the meeting seemed to have rather a poor opinion of the institute speakers that had been sent to Bathurst, and thought the money spent in sending them could be much better utilized by the Agricultural Societies. The Crown Land regulations in regard to new settlers were discussed and the same opinion expressed as at the Pettit Rocher meeting. Mr. Carter pointed out several cases of extreme hardship in regard to new settlers. He also thought it was against the best interests of the districts that men whose farms were largely closed were unable to buy Crown Lands for a fire supply. Mr. Stewart expressed his opinion along the lines of what he had at Pettit Rocher and Hon. Dr. Landry expressed himself as strongly in sympathy with Mr. Stewart's contention that new settlers should have the benefit of the lumber growing upon their lands. Evidence showed that there were many bad weeds in the district, especially mustard and Russian thistle, also the Orange Hawk weed was getting plentiful and there was some discussion as to the best means of eradicating these weeds. The importance of sowing clean seed and also the selection of home-grown seeds was discussed at some length.

## MAN'S STATEMENT NOT BELIEVED

London, Sept. 3.—A well dressed man who refused to give his name, appeared at the Bow Street police court yesterday evening and announced that he was the murderer of Mrs. Charles Edward Luard, wife of Major General Luard who was mysteriously killed in a wood near London, August 24th. The man explained that he had been wandering about the country since the crime. Scotland Yard was informed and an investigation was at once begun, which resulted in learning that the man had been a butler in a family of prominence and that he was suffering from alcoholism. His story was proved to be untrue and he was released.

### HEWSON EXHIBIT

One of the mechanical wonders at the Halifax Exhibition is the exhibit of knitting machinery of the Hewson Woolen Mills, Amherst, in charge of Mr. D. R. Bond, one of the company's American expert knitters. The marvelous delicacy and accurate movements of this machinery are interesting large numbers of sight-seers. It is estimated that one of these machines is capable of knitting as much in one day as 1475 women knitters by the old fashioned hand method. In fact, there are few, if any, machines in Canada capable of turning out the same quality of heavy ribbed wool underwear in a given time. It is adjusted so finely that the breaking of a thread or an over-sized knot stops the entire machine. The Hewson's have a number of these machines turning out their now famous Unshrinkable Wool Underwear, samples of which may be seen at the machinery exhibit. The knitting mill is running overtime to supply the demand which is expanding so widely that already the Hewson knit goods have a place along side Hewson Tweeds in nearly every merchant's stock from Cape Breton to the Yukon.

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