

however, neglect their sheep and then claim that they do not pay. Sheep need attention. To start with, get good sheep of any breed that will get take one's fancy. Most of our breeding sheep go to the United States. He instanced the profitability of sheep-raising in Australia, South America and in Scotland. A few sheep should be kept on every farm. He had never known a sheep farmer to fail in business. Sheep should be dipped twice a year before going out on pasture and before being taken off in the fall. Should change pasture for sheep regularly. Sheep are the best weed scavengers we have. More sheep can be kept on gravelly soil than on clay land. Fatal sheep diseases are not prevalent in Ontario and with ordinary care sheep can be kept practically free from disease.

Mr. John Jackson followed with an interesting talk on sheep fences. Breachy sheep are due to bad training. They can be fenced in with little trouble if they get plenty of feed. The wire fence is the best for all stock. A good sheep fence could be built for 20c a rod. Four wires will do for sheep. A fence can be built for \$1 per rod that will keep sheep in and dogs out. The corners of a fences should be well braced. A wooden post set in cement is good for this purpose.

Dealing with pastures for sheep, Mr. H. S. Arkell, O.A.C., advised farmers not to turn sheep on pastures while soft. Better put them in where they will place at the start where they will not harm the grass. If the farm is overstocked with sheep they will crop the pastures too short. Sheep pastures should be changed every two years and the sheep changed from field to field every year. The chief trouble with pastures is in July and August. Lambs should be put on second growth of clover as soon as weaned. The hay from second crop of clover is very good for sheep in the spring. Ewes after weaning should be put on a dry pasture for a month or two. It is at this time when ewes can do most to put down weeds. Rape sown in June makes an excellent fall pasture.

Interesting as were the other topics, that dealing with legislation for the protection of sheep from dogs aroused the keenest discussion. Mr. John Campbell introduced it. He stated that dogs, more than any other thing, prevented many farmers from keeping sheep. It was not the good dog that did the harm, but the "mongrel," that was no good to anybody. The chief fault with the present law was that it had too many loop holes wherein it could be evaded. A petition of 25 ratepayers in any township will make the law unenforceable. The following are the opinions of many farmers as to how a sheep law should be operated:

- (1) It should be made compulsory for every municipality to put a tax on dogs.
- (2) The annual tax for one male should be \$1.00 and for a female male or bitch from \$5 to \$10.
- (3) Money collected from dog taxes should be available to pay damages by dogs.
- (4) Every council should appoint competent persons to adjudicate on losses.
- (5) Dog taxes should be a general fund for the county or province to pay for sheep killed or injured by dogs.

Lt.-Col. McEwen in leading the discussion stated that clause 2 of the present act should be struck out. Section 18, re paying claims, should be altered where a dog cannot be

located. Every dog should be taxed and the money used to pay claims, the whole loss being paid, and not two-thirds, as at present. He closed by a special plea for the good, useful dog on the farm.

In the general discussion it came

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out that many township councils are not living up to their duty, by setting a maximum valuation on sheep killed by dogs. In one township, where a maximum valuation of \$0 per head is in force, over \$300 in dog taxes was collected during 1906, while only \$28 was paid out in damages. One breeder of pure-bred Shires in this township had several sheep killed by dogs and only received \$9 each for them, which was a hardship.

A resolution was moved by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Lt.-Col. McEwen, asking the legislature to strike out clause 2 and to so amend the present act as to give the necessary protection to sheep owners.

DAIRYING

The dairy session on Thursday evening was of more than usual interest. At the beginning, by review of the previous sessions, Mr. C. F. Whitley, of the Dairy Branch, Ottawa, gave an address upon cow records and their value in building up a milking herd. There were about 1,000,000 cows in Ontario; if each one of these could increase her milk flow by 500 lbs. a year, it would increase the revenue from the dairy by \$4,000,000. This would not be hard to accomplish if dairymen weeded out their poor cows and kept only the good ones. He estimated that in the average herd of 20 cows there are at least three that do not pay for their keep. The only sure test for a cow is production.

Prof. Grisdale dealt with increasing the receipts from the average dairy herd. They may be profitably increased by better feeding. The average cow does not get enough grass. If the food is varied she will eat more. Grass should be supplemented with ensilage, especially when the pastures are dry. For summer feeding he advised sowing rye, say 100 lbs. to the acre, about Sept. 15. This would be ready for feeding in May. Then sow to follow this a mixture of peas, oats and vetches, sown at intervals of a couple of weeks, so as to be fresh. One-third of the plot for this summer feed might be in clover. These would bring the cows on to September, when the corn would be ready. Mr. Grisdale stated that in Ontario pasture was expensive feeding for cows. In feeding meal, a fairly safe rule was to feed one pound of meal for every five pounds of milk produced. If milk of high quality is being produced, one to four pounds might be given. In giving 25 lbs. of milk might be given 2 lbs. of oil cake, 2 lbs. crushed oats and 4 lbs. bran. If the hay feed is largely timothy, the proportion of oil cake might be increased. If cows were getting very succulent feed, the proportion of oats might be increased and bran decreased.

The greatly increased interest in the milking machine as a means of solving the help problem on the dairy farm, made Prof. Dean report of the milking machine in use at the Ontario Agricultural College of great value. While predisposed in favor of machine milking, Prof. Dean said that he was reluctantly compelled to report unfavorably as to the one tested at the college. Four machines had been tested during the past dozen years, the first three had been discarded as of no use. The Birrell-Lawrence-Kennedy machine, the one tested the past season, showing a marked advance over the other machines tested, was still imperfect. Cows were milked for a time by hand and for a time by machine during the year. Four comparative tests were made, and in three out of four cases