

THE FARMERS' AND DAIRYMEN'S

Association Meetings at Marshfield.

INTERESTING ADDRESSES BY MESSRS. GILBERT AND HUBBARD.

Large and Appreciative Audiences—Other Papers by Island Men.

Every year sees a larger attendance at the meetings of the Farmers' and Dairymen's Association. This year's meeting at Marshfield was a complete and unqualified success. Two sessions were held yesterday; both were attended by delegates from all parts of the province, east and west, as well as by the farmers of the surrounding country. The President, Walter Simpson, Esq., occupied the chair.

At the afternoon meeting addresses were delivered and papers were read as follows:

Opening address by the President. Address on "Tuberculosis," by Dr. Robertson, of Montague.

"Adjuncts to Dairy Farming," by Mr. Fred G. Boyer, Georgetown. "The Hog Situation," by Mr. J. A. McDonald, of Hermanville.

Each paper was briefly and ably discussed, Senator Ferguson, Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Hubbard, Mr. John Richards, Mr. Cyrus Crosby, Mr. Fred Turner and others taking part.

At the evening meeting the hall was densely packed. An address of welcome was read and presented, on behalf of the Association, by Mr. Stinson, and Senator Ferguson gave the address in behalf of the people of the community.

Mr. Gilbert spoke for three-quarters of an hour upon the subject of "Egg and Poultry Production," holding the large audience throughout.

The President, Mr. Walter Simpson, read a very interesting paper on "How to Make Farm Life More Attractive," and Mr. Hubbard of The Co-operative Farmer delivered an able address on the question of "Education for the Farm."

Joseph Wise, M. L. A., and Mr. John Wheatley delivered exhaustive addresses, and Mr. Wm. Thompson read an appropriate original poem.

The proceedings were interspersed with excellent music by the choir.

Dr. Robertson moved a vote of thanks to the people of Marshfield for the hospitality extended so generously to members of the Association. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gilbert and unanimously carried.

At the close there were three cheers for the Contingent and three cheers for the Queen. The National Anthem was enthusiastically sung by the whole audience.

The following is an epitome of the address delivered by Mr. Hubbard:

OUR EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

In taking such a title for those remarks I do not wish to be understood as undertaking to discuss the whole educational problem but rather to confine myself to a few hints for acquiring knowledge along the line of that occupation which three-fourths of our people must pursue if our province is to be great and prosperous. Our educational facilities for work in all kinds of office, literary and teaching occupations are today well up to date; their promoters deserve praise, but we must acknowledge we are singularly deficient in all that instruction which will lead the student's attention to mechanical or agricultural walks in life.

We hope from the start already made and the interest elicited in Government circles that the maritime provinces are soon to have provision for manual training and technical teaching. The object of this paper is more particularly to call attention to the importance of an education

fitted to the needs of the young people whom we hope to see occupying our farms and developing our natural wealth.

For the sake of brevity, this may be called Agricultural Education. Now an agricultural education does not mean simply a study of farm work or the sciences immediately underlying it, as some educational people think, but it should be, (first) all that goes to fit a man or woman to be a good citizen and, (second) to fit them to make the most of their opportunities on their farms.

The first problem should be solved by our common school system; while the second requires considerable additional facility for acquiring knowledge of a technical character. It is a fact patent to all that in the apparent absence of mineral resources, and upon fisheries diminishing, the wealth and advancement of P. E. Island must come very largely from the wealth produced from the soil. We must then have a constantly increasing farm population which shall be as intelligent and skillful as the farmers of any other country.

I think we can, without boasting, claim to have a good class of people to start with. Imbued as we are mainly with Anglo-Saxon blood, and with the courage and industry and perseverance which a glorious history and tradition has endowed us, we should at least be capable of an advance as great, and a development as complete as the people of any other race. To effect this this advance and development we must be up and doing. At the present most of the countries of Europe, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, and France are devoting a great deal of effort to technical and especially agricultural technical education. This is having its effects in those products which require skill in their preparation and marketing, such as butter, poultry, and bacon; we find that the products of these countries all lead the products of the American continent in price. We find Danish and French tinned butter and also their meats being shipped to the British West Indies and South America and even to China and Japan, going four thousand miles through Canada to reach these latter markets. (I beg to make the assertion here, and feel I can bring proof to support it, that technical education from an agricultural standpoint in these countries is mainly responsible for their success.)

Canada must study up this question; we must learn to produce what is wanted, to produce it cheaply and to place it in the markets in accordance with their demands.

Now what seems first necessary? Our answer would be to interest the people and to do it as quickly and completely as possible. What means shall we adopt? My suggestion would be through at least three channels.

1. By direct appeals to the people of the country through local meetings or through the Farmers' Institute.

2. Through the agency of the press, both the agricultural papers and the newspapers.

3. Through the schools of our country in opening the children's intelligence to the natural world and the opportunities about them.

The first two agencies are fairly well started, and let us continue unremittingly to improve and extend their utility. Let us have an agricultural organization in every district, holding at least monthly meetings, and let some central authority assist these organizations by supplying to them speakers who are qualified from practical success to lead a discussion on some one branch of agriculture. Let our institute meetings be carried out with the hearty co-operation of the people of the locality. Great care must be taken in the selection of speakers for the different localities, so that judicious encouragement may be given to those lines of work which are adapted to the particular part.

Then let us encourage by every means the agricultural press. Let us if necessary force into some localities an organization and through it spread good literature like the pater of the gentle rain upon the granite rock and the consequent rounding of the corners, will be the effect of the regularly issued, carefully edited, agricultural journal, which discusses the difficulties peculiar to the country and suggests remedies to the farmers who will read it. Let us encourage these men to write to these papers, to ask through them for special information they may need, and so help to swell the current of general

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