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- 30 pairs boys' boots; they are sold regularly at \$1.35, for \$1.15. They will stand the tugging and rubbing of the most desperate youth.
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- Men's felt lined boots, Women's felt lined boots, Men's skating boots, Women's skating boots.

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WEST END STORES
Telephone 82

THE FARMERS AT THE INSTITUTE

An Interesting Meeting at Valentia.

The annual Farmers' Institute meeting at Valentia was held on Feb. 1st. The attendance for the afternoon meeting was hardly in keeping with the importance of the occasion. The evening meeting was well attended. Pres. Channon had a capital program arranged and excellent addresses were delivered by Prof. C. A. Zavitz of the Model Farm, Guelph; Mr. T. Raynor, Rosehall and Mr. Albert Davidson, Glandine; while Sec. Keith looked after the interests of the Institute.

Pres. Channon on calling the meeting to order gave an excellent address on his experience with cement versus wood floors in farm buildings. His first venture in this line was in his cow stable. He had an expert to do the work, but when the time arrived for flooring the horse stables his man could not come and he went right on with it himself and made a first-class job.

The floor in horse stable was 37 by 16 feet. The material used was: eleven barrels of cement at \$2.75 per barrel; six loads of gravel at \$1.25 per load, labor \$11. Total cost, \$48.75. This was a four-inch concrete floor. The bottom was formed with coarse gravel and cement about two inches thick. The cement was added at the ratio of one to five. The top coat or dressing was also two inches thick and consisted of screened sand, mixed at the rate of three to one with cement. His estimate for wood or plank floors, for same space, was \$39.36, a difference of \$9.39 in cement's favor. The cost of cement floors for horse stable, was a shade over 74½ cents per square yard and of plank floor 54 2-3 cents per square yard. His new house floor 16 by 24 feet, with cement floor and cost \$14.50 or 33¼ cents per square yard, a saving over plank of 64 cents. The speaker insisted on the superiority of cement in lasting qualities and cleanliness.

Mr. Zavitz took for his subject, "The Leading Varieties of Grain," and invited questions as he proceeded with his address. Early in his life he had lived in Middlesex county and thought that one variety of grain was just as good as another. He had long since found his mistake. He outlined the method of experiment at the farm. They have leading varieties of grain from all parts of the world and sow in plots side by side, and carry it on from year to year, experimenting in order to get the best seed for the farmers. In conducting these tests he found that the leading varieties at the top for five years were sure to make a reputation for themselves. These experiments were also carried on all over the province. Some 14 years ago the ex-students carried on experi-

ments. Then the farmer joined in. Last year no less than 3834 farmers conducted experiments. In this way they discovered what was the best on all kinds of land. He advised his hearers to make experiments along this line. He then referred to the results secured with different cereals. There are two and a half millions of acres planted in oats in Ontario, next to that comes winter wheat. Among the leading varieties of oats the White Siberian has given the best results at Guelph and throughout the province. It is a Russian oat, with good up-standing straw of good quality, runs about 35 pounds to the bushel, 30 pounds of hull to the 100 pounds.

The Joannette from France is a black oat. It only does well on rich land. About four pecks to the acre in seeding. If more it will not prove successful. It will be too thick and rust.

Mr. A. Davidson said it was no good on weeds. Mr. Zavitz—It must be cut a little green, and bound in small sheaves. Care must be exercised in threshing, as the hulls are very thin, and easily knocked off. It is the thinnest hull of the 250 varieties. It is possible to have the land too rich for the white Siberian. The Sensation is a good oat. He understood the Banner was grown considerably, in this district and gave good results. He explained however that he got 4 2-3 bushels per acre more from white Siberian than Banner. The Minnonite and Logolu give good results, but not so good as the white Siberian.

There are some 48 varieties of two-rowed barley. In our experiments we have aimed at getting a 50-lb. barley for shipment. We have found the six-rowed was the best for this purpose. The best results have come from the Mandeschauri. It weighs about 50-lbs. to the bushel, and was always ahead in the experiments. They had proven it to give over 9½ bushels more than the common two-row barley, per acre. The Success variety has no beard, stands up well but does not yield like the first named. The Mandeschauri averages 35 bushels per acre, while the Success is only 28 last year. It don't pay to grow hullless barley.

Speaking of spring wheat he said that goose wheat for years sold for 15 cents less than other varieties, was now the best in the market. A demand having sprung up in Italy and France for the Macaroni. The great secret in this cereal is to get clean, pure seed. It would pay farmers to go over the sheaves and pick out the pure heads, and then thresh with a flail and no matter how little they got, sow it in a separate plot. In a few years they would have lots of it. The cry today is where can we get pure Goose wheat?

Mr. Geo. Payne stated that he had followed this line, but for some reason there were other varieties in it. Mr. Zavitz—We don't grow much spring wheat at Guelph, but have got about one-fifth better yield from the same soil by sowing pure seed.

Silver Hull gave the best results in experiments with buckwheat, but the Japanese varieties would weigh the most per bushel.

Mr. Hore—Is it hard on land? Mr. Zavitz—Yes, it is hard, but not worse than other crops. It was a fine crop to plow under. Summer following gave best results. Next to buckwheat comes peas. Peas draw more nitrogen from the air. We sow Prussian Blues for this purpose and plow in when pods are partly formed.

Of the three varieties of peas, Early Briton gave the best results for the past four years. It is an English pea and will go sixty pounds to the bushel. Nearly all peas are subject to bugs, with the exception of the Egyptian or Grasspan; they are bug proof. The Egyptian was a large yielder, but poor in straw, and required rich soil and lots of seed. There was a demand in England for the Wisconsin stripped pea and it was sent out last year for experimental purposes, but gave the lowest yield of all leading varieties.

The Soja or Japanese bean was among the best beans for Ontario. It is the richest we can grow, and a good crop to plow under. It is a capital food for stock, but must not be fed too liberally. Would sow about half bushel to the acre.

For fodder and husking corn we have for years been looking to the flint varieties. Some of the Dent varieties were also good. North Star yellow Dent gave excellent results. Compton's early best of flint varieties. North Star gave 10 bus. more than Compton's Early. This seed can be bought from Vaughan of Chicago.

Their experiments resulted as follows:—North Star 59 9-10 bushels per acre; Salzers North Dakota, 49 1-5 bushels, and Compton's Early, 48 1-2 bushels. If we look to our own interests we will get the best seed no matter where it comes from. It is often just the difference be-

tween profit and loss. The Wisconsin yellow Dent was the best for silo. We prefer it to Longfellow, have had better results from Compton's Early than Longfellow. We plant in drills, but sixteen out of eighteen reports favored hill planting in drills, as it gave the largest yield and best result.

Geo. Payne—Do you know anything of a long yellow cob corn?

Mr. Zavi—What is the name? Mr. Payne—I don't know the name. I got it from a Rochester pedlar.

Mr. Albert Davidson spoke on the "Cultivation of Mangolds." Mangolds were growing in favor. He had been fairly successful in return for the labor put in each year. His land was a stiff clay and he aimed at putting on as much manure as possible. He put on the manure and plowed late in the fall. Did not think manure drawn out in the winter time and left in heaps lost as much value as it would lose in yard. It was best to plow in fall and not too deep, and then the cultivator was all that was necessary in spring. If there was grass he would gang plow. Middle of May was best time to sow. I used a seed drill in planting, using every fifth spout. If ground is dry put roller over it, but not if land is wet. Set scuffer close and worked between sows to draw earth away. It was easy then to use hoe. It was easier to kill weeds with horse than hoe. Cultivate as early as possible. A weed killed in its infancy was just as dead as if killed in maturity. Keep scuffer going after thinning. I thin with hoe and leave plants about 12 to 16 inches apart. In harvesting took two rows up and two down, leaving four rows in a heap. Last week in September best time to take up mangolds. Pull only what you can take in each day. He would rather cut tops with a hoe than twist tops, but he had found that it was the damaged mangold that was the first to rot. Did not favor plowing out mangolds.

Mr. Geo. Payne—After fifth day I run harrow lengthwise and then use weeder twice.

Mr. Weldon—What is the best feed, mangolds or turnips? Mr. Davidson—Well, if I had both and the animal was a pig, I would feed mangolds. The yellow variety was the best keeper, but both would keep better than turnips. Mr. Zavitz stated that at Guelph, they had got two-thirds of a ton per acre more from level planting. The same results were found with potatoes. They had got about half as much more mangolds as turnips from an acre. Mangolds good for any stock.

"Dairy Farming" was the subject of an excellent address by Mr. T. Raynor. He outlined the growth of the great dairy industry up to the present time when our exports had over reach the \$25,000,000 mark. If we continue to improve in quality and thus maintain our reputation, we can hold the trade. He also referred to the hog industry, which went hand in hand with the dairy industry. There were three great essentials necessary for profitable dairying—the man, the cow and the management. To make dairying profitable we want to keep as near summer conditions as possible. Have plenty of choice, succulent food. Ensilage is the food for dairy cattle. Then you want clean comfortable buildings, well ventilated with plenty of light. It is the man that sticks to the business that makes the most out of it. The dairy cow is simply a machine, and the better we care for the machine, the better the results will be. We should have an ideal. If we are going in for butter, we should have a well-bred herd of Jerseys or Gurnseys. For cheese-making the Holsteins and Ayrshires are more profitable. Decide on the line you are going to adopt and secure the best cattle for that purpose. The best way to do this is to get a pure-bred sire that carries his pedigree on his back. It is not hard to get good sires now. It is a mistake to patronize scrub bulls. The speaker then illustrated the predominating points of the best dairy cow by means of large charts. The speaker pointed out that the dairy cow should be wedge-shaped when looked at directly in front, slim flat neck, rather thin through shoulders, thick and deep through body, with broad hips. The udder should run well forward as well as broad behind, with teats well spread apart. The dairy cow is highly nervous and resents abuse. There is a great mistake made in cross-breeding dairy and beef breeds. Fix your mind on the line you are going to follow get the best breed for that purpose and if properly fed and cared for, success will crown your efforts.

President Channon asked if it was not a benefit to carry a larger percentage of Durham in dairy cattle? Mr. Raynor—The dual cow was a

mistake or rather an accident. Durham grades were nearest to the dual purpose cow. The Ayrshire crossed with them did well.

Mr. Payne endorsed the Holstein cross.

Mr. Raynor advocated the breeding for special purpose. The reason dealers did not like Holsteins was because they did not have the choicest meats in the right place.

Mr. Raynor then explained charts, showing the digestibility of different fodders. Illustrating the feeding values of different rations.

Mr. Raynor in reply to Mr. Dames stated that the man who burns pea straw is making a great mistake. It and bean straw both make good fodder. Peas and oats go well together and are good to feed green.

Mr. Zavitz—Prussian blue peas and Banner oats gave best results for green fodder. For grain barley and oats gave largest yield. They could get more grain this way than where they were grown repeatedly.

In reply Mr. Raynor stated would feed beef animals twice a day. Would also give sulphur and salt.

Evening Session

A large number of ladies and gentlemen gathered for the evening. The president after a short address introduced Mr. H. Carpenter with his gramophone.

Mr. Geo. Lytle then gave a short address on "Mixed farming in general and the dairy industry in particular."

Mr. T. Raynor then gave a brilliant address on "Farming as an occupation." He dealt with the necessity of having specialists in farming as well as in the professions. Agriculture heads the list of exports, reaching \$600,000,000. The fisheries reach \$20,000,000; forest products \$49,000,000 and mines \$80,000,000. Multiply these by twenty and we get at what agriculture is doing. He pointed out the opportunities for homes in New Ontario where we have thousands of acres of land only awaiting settlers. Surely there is a bright outlook for Canada from the agricultural point of view. He paid a vivid picture of the changes wrought in farm life in the last half century. In passing he pointed out what science had done in improved machinery, also transportation which has placed us in easy reach of Great Britain—the market place of the world. He outlined the growth of the cheese industry which was formerly held by the United States. We now have 60 per cent. of that trade to Britain, and as our country advances, we can complete and hold the trade. Now if it is necessary for the doctor and lawyer to be well equipped, why should not our young men who are to till the soil have every opportunity to fit them for their path in life. They should all have a good education, they should take a course in agriculture at the college, and should belong to the Farmers' Institute. The young man who purposes following agriculture should understand all about the fertility of the soil, the retaining of moisture, insects, fungus, and blights that militate against good crops. For success in stock-raising, we should understand what the customer wants and the speaker gave a brief description of the bacon hog. At Guelph fat stock show the judges refused to give prizes to the Jerseys, Chesters and Poland Chinas. It paid to read agricultural papers, to go to county fairs and visit your neighbors. If farmers would only keep books they would increase their profits. Then they should go in for the healthy pleasure on the farm and beautify the home. They should have plenty of fruit, a nice garden and shade trees.

Mr. Zavitz then explained in glowing terms what the agricultural college was doing for Canada. There are at present 163 students. The subjects are all practical and are applied on the farm. He wished his hearers to watch what Mr. Graham of the poultry department was doing. Prof. Day's work in connection with the bacon hog was duly praised. He referred to the good work being carried on in connection with fruit and horticulture. Every farm should have plenty of small fruit. There was nothing better than a nice patch of straw berries. He recommended five varieties. For early fruit the Van Deman and Sadie, Medium-Clyde and Irene, and the Saunders for the latest. He briefly outlined the extermination of the mustard by spraying with copper sulphate, 10 pounds sulphate to 40 gallons of water. He then outlined the good work being done in the remaining departments, concluding with that under his charge.

In conclusion he referred to a pea bug and the best means to exterminate this pest, by treatment with carbon sulphide. Great care was necessary in performing the work and we would advise our farmers to write the department for bulletins giving full particulars before trying it.

The meeting concluded with votes of thanks to the speakers and the national anthem.



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The recent the skating Mr. W. George has boys will of the gen Miss S. mally of past two in St. Tho Toronto. missed by Miss M. G. cancy caus parture. makes a g

It is our record the Johnston at the resi John Napi in Eldon, past few neighbor daughters funeral of burying g fairly well the symp ances in the The annu nation of this plence of M evening, th event progr vocal and selections

Mr. M. Lindsay's friend Miss Misses S. Eachern a iting frien Mr. John days with Do not rec

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Mr. Rob but unde Dr. Breret a speedy, and one d this bedsid