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IMPROVEMENT OF THE HORSE INDUSTRY

DISCUSSION AT A MEETING HELD BY THE COMMISOIONERS APPOINTED TO GATHER INFORMATION ON THIS DISTRICT.

The meeting held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening, October 31, to discuss improvement of the horse industry was not largely attended, the number present being about twenty-five.

The commissioners appointed by the Ontario Government to gather information on the subject, Messrs. J. G. Clark, of Ottawa, and James Irving, of Winchester, were present. They had been over county the previous six days. The object of the meeting, as Mr. Clark explained, was to discuss the points set out in a circular issued by the Minister of Agriculture. Upon these discussions and the information obtained by the commissioners in examining horses a report will be sent to the Government, and with others of a like character will be considered with a view to determining what can be done by the Department of Agriculture and the Legislature to promote the breeding of better horses.

Mr. W. Channon, of Mariposa, President of the West Victoria Farmers' Institute who had accompanied the commissioners on their three day trip through West Victoria, was elected chairman. In opening he remarked that the movement had been set on foot by the Live Stock Association and was taken up by the Minister of Agriculture who made an appropriation for the purpose of inspection.

Mr. J. G. Clark, one of the commissioners, after expressing some disappointment at the smallness of the attendance, said the horse industry was important. Everywhere the commissioners had gone they had heard approval of this movement to improve the horse industry by the Department of Agriculture. Though the meetings had been small there had been some interesting discussions. Mr. Clark read from the circular sent out by the Government as to the points on which information was to be obtained. The third point was as to what condition had affected quality and number of horses and stallions in the county. Mr. Clark said it was not the purpose of the Government to have the commissioners to give advice.

Mr. Goslin said that the number of breeding horses and mares was not sufficient. There should, Mr. Goslin thought, be a license fee of $100 placed on stallions in order to protect those who had good horses.

Senator McHugh thought that breeding continuously in one class of horses should be encouraged. The putting of a license on horses might have a good effect. It was impossible to get a good class of horses by breeding heavy horses to light mares or vice versa.

The chairman had been trying to get others to the idea given out by Senator McHugh. If a hundred well bred horses of one class were obtainable in one neighborhood buyers would pay $15 to $20 more each than if they had to go over a wide range of country to get the horses.

Senator McHugh said that in the old country premiums were given by Agricultural Societies to owners of breeding horses placing them in certain localities.

Mr. J. D. Begg approved to some extent of Mr. Goslin's ideas. He thought that there should be an inspector to see that the pedigree of horses was as represented.

In reply to Mr. Clark, Senator McHugh said he thought it would be difficult for the department to deal with the education of farmers on better breeding. One plan would be to send out bulletins giving facts to show that it would pay.

Mr. Taylor approved of Mr. Goslin's suggestion as to license, although perhaps the figure named was too high.

Mr. Mitchell thought some good suggestions had been made.

Mr. Goslin considered that the better prices obtained by farmers who bred good horses should teach others of its advantages.

The next point discussed was which was the better class of horses for this district.

Mr. Goslin thought that heavy horses, especially Clydes, were the most profitable.

Mr. G. F. Blackwell enquired if profitable referred to home or export trade.

Mr. Clark and the chairman thought it meant both.

Senator McHugh considered Clydes the best among heavy horses.

Mr. Blackwell thought the farmer should raise the class of horses out of which he could make most money. In order to get farmers up to the idea of improving the breed there should be something outside of mere local demand. If it could be shown to farmers that there would be a demand for a particular class in three years they would be led to breed that class.

Mr. Clark asked the opinion of the meeting as to what should be in case of inspect on.

Mr. Goslin said breeding and conformation to class.

Senator McHugh did not approve of Government inspection. He thought all classes of horses would be in demand three years from now.

The chairman regretted that there were not more farmers, who were the owners of mares, present to get the suggestions thrown out. At the Toronto Exhibition horses raised in Canada were shown which could not be beaten anywhere. Farmers should look to the demand, and see that that they raised the best in whatever class.

Mr. Begg did not see how the standard of sires could be improved without inspection.

On a vote being taken the majority of the meeting favored inspection.

Senator McHugh, one of the opponents, suggested having penalties for advertising horses as what they were not.

Mr. Clark was of opinion that the Government would be largely guided by the reports of the various committees, and meant business as to improvement of the horses industry.

The next question touched upon was that of syndicates owning breeding horses.

Mr. Goslin thought it might do in some cases.

When what can be done to improve the horse industry was taken up, Senator McHugh wished to know if any one present had experience with Belgian draft horses, but no one responded.

The general opinion seemed to be that suggestions for improvement generally had been covered to a large extent by the discussion.

The commissioners left for Port Hope on Thursday morning and spend this week in the County of Durham, and have then to go over Northumberland and Durham.

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The Examinations for Senior Teachers.

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Regulation 47.—The subjects of examination shall be those prescribed for the Upper School of the High School, and the examinations may be taken at one time or in two parts at different times, as follows:

Part 1.—English Composition and Rhetoric, English Literature, Mediaeval History, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, and Physics.

Part 2.—History (Modern and British), Biology, Latin, with Chemistry and Mineralogy, or French and German, or German, or Greek and French.

Regulation 47 (above) is amended by the following addition:

Section 1.—The Senior Teachers' Examination may be taken in four parts at different times, as follows:

Part 1.—English Composition and Rhetoric, Algebra, Geometry.

Part 2.—English Literature, Mediaeval History, Trigonometry.

Part 3.—Modern and British History, Latin, Physics.

Part 4.—Biology with Chemistry and Mineralogy, or French and German, or Greek and German, or Greek and French; provided always that candidates take at least three of the four parts while actually engaged in teaching, and that they pass a practical examination in addition to the examinations in the papers in Biology, Chemistry, and Mineralogy.

Section 2.—(1) Candidates qualified under section 1, preceding, who have failed in one subject at an examination in one of the parts, but who have made 40 per cent of the marks on each of the two other subjects and 60 per cent. of the total on said two subjects, may carry over to the examination in a part subsequently taken, the examination on the subject in which they have failed.

(2) Canadidates qualified under sec. 1 preceding who obtained Junior Leaving standing not later than 1900, may substitute for the course prescribed in Latin for the Senior Teachers' Examination, the following courses in English literature and the History of the English language and Literature:

1. English Literature.—Familiarity with and intelligent appreciation of the following texts:

Chaucer, The Prologue; Spenser, The Faerie Queene—Book 1.; Milton, Paradise Lost—Book 1., L'Allegro and Il Penseroso; Pope, The Rape of the Lock, The Prologue to the Satires; Goldsmith, The Traveller, The Deserted Village; Wordsworth, Ode on Intimations of Immortality, The Reverie of Poor Susan, Lucy Gray, Hart-Leap Well, Lines composed a few miles above Tintern Abbey. Yarrow Unvisited, Yarrow Visted, Yarrow Revisited; Tennyson, In Memorian (one paper).

2. The History of the English Language and Literature—A Brief History of the English Language by Mr. O. F. Emerson (The Macmillan Co.); The History of English Literature as developed in the lives of the following in The English Men of Letters Series: Chaucer, Spenser, Milton, Pope, Goldsmith, Wordsworth, Tennyson (one paper).

FIGHTING AGAINST INSECTS IN THE FALL

BY PROF. C. J. S. BETHUNE OF THE ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The time of year has now arrived when most of our insect foes have ceased their active work and are withdrawn from active work and consequently most people come to the conclusion that the season's fight is over and that nothing need at present be done. But this is very far from being the case. There are many destructive insects that can be more easily dealt with now than at any other time of the year.

First and foremost, the Pea-weevil. The losses from this insect have been very much lessened during the last two seasons in Ontario, but this does not mean that we have got rid of the trouble. The insect is still with us, but being in greatly reduced numbers can the more easily be dealt with. If there is the least suspicion of the presence of the tiny beetle in the newly harvested peas, they, and in any case peas intended for seed should be at once treated with bisulphide of carbon which will kill every one that is exposed to its fumes. The method is familiar enough; put the peas in an air tight cask or bin, and place in an open pan on top of them one ounce of the bisulphide to every 100 lbs. of peas (a bushel weighs about 60 lbs.) cover up tightly and leave for 48 hours. Then open up either out of doors or where there is a thorough draft of air; do not allow any fire or light to come near it, as the vapour is very inflammable and explosive; every weevil or other insect among the peas will be dead and non-infested seed will be available for next year. The same treatment should be used for the Bean-weevil, which is a serious pest in some parts of the Province.

In addition to this treatment of the peas themselves, the pea-straw and rubbish should be cleared up and burnt and all refuge where threshing has been done should be similarly got rid of. This will destroy any weevils that have already come out, and are hiding away for the winter. It will pay to do this whether the insect is known to be present or not.

This brings us to the next important matter, namely clean farming and gardening. All sorts of insects find their winter quarters in refuse. Many that infest grain take refuge in the stubble, others are sheltered by loose rubbish, others again hide in tufts of grass, among the weeds in fence corners, under bark, wherever in fact there is shelter of any kind. Now is the time to turn them out and expose them to the frost and wet. Clean up and burn weeds of every kind, this will destroy many seeds as well as insects. Leave no heaps of rubbish anywhere. Gather up and add to the manure pile the leaves and stalks of roots, potatoes, etc. Plough up old pastures that are infested with white grubs or the larvae of Rose beetles. Scrape the rough bark off the trunks and limbs of fruit trees, but this may be done later on in the winter. By keeping the farm, the orchard, and the garden clean, myriads of insects will be prevented from finding on the premises the shelter they need during the winter and will either perish or go somewhere else for a hiding place, and thousands more that in the egg or chrysalis stage will be destroyed. Many, no doubt, will think this too much trouble, but if they faithfully try it, they will soon find that it pays.

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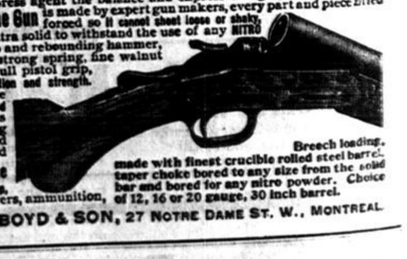

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The New C. P. Railway Line Through Lindsay

A special general meeting of the Georgian Bay and Seaborad Rail-Bay Company will be held on Monday, November 12, to consider the expediency of leasing the railway, which is to run through Lindsay to the C.P.R., the terms, condition and form of lease, and other business. The taking over of this line by the C.P.R. is a foregone conclusion. At this meeting some information will be given out as to when construction work will be commenced on the new line.

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