

# Bovine Tuberculosis Was Topic of Address at the F. and D. Session Last Nigh

**Dr. J. H. Grisdale, Deputy Minister of Agriculture At Ottawa Spoke On Restricted Area Policy As An Aid to T. B. Menace In Animals —Dr. A. A. Kingscote, P. E. I., Was Heard In Address On "Disease In Foxes" and Care of Foxes—Large Number Delegates Present.**

Dr. J. H. Grisdale, deputy minister of agriculture at Ottawa and Dr. A. A. Kingscote of Summerside, P. E. I. were the principal speakers at last evening's session of the 53rd Annual Convention of the Farmers' and Dairy-men's Association held in the Provincial Normal School building. The former took as his subject "Bovine Tuberculosis Free Area" while the latter spoke on "Diseases of Foxes" and feeding of the same. A large number of delegates were present to hear both addresses, which proved very instructive. The president, John Woods, presided over the meeting.

DR. J. H. GRISDALE.

Gave Very Thorough Description of Restricted Area Policy—Its Good Qualities and its Progress in Last Year.

Dr. J. H. Grisdale, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa, was the first speaker of the evening. He took as his subject "Bovine Tuberculosis Free Area" and his discourse was enlightening and instructive as to the workings of the new Restricted Area Policy put in force within the past few years by the Federal Government.

Five Years Ago.

The Restricted Area Policy is a preventative measure against the spread of tuberculosis among bovine. It was commenced five years ago, and since its start, it has brought about some much needed improvement with regard to the retard of the T. B. menace among cattle. Under the government scheme, every bovine is subjected to the tuberculosis test; which is the injection of tuberculin. Every animal which reacts to the tuberculin is afflicted with that dread disease. The speaker said that that test never failed. In some cases the animal that failed to react to the test, was not entirely free from the disease. The number of restricted areas throughout the dominion are rapidly increasing, thanks to the good work being carried on. The speaker's address in part follows:

Pleased With Results.

The government were very pleased with the results of the first tests and decided to extend the practice. All cattle reacting must go to the abattoir where there is an inspection. Moncton is one city in New Brunswick which carries one of these inspection places. The cattle are examined and if fit for food the farmer is compensated. Other provinces are eager to try the plan and are going in strong for it at the present time. Tests were made and are being made all over the dominion of Canada.

Herds in the northern part of Quebec were tested numerous times and the percentage of reactions were found to be light. The reaction in these northern provinces was found to be quite light generally, and the demand very good from outsiders and prices high. Prince Edward Island is in a similar condition and Nova Scotia also is perking up. One hundred thousand animals were given the tuberculin test in P. E. I., and only .59 per cent reacted to the test. In Nova Scotia 200,000 were tested. The reactions there were very moderate. Much better than anticipated. Very few of the farmers objected to the tests, nearly all permitting free use of the bovine. These experiments were conducted all over the dominion of Canada from the Fraser Valley in British Columbia to the farthest point in Nova Scotia, and all proved quite satisfactory.

Saskatchewan was next best to N. B. in comparison to reactions. All provinces are keen to have areas extended. Some already are extended.

An area in Quebec has slowed up progress greatly said the speaker.

Prevention has been made of mingling of bovine of restricted and unrestricted areas. The cost in Nova Scotia for tests was great on account of so many objectors earlier but now are proceeding rapidly. The consequence was a holdup. The speaker mentioned that a large number of areas are asking for these tests.

Kings Want Test.

Kings County, New Brunswick, applied for test and there is a possibility that a group of men will go into this county within a year to commence tests. They are now in Nova Scotia conducting experiments.

Lack of Workmen.

Dr. Grisdale said that one difficulty in the way was lack of men. The reason is that the tests are stiff and applicants find it hard to pass. The government are asking for more money this year, and feel that people are greatly in favor of tests. There are some not in favor of the move because they feel that it is a great waste of bovine. Ontario is strong for the move. One million dollars was the expenditure on this policy last year. Thirteen or fourteen millions were spent in the U. S. last year in similar work. The Federal government is bearing all the expense of this and it would be better if counties and municipalities should share in expense. Steers, great bulls and lumpy jawed animals are banned from compensation at the abattoir.

Question Asked.

Question was asked of speaker whether there was less danger when cattle were allowed to run in the open prairies and those who were kept in confinement and well taken care of. Dr. Grisdale said that he found an argument on both sides. It was found by experience that in some cases bovine in good quarters usually were more liable to the disease than those who were poorly taken care of. However this is not the established habit.

DR. A. A. KINGSCOTE.

Gave Very Instructive Address on Fox Diseases and Medical Care of Afflicted Foxes—Feeding of Foxes Touched Upon—Care of Animals.

Dr. A. A. Kingscote, Summerside, P. E. I., spoke on "Fox Diseases". He spoke of a survey made during last summer on fox ranches. There are a number of diseases but the majority are not contagious. Disease does not spread from animal to animal. Causes of disease among the fox ranches is chiefly the filthy condition in which they are kept. Nature of food has a lot to do with disease. Parasites also is a chief cause of disease. There is no disease like mange and other skin diseases. Excess of vegetable protein in fox food is one cause of some of the diseases.

The speaker referred to a number of diseases of the eye and went on to explain several of them. Boric acid is one curative measure for these eye diseases of foxes. The nature of the food fed to the foxes should be improved to insure well being and improvement of foxes. Worms is another cause of ill health of foxes.

Worms Chief Cause.

Dr. Kingscote gave an interesting detailed description of worms which caused havoc with the intestinal processes of the fox and mentioned the disastrous affects when worms secure entrance into blood vessels of the fox.

The speaker then gave measures for the eradication of such worms, among curatives mentioned even worm pills. A technical outline of the care of foxes was given by Dr. Kingscote which proved instructive to those in attendance.

A fox should not be killed until his condition is beyond hope. In the event of worms, etc., the fox should be given the best of care and attended to in a medical way. The likelihood is that the fox will eventually recover.

Tapeworm Explained.

The tapeworm was referred to by the speaker and their damage to rabbits as an example, explained. In reference to worms and foxes Dr. Kingscote said that the only way a worm can get into a fox's body was through the manure. Therefore the pens should be cleaned thoroughly and often. The matter of a proper pen to keep the fox in was gone into. A description of the proper kind of pen was given by Dr. Kingscote. The lung worm and the lung was the next problem of fox disease discussed. The clean pen again came in the limelight as a preventive against worms. Medicinal treatment of this dangerous worm was explained and urged by the speaker. Ricketts was another disease referred to and the causes of it explained. The disease is caused by nutritional lack. A discussion was then entered into on the value or detriment of various foods.

Resolutions.

Resolution was made that New Brunswick should produce at least all grains required for their own use and urge the Department of Agriculture, local and Federal to make special effort for increasing grain productions and urge on all farmers the economic importance of supplying their own needs and catering to provincial markets. The motion was made by J. F. Reilly and esconded by W. W. Hubbard.

The resolution was carried after some discussion. Other resolutions will be heard at today's sessions.

## DR. BARNES TO ATTACK THE ICE IN FEBRUARY

(Montreal Star.)

"Burning out," the St. Lawrence river ice between here and Sorel will likely be started sometime in February according to present plans of Dr. Howard T. Barnes ice engineering expert of McGill University, who stated this morning that it would take some time to get the materials ready. He has been allowed \$60,000 by the government for this work.

Several tons of thermite, a substance invented by Dr. Barnes, will probably be used. The plan adopted is to reduce the ice sheet over the St. Lawrence in the main channel between Pointe aux Trembles and Sorel to a comparatively light depth by the use of hundreds of charges of thermite and other high heat generating substances invented by Dr. Barnes.

Dr. Barnes said that the floods which caused so much damage in the east end of Montreal in the past springs were due to the great thickness of ice along this channel, which caused this water to back up.

30 Feet Of Ice

It is his idea to keep the channel comparatively free of anchor ice and fraeze so that the water will not be backed up as in the past. In some place it is not uncommon to find 30 feet of ice in the St. Lawrence, he said. This seriously interferes with the current and it is this interfering thickness of ice that Dr. Barnes plans to remove.

Shipping men in Montreal are viewing the Government grant with favor, and are very interested in the experiments which Dr. Barnes proposes to carry out. A number of prominent shipping men, in addition to Government officials and engineers will be present when Dr. Barnes starts work on the ice jams above Sorel.

THE PROPER WAY.

Grandma: "I'm afraid you'll be late at the party."

Little Girl: "Oh, grandma dear! Don't you know that in our set nobody ever goes to a party until everybody gets there?"

## CARIBOU IN NORTH ARE ON THE INCREASE

**The Mystery Game Animal Said to Be Changing Its Habits.**

Winnipeg, Jan. 16—Fires and the slow creeping in of civilization are responsible for the changes in the habits of the immense herds of caribou that roam the Barren Lands according to Count Hia Tolstoi, Grandson of the great philanthropist and writer, who reached Winnipeg over the Canadian National Railways after nearly five months in the wilderness of the North West Territories. Count Tolstoi was in charge of the expedition sponsored by the American Museum of Natural History to study the migration of the caribou. He was accompanied by Horace Ashton and W. J. Casel, photographer. When Count Tolstoi and Mr. Casel reached Winnipeg from The Pas with them was George Yandle, Arctic trapper, who has not seen civilization for 15 years, his first reaction to it was a pair of fancy spats and zippers.

"The caribou of the Barrens have made more changes in their habits in the past three years than they have done for a century," Count Tolstoi said. Some scientists and old timers were of the opinion that the herds were decreasing but he believed that they were increasing but were moving farther away in their great sweeping circles; on this trip he saw herds numbering thousands of heads but the big herd did not come within the ken of the explorers. Count Tolstoi strongly advocates the use of airplanes for the study of caribou migration.

The party left Winnipeg for the North on August 14th and went from Sturgeno Landing a thousand miles by water as far as Reindeer, Neultin and Windy Lakes; ninety-seven portages were necessary.

The return was made with dogs

bought from the Eskimo. "Wonderful animals these Eskimo dogs," said Tolstoi. "I am taking five of them back with me to New York. We did 800 miles with them in about a month and after two day's rest made the 49 miles from Sturgeon Landing to The Pas in seven and a half hours." There were no misadventures on the long trip into the wilds.

The most humorous incident was probably the reception of 18 Eskimo trappers in the small tent and a debauch of raisins and chocolates.

Count Tolstoi, who came to America to study animal husbandry at Ames Iowa has no ambition in literature.

"I dare not with a name like mine," he says. He likes the outdoors and hopes to give his life to exploration and particularly the study of animals. Some day he hopes to get back into the Barrens to spend two or three years studying the fascinating caribou.

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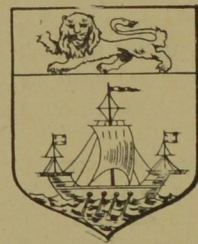
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