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BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

THE usual monthly meeting of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society was held at the office of the Society, No. 11 North Parade, Kingston, on Thursday, 21st July, 1910, at 11.40 a.m. Present:—Hons. J. R. Williams and L. J. Bertram, Messrs. A. W. Douet, E. W. Muirhead, and C. A. T. Fursdon, who acted as Secretary.

On the motion of Mr. A. W. Douet, the Hon. J. R. Williams presided.

Apologies for absence were received from the Hon. Dr. Pringle and the Hon. Geo. McGrath.

A letter was read from the Hon. R. P. Simmonds notifying the Board that he would be absent for a few weeks. The leave was granted.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been published in the current month's JOURNAL were taken as read and confirmed, subject to Mr. E. W. Muirhead's name being added to those named as being present.

The Acting Secretary submitted the following matters arising out of the minutes:—

Authorised Persons' Arrests. The following letter from the C.S.O. re the arrests of authorised persons was read:—

C.S.O., No. 7296/8477 of 20th July, 1910.

In reply to your letter dated 21st ultimo, I am directed by the Governor to inform you that, in compliance with the wish expressed by the Jamaica Agricultural Society, the Inspector General has been instructed to supply the Society with a quarterly return of the arrests made by "authorised persons" under the Prædial Larceny Law.—(Sgd.) R. JOHNSTONE, Acting Colonial Secretary.

Arrangement of Office Work. The Acting Secretary reported that the Office Committee had approved of the arrangements made to carry on the office work during the Secretary's absence, and they were approved by the Board. The question of remuneration to Mr. Stewart for editing the JOURNAL, was not dealt with in the Secretary's report.

Addition to Office Committee. The following members were suggested as additions to the Office Committee:—The Hon. J. R. Williams and A. W. Douet, Esq. These gentlemen having e-

Stallion "Sir Gerald." The report of the Live Stock Committee on the applications for the services of "Sir Gerald," and suggestions that he should be sold, was considered, and it was agreed to advertise him for sale and to ask the Director of Agriculture to receive him at the Farm School until the end of the year, when, if he had not then been sold, the Branch Society at Mocho should have his services. It was further recommended that if he was sold the proceeds should go towards the importation of a well-bred Jack, to be kept at the Farm School for the breeding of asses.

Lymphangitis and Farcey. The following letter from the Hon. W. A. S. Vickers to the C.S.O. was read:—

Where can I get information as to what to do with trespassing mules that are suffering from what is locally called farcey, but what is really lymphangitis.

Lymphangitis, the veterinary surgeon says, is not contagious, therefore, under the present law, a magistrate cannot order it to be shot.

If I am right it appears the law wants re-construction. I shall be glad if you will give this your attention.

The following minute on the subject from the Director of Agriculture was read:—

Epizootic Lymphangitis is as contagious as true farcey, but more easily cured, and not so serious to the animal affected. In America and South Africa clinical cases are destroyed. I do not advocate this in Jamaica. Isolation of affected animals and treatment by excision or cauterisation appears to effect a cure.

Infection is brought about by whips and harness—great care is required to prevent the disease spreading. We have suffered badly at Hope, but are now free.

The meeting agreed that the law, as it at present stands, seems sufficient, but if it is found to need strengthening, the words "contagious or" might be inserted before the word "infectious" in lines five and eleven in sections 17 of Law 19 of 1897, to make it correspond with the wording of section 28 of that law.

Pound Laws. The following memorandum from the Director of Agriculture re proposed amendment of the Pound Laws was read:—

Proposed amendment to the Pound Laws,—Law 19 of 1897, Law 9 of 1898, Law 6 of 1894.

While I am quite satisfied that the provision for shooting pigs when trespassing, is a necessary enactment for the protection of private property in Jamaica, I have had a recent experience which indicates that it is desirable in the interests of the improvement of swine in the Colony, to protect pedigree animals for breeding purposes from the operations of the law as to destruction.

Through the kind interest of the Hon. J. V. Calder, I secured an introduction to Mr. Marriner, the premier breeder of the Large English Black Pig, and he selected a boar and an unrelated sow, in pig to the champion English boar (the best specimen of the Large Black Pig in the

I had occasion to complain of the management of the Water Works for discharging offensive sewage on to our cow paddock adjoining their premises, and in revenge one of our sows by the Champion boar was shot on the side of the occupation road a few yards from our own gate. No complaints had ever been made or warning given as to the intention to shoot.

The law affords no remedy and a neighbour with unfriendly feelings can lie in wait with a gun and destroy any such valuable breeding stock with absolute impunity under the present state of the law.

I therefore suggest for the consideration of the Live Stock Committee that we should, as in Queensland, amend our law so that pure-bred breeding stock may be registered at a fee, and such registered swine be subject to the same treatment as cattle, horses and sheep, under the Pound Laws.

It may interest the Committee to know that this sow weighed 84lbs. at four months, mainly on grass-feeding, and that the flesh was almost entirely lean and of the most excellent texture and flavour.

Our imported boar weighed 500 lbs. at the age of sixteen months, and was specially selected by Mr. Marriner to breed to the progeny of his Champion boar, the animal that was wantonly destroyed as above stated.

I am inclined to think that the extension of this privilege of registration to imported goats would also be in the public interest and an advantage to the small stock-keepers of the Colony.—H. H. COUSINS, Director of Agriculture.

Hope, 20/6/10.

The Board agreed to approve of the recommendation of the Committee that pure-bred pedigree stock should be registered on payment of a fee and be exempt under the law, provided that the fact of the animal being registered can be made sufficiently conspicuous. It was thought the registration fee would, perhaps, be considerable guarantee of the animal being kept in control if high enough.

The following letter was read from the Secretary of the St. John's Branch *re* the alteration of the Pound Laws :—

I beg to bring before the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, the subjoined resolution which was unanimously adopted at a meeting of the St. John's Branch.

I am to say further that while it is most deplorable for owners of animals to let them loose in order that they might find food or perhaps enter other people's cultivations, still we contend that that does not justify the increasing of the pound fees, for as long as the animal is caught, or as long as the owner is known, such a one is liable for damages.

In our opinion (a) the pound fee for male animals that are being fed with their mother's milk should be similar to that of females. (b) In no case should the present fee increase. (c) Goats especially should be protected, as these animals are comparatively very valuable to their owners. (d) Pigs should not be cruelly and wickedly destroyed.

Be it resolved therefore that "Realising the great hardships that exist among the peasant population of this Island by the continuous and systematic destruction of goats and pigs, that the Parent Society be asked to approach the Government in order that the Pound Laws may be so amended that these animals be protected, because they are very valu-

The Acting Secretary was instructed to reply that the meeting could not but consider that the action suggested would have a retrograde effect and be particularly detrimental to small cultivators.

Bulls. The Acting Secretary reported that no applications had been received for the services of the King's bull "Sylvester" now in St. Ann, and it was agreed that he should be transferred to Mr. Fursdon at Burnt Ground in Hanover, as it was likely his services would also be required later on in that neighbourhood.

The following report from the Director of Agriculture on the death of the Society's bull "Henbury Beau," was received from the Acting Colonial Secretary and read:—

The animal has been treated with the greatest devotion and skill by Dr. Schuh and Mr. Wortley during the past four weeks, but the gangrene was so deep-seated that it eventually attacked the lungs, and a *post mortem* showed the cause of death to be gangrene of the lungs.

This bull was received at Hope in 1908 from the Agricultural Society in a state of extreme emaciation. He was cured of tick fever by heroic doses of quinine, and with good feeding, rapidly improved.

The bull had been in constant use at Hope since January, 1909, and has served thirty-seven cows for members of the public, while twenty-one cows at the farm are expected to drop calves to him during the coming year.

I suggest that the regrettable and unfortunate death of this valuable bull should be communicated to the Agricultural Society for record in its JOURNAL.

It was agreed to write to the Director of Agriculture to ask him if there was any chance of the Society recovering the value of the bull in case his death was caused by any negligence in regard to the condition of the line fence.

Knutsford Park Show. A memorandum from the Secretary *re* the Live Stock industry and Knutsford Park Show was read, and it was agreed to give two prizes of £4 and £3 for collective exhibits from Branch Societies. The available balance out of the £40 was recommended to be used towards the purchase of the donkey to be placed at the Farm School.

Inspection of Fruit. The following letter from the General Agent of Elder, Dempster & Co., *re* the inspection of fruit was read:—

I enclose herewith copy of a letter which I have received from Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co., Ltd., Bristol, advising that an Inspector of Foods and Drugs has been appointed at the port of Bristol, who visits the ships as they arrive, and condemns any rotten or wasty fruit.

As this is of great importance to fruit shippers, you will no doubt take steps to notify them through your JOURNAL.

The letter from Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co., addressed to Mr. Haggart is as follows:—

We beg to inform you that the authorities have appointed an Inspector of Foods and Drugs at this port, and on arrival of the *Port Royal* the Inspector found some of the boxes of oranges very wasty and refused

to allow same to leave the dock, so we had to have them repacked. We think it advisable that you should notify fruit shippers in Jamaica of this, so that nothing but sound fruit would be shipped, as of course the Inspector will visit each steamer as she arrives.

The Acting Secretary was instructed to take steps to have it published in the local papers and in the Society's JOURNAL, and to endeavour to obtain from the authorities at Bristol a copy of the regulations and instructions under which the Inspectors act, and also to find out whether arrangements have been made at Manchester in the matter. The intimation that arrangements can be made for the re-packing of fruit on the other side may be useful to shippers in Jamaica.

Rubber Seed from Costa Rica. The Secretary reported the arrangements that had been made with Mr. Dugald Campbell to visit Costa Rica to gather information as to the cultivation of rubber and to procure the right sort of seeds. The arrangements were confirmed.

A letter from the Acting Colonial Secretary covering a copy of the report from the Director of Agriculture on the determination of the variety of *Castilloa* rubber grown by the Agricultural Department was read:

With reference, to the statement in my annual report as to the steps taken for the determination of the variety of *Castilloa* rubber grown by this Department through the help of Professor Pittier of the United States Department of Agriculture, who is monographing the genus, I have the honour to report that the results of the determination of materials from our trees prepared by Mr. W. Harris, F.L.S., have now been received and Mr. Pittier reports as follows:—

The specimens of *Castilloa* have just reached me in excellent condition and I think they can safely be placed with my new species *Castilloa Guatemalteca*, which differs from *Castilloa Elastica*, Cen., in having the primary male receptacles, usually in clusters of six to eight, with a long and slender stripe and lobes opening on a broad slit, the style bears hairs round the base and the lobes of the perianth are well cleft and acute. If our specimens from Vera Cruz (Mexico) belong to the original *Castilloa Elastica*, as I believe they do, they are quite distinct from the Hope Gardens trees. I presume that the trees from which you picked your specimens came originally from British Honduras.

2. Most of the rubber exported from Guatemala and British Honduras proceeds from these species, and in identical climatic conditions it should give fair returns, though not as large as was formerly claimed it would under cultivation. For semi-arid regions, with well characterised dry and rainy seasons, *Castilloa Nicoyensis* and probably *Castilloa Panamensis*, are to be recommended, while *Castilloa Elastica* and *Costaricana* appear to be better adapted for districts with predominant rainy weather.

I should explain that Professor Pittier was for many years Botanist to the Government of Costa Rica, and has made a profound study of *Castilloa* in its native *habitat*. The United States Agricultural Department has recently employed him to make a special study of the genus and to write a monograph thereon.

We hope to obtain seed of all the varieties of *Castilloa* mentioned by Mr. Pittier in his letter for trial through the kind offices of the United

3. With regard to the mission of Mr. Dugald Campbell to Costa Rica, it would appear from Mr. Pittier's report that the *Castilloa* of the Atlantic seaboard of that country would not be suitable for the generality of sites in this Island where *Castilloa* is at present being tested, and I would therefore caution planters that this variety requires conditions of great humidity. The variety of rubber from Costa Rica that evidently offers the greatest prospect of success in Jamaica, is that growing in the peninsula of Nicoya, which extends into the Pacific Ocean from the northern part of Costa Rica.

This tree is easily recognised by the dark olive colour of its flowers; the branches and leaves are also more densely hairy than those of the variety growing in the humid area of the Atlantic slopes of Costa Rica." (O. F. Cook, Science 1903).

4. It would appear that there are small botanical differences in the wild *Castilloa* rubber trees from Mexico to Panama, and that the Agricultural problem to be faced in establishing a cultivation of *Castilloa* rubber is not that of securing the "best" or the "largest yielding" variety in its own *habitat*, but that of obtaining the best suited to the conditions under which it is to be tested.

As the time required to demonstrate the specific value of any species of rubber tree under cultivation is considerable, it is desired that planters should be guided by the advice of a man like Mr. Pittier, who has a profound knowledge of the natural conditions and the varieties growing in Central America, before embarking on any large planting enterprise with *Castilloa*.

5. It would appear that our present variety of *Castilloa* is capable of giving results in Jamaica compared with those obtained under cultivation elsewhere, and I believe that this variety should be more suited for our conditions than the Costa Rican variety it is now proposed to introduce.

6. The white, red and black *Castilloa* varieties of Costa Rica originally claimed to be distinct by Count Koschy on the characters of the bark, are now found to be explainable on other grounds than that they constitute specific or even varietal difference (Berhete Zum TROPENFLANZER 124, 1901), and the rubber tree of the Atlantic slope of Costa Rica is now accepted to be one variety, *Castilloa Costaricana* Liebmann.

7. Further specimens have been sent to Mr. Pittier in order to clear up the question of the identity or otherwise of the original *Castilloa* introduced from Darien in 1881 and that of *Castilloa* from British Honduras. On our present information the two appear to be identical.

It was agreed to point out that the arrangement with Mr. Campbell had already been made and the Society were waiting for his report with interest and the result of the trial of the seeds which he no doubt would bring with him; and to point out that this report from the Director of Agriculture still further emphasises the need of sending a competent botanist like Mr. Harris to make a searching investigation in Central America and Colombia into rubber cultivation, the conditions, the varieties of trees grown, etc., and all points of importance to the establishment or cultivation here.

The following extract from a letter from Mr. Stephen Glanville was read:—

I must ask the Society to consider the urgent advisability of requesting the Governor in Privy Council, to add the India Rubber Withe to

2/6 and 3/- per pound in this district as the small settler has very little land on which the withe grows well, ne'er-do-well men and boys are just ransacking the properties and destroying all the withe as they do not care how they cut it, and as the process is so quiet and the withe grows in the hills, it makes it extremely difficult to catch them in the act, and they cannot be accosted on the roads or offering it for sale, though one is quite certain that they have not come by it honestly. One shopkeeper to my personal knowledge within two days bought from £8 to £9 of it. Hoping the Society will see their way to comply with this request.—(Sgd.) STEPHEN GLANVILLE.

The Acting Secretary was instructed to submit the matter to His Excellency the Governor for his favourable consideration.

Prædial Larceny Law. A resolution from the Christiana Branch was read as follows:—“That this Branch finds it difficult to appoint ‘‘authorised persons’’ to act under the Prædial Larceny Law, whilst the difference between prædial larceny and simple larceny remains in existence, and requests that the matter be brought before the Parent Society.”

The Acting Secretary was directed to reply that the matter had already been under consideration by the Board and they could not see that anything could be gained by re-opening the subject.

Grants to Shows. Applications for grants to Shows from the Grand Cayman and Pedro Branches were considered, and the grants made subject to the usual conditions.

Direct Line. Mr. Muirhead gave notice that at the next meeting he would move the following resolution:—“That in view of the fact that the Imperial and Jamaica Governments have determined not to continue the annual subsidy of £20,000 to the Direct Line, and it is believed that owing to the combination of Elders and Fyffe with the United Fruit Company, the independent shipper will be driven out of the market as far as citrus fruits are concerned, it is highly necessary to find another outlet for same. And as we are practically shut off from America by the heavy duty, Canada seems to be our only hope, and it is therefore resolved that the Government be approached with the request that a yearly subsidy be offered to an established Canadian firm of shipowners to run a weekly service between this Island and Canada; such boats to be fitted with the necessary refrigerating machinery and all modern improvements somewhat on the terms of the contract with the Direct Line; subject to the approval of the Jamaica Government and the Agricultural Society.”

Instructors' Reports. The Instructors' Reports and Itineraries were submitted and directed to be circulated.

New Members. The following new members were elected:—Dr. H. B. Frissell, Virginia, U.S.A.; J. A. Powell, Port Antonio; R. K. Dewar, Morant Bay; W. Fischer, Para, Brazil.

The meeting adjourned till Thursday, the 18th August, 1910, at 11.40 a.m.

HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING.

THE Half-yearly General Meeting of the Jamaica Agricultural Society was held at the office of the Society on Thursday, 16th June, 1910, at 11.40 a.m. Present:—His Excellency the Governor, in the chair, the Hons. L. J. Bertram, J. R. Williams, D. Campbell, Geo. McGrath, R. P. Simmonds, Messrs. E. A. H. Haggart, C. A. T. Fursdon, A. W. Douet, A. C. L. Martin, H. T. Ronaldson, E. W. Muirhead, Conrad Watson; the following representing Branch Societies:—A. B. Ventresse (Sav.-la-Mar), Rev. J. F. Gartshore (Hanover), Mr. C. A. Abrahams (Central St. Mary), and Messrs. W. J. Brooks, C. W. Magnan, Geo. A. Payne, H. Q. Levy, J. Briscoe, Geo. Thomas, H. Stead, R. V. Malabre, W. A. McLellan, and J. Barclay, the Secretary.

Apologies for absence were submitted by the Hon. Dr. Pringle and Mr. R. Craig, who were off the Island, His Grace the Archbishop, who was leaving that day, and Mr. J. Shore, who could not be present.

The minutes of the previous Half-yearly Meeting held in January, having been published in the JOURNAL for March, were taken as read and confirmed.

The following is the report:—

I have the honour to submit my report on the business and work of the Jamaica Agricultural Society for the second half of the financial year; from 1st October, 1909 to 31st March, 1910, as follows:—

1. BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.—During the six months there were held four meetings of the Board and one general meeting.

The attendance of members of the Board for the year is as follows:—

	1st six Months.	2nd six Months.	Half Yearly General.	Total.
*His Excellency Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G.	2	2	2	6
Hon. P. C. Cork	1	0	1	2
Hon. Lieut.-Col. C. J. Ward, C.M.G.	-	-	-	-
†*Hon. Dr. Pringle	5	1	1	7
†Hon. L. J. Bertram	4	3	2	9
His Grace the Archbishop	-	3	1	4
Bishop Collins	2	2	1	5
Robert Craig	5	4	2	11
†Hon. D. Campbell	4	3	2	9
*A. W. Douet	1	4	-	5
†*Hon. H. Cousins	-	3	1	4
C. A. T. Fursdon	4	1	1	6
*E. A. H. Haggart	-	-	-	-
Hon. Geo. McGrath	1	3	1	5
A. C. L. Martin	5	3	2	10
*E. W. Muirhead	2	1	-	3
H. T. Ronaldson	2	-	-	2
J. Shore	1	1	1	3
†Hon. R. P. Simmonds	3	2	2	7
†*Hon. J. R. Williams	1	2	1	4
Conrad Watson	3	1	-	4
Wm. Harris	4	-	1	5
Jno. Barclay	5	4	2	11

* These members were off the Island for a period:—His Excellency Sir Sydney Olivier, the Hon. P. C. Cork, acting as Chairman in his absence; Hon. Director of Agriculture, Mr. Wm. Harris acting during his

COMMITTEES.—Meetings of the following Committees were held during the six months under review :—Instructors October 20, December 16, Special Committee on Tariff Commission, June 24.

Other Committee work was done by circulation of the papers among the members as follows :—

Shows Committee, 23rd November and December 14th *re* judging at Shows.

Finance Committee, January 17, advance to Instructors.

March 21, *re* Audit Office Report.

Office Committee, October 31.

October 31, Secretary's outside work.

November 23, free postage from Secretaries of Branch Societies.

February 2, Secretary's outside work.

Staple and Minor Products Committees :—October 17, Letter *re* fruit trees referred from C.S.O. ; January, 24, Railway rates.

Live Stock Committee :—October 11, placing Sir Gerald for coming season ; January 1, Contagious Diseases Animals Law ; February 2, Hereford Bull ; March 22, Pound Laws.

Journal :—November 2, Journals not delivered at country post offices.

Exhibition Committee :—February 3, Exhibition at Toronto.

Instructors Committee :—October 11, Instructors for Teachers' Course.

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| " | October 22, Instructors Reports and Itineraries. |
| " | November 2, Prize Holdings Judging. |
| " | November 20, Instructors Reports and Itineraries. |
| " | November 23, Prize Holdings—proposed alterations and additions to classes. |
| " | December 20, Supervision of Instructors. |
| " | December 22, Services of Instructors at Montpelier Show. |
| " | December 22, Instructors Reports and Itineraries. |
| " | January 5, Applications for filling vacancy at Bath. |
| " | January 22, Instructors Reports and Itineraries. |
| " | February 2, Resolutions from Glengoffe <i>re</i> Prize Holdings. |
| " | February 25, Instructors Reports and Itineraries. |
| " | March 24, Ditto. |

HALF-YEARLY MEETINGS.—It was resolved in future that when a half yearly meeting was held on the same day as a meeting of the Board, that

absence ; Hon Dr. Pringle and Hon. Geo. McGrath, Messrs. A. W. Douet, C. A. T. Fursdon, E. A. H. Haggart, E. W. Muirhead and Hon. J. R. Williams. Mr. Muirhead was also ill for several months.

† These members were engaged at the Legislative Council, February

the half yearly meeting should be held first instead of after the Board meeting.

DIRECT LINE CONTRACT.—The matter of the renewal of the Direct Line Contract having been brought up, the Board asked His Excellency the Governor (who presided at the meeting) how the matter stood. His Excellency explained that open tenders had been called for, the only stipulation being that the steamers should call at Bermuda, going and coming, and that there should be separate cold storage for citrus fruit and bananas.

The Board expressed the hope that before any new contract was entered into they should have an opportunity of expressing their views upon it.

His Excellency gave his assurance of this (October, 1909).

SOY BEANS.—The Government referred to the Board a letter from Sir Alfred Jones calling attention to the great economic value of Soy Beans, the importation of which into the United Kingdom chiefly from Manchuria had reached great proportions, and stating further that he would send a bag of these beans for experiment in case the growing of the beans might be found useful in Jamaica. The Director of Agriculture stated that the Soy Bean would not be a successful agricultural crop in Jamaica. It was resolved, however, to give the seeds kindly sent a trial in case they might be found a useful addition to our garden legumes. The seeds were received and samples sent out for experiment. Results so far show that in the lowlands they only grow poorly, but do well in the hills where acclimated seed may do even better. (October 1909.)

CARRIAGE OF ORANGES.—Mr. Fursdon wrote from England that when he travelled over by the "S.S. Port Antonio" he took note of the carriage of fruit and submitted his experiences. In the forward hold where bananas only were stored the fruit carried in perfect condition; in the after hold where bananas and oranges were stored together the bananas carried very badly. It seemed that a gas was generated which made it impossible to keep the temperature low. He suggested as a preventive measure that only orange crates with bands or cleats be used so that they would not rest closely upon each other and air would then circulate between the crates when they were stored.

The Director of Agriculture said he had travelled out on the same vessel and found the Captain much interested and concerned about this matter. The gas was Carbonic Acid and he had promised for the information of the Company and in the interests of growers in Jamaica to carry out some experiments in the laboratory to find whether this gas was generated by green oranges, and, if so, whether it did have the effect on bananas noticed. (October 1909.)

RAILWAY FREIGHTS.—The question of Railway freights on oranges having again been brought up the Secretary was instructed to ask the Government that as the Board understood the schedule of freight rates was being revised, the proposed rates on agricultural produce should be submitted to the Agricultural Society for them to express their opinion before the rates came into operation; and further to ask whether in view of the peculiar circumstance of the orange industry, on which large districts depend, the Government would not grant more favourable rates than at present.

The proposed new tariff of railway freight was later submitted to the Board and referred to the Staple and Minor Products Committee, which made a report on the subject criticising certain revisions of the rates and pointing out apparent inconsistencies.

The matter of railway facilities to Agricultural Shows in the running of special trains and carrying of exhibits was also brought up, complaint having constantly been made of the grudging manner any facilities or concessions were made, when made at all, and of the way these were carried

These matters opened up the larger question of the whole policy of the Railway towards agricultural development, and a Special Railway Committee was appointed to inquire into the whole question and make a report to the Board. This Committee has the matter in hand.

WOODPECKERS AND COCOA.—The Fair Prospect Branch having submitted a resolution referring to the great loss incurred through the destruction of cocoa pods by woodpeckers and asking the Society to approach the Government to get woodpeckers removed from the list of protected birds, the Branch was informed that the Board would require to be furnished with very complete evidence that woodpeckers were depredaters as described before they could move in the direction named.

IMPORTATION OF BEES.—It having been brought to the notice of the Board that hives of bees had been imported into the Island and that there was great danger of the introduction of Foul Brood Disease through such importations a strong recommendation was made to the Government that bees and all used hives or parts of hives, bee-keeping implements that had been in use and honey, be prohibited from entry to the Island, except Queen Bees and their attendants which should be disinfected on arrival.

A Law has been passed by the Legislative Council—under the Law Notice of intention to import must be given to the Director of Agriculture, who will destroy the attendant bees and the food candy, disinfect the box, provide fresh attendants and forward the Queen to the owner. (October 1909).

RUBBER GROWING.—The matter of the statements made by the Director of Agriculture in his annual report for 1909-10 to the effect that cotton should be added to the *Index Expurgatorius* of economic crops for Jamaica, and that he was unable to recommend rubber growing for Jamaica, was discussed by the Board and the statements, especially as regards rubber-growing objected to as being offered without sufficient local experience and data being available and not warranted by experiences elsewhere having similar conditions. Readers of the JOURNAL familiar with conditions in Jamaica and who are engaged in rubber growing in other parts of the West Indies and Central America have supplied some interesting information on the subject which is being published in the JOURNAL. Tapping tests on *Castilloa* trees are now being made, and so far these are giving most satisfactory results. On the suggestion of Dr. Pringle, an open discussion on Rubber was arranged to be held by the Board but owing to the sitting of the Legislative Council preventing members of the Board particularly interested in this subject from attending, the discussion has been postponed to the Half-Yearly General Meeting to be held on 16th June.

EXHIBITIONS.—References were made to the Board in connection with the Japan British Exhibition and the Toronto Fall Fair. The Government intimated that no appropriation from public funds could be made for the Japan British Exhibition, but they would be glad if the Society could make recommendations and submit an estimate, regarding the Toronto Exhibition. The matter was referred to the Exhibitions Committee who reported that while it was desirable that Jamaica should send a representation to Toronto, it would be better not to be represented at all than not to have an efficient representation. It was estimated that £125 would allow of a suitable representation.

TRADE RELATIONS WITH CANADA.—The Government having invited the Society to prepare a statement and to nominate one or more representatives to go before the Royal Commission, the matter was considered and referred to the Half-yearly General Meeting which passed the following resolutions:—

I "That while the members of the Jamaica Agricultural Society

Empire, the Society is of opinion that preliminary to such inter-Imperial trading, there must come the adoption of tariff reform by the Mother-country".

II. "That already as between Canada and Jamaica there is, in volume practically reciprocal trade, and this Society does not anticipate Canada differentiating against the sugars of Jamaica."

III. "That in view of the fact that the United States is our principal, and is geographically, the natural market for Jamaica products, most of which has free entry into her ports, this Society is not in favour of the preference being given to imports from Canada."

IV. "That the natural extension of Canada's trade with Jamaica lies in better transport facilities than are now available."

The Board also passed the following resolution:—

"That this Board favours the granting of a subsidy towards the improved steamship connection with Canada."

The Hon. Director of Agriculture, the Hon. Superintending Inspector of Schools and Mr. Joseph Shore were appointed as the Society's representatives to go before the Royal Commission.

PRAEDIAL LARCENY.—Full advantage of the conditions of the revised law, dealing with Praedial Larceny is being taken by the Branch Societies and others in recommending their nominees as persons authorised under this Law having authority to arrest and deal with suspected persons.

POUND LAWS.—The matter of recommending to the Government some amendments in the matter of Pound Laws where they have been found deficient in practice is still before the Board. Inquiry has been made of the various Parochial Boards to get their opinions. These vary a good deal according to the conditions in each parish, but it has been found that in nearly all the more highly cultivated parts where working animals are largely used, and pasturage is scarce, the present distraining fees are not heavy enough to act as a deterrent on horses and mules being deliberately turned out to find feeding where they can. (December 1909.)

KENDAL STATION.—The Christiana Branch having sent the Board a resolution asking for the reason of the delay in rebuilding Kendal Railway Station to be ascertained and urging that it be rebuilt—seeing that the station served parts of four parishes, the Secretary was instructed to point out to the Government the importance of the station as the outlet for large and growing districts around and beyond Christiana. The reply was that it was intended to rebuild the Station early in the coming financial year.

PREMIUM ON IMPORTATION OF LIVE STOCK.—The premiums offered this year on the importation of pure bred sires of Shorthorn, Devon or Red Poll Bulls, Rams of milch breeds of goats and Boars of Poland China, Berkshire or Essex breeds of pigs, have not been applied for and the money consequently is still available.

JIPPI-JAPPA HATS.—The classes in Upper Clarendon, paid for partly from the funds of the late Clarendon Agricultural Association and partly by the fees of learners, have now been carried through and although the original enthusiasm over the matter soon evaporated and it was hard to get the full classes expected, still there should now be a good many girls fairly proficient in the art of making these hats in Upper Clarendon. The Smithville Branch in Clarendon, is at present holding a class under its own auspices.

INSTRUCTORS.—Further extension of the work of the Instructors is now proposed in response to the call for this service, as follows:—(1) An Assistant Instructor to be stationed at Bath to work a cocoa nursery there, distribute the plants and follow these up, *i.e.*, to ensure their being properly planted and cultivated: the chief object of this is the development of cocoa-growing on better lines in the eastern part of St. Thom-

in-the-East; (2) An Instructor for the parish of St. Catherine alone; Mr. Hirst, who was Instructor for Clarendon and St. Catherine, taking Clarendon alone; (3) Mr. Wates, Instructor for Eastern Portland and Eastern St. Thomas, engaged at present for nine days a month, to be engaged on full time. A new Instructor specially qualified in the banana and cocoa industries, will also be appointed for Hanover and Westmoreland, to replace Mr. Mennell.

The following will be the Instructoral districts for 1910-11, with the Instructors' addresses, two vacancies at this date having yet to be filled:

District No. 1.—Western Portland and St. Mary. Mr. Wm. Cradwick, Highgate P.O.

District No. 2.—St. Ann, Mr. E. Arnett, Gibraltar, Stewart Town P.O.

District No. 3.—Trelawny and Eastern St. James, Mr. H. Q. Levy, Brown's Town P.O.

District No. 4.—Hanover and Westmoreland. To be appointed.

District No. 5.—Northern Manchester and Northern St. Elizabeth, Mr. J. T. Palache, Mandeville P.O.

District No. 6.—Southern Manchester and Southern St. Elizabeth, Mr. E. J. Smith, Tophill, Southfield P.O.

District No. 7.—Clarendon, Mr. J. Hirst, Mocho P.O.

District No. 8.—St. Catherine. To be appointed.

District No. 9.—St. Andrew and Western St. Thomas, Mr. J. Briscoe, Castleton P.O.

District No. 10.—Eastern St. Thomas and Eastern Portland, Mr. L. A. Wates, Priestman's River P.O.

Assistant Instructor, H. Constantine Thomas, Bath P.O.

Shows.—Agricultural Shows were held between 1st October and 31st March, and under the auspices of the Branch Societies named, as follows:

Santa Cruz Mountains, at Malvern—Grant	-	£ 8 3 8
Appleton, at Maggotty	„	7 0 0
Porus, at Porus	„	10 0 0
Darliston, at Darliston	„	7 5 11
Grand Cayman, at Georgetown	„	2 2 0
St. Faith's at Glengoffe	„	7 2 7
St. Thomas-ye-Vale, Bybrook, Bog Walk	-	10 0 0

These with seven held in the first six months of the year, make a total of fourteen.

From an agricultural point of view, these were all successful, and only two I think were not financial successes. It may be invidious to express opinions on Shows, but those held at Malvern, Glengoffe, and Bybrook, were outstanding successes.

While the desire to hold a Show, especially where the ability to carry one through efficiently as an all round success, has been shown, should not be discouraged, yet it is desirable that local Committees should, as far as local circumstances will permit, fix their dates early, so that other Show Committees may not fix dates about the same time. The ordinary work of the Instructor, and the Secretary, whose services may be required, is very much interrupted if Shows are held close together.

It is desirable also that Shows should not be in the position of competing against each other.

PRIZE HOLDINGS COMPETITION.—The Competitions were held this year in the parishes of St. Thomas, St. Catherine, Trelawny and Portland. Weather conditions were not favourable for best results, but the Judges

reported the interest to be keen and competition close. The following figures show the number of competitors in the respective parishes:—St. Thomas, 58; St. Catherine, 51; Trelawny, 38; Portland, 49.

Owing to the rainstorm in November happening while the St. Thomas Holdings were being judged, the holdings of fourteen other entrants were not inspected.

Next year, 1910-11, the Competition will be held in St. Mary, St. Ann, Manchester and Hanover.

Branch Societies have sent in resolutions asking for an extension of the Competition to include a class for settlers owning larger acreages than twenty, up to fifty; a special class for settlers having not more than one acre in the house spot; also that all the separate pieces worked by a settler be taken into account instead of only the holding with the house.

It was decided that the chief intention of the Competition would be destroyed if other lands than the holding with the house on it were included; while the matter of extending the Competition to other classes was held over for consideration next year, when it could be found whether more money could be made available for this purpose.

STALLION.—The Stallion "Sir Gerald," stood for service in 1909 with Mr. Arnett, Gibraltar, St. Ann. For 1910, the Stallion is standing for service at Pepper Pen, St. Elizabeth, in the care of Mr. A. L. P. Wingate.

BULLS.—The Hereford Bull "Sylvester," presented to the Island by King Edward, is still with Mr. Kenneth Roxburgh, Annandale, St. Ann.

The red Shorthorn Bull, "Henbury Beau," presented to the Island by the late Sir Alfred Jones, is at the Farm School at Hope.

It may here be remarked that of the Bulls presented—two from His Majesty King Edward VII., and five from Sir Alfred Jones, and received in the following years:—

1. Aberdeen Angus "Alaska, December, 1902
2. do do "Enterprise," March, 1903
3. Shorthorn, "Crystal Ray," April, 1903
4. do "Desmond," October, 1903
5. Hereford, "Sylvester," October, 1903
6. Shorthorn, "Henbury Beau," September, 1906
7. do "Henbury Favourite," September, 1906

all are alive and doing service but one,—the King's Shorthorn Bull "Desmond"—which died two years ago.

This does not show that there need be such great risk as used to be associated with imported animals, especially as nearly all of these bulls received a good deal of hard usage in being transported to different districts.

During the year the bull "Henbury Favourite" was sold for £40, and after clearing the debit incurred against bulls, we have a balance of £26 6s. to add to the amount already in the Savings Bank from sale of bulls, to be used for special purposes connected with the live stock industry.

The Board offered premiums for importation of sires of pure breeds on the same lines as premiums offered in 1908, which were so successful. This year, however, the premiums were not applied for and the money is still available.

GOATS.—The importation of rams of the milch breeds of goats made in the end of 1907, have not shown much effect yet owing to the fact that breeders in the first place, have not selected their nannies, nor remem-

bered that feed is of as much importance as breed. Where care, however, has been taken in these directions, some excellent milch nannies have been produced. One of these rams, which has been the property of the South Manchester Branch for a year, has now been transferred to the plains of St. Elizabeth. This, although not a handsome or large animal like the other rams, is the animal which has produced the best milkers.

BRANCH SOCIETIES.—A list of the local Agricultural Societies affiliated to the parent Society, with the names of the Secretaries, is published in the JOURNAL every other month.

The following new Societies have been affiliated during the six months under review:—Troja. St. Catherine; Birnamwood, Portland; Avocat, Portland; making with three affiliated during the previous six months, a total of six for the year. The number of Branches affiliated with the Society to 31st March is sixty-three: of these forty-nine are in good standing, but the others are in need of some stimulating by Instructional and Secretarial visits.

OFFICE.—For the half-year 2,755 letters were received, and 3,060 despatched, making a total with the previous half-year's figures, for the year of 5,296 and 7,129 respectively.

Receipts for money paid in numbered 631 for the half-year, and for money paid out, numbered 778: making a total, with the previous half-year's figures, of 1,391 and 1,353 respectively for the year.

As the general interest in agriculture among all classes has gradually extended and as the number of Branch Societies and their membership has increased, and as the numbers of Instructors has been added to and as their work expanded, so has the work of this office increased in: (1) Correspondence, (a) on general matters; (b) Branch affairs; (c) Instructional business; (2) Committee papers circulated; (3) Additional number of JOURNALS issued and correspondence thereanent; (4) Requests for seeds and stock; (5) The development of Shows; (6) Book-keeping; (7) Number of callers, etc.

The following summary and comparison with previous years, compiled for and submitted to the Office Committee, shows more clearly the present position:—

SUMMARY.

	1898.	1900.	1905.	1910.
OFFICE STAFF—				
Cost	£610	£610	£429	£569
JOURNALS No. issued	1,000	2,000	3,400	3,900
Nett cost	£224	£313	£250	£264
ADVERTISEMENTS—				
Deducted from cost of Journals		£111 for 3 mos.	£53	£130
CORRESPONDENCE—				
Letters received	1,200	2,400 estimated	4,246	5,206
Letters despatched (No register kept until 1901)	1,200	2,400	6,410	7,129
BRANCH SOCIETIES—				
Number	12	25	48	65
Membership	545	1,934	2,260	3,300
BOOK-KEEPING AND ACCOUNTS				
Deposits	Not much	Increasing	Quadrupled	Doubled
Receipts despatched	None	None	£445	1,080
Receipts received	700	1,000	1,078	1,391
	No record	No record	718	1,353

	1898.	1900.	1905.	1910.
INSTRUCTORS	1	1	3	1909 9 1910 11
SHOWS	3	9	10	15
EXPERIMENTS	Grape Farm Farine Ginger	Grape Farm Farine	2 Cotton	10 small plots 8 Cotton 3 Central
Shipping	Yams, Potatoes, &c.	Bananas per R.M.S.P.	Cotton Seville Oranges Banana fibre Potatoes	..
PRIZE HOLDINGS	..	..	Growing	Large
SEEDS AND PLANTS— Supplied	Small extent	Small	Value £260	Value £437
INDUSTRIES—				
1. Arrowroot	...	...	...	£259
2. Vegetable Seed	...	...	£12	£15
3. Potatoes	...	£26	£37	£54
4. Country Corn	...	...	£5	£55
5. Guinea Corn	...	...	...	£7
6. Cowpeas and Bengal Beans	...	...	£12	...
7. Cotton	...	...	£3	Free
8. Tobacco Seed	Free	Free	Free	Free
9. Banana fibre	...	...	...	...
9a. Farine and Grape Farm	...	£23	£6	...
10. Coconuts	...	...	...	£132
11. Rubber Seed	...	...	...	£50
12. Seville Oranges	...	...	...	...
13. Stock	...	...	£65	£190
14. Small Stock	...	...	£35	£103
15. Jippi Jappa Straw	...	...	...	£19
16. Sundries	...	...	...	...
PREMIUMS	Cultivations Stallions Bulls	Stallions	...	Bulls Pigs Goats
EXHIBITIONS	Chicago 1895	1901. Bristol Buffalo Philadel- phia Halifax	Toronto St. John Crystal Palace	...
SPECIAL FUNDS ADMINISTERED	...	1903. Hurricane	...	1909-10. Drought Manches- ter St. Eliza- beth Flood Saint Thomas. &c.
TRAVELLING	1-4th time	1-10th	1-0th	1-4th

In addition to ordinary work we have been called upon by the Government to undertake special work such as the distribution of special relief funds; to provide seeds and plants as after the hurricane of 1903; a similar fund and distribution in 1907, within the drought-stricken districts in Southern Manchester and South-east St. Elizabeth; and again to the sufferers from the flood-rains in St. Andrew and St. Thomas during the present year.

To this office has also fallen the work of collecting the exhibits and carrying out the representations of the Colony at all foreign exhibitions.

Now that Agricultural Instructors have been appointed to reach all districts of the Island, it is felt that some system of inspection of their work and a closer connecting link with the office is required and it has been proposed that the Secretary—who has on occasions, but not regularly, visited the Instructoral districts,—should do this regularly and systematically. This would take up fully half the Secretary's time. In this case some additional qualified office assistance would be necessary. So far, the Secretary has managed to carry through inside and outside work at high pressure, but he has felt that the Society—and the Island—has not been getting the best that is in him.

JOURNALS.—We now print 4,000 JOURNALS per month. The total cost for the year has been £401 10s. 5d.; but there is a credit for advertisements of £100, and another of £1 8s. 3d. for JOURNALS sold, which make the nett cost £300 1s. 6d. There are accounts outstanding for advertisements amounting to £53, but these debts are good and will yet be collected.

FINANCES.—I have the following explanations to make regarding the financial statement.

The Society commenced the year with a credit balance of £162 16s. 3d.; the Government Grant was £2,000, together with a special sum of £250 granted for the benefit of the districts so much stricken by drought continuing all through 1907-1908, namely Southern Manchester and South-eastern St. Elizabeth. This sum of £250 provided for a special Instructor, three experimental plots, and a fund for the distribution of seeds and plants along with small stock. The Government also made a special grant of £50 for the relief of the sufferers in the flood rains in St. Andrew and St. Thomas of November, 1909, which was also distributed by this Society.

Our direct subscriptions were well maintained, a surprising fact seeing so many Branch Societies are now in operation.

Our JOURNAL advertisements are increasing satisfactorily. We show £100 in accounts but as already stated, there are bills to the amount of £53 outstanding to be collected.

The figures under Deposits in the Statement of Accounts, will show the amounts dealt with for products of various kinds.

Under sundry seeds and plants are included Vegetable seeds, Bengal and Velvet Beans, Cow Peas, Jerusalem Peas, Seed Corn, Guinea Corn, etc.

On the expenditure side we have exceeded the allocation for clerks by 19s., this being due to special service necessary when clerks were sick.

Under rent and taxes we have exceeded the allocation by £3 8s. 6d. but against this we have a credit of £2 4s.; our allocation was for rent alone, however, and we now pay water rates.

For stationery and sundry printing, we have also exceeded our allocation, but we now supply our Instructors with a certain amount of stationery, and the number of Instructors has been increased. This was not previously allowed for.

The Stallion allocation has only been exceeded through cost of transferring the horse to different districts.

Experiments.—We carried through the experimental cotton plots in St. Ann, Trelawny and St. Elizabeth, on the Society's own allocation for the purpose, but have only spent 10s. out of the £15 granted by the British Cotton Growing Association. The balance of £14 10s. is available for a continuation of this work and it is intended to continue the experiments in St. Ann and St. Elizabeth.

We also carried through experiments on settlers' own lands in South Manchester and St. Elizabeth, for which £25 was allowed in addition to the three Central Experiment Grounds—but these are not complete yet.

There is still a balance at the credit of the Manchester and St. Elizabeth Fund, but this amount was held in reserve for special expenditure already incurred but not yet paid for.

We carry over a balance at the credit of the Society, of £231 0 0†. This, however, includes sundry deposits on hand.

There is still an amount on the books to the credit of the West Indian Agricultural Conference, amounting to £6 9s. 1d., which has never been dealt with. This might be put to some special use.

A statement of Accounts for the year from 1st April, 1909, to 31st March, 1910, has been appended.

JOHN BARCLAY,
SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, 1906-10.

JAMAICA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

295

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE	
ESTIMATE.		ALLOCATIONS.	
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance 1905-06	102 16 3		
" Subscriptions	99 0 0	By Secretary's Salary	350 0 0
" Advertisements	100 0 0	" Clerks, Typist and Messenger	243 3 0
" Affiliations	14 5 0	" Instructors	1,450 0 0
" Prize Holdings	9 10 0	" E. D. & Co.	780 {
" Bulls (1) Bulls sold	440 0 0 {	" Rent and Taxes (see contra)	48 0 0
" " (2) Fees	3 8 3 }	" Office Furniture	10 0 0
		" Printing Journal	350 0 0
		" Postages, Telegrams, etc.	25 0 0
		" Stationery and Stationery	..
		" Printing and Stationery	..
		" (1) Office	40 0 0
		" (2) Instructors	13 17 5
" Stallion	30 0 0	" Prize Holdings—	..
" Journals sold	2 0 0	" (1) Actual Prizes	103 17 0
" Rent, Stabling live stock	2 4 0	" (2) Expenses	6 4 9
" Sundries	2 0 0	" Stallion—	..
	385 19 0	" (1) Keep	39 17 0
		" (2) Removal Expenses	3 9 9
		" (3) Refunds	2 2 0
" Derivours :—		" Bulls	..
" Arrowroot	158 11 10	" Telephone	5 0 0
" Bulls	79 0 3	" Travelling	7 4 0
" Coconuts	42 16 3	" Experiments—	100 0 0
" Dogs	4 8 4	" (1) Cotton Plots	410
		" (2) General Plots	20 0 0
		" (3) Sundry	2 13 7½
Carried forward	£448 15 8		..
		Carried forward	£2,883 9 5½

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, 1909-10.

RECEIPTS.

ESTIMATE.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	334	16	8	644	15	3
To Jipia Jappa (Straw, etc.)	9	10	11			
" Literature	9	17	10			
" Pigs and Goats	22	7	5			
" Potatoes	51	19	8			
" Poultry	98	3	7½			
" Shows :-						
(1) Hire of Marquees	12	18	6			
(2) Printing, etc.	56	9	8			
" Sundry refunds	35	16	8			
" Sundry Seeds and Plants	119	17	8½			
" Miscellaneous	28	19	10	780	18	6
" Grant for South Manchester & St. Elizabeth	250	0	0			
" " Port Royal Mountains	50	0	0			
" Society's Grant from Government	2,000	0	0			
" Elder, Dempster & Co. for Instructors	750	0	0	3,030	0	0
				£4,259	13	9

EXPENDITURE.

ALLOCATION.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	5	0	0	2,883	9	3½
By Advertising	5	0	0			2 15 0
" Grants to Shows—						
(1) Actual Grants	96	12	8			
(2) Sundry Expenditure	300	0	0			100 0 0
" Sundries—						
Books, Periodicals, etc.	5	18	7			
Office Supplies	12	8	1½			
Typewriter, repairs and sundries	1	12	0			
Secretary's and Clerk's	5	5	0			
Guarantees	15	1	1			40 4 0½
Miscellaneous	40	0	0			
" Deposits (see contra)						
" South Manchester and St. Elizabeth Fund—						784 11 5½
Seeds and Plants, etc.	64	14	0			
Experiment Plots	59	0	0			
Instructor for District	112	10	0			227 4 0
" Port Royal Mountains Fund	50	0	0			40 0 0
" Balance in Bank at 31st March, 1910	175	16	8			
" " Hand	55	3	4½			231 0 0½
						£4,259 13 9

JNO. BARCLAY, Sec. and Treas.

REVISED ESTIMATES FOR 1910-11.

		Allocations—1910-11.					
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Secretary's Salary				350	0	0	
Clerk Senior		120	0	0			
" Junior		52	0	0			
" Typist		65	0	0			
" Messenger		18	4	0	255	4	605 4 0
Instructors—5	@	300	0	0	1,500	0	0
1	@	200	0	0			
1	@	200	0	0			
1	@	175	0	0			
1	@	100	0	0	675	0	0
Sundry Expenses				19	11	8	
Reserve				25	0	0	2,219 11 8
Rent and Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	48	0 0
Office Furniture	-	-	-	-	-	10	0 0
Printing Journal	-	-	-	-	-	350	0 0
Postage, Telegrams, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	25	0 0
Stationery	-	-	-	-	-	40	0 0
Travelling	-	-	-	-	-	100	0 0
Telephone	-	-	-	-	-	7	4 0
Advertising	-	-	-	-	-	5	0 0
Stallion	-	-	-	-	-	40	0 0
Bulls	-	-	-	-	-	5	0 0
Experiments: Central 3 @		11	13	4	35	0	0
Cotton				10	0	0	
Small Plots				25	0	0	
Sundry				5	0	0	75 0 0
Prize Holdings-	-	-	-	-	-	125	0 0
Prize Holdings, Judging	-	-	-	-	-	50	0 0
Shows	-	-	-	-	-	100	0 0
Sundries	-	-	-	-	-	40	0 0
							3,844 19 8
							REVENUE.
Balance from 1909-10	-	-	-	231	0	0	
Society's Revenue	-	-	-	252	0	0	
Government Grant	-	-	-	3,000	0	0	
Elder, Dempster & Co.	-	-	-	599	11	8	4,082 11 8
Estimated Balance as at 31-3-11							237 12 0

His Excellency said, that the Secretary's report for the half-year was before the meeting; it was usual to take the items separately so that any criticism could be made on the business.

DIRECT LINE CONTRACT.—As regards the Direct Line Contract, His Excellency said, this was entirely in abeyance, and the Government had at present no proposal before them.

POUND LAWS.—Mr. Geo. A. Payne said he would like to bring to the notice of the meeting, that it was quite a common practice for ani-

imals to be tied on the roadside so that the ropes could stretch across the road. He thought this a most dangerous practice and he found the police paid no attention to it unless complaint was made.

Several other members agreed with Mr. Payne that this practice should not be permitted. It was resolved that the attention of the Government should be drawn to this and to ask that the attention of policemen and district constables be directed to it so that the law may be enforced in this respect.

SHORTHORN BULL.—Mr. Ventresse asked if the services of the Shorthorn bull were not available to the public now that the animal was at the Farm School at Hope.

The Secretary stated that the services of this bull had been available in this Island for five years, and he thought there was now enough stock at the Farm School to require all the bull's services.

His Excellency said, at any rate the bull was not likely to live long, having been gored by an Indian bull.

PRAEDIAL LARCENY.—In this connection the Secretary said that he had communications from several Branch Societies calling attention to the fact that their "authorised persons" duly appointed under the Amended Praedial Larceny Law, had made arrests and secured convictions, but a complaint was made that they had considerable difficulty in getting any pay, and then only ordinary witnesses' expenses were offered. He quoted the case of Howell, an "authorised person" of the Glengoffe Branch, who was a carpenter by trade. He had arrested three persons for praedial larceny of bananas, two of the persons were convicted at the Linstead Court and one was dismissed through some technicality although the arrest was justified. Howell had to go to Riversdale, nine miles away, to deliver his prisoners and then to Linstead on the Court days. It would not pay men of the class they wanted to be "authorised persons," who were usually small settlers or artisans or a combination of both, to make arrests, attend Court as witnesses, and only receive ordinary witnesses expenses, and even then have difficulty in getting recompense. He thought it was important that these little troubles which would arise in the early working of the law, should be inquired into reasonably and any defects remedied.

His Excellency asked whether these "authorised persons" could be paid in the same way as district constables.

Mr. Campbell said he thought that would be sufficient, but certainly to be paid simply as witnesses, would not encourage them.

Mr. Martin brought to the notice of the meeting that the law required a certificate from a Branch Society recommending amount to be paid, and perhaps this was the trouble. He thought this should not be necessary when the "authorised person" came before the Court.

It was agreed that no certificate would be necessary if recompense was made at the rate paid to a district constable.

Mr. Muirhead said he would like to bring to the attention of His Excellency some of the methods that had been adopted by the Resident Magistrate in Manchester with all good intentions, no doubt, but which he was told were not tending to the suppression of praedial larceny but the reverse. If the Resident Magistrate had a case, say of some boys being prosecuted for praedial larceny, he was in the habit of asking any person in Court if he would take these delinquents and make them work for a certain time feeding them the while, and if any person agreed he would give the accused the option of so working or of receiving a switching in the case of a boy, and imprisonment in the case of a grown up person, or of working for the person who had thus promised to take them. Such arrangements were considered so unsatisfactory, not only to the people in the higher walks of life but also the poorer classes, that they were tending to prevent people bringing cases into Court.

Mr. Martin said he knew of similar cases where the men who had been robbed were asked to take the accused and give them work. In some cases these prosecutors did not care to refuse the request of the Judge, yet they had hardly enough food to keep themselves going, and often not enough work to keep a person steadily employed. The result was as they left the Court they let the accused off.

Mr. Muirhead said His Excellency could make inquiries into these points and satisfy himself.

His Excellency said he was fully aware of the circumstances. The system was instituted through a desire not to send people to prison if it could be helped, but really the question for them to determine was whether it was acting as a deterrent for praedial larceny or not.

He would ask the Secretary to send a note of these complaints to the Colonial Secretary, because if the law was to work in the protection of persons against praedial larceny, it should work without any friction or hitch.

Mr. Muirhead asked if a copy of the returns of arrests for praedial larceny could be made to the Board once a quarter. The Secretary was instructed to request this to be done.

AFFILIATION FEE.—The Secretary said that at the last meeting of the Board of Management, the question of raising the affiliation fee to be paid by Branch Societies was considered, and a motion by Mr. Muirhead referred to the Half-yearly General Meeting for consideration. This motion was that up to thirty members a Branch should pay an affiliation fee of 5/., between thirty and fifty members the fee should be 10/., and between fifty and one hundred members the fee should be 20/. He would suggest, however, that Mr. Muirhead alter his resolution and make it 5/- from thirty to fifty, 10/- from fifty to one hundred, and 20/- for over one hundred. As the minimum for Branches was thirty there would be no Branch paying 5/- at all according to the resolution. He submitted letters from the Trinity Ville and Ulster Spring Branches protesting against the increase in the affiliation fee.

Mr. Gartshore pointed out that with the resolution if amended, one member over one hundred would mean an addition of 10/- affiliation fee; a Branch with one hundred members would pay 10/., but one additional member would make the fee 20/.

After discussion, Mr. Bertram moved that the affiliation fee should be 5/- up to a membership of fifty, with one penny for every additional member. This was carried by a majority of seventeen to three.

RUBBER DISCUSSION.—His Excellency the President, suggested that the Secretary might state the results of the tapping experiments on rubber trees, and any other information on the subject up to date, so that the meeting would understand how the rubber-growing industry stood in the Island.

The Secretary said that the matter arose from Dr. Pringle submitting an article from the *West India Committee Circular* criticising the statement made by the Director of Agriculture, that Jamaica was not a suitable place for growing rubber, and asking that a discussion on rubber-growing in Jamaica be held by the Board. Owing to the sitting of the Legislative Council, Dr. Pringle and several members interested in rubber-growing, could not be present at the last two meetings, and it was resolved to hold the discussion at the Half-yearly General Meeting. He submitted another letter from Dr. Pringle as follows:—

“The more I think that however useful discussion on rubber may be, what we want is returns in the way of tapping by a man who has learnt by experience the peculiarities incident to this kind of work. It would pay well I think to second a man for this work—when he taps trees in different localities, soils, ages, in plantation and other forms—useful con-

clusions might be drawn, and this highly important matter for the Colony settled more or less as a basis for planting. Then the Government under the Agricultural Department, might on some suitable fifty acres of crown lands in Mr. Wates' district, put the matter to practical test in plantation form. When I return at the end of July from the States, I will be glad to put up Mr. Wates to tap any trees in Koningsberg."

The Secretary, continuing said, tapping operations had been carried out lately by Mr. Wates, the Agricultural Instructor, on *Castilloa* trees in Portland, growing at Hartford, Content and Rural Vale estate, on trees not standing under anything like what would be considered typical conditions for growing *Castilloa* rubber; and by Mr. Briscoe also on two trees at Castleton and one at Belle Vue, in St. Andrew, none of these trees growing under good conditions, and none ever having received anything like estate cultivation. Mr. Wates had sent in a statement which showed very satisfactory results indeed. It ought to be taken into account that neither Mr. Wates nor Mr. Briscoe were practised rubber tappers. These were their first attempts, and while Mr. Wates had only lately got an efficient tapping implement. Mr. Briscoe had only used a common horse-shoeing knife. Mr. Wates, on one tree at Hartford, circumference sixty-five inches, age fourteen years, had in six tappings, got two pounds nine ounces of rubber, the tree growing in dry, shallow red dirt, but shaded. On a tree at Content, circumference forty-five inches, age eight or nine years, he had in seven tappings, got one pound three ounces. On another tree, circumference thirty-two inches, age twelve years, at one tapping, he had got four ounces, the tree growing on red dirt and marl. On a tree, circumference forty inches, age ten years, in three tappings, Mr. Wates had got six ounces, this tree standing in open pasture lands. On a tree forty-seven inches in circumference, age about twelve years, in five tappings, he had got fifteen and one half ounces, this tree growing on the side of a gully. At Rural Vale, on a tree forty-three inches in circumference, twelve years old, in one tapping, ten ounces. On another tree, sixty inches in circumference, first tapping, fifteen ounces. Both of these trees were standing in the open on red dirt and marl. Mr. Briscoe had tapped two trees at Castleton—trees that were not receiving cultivation and standing on rather poor soil, part of the roots exposed, but the climatic conditions were very favourable, and he had got from the two trees in three tappings, two pounds fifteen ounces of rubber. At Belle Vue, St. Andrew, on a tree standing in very unfavourable conditions, 1,500 feet elevation, on red soil, facing the sea and standing in the open, first tapping, one pound nine ounces of dry rubber, and the second tapping, about three weeks later, one pound six ounces.

Mr. Bertram suggested that the person who should be engaged to do the tapping work, should be provided with proper tools for the purpose.

Mr. H. Q. Levy thought that the time had now arrived when they should come to a definite pronouncement on this matter. The Society should vote a sum of money to get an expert tapper to go about the Island, and in that way the Agricultural Instructors would become experts in the tapping themselves. This would be a fitting opportunity for the Agricultural Instructors to become efficient in the tapping of rubber.

Hon. Dugald Campbell said he thought further investigation should be made as to whether they had got the right variety of *Castilloa* rubber here. He did not share in the views of the Director of Agriculture in this matter, and he regretted that he ever uttered them. He (Mr. Campbell) thought that they had done a great deal of harm to this Island and and to the rubber industry. He agreed with Mr. Levy's suggestion that they should get some one who knew more about this matter than they knew themselves, and an effort should be made to find out the best time of the year, the best age for tapping the trees and the best time of the day to do it. He knew that Mr. Briscoe and Mr. Wates had been tapping

trees, and he had seen the results of those tappings, and so far as they had gone they were satisfactory. But he did not think they were conclusive as to whether it would be desirable to extend the cultivation of rubber here, and he would be in favour of getting out some one who knew more about the cultivation and the tapping of rubber than they knew themselves. He thought there was a gentleman in Trinidad—Mr. Carruthers—who had a great deal of experience not only in rubber, but in tropical products in many parts of the world, and he recommended that this gentleman be brought out here. Mr. Carruthers would be able to tell them whether they had the right variety of Castilloa rubber or not, and if they had it, he would show them the proper way to tap it. His (Mr. Campbell's) own view was that they had nothing to fear with regard to rubber growing here. He was not afraid of the results of the tapping. He thought they could get as good results here in tapping Castilloa rubber trees as any where else.

His Excellency the President said, what the Director of Agriculture had stated in regard to the results of rubber cultivation amounted to this: first as to Hevea, that it had not shown capacities of growth here, or yield of latex, but at the same time they were always open to conviction. With regard to Castilloa, the Director of Agriculture said that it had shown great capacity for growth and apparently of yield, and also among other crops, but he did not advocate it being planted with cocoa because it was a robbing plant. He (His Excellency) thought the results of the tapping done by Mr. Briscoe at Belle Vue proved that it was certainly a reliable variety of Castilloa and it was good enough, and they had therefore got good results of Castilloa in the Island. He had put to the Director of Agriculture the point raised by Mr. Campbell as to whether they had got the right variety of Castilloa rubber in the Island. The Director had made inquiries and he had told him verbally (when he asked him about it the other day) that they had got the right variety here. He (His Excellency) hoped that those trees which Mr. Campbell and others had planted would turn out as well as those at Belle Vue. He thought they must proceed with these experiments. Whether it would be advisable to bring out Mr. Carruthers or any other expert, or whether they could not get sufficient instruction and guidance from what had been published on the subject, was a matter for the Board of Management to decide. The results of the tapping by Mr. Briscoe and Mr. Wates were very encouraging.

Mr. Bertram suggested that a man like Mr. Harris, with his botanical ability, should be sent to Central America to make an investigation with regard to the different varieties of Castilloa rubber.

Mr. Campbell supported this suggestion.

After further discussion the President said, they had suggestions as to what should be done, and he had no doubt that the Board of Management of the Society would endeavour to follow them up.

Mr. Ronaldson asked if they were not running a risk in importing these rubber seeds and leaves promiscuously.

Mr. Barclay said that all seeds from South America were disinfected.

BANANA DISEASE.—Mr. Campbell stated that he did not think that the experience in Costa Rica was that there was such a destructive, wide-spread disease among bananas as had been stated. The disease, he understood, existed in Bocas-del-Toro and Surinam, and it had been there for a number of years, but he had not found it to be wide-spread when he visited Costa Rica.

Mr. H. Q. Levy begged to differ. He was in Costa Rica two years ago working on a plantation where the disease was rampant, and it had played havoc with the whole district. Dr. McKenny, who was engaged by the United Fruit Company at a very high salary, had given his opinion

that the banana industry in Costa Rica, would be entirely wiped out within the next ten years if the disease was not checked.

Mr. Simmonds said that he had got his information from the owners of plantations suffering from the disease, and they said that it had wiped out whole farms, and he himself had seen this within thirty miles of Limon.

The meeting thought it was a wise step at any rate, to safe-guard the Island from the disease being introduced, as had been done by the prohibition of the importation of banana suckers, and implements used in the cultivation of the soil, from South and Central America.

PETCHARIES.—Mr. Gartshore said he was instructed by the Hanover Branch to bring forward a matter which some of their members had brought up—the great destruction caused among queen bees by pecharies. The Hanover Branch asked that these birds be withdrawn from the list of protected birds.

Mr. Douet said that people were not allowed to shoot these birds between 1st March and 31st August; but pecharies were not here then, they only came in September.

The matter was not further discussed.

SECRETARY'S TRAVELLING.—Mr. Simmonds asked if a Committee to inquire into the work of the office in connection with the Secretary's doing outside travelling and visiting Instructors had not been appointed.

Mr. Fursdon said he was a member of the Office Committee and this Committee had met and reported that as the Secretary was going on leave, they would not take up the matter now but wait till he came back. It was recognised that Mr. Barclay could not do himself or the office justice with his present staff.

No other matters being brought up for discussion, the Half-yearly Report was adopted with one alteration under the heading of bulls, when Mr. McGrath suggested that the words "applied for" should be substituted for "competed for."

EPIZOOTIC LYMPHANGITIS.

(Continued from July Number.)

Ordinary Methods of Infection.—The infection may be carried by or on anything, viz., vehicles, soil, fences, dust, gates, stables, harness, horse-clothing, grooming and stable utensils, litter, fodder, parasites, flies, etc.; by persons attending animals affected on their hands, clothes, or on sponges, tow, cotton wool, bandages, bottles and other pharmacy utensils, twitches, instruments, etc. A few cases may infect themselves by contact, or what is commoner, they may infect themselves in one or more places additional to that of the original seat of the disease, more especially on the lips or mucous membrane of the nose and eyes—by rubbing and biting, and in these cases it is generally accidental, in their attempts to remove flies from a wound on themselves which is already the seat of the disease. Cases affecting the conjunctiva, with no external symptom, save a slight discharge which passes unnoticed for days, weeks and even months, are most prolific in spreading the disease, particularly in India, where native attendants go from animal to animal with a dirty-looking little cloth wiping the horses' eyes and noses and infecting them as they go along; in fact, Pallin attributed the spread of the disease, in one outbreak, to this same cause. As infection only takes place by inoculation of wounds and abrasions, transmission is facilitated by the herding and co-habiting of animals, and this explains why the disease is especially associated with army horses and mules, more particularly in remount depots

and large companies. Anything that retards healing of the wounds, pre-disposes to the spread of the disease, and this fact no doubt accounts for the disease being more prevalent in warm climates, where flies are very numerous, and where the healing of wounds is protracted by exuberant granulations. Therefore, the removal of animals to an elevation has the advantage of removing those difficulties in combating the disease.

Treatments—Are of two kinds, external and internal: the great secret of success is, however, an early diagnosis and a thorough understanding of the disease. Destruction of the virus is the first object to be obtained, and this having been accomplished, the parts recently affected will rapidly heal.

External Treatment.—In slight cases, complete extirpation of the tissues invaded, followed by the application of the actual cautery and antiseptic dressing, is generally to be recommended and considered practical, although in a good number of cases very good results have been obtained without those drastic surgical methods, which are, however, particularly recommended by the French veterinary surgeons. The risk of re-infection during operation and the blemishes which remain are the great drawbacks to this treatment, so that I am inclined to suggest the simpler treatment adopted by Major Newsome and myself at Woolwich, of carefully lancing each pustule when ripe, and using the hot iron in the form of small budding irons together with internal treatment, in preference to extensive surgical methods. Once cording of the lymphatics have developed, the case is much more difficult to deal with. If, however, the cording is localised and well defined, it is possible to have recourse to complete extirpation; the *modus operandi* is as follows:—Cut down upon the lymphatic vessel, and divide with the actual cautery a few inches above the termination of the cording; the affected portion is then dissected out and completely removed; after which the operation wound is thoroughly cauterised and treated with antiseptics as in the first case. In cases where there is diffuse swelling and chronic thickening, surgical intervention is much more difficult and less likely to be attended with success. However, beginning from the periphery, all the affected lymphatic cords should be laid open and treated as above described; all abscesses and pustules should be lanced, their cavities then thoroughly scraped out and afterwards treated with the actual cautery and antiseptic dressing.

When operation is decided upon, it must be carried out thoroughly, and under strict antiseptic precautions, great care being necessary to avoid re-infection through the operation wound. I cannot advise the surgical interference to be undertaken upon any of the estates with which I am connected, as the appliances, etc., for proper carrying out of the operation, and subsequent dressing of the large wounds necessarily made, would become only a large source of infection and means of spreading the disease. The cases that were treated by myself surgically at the Royal Horse Infirmary, were carried out with every precaution, and antiseptic treatment adopted in its most rigid form amongst the non-commissioned officers and men who were in attendance solely upon those cases. In spite of these advantages the number of cases cured I do not consider anything like repaid the cost of treatment alone: not counting anything for the services of other veterinary officers and myself who were engaged at the time upon this disease.

Almost every antiseptic and escharotic has been used in the treatment of the disease, and of those generally used, I recommend caustic potash in stick, two drachms to a quart of cold water, or in some cases better results have occurred from the use of corrosive sublimate in strong solutions, not less than 1-250. These solutions to be applied as often as possible to the nodules or sores.

The application of a good strong blister of biniodide of mercury is advised to some cases, as it assists to bring the abscesses and pustules to a head, and thus facilitates treatment.

Great care must be taken that wounds are not being re-infected by flies, dressings, etc.; or that the patient does not bite them, or rub his nose or eyes in them.

Internal Treatment.—In this to my mind there is nothing as efficacious as the compounds of iodine and mercury, both of which seem to have a more or less specific effect on the disease, particularly the mercury when given in conjunction with iodide of potassium in the proper regulated doses.

Mortality.—From statistics obtainable, and according to my experiences, the average mortality I consider low, viz., about fifteen per cent.

Under the most favourable circumstances, the time required to effect a cure may vary from one month to six months or more according to the extent the disease has developed and the class of case being dealt with.

(1) In the stamping out of outbreaks and the prevention of this disease, it is imperative that the veterinary surgeon employed should have his orders strictly enforced by those under him, who are in charge of the sick animals. He must be thoroughly acquainted with the appearance of the organism under the microscope, and he will be able to make examination of scrapings and pus from suspicious wounds for himself, so that his diagnosis should be, in every case, quick and absolutely accurate.

(2) In a unit, shed, or upon an estate, in which the disease has been recognised, daily inspection of every animal should be most carefully conducted, and at these inspections the whole body should be carefully examined, especially those regions which are most exposed to galls, wounds, and contusions. The mucous membranes and submaxillary glands, should be examined as for glanders, and if there are any symptoms of conjunctivitis or discharge from the eyes, the conjunctiva should be inverted and thoroughly examined; in fact, I always carry out this detail in every case I am examining. All old scars and any subcutaneous enlargements should be carefully noted and watched. The most susceptible regions should be carefully handled for any symptoms of corded lymphatics, and for this a touch acquired by a practical knowledge of the disease is a considerable advantage in diagnosis.

(3) The attendants in charge of the animals should be instructed in the rudimentary symptoms of the disease, its causes, nature and effects and they should also be instructed to point out an animal developing swellings, nodules, wounds, or sores, no matter how small or trifling they may appear to be, or from what they may arise.

(4) The use of sponges, both for grooming, dressing wounds, etc., should be discontinued, as also should all the usual wisps and stable rubbers used for wiping eyes and noses of the animals.

(5) All the animals recognised as affected with the disease, should be immediately isolated for treatment, or destroyed as the case may be. All suspicious animals should be isolated separately from the others until such time as may be required to accurately diagnose whether they are free from the disease or not, and then treated accordingly.

(6) In an outbreak, even after recognition of the organism, should glanders be suspected, the animal should at once be tested with mallein, in case both diseases should be co-existing.

(7) Every effort must be made to reduce the number of wounds, galls, etc., to prevent spread of the disease to a minimum.

(8) Empirical treatment or playing at horse doctors is not permissible in these cases, as the disease is of a most contagious nature, and should not be attempted by any one except veterinary surgeons, who, with all the training received at college, etc., find the disease making heavy

(9) In the treatment of wounds the strictest asepsis must be observed, a fresh piece of cotton wool should be used for each animal under treatment and afterward immediately disposed of by burning. A little boric acid or preferably iodoform should be dusted on the wounds after the application of one of the lotions before recommended. In dressing the wounds great care must be taken not to infect the mouth of the bottle containing the lotion by placing the cotton wool against it, in order to saturate it with the solution, but a glazed gallipot or some similar vessel should be used for decanting as much solution as may be thought necessary to dress the animal being attended to and the rest thrown away that remain. Anything that assists towards reducing infection is always to be recommended, therefore, cover the wounds with a light covering of clean cotton wool. Disinfectants should be freely used in the stables, which, must, with their surroundings, be kept clean and free from smell; fly papers may be used with considerable advantage if these pests are at all numerous or troublesome.

(10) Harness and saddlery used on infected cases, should be thoroughly disinfected with solution of perchloride of mercury, 1-250, as far as it is practical, or else, if not of any great value, should be burnt with the carcase, litter, grooming tools and horse clothing.

The clothing of attendants dressing the wounds, and attending to the infected animals, should be thoroughly disinfected.

(11) Disinfection of all the other animals, stables, grooming utensils, etc., is to be undertaken at least once a month during the outbreak upon any estate or other premises where an outbreak has occurred. Should the floor consist of mud or any other permeable material, it is advisable to burn litter over it, and then remove at least six inches from off the surface and renew with fresh material; the removed portion must be well mixed with quicklime and buried at least six feet deep, where permeation is least likely to take place.

(12) In a shed, or upon an estate, where an outbreak has occurred, it should be considered an infected area for a not less period than six months from the date upon which the last case was either separated from the healthy stock or discharged cured, when treatment has been undertaken; further, the animals should during this time be kept under veterinary observation.

(13) If the disease makes its appearance upon an estate where mules have been running out, it is advisable to have all the animals picketed out so that they are not able to kick or bite each other.

(14) Finally, the free use of the microscope cannot be too forcibly impressed upon those who may have to deal with an outbreak of this disease. Much time and unnecessary isolation of animals is saved by an early diagnosis, such as can only be made with the aid of the microscope. Material from suspicious looking wounds should be periodically examined, and even in cases where nothing has been detected at first, further examination may prove the presence of the organism.

Success in stamping out an outbreak of Epizootic Lymphangitis is due to four essentials, viz:—

- (1) Facilities for thorough isolation and treatment.
- (2) Previous experience and knowledge of the disease.
- (3) Early diagnosis in every case.
- (4) Thoroughness with which the prophylactic measures are carried out by the attendants, acting under the instructions of the veterinary

POULTRY NOTES.

BREEDS.—While there are different breeds adapted for different natural conditions (as distinct from artificial conditions provided), yet there can be immense differences in the individuals of each breed. Strain is of as much importance as breed. Breed for vitality—no inbreeding—don't coddle, give the fowls plenty of food, clean water, plenty of scraping to do, clean quarters free of lice and smells, plenty of shade—these are the simple requirements for Jamaica. Whatever breed or combination of breeds you find to do best under your conditions stick to that.

* * *

CHARCOAL.—The value of charcoal for fowls is not generally understood and certainly not appreciated. It should be mixed among all the feed and does not need to be ground fine; it can be used best for fowls in small bits, a tablespoonful to every pint of feed.

* * *

LICE.—In the hot months lice are most abundant, and torment the lives of hens and chickens. Keep the boxes or coops or places where you have chickens, clean, and saturate once a week with par-anaph, to which has been added a tablespoonful of Jeyes' to the gallon. This will settle the lice. But it will not kill the eggs, and three to five days after the operation must be repeated.

* * *

WORMS IN FOWLS.—We have mentioned several times before that fowls are more commonly affected, or even infested, with worms than people imagine. Within a short time we have heard of two valuable cocks dying and on being opened found to be swarming with worms—although in one case liver disease was the direct cause of the trouble. One teaspoonful of Jeyes' to two quarts of water set down for the fowls to drink say two days of each week, will prevent infestation of worms, and will, in conjunction with a dose of Epsom Salts in the water once a week, clear out worms when these are not yet in great numbers.

* * *

USE OF CHARCOAL IN FATTENING DUCKS AND GESE.—The Board (U.K.) have been furnished by Mr. H. de Courey with an account of some experiments carried out by him for the purpose of deciding the exact value of charcoal as a means of keeping birds that are closely confined during fattening in good health.

Eighteen large healthy Aylesbury ducklings were selected from a large flock and divided into three pens, each pen containing six ducklings of as uniform weight as possible. Each batch of six ducklings weighed fifteen pounds, or an average of two-and-a-half pounds per head.

Throughout the experiments the ducklings were fed upon foods which previous experiments had shown to be profitable and economical, namely, boiled potatoes, barley meal, ground oats, skim milk, and tallow greaves. The method of preparing the food was to boil, strain, and pound up the potatoes, which before boiling would constitute about one-third by weight of the mash. Barley meal and ground oats were then mixed in equal parts and mixed with the potatoes. Skim milk was added to form a rather wet mash. This was fed to the ducklings from the end of the fifth to the beginning of the ninth week. During the last two weeks of fattening, animal food in the form of rough fat or tallow greaves was added to the mash, the allowance being about two ounces per day to each duck. Grit, and water for drinking were liberally supplied. Apart from the charcoal the food received by all the ducklings was the same.

Pen No. 1 was allowed no charcoal. Pen No. 2 was given an unlimited amount of rough charcoal, while in the case of Pen No. 3, powdered charcoal was mixed with the mash at the rate of one-fifth charcoal to four-fifths of the other ingredients, the charcoal being thoroughly incorporated with the meals before they were moistened. The results are shown in the following table:—

TABLE NO. 1.—DUCKS.

Pen.	Number of Ducks in pen.	Wght. at 6 weeks	Wght. at 8 weeks	Wght. at 10 weeks	Increase in 4 weeks	Increase per head in 4 wks.
		lb. ozs.	lb. ozs.	lb. oz.	lb. oz.	lb. oz.
No. 1 (no charcoal).	6	15 2	21 6	23 0	7 14	1 5
No. 2 (rough charcoal).	6	15 0	24 8	27 2	12 2	2 0
No. 3 (charcoal mixed with the food).	6	15 0	25 8	27 14	12 14	2 2

The trials show that charcoal in one form or another is essential in the profitable fattening of ducks. It appeared to keep the ducklings healthy, and enabled fattening to be continued with profit for a much longer period than when charcoal was not allowed.

Pen No. 1, which was allowed no charcoal, made most gain in weight from the sixth to the eighth week, and made but a slight gain from the eighth to the end of the tenth week, whilst the two charcoal-fed pens kept on increasing satisfactorily all the time whilst they were being fattened. Mixing the charcoal with the food appears to be the better system of feeding, but the slight increase in weight of Pen No. 3 over Pen No. 2, would scarcely pay for the extra cost of grinding and mixing charcoal with the mash, as compared with feeding it alone and in rather coarse condition.

The experiments with geese were conducted on similar lines and gave almost identical results, as shown in the following table. The breed was the Embden-Toulouse. The foods fed to the geese were the same as those fed to the ducks, except that they got steeped oats instead of mash for the evening meal, mash being fed in the morning. Pen No. 1 received no charcoal, Pen No. 2 had charcoal in a trough, and Pen No. 3 one-fifth charcoal in the mash.

TABLE NO. 2.—GEESE.

Pen.	Number of Geese in pen.	Wght. at 14 weeks	Wght. at 16 weeks	Wght. at 18 weeks	Increase in 4 weeks.	Increase per head in 4 wks.
		lb. oz.	lb. oz.	lb. oz.	lb. oz.	lb. oz.
No. 1 (no charcoal).	6	50 0	56 8	59 2	9 2	1 8
No. 2 (trough charcoal).	6	49 10	60 4	65 8	15 14	2 10
No. 3 (charcoal mixed with the food).	6	50 2	62 0	66 12	16 10	2 12

The charcoal fed to both ducks and geese was burnt wood, broken fine.

COCONUT DISEASE: A NEW FORMULA.

I READ with much interest Mr. Wates' letter on coconut diseases in Portland, published in the May JOURNAL, and regret to know that it has taken such a hold there. I see he has recommended the spraying of the trees with Bordeaux Mixture to prevent the attack of the beetles. I should advise him to add arsenate of lead to the Bordeaux Mixture in the proportion of three pounds to fifty gallons, the spray would then be both a fungicide and an insecticide, which is what is needed.

I have recommended arsenate of lead in preference to Paris Green, as the former adheres more to the foliage and limbs of the tree and does not readily wash off by rain. It also remains suspended well in water so that an even distribution can be obtained. This is my experience of it, and I have done a fair amount of spraying here within the last year.

The stuff can be bought under the trade mark of Disparena, or can be prepared by the following formula:—

Arsenate of Soda	4 ozs.
Acetate of Lead	11 ozs.
Water	16 ozs.

Dissolve each separately in half gallon warm water, mix together and add water to make sixteen gallons.

In regard to spraying, I have found that one application is of but little good—to get the desired effect it must be followed up by a second, and third, and even a fourth spraying at intervals of ten days to three weeks, and this should be repeated yearly to keep the disease in check. Care should be taken to select the dry months for spraying.

Years ago I got fine results when treating diseased coconuts, by putting one quart coarse salt into a small bag and placing it between the heart leaves as near to the centre as possible. The salt dissolves with the rain and trickles down the heart leaves. I do not know what disease I succeeded in curing, as in those days the "Coconut Disease" like the "Fowl Sick," was a very broad and undefined term: but I effected some remarkable cures. No harm would be done if some sufferer would try half-a-dozen affected trees and watch the result.

Re Mr. Vaughan's letter in the May JOURNAL.

It may seem paradoxical for me to say so, but both contentions of this gentleman and his Columbian friend regarding different results obtained by burning land are correct: heavy clay soils are improved by burning, whilst alluvial soils, red soils, and stony ground are utterly ruined by it. I may go further and say that these soils soon lose their fertility if left exposed to the sun without shade of some sort, weeds, vines, grasses, etc., to protect them.—(Sgd.) H. S. CARVALHO.

Freehold, Culpepper, Limon.

COMMENTS.

POSTAGE to this office is NOT free.

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BRANCH REPORTS.—We regret that again owing to the pressure on our space, we have not yet been able to get up-to-date with the Branch Reports we have in hand, but we hope to put this matter right in an early issue.

* *

INBREEDING.—People understand better now the great harm that is done by breeding close relatives in their stock and seldom if ever getting fresh blood. Experts in animal breeding certainly in-breed and closely too, but they do so with skill and foresight, with a definite calculated aim, and with system, knowing every animal's history—not simply its pedigree but its life history.—the points it excelled in or was weak in, and they mate accordingly. They mate

with forethought, feed to the utmost, expend care in every direction. But all this does not apply to the ordinary breeder who has not such minute information about his stock, and in fact, the ordinary breeder who does not get fresh blood uses no skill, no foresight, has no history of his stock, and permits inbreeding through ignorance, indifference or miserliness, or all three: he wont spend the money to buy a fresh sire, or wont take the trouble to seek for one, and he does not know the harm the close breeding does. Fresh blood chosen with care, looking to the vigour and shape as well as to the breeding of the animal is necessary for every stockman.

There have been so many sires of every kind of stock introduced to the Island of late years whose progeny are available, that there is now no great difficulty in any breeder getting a fresh sire for his stock; and this applies to horses, cattle, fowls and rabbits most, secondly to goats, sheep, pigs, dogs, pigeons, geese and turkeys, in the order named, while Muscovy ducks and cats have had very little fresh blood introduced to the writer's knowledge.

* *

A SUGGESTION TO BRANCH SOCIETIES.—Some of our Branches are in the fortunate position of being in the possession of funds. While it is always a good thing, a prudent idea to hold money in reserve in case of any calamity, like a hurricane falling upon us, when cash in hand is a great solace and can be of greater service than any use it can be put to in normal times: still there is no use holding all the money in hand waiting on something untoward happening. There are many little things that can be done locally, not involving much outlay, yet capable of encouraging improved practices in agriculture, first begun as experiments under the stimulation of a prize offered, but with such evidently satisfactory results that the good practices are adopted permanently. There are some things that every grower is agreed about, viz.: the desirability of better returns from the same acreage, and there are two principal things that go to prevent better returns—too thick growth and poor soil. The soil may give poor results not because it is really poor but because it is neglected, not drained, never stirred: and the soil may give poor results because it is really poor through crops being grown on it for many years; and there may also be poor results from the trees—like coffee and cocoa—being crowded together and never pruned. Now a substantial prize offered amongst the members of a Branch for the cultivation of permanent crops that shows the greatest improvement in six months would certainly, we think, stimulate many to fork, drain, prune and plant more permanent crops.

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CASSAVA PRODUCTS.—It is curious how great a prejudice there is against using native-made preparations, which are made on the same lines as those imported. There was perhaps reason for this in that such things were often in the past carelessly prepared and put up in receptacles that were certainly not attractive, whereas as is

the case with most products put up in packages for sale, the packing and the labels help to sell the article. The number of cereal and similar preparations imported is very considerable, and they seem favourite articles of consumption. Yet from our own cassava a large number of very palatable preparations are being put on the market, and yet we know from previous experience that it will be a difficult thing to get people to take them, no matter how nicely they are put up, nor how palatable they are, nor how nutritious they are, nor how easily cooked they are. We always remember vividly the case of Farine as made by the Society in St. Elizabeth, versus cornmeal. The public would have none of it although it was very palatable and undoubtedly most nutritious and easily digested, and it would have been cheap considering that a small quantity went a long way, but in the comparison with this food and cornmeal this was never taken into account when it was tried in public institutions. However, from the Bengal Cassava Factory, there are very nice cassava preparations in the market, to which we have before referred in this JOURNAL; Mrs. Fray of Spring Plain Factory, near Clarendon Park, has, too, been doing a small export trade in cassava cakes for a good time, and she now has also put on the market a Farine for making porridge, and a tapioca, which ought to be used largely. She also prepares a Cassareep Sauce at 1/- per pint bottle, and as this is a concentrated sauce it goes further than ordinary sauces. Tozer & Co., Kingston, stock these preparations.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Only letters with replies likely to be of general use are published here).

BITTER HONEY AND ITS CAUSES.

We received the following inquiry from a merchant firm:—

In your experience (or amongst your bee-keeping friends) have you ever come across honey which is absolutely bitter? Recently we shipped some honey to the Continent, and about eight or ten casks were reported to us as being bitter, and almost valueless, and samples were sent us—we send you a sample of same out of sample sent us. We were at a loss to understand this as we had never come across such previously, but on inquiring from merchants in Kingston, who are large exporters of honey, they tell us they suffered similarly. We traced out where the honey came from and wrote the party, and in his reply he says, John Haddon & Co., to whom he used to consign, wrote him "there was no difficulty in selling bitter honey." Ours has been unfortunately the opposite, and so has our friends' quoted above. We may mention that several theories are set up as to cause,—we shall not influence opinion by here stating them, but shall be glad to get experience of others and self and so arrive at matters.

* * *

The causes of bitter honey are somewhat obscure. Bitterwood is, I believe, the best known, but I believe there are other flora which affect honey in a similar way; such as chewstick, bitter orange, chickweed, etc. Fortunately there is never any trouble with bitter honey during the months when honey is being exported in quantities. Bitterwood honey is generally observable in the hard months of July and August, when forage is scarce, and is quite a stand-by to the bees. This bitter honey gets

used up during the October seasons, and by the time logwood appears, little or none remains. On the whole, I do not think bitter honey makes any trouble with our export honey; at least I have never experienced any during my fifteen years of bee-keeping.—ARTHUR H. ROGERS.

Belvedere P.O.

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Your letter to hand re bitter honey. I did not reply sooner as I was making inquiries. The bitterwood does not blossom during crop time, it blossoms early in December, and is all used by the bees for building up. I have never noticed the honey from this tree bitter. From inquiries, I find that higher up the hills they get an exceedingly bitter honey from the wild tobacco. That comes in early also, and is described as being as bitter as gall; a small quantity would affect a whole cask of honey.

Another they call "rabbit feeding," gives a slightly bitter taste to the honey, but is not unpleasant. This grows in old thrown-up fields, and also grows up at the higher elevations. We have neither of these plants in this district. If you desired specimens of either or both, I could procure and forward to you, also a small sample of the "rabbit feeding" honey, as that is blossoming now. Any other information you require, I shall be pleased to give you.—F. H. BUTCHER.

Chapelton.

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WHITE SORES IN CALVES.

It had quite slipped me to write an article on the above until I saw JOURNAL of June with Messrs. Roxburgh's and Hirst's articles.

(a) White sore is the outward and visible manifestation of *pyaemia* or blood-poison. (b) *Pyaemia* may show no outward signs but may be all internal—the most fatal, in fact always fatal; (c) it may show in the joints, so-called joint-sore, some recover; (d) as small boils on dewlap, brisket and top of neck,—if properly treated these generally recover.

Prevention is the best method to adopt: dress the calves *immediately* as they are dropped with some good antiseptic, e.g., strong Condy, carbolic oil, etc., and see that the navels are not touched with hand or brush.

Joint Abscess—open and drain. Boils open, and wash with strong Condy (permanganate of potash), do this thoroughly and you may expect most or all to recover. Keep all doubtful cases from your dropping pasture. Mr. Hirst's idea, I know, is held by some, but is erroneous.—C. T. DEWAR.

Stewart Castle, Duncans P.O.

BRANCH NOTES.

Troja (St. Catherine).—This Branch held its usual monthly meeting on the 26th of May. There were twenty-eight members present. The chair was taken by Mr. E. A. McNeil, one of the Vice-presidents. An amendment was made in the minutes, after which they were confirmed. A communication from the Secretary of the Nashville Show was read. Prize lists and entry forms of this Show were also distributed. Apologies for absence from the Rev. T. H. Grant and Mr. W. Wood were tendered. The Praedial Larceny Law was read as printed in the October JOURNAL of 1909. A lengthy and heated discussion followed, which resulted in the appointment of authorised persons to act under this law. The gentlemen appointed were:—Messrs. W. Wood, Sydney McGaw, Jonathan McDougall, Sam Douglas, H. N. Ross, J. S. Hynds, and A. Gardner. The Secretary was instructed to forward these names to the Inspector of Police.

write to Mr. Jno. Martin of Berwick, requesting him to give an address at the next regular monthly meeting. On motion of Mr. A. Gardner, unanimously carried, it was arranged to hold a special meeting on Thursday, 2nd June, which shall take the place of the semi-annual meeting, which was washed out by the March rains. Some of the points to be attended to then will be membership, attendance, finance, and the work accomplished by the Society since its formation. Mr. Jonathan McDougall was elected a new member. The roll was called and the meeting adjourned.—A. VIVIAN HAGUES, Secretary.

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Upper Metcalfe (St. Mary).—This Branch met for its regular monthly meeting at Brainerd on the afternoon of Thursday, 2nd June. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. This being the last meeting for the year, reports were given by the Secretary and Treasurer. A balance in hand of 42/- was reported. The election of officers then followed:—President, Mr. C. Abrahams; Vice-president, Rev. T. H. Grant; Asst. Secretary, Miss L. M. Witter; Treasurer, Mr. S. Smellie. A letter was read from Mr. H. Toyloy about the Registration Office for births and deaths in the district. It was settled that a petition be got up and forwarded to the Governor. The following resolution was moved by Mr. Abrahams and unanimously carried:—"That the Secretary of the Upper Metcalfe Agricultural Society be instructed to write and ask the other Branch Societies to join with us and request the Parent Society to approach the several Fruit Companies trading in Jamaica and impress upon them the necessity of purchasing bananas by weight as sold in the States. As it is the opinion of this Society that it will be the only means of improving the grade and quality of fruit for the following reasons: (1) The grower will allow his fruit to remain on the trees until bursting full, as it would be to his advantage. (2) It would induce the grower to manure and cultivate to produce larger bunches, as at present he gets no more for a fifteen-hand stem than for a nine-hand. (3) Four good sized six-hand stems will weigh 120 pounds, equal to 2/9; yet he only gets one payable, and has the handling of four stems. (4) It would cost the companies no more by adopting this method than at present, and they would know exactly what they were getting. (5) After selecting a cart or waggon load they could be placed on a large platform or beam scale, provided for the purpose, and save a good deal of dissatisfaction by down-grading fruit, etc." Mr. S. A. Schleifer having been appointed as Agricultural Instructor for the parishes of Westmoreland and Hanover, the following resolution was moved by the Rev. T. H. Grant:—"This meeting of the Upper Metcalfe Agricultural Society having learnt with regret that Mr. S. A. Schleifer is about to leave this district for work elsewhere, be it resolved: "That as a Society we recognise the great help Mr. Schleifer has been since its inception—not only theoretically but practically—he himself having started it; (2) that as a Society we recognise the interest Mr. Schleifer has ever shown in the work as Secretary; (3) that the united best thanks of this Society are hereby recorded to Mr. Schleifer, and we wish him continued prosperity in the work before him; (4) that the Secretary be instructed to have this resolution recorded in the minute-book, and the Secretary be also requested to transmit a copy of this resolution to Mr. Schleifer." After the roll-call, the meeting was adjourned.—LUCIA M. WITTER, Assistant Secretary.

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Porus (Manchester).—The usual monthly meeting of this Branch was held in the Church of England Schoolroom on Monday, 6th June, 1910. The President being late, the Vice-president, S. A. Hendricks, Esq., took the chair. The roll was called and the minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed,—eighteen members present. The first business arising out of the minutes was the letter to the Parochial Board *re* the D.M.O. The Vice-president stated that from information which he had, we have

no claim on Dr. Cook ; it is only on special direction of the Inspector of Poor that he will come, so we have no D.M.O. for this town. The Old Porus road was again brought up. The Vice-president explained that for the retrenchment of twenty-five per cent. on roads, only £7 was granted for the up-keep of that road, and he had to give his cart and mules free to carry stone for mettling the road. Mr. A. Thomas and other gentlemen said that the road is in better condition now than it was a few years ago. Mr. L. Hylton suggested mettling a portion of it year by year. The annual report sent by the Secretary of the S.P.A.J. was read, and the President spoke of the usefulness of the Society, and joining with the Vice-president, spoke to the credit of this part of the parish, that very few cases of cruelty to animals were brought before the Resident Magistrate's Court. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Secretary of the S.P.A.J. informing her that we promise to co-operate. It was moved by Mr. W. A. Morgan and seconded by Mr. R. S. Munroe, that this Branch send a donation of 5/- to the Society. A letter from the *Gleaner* Company was read ; a letter from the Secretary of the Parent Society was read (*re* half-yearly general meeting), and a delegate was appointed. A resolution *re* a Probank was put by Mr. T. N. Davis. A discussion followed but could be brought up again at next meeting. The question of our next Show was brought up by the President, and that we make a start at once so that we may be able to put forward a good Show, which will come off at a day to be fixed either at the latter part of December or in the early part of January, 1911. The meeting was unanimous and the Vice-president spoke in the same strain. The Vice-president will read a paper at next meeting on "Whether it depends on the kind of animal to keep to get rid of ticks." Mr. Robertson will also read a paper on the same subject. Mr. W. Henry was proposed a member by the Secretary. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.—C. ROWLAND, Secretary.

P.S.—Some literature *re* the prevention of ticks in Jamaica, was also received from the Department of Agriculture.—C. R.

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Cambridge (St. Andrew).—A meeting of this Branch was held on the 26th May. There was an attendance of nineteen members, with the Rev. S. T. James presiding. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting, the President mentioned the lamentable death of the late King, Edward VII., and adjourned the meeting for a few minutes. On reassembling Mrs. Bourne's request for "comments and suggestions" on the annual report of the S.P.A.J. for 1909, was dealt with. The reading of the report brought out a hearty discussion, especially on the influence of the Society on owners and workers of animals. All who took part in the discussion agreed that the Society was doing a useful and desirable work. The President then summed up and the following was unanimously agreed on:—"In meeting assembled we have with very great pleasure, read the report of the S. P. A. J. for 1909, and have seen the vast amount of good that is being done by this most helpful Society. We believe that there is a great future for good in it and that the entire Island, with the assiduous efforts being laid forth by those who lead in this matter, must eventually be benefitted. We as members of this Branch Society, pledge ourselves to help forward this matter as much as we possibly can." The Secretary was asked to send a copy of the above to the Secretary of the S.P.A.J. The Secretary reported that during the last month he had received from the Secretary of the Parent Society a tierce containing two cwt. one stone of St. Vincent yam, which was distributed to thirty-two persons, also a barrel of seed potatoes, and a distribution of four pounds of these potatoes to each person was made. At this meeting the Secretary distributed small packets of Havana tobacco seeds to those present. Some more of these seeds are on hand and can be had on application. The seeds were sent from the Department of Agriculture with

instructions on cultivation and on curing. Some books from the German Kali Works were given out.—R. A. CLARE, Secretary.

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Albert Town (Upper Trelawny).—At a meeting of this Branch held on the 26th May, 1910, at 7 p.m., there were present: H. Q. Levy, Esq., Agricultural Instructor for the district; Rev. R. S. Bailey, A. A. Palmer, Secretary, and seventeen other members. In the absence of the President, Mr. D. R. Wright was called to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting and of the special meeting with reference to the Stewart Town Show, were read and confirmed. The Secretary then gave his report of the work of the Society for the quarter ending 31st March, 1910. The report shows that the Society has been in good working order, the membership up to date being forty-two strong. That during the quarter there were held four meetings: the annual meeting, two regular meetings, and one special meeting. The special meeting was to arouse attention with regard to the Stewart Town and Albert Town Shows. At the annual meeting the following gentlemen were elected officers for the current year: J. D. Easy, President; Rev. C. C. Livingstone, Messrs. D. R. Wright and F. Perrin, Vice-presidents; Mr. A. A. Palmer, Secretary; and Mr. P. A. Brown, Assistant Secretary. Owing to the late hour the appointment of the Managing Committee was allowed to remain over for the next meeting. At the regular meeting held on Monday, 21st February, there was a good turn out of members. As arising out of the minutes of the previous meeting, the following gentlemen were appointed members of the Managing Committee:—Messrs. D. M. Anderson, R. R. Linton, F. W. Coy, A. E. Allen, F. Powell, B. S. A. Lilly, Chas. Anson, J. Walcott, Joseph Cunningham, Joseph Campbell, Alexander Pindling, and Rev. J. R. Swaby. Work accomplished.—Under this head comes first the Prize Holdings Competition, in which several members and non-members have competed, capturing many valuable prizes. That it was very satisfactory to notice these holdings being kept up from year to year. Nor was the Branch slow in taking a lively interest in the Stewart Town Show. That considering the distance it was very creditable to the exhibitors, and shows that agriculturally as otherwise Upper Trelawny is an important part of the parish. That much credit is due to Messrs. H. Q. Levy and E. Arnett (Agricultural Instructors), A. A. Palmer, and J. D. Easy, for their indefatigable zeal in bringing both the Prize Holdings Competition and Stewart Town Show to such a satisfactory issue. The report also shows that the rainfall up to the present is all to be desired, and that the soil has not been slow in yielding abundantly what is necessary for the enjoyment and sustenance of life. The Treasurer's report was next read. This shows a balance in hand (of the income of 1909-10) of £4 11s. 1½d. and £4 2s. 7d. still due by the late Treasurer, Mr. T. F. Forbes, making a total of £8 13s. 8½d. Correspondence was next dealt with. Read letter from the Secretary of the Stewart Town Branch, read letter from the Secretary of the Ulster Spring Branch asking whether a deputation would be received re the feasibility of starting an Agricultural Loan Bank for Upper Trelawny. After some discussion it was moved by Mr. F. Perrin and seconded by Mr. R. S. A. Lilly, that the deputation be invited. The next item on the agenda was the paying out of the prizes won at the Stewart Town Show, together with the presentation of certificates granted to the prize winners in the recent Holdings Competition. Mr. H. Q. Levy, Agricultural Instructor, here rose to the occasion. Mr. Levy, after congratulating the Branch on the work achieved both in respect to the Prize Holdings Competition and the Stewart Town Show, proceeded to pay the prizes, fifteen in number. Among the list it was pleasing to note that Upper Trelawny was still holding her own in cured coffee. This, as at the Minard Show, 1909, came first. First and second prizes were also awarded to Mr. R. S. A. Lilly in the mule-riding and driving competition, while Mr. H. Stobbs took the second prize for shoemakers' exhibits, and

Mr. David Campbell as usual, for cocoa pods. After paying the prizes, Mr. Levy again congratulated the different districts and individual competitors on their success and hoped that it would act as an incentive to fresh effort and greater improvement. He pointed out that if they stood still and were satisfied with what they had done, the Show would have done them no good, and at the next Show they would be almost certain to be losers. Having seen what took the prize this time they must come prepared to beat that standard. The speaker then pointed out the enormous amount of work it meant to carry through a Show successfully; but labour, he said, conquers everything, for there was now a large surplus left to the credit of the Society. (Applause). In conclusion, he urged upon all present not to give any undue importance to any one little thing which might happen to go wrong, taking into consideration the many different events which have to be crowded into one day, but rather to wonder how so many things could be carried through without mistakes. Next came the presentation of a large number of certificates to competitors in the recent Holdings Competition. Mr. Levy again spoke at length, eulogising on the improvements on the various holdings; that he was very pleased to see the number of prize-winners, etc.; making special reference to improvements on Messrs. Joseph Campbell's and David Campbell's. These holdings, he said, show the benefits to be derived from an Agricultural Society. That the Prize Holdings Competition was of great importance where catch crops, stock-rearing and sanitation are concerned. In conclusion he wished for Upper Trelawny continued success. The Rev. R. S. Bailey moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Levy, which was seconded by Mr. F. Perrin and accorded unanimously. The meeting then terminated.—A. A. PALMER, Secretary.

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Birnamwood (Portland)—A special meeting of this Branch was held in the Birnamwood Schoolroom on Thursday, the 26th May, at 3.30 p.m. There was a fair attendance of members. The President (Rev. F. A. Fraser), after a few preliminary remarks, requested Mr. Cradwick, the Travelling Instructor, who had come up specially to attend the meeting, to address them. Mr. Cradwick dealt at some length with the forthcoming Agricultural Shows to be held at Highgate and at Buff Bay, but more especially with the latter, and in his usual happy style urged the members of this Society to put forth a united effort to have this district well represented at the Show. It was unanimously agreed to accept his suggestions and take the matter up heartily. He next dealt with the results of the Prize Holdings Competition, which came off in March last. He read the list of prize winners for this parish, which showed that of the thirteen competitors in this district the following nine carried off prizes.—Messrs. Josephus Dallas, Henry Chevannes, snr., Henry Chevannes, jnr., Corunna Chevannes, Swinerton Minott, Robert Brown, Alexander Taylor, Mrs. Isabella Taylor, and Mrs. Sarah Ann Grant. The prizes of those who were unable to attend at the prize distribution on Empire Day at Woodstock, Buff Bay, were then handed to them by the lecturer. Mr. T. K. Paulwell moved, seconded by the Secretary, a resolution thanking the officials of the Buff Bay Empire Day celebration for their courtesy on that day. The Secretary was then instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of the Empire Day Celebration Committee. On the motion of the Chairman, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Cradwick, to whose efforts was mainly due the success of the recent competition for the amount of interest displayed by him in this Society, to which he briefly replied. After the reading of a letter from Mr. Arnett and some discussion, it was agreed to purchase one of the larger Anglo-Nubian goats offered by that gentleman. The Chairman next presented the petition to the Parochial Board for the Wakefield bridge, for signature. There being no farther business, the meeting stood adjourned till June 11th next.—W. P. FRACKLETON, Secretary.