

The Journal

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OF THE

Jamaica Agricultural Society.

The more people do the more they can do; he who does nothing renders himself incapable of doing anything; while we are executing one work we are preparing ourselves for undertaking another.

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No. 8.

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, 11 North Parade, Kingston, on Wednesday the 16th July, 1913, at 3.30 p.m.—the usual date Thursday being reserved for the Half-Yearly General Meeting. There were present: Hons. L. J. Bertram, R. P. Simmonds, J. R. Williams, Wm. Harris, Acting Director of Agriculture; Rev. W. T. Graham, Messrs. A. W. Douet, A. C. L. Martin, E. W. Muirhead, Conrad Watson and the Secretary John Barclay.

Mr. Simmonds was voted to the Chair.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Craig intimating that he would be absent from the Island for a time.

Mr. Harris intimated that the Director of Agriculture would be absent from the Island for three months.

The Secretary submitted letter from Bishop Collins as follows :

Kingston, 20th June, 1913.

"I have decided to resign from the Board of Management of the Agricultural Society as I feel that there are others in closer touch with things agricultural, whose services will be of greater help to the Society than mine.

"I appreciate the fact that I was chosen a member of the Board out of compliment to my predecessor, Bishop Gordon, but I don't feel that I have been of any material assistance in its councils."

The Chairman said they might ask Bishop Collins to allow his name to remain as a member of the Board until the next election, in the same way as they had asked the Archbishop, when he resigned. This was agreed to.

Neglected Juveniles :—

The motion of which the Rev. W. T. Graham had given notice at the May meeting of the Board was formally moved by him as follows :—

"That having regard to the future interests of agriculture and of the general well being of this island, this Board respectfully draws the serious

attention of the Government to the neglected condition of a large part of the juvenile population of this island, and particularly directs its attention to the fact that owing to the majority of such population being illegitimate, and are, for the most part deprived of the advantages of a settled home life and good parental training and influence, and as a consequence grow up without relish for work, or qualification or equipment for any service of any kind, but become idlers and criminals in a great many cases—this Board, regarding the policy of neglect of any part of the juvenile population as suicidal to the well-being of the colony, strongly urges upon the Government the consideration of the necessity that exists for the constitution of some authority for dealing with the juvenile problem, and commends to it the study of the Hungarian system which has so successfully dealt with this problem, and indirectly with the adult pauper problem, that the juvenile pauper has ceased to exist—the aim and end of that system being the training of fit and capable people for the country's service and also the extinction of pauperism."

Mr. Muirhead seconded the motion for the purpose of discussion.

Mr. Martin and Mr. Williams spoke on the subject. Mr. Williams moved that with the view of submitting definite recommendations on the subject, the following Committee be appointed to report on it:—Hons. D. Campbell, L. J. Bertram, and J. R. Williams, His Lordship Bishop Collins, the Rev. W. T. Graham and Mr. A. C. L. Martin. This was seconded by Mr. Martin and agreed to.

S. Manchester & S. St. Elizabeth :—

The report of the Special Committee on conditions in S. Manchester and S. St. Elizabeth, the consideration of which had been deferred from the previous meeting was again submitted. The Secretary was instructed to forward this report to the Government and to express the hope that some action would be taken in connection with the various recommendations made.

Cotton Experiments :—

The Secretary reported that he had visited Southern Manchester and inspected the lands arranged for the experiments. He had before seen the lands in St. Elizabeth from which a selection for the plots was to be made. Mr. Smith would soon make the final selection and would start work immediately an agreement was made with the owners. The plots would be ready, he hoped, for planting by the middle of August. As soon as they were ready for planting he would ask Mr. Watson to go down and visit them so that Mr. Smith could get the benefit of his advice.

Toronto Exhibition :—

The Secretary reported on the progress, and stated that in spite of the short notice he would be able to despatch via Halifax about 150 cases of exhibits; there would also be growing plants sent, and by a later steamer via New York good specimens of the fruits of the Island would also be sent. This was considered satisfactory.

"Authorized Persons" :—

Letter from the Inspector General was submitted as follows :—
No. 8th July, 1913.

"I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2232 of the 4th instant, and in reply to inform you that the instructions issued to me were to the effect that the Governor approved of all "Authorized Persons" being supplied with Handcuffs."

(Sgd.) A. E. KERCHAW,
Lt. Colonel.

Inspector General of Police.

Letter from the C.S.O. was also submitted as follows:—

No. 444 4th July, 1913.

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 437 dated the 19th April and to say in reply that a Circular has been addressed to the Magistrates in the Island inviting their co-operation in the appointment of "Authorized Persons" in the manner indicated in your letter.

2. A copy of the circular referred to is enclosed for your information."

(Sgd.) ROBT. JOHNSTONE,
Asst. Colonial Secretary.

Also memo from Rev. W. C. Morrison in connection with the circular mentioned in the above letter.

"The only sure way of informing "Authorized Persons" of their duties is to give them, as to District Constables a book of instructions.

2. Justices of the Peace may be quite willing to assist, but to carry out the instructions of this Circular, J.P.s. appointed since the law was passed, will require to purchase the law at their own expense. The law is not supplied them now nor any other information re working of "Authorized Persons" Law.

The Government is requiring bricks but does not supply straw.

3. The "Authorized Person" is not reaching all that was aimed at. Thieves walk in the night. The "Authorized Person" walks in the day. They are not encouraged to walk at any other time. If they and the District Constables were encouraged to do patrol duty more might be accomplished."

(Sgd.) W. C. MORRISON.

After discussion in which it was generally thought that Mr. Morrison's remarks in paragraph 1 & 2 were to the point, it was agreed to recommend to the Government that a simple leaflet might be written embodying the gist of the Law with regard to "Authorized Persons", explaining their duties fully, and also the limitation of their powers. The Board thought it was as important to explain to the "Authorized Persons" what they might not do under the Law as it was to make plain to them what was expected of them under the Law. The Secretary was also instructed to recommend that copies of this leaflet might be sent to the Magistrates, the Clerks of the Courts, the Police, the Agricultural Instructors, the "Authorized Persons" and the Secretaries of Branch Societies.

Railway Carriage on Fungicides:—

The following letter from the C.S.O. was submitted:—

No. 424 30th June, 1913.

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 424 dated the 19th April, 1913 and to inform you that His Excellency regrets that the application of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society for Lime and Insecticides and Fungicides to be conveyed on the Railway free of charge cannot be complied with."

(Sgd.) ROBT. JOHNSTONE,
Asst. Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Muirhead, Mr. Martin and Mr. Watson spoke on the subject of the Government so often refusing the requests of the Society made on behalf of agriculture. Mr. Watson said that for instance the Board had made strong recommendation that under no consideration should the seed of Cauto cotton be imported here from Cuba as there was great risk attaching to such importation. They had the opinion of the Entomologist of the Imperial Department of Agriculture recommending the prohibition of the importa-

tion of cotton seed from countries where the boll weevil existed; yet he now understood that a large quantity of Cauto cotton seed had been brought here from Cuba by a private person.

The Acting Director of Agriculture explained that the cotton seed referred to had undergone a thorough disinfection by his Department. His Department could not stop the importation of such seed when they arrived. This would require to be done by proclamation issued by the Governor in Privy Council.

Mr. Bertram said he thought it was rather a large order to expect the railway to carry lime on the railway free even for agricultural purposes. As regards the Insecticides and Fungicides he thought that depots might be established throughout the country where they could be had on application, and the railway might carry supplies for these depots free.

It was agreed to refer the suggestion to the Staple and Minor Products Committee.

Protection of Birds & Fishes :—

Letter from the C.S.O. was submitted as follows :—

No. 1913, 7th July, 1913.

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1913 dated the 20th ultimo forwarding a copy of a Resolution passed at a meeting of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society on the 19th Idem, asking that the Law to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the protection of birds and fishes be deferred until the Government have the services and assistance of an expert Ornithologist.

2. I am in reply to state for the information of your Board of Management that the Legislative Council did not consider the Bill at its last sitting on account of want of time, but that His Excellency sees no reason to defer it indefinitely and to add that there is believed not to be an expert Ornithologist in the island at present, and there is no means of obtaining the advice of one without considerable expense and probably the lapse of some years which would have to be devoted to the study of the habits of the birds, etc.

3. I am to say that in the meantime it seems proper to take such measures as are proposed in the Bill for the protection from extermination of the birds and fishes for which it is desirable to prescribe a close season."

(Sgd.) P. C. CORK,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary was instructed to ask the C.S.O. that a copy of the Bill referred to might be submitted to the Board.

"Leaf Blister Mite" of Cotton :—

The following letter from the C.S.O. was submitted :—

No. 1917, 10th July, 1913.

"I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 21st ultimo, No. 1917 relative to the suggestion of the Board of Management of your Society that the Cotton Plant and the disease "Leaf Blister Mite" be declared by the Governor in Privy Council under the Diseases of Plants Law, and to inform you that the matter is receiving His Excellency's consideration."

(Sgd.) ROBT. JOHNSTONE
Asst. Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Watson said that this matter was urgent and that if any steps were to be taken they should be taken at once. The members

of the Board agreed with this, and the Secretary was instructed to write the Government asking that consideration of the matter might be given promptly, and the Acting Director of Agriculture was also asked to write the Government and urge that this matter receive early consideration.

Affiliation :—

The following applications for affiliation were submitted—Labyrinth (St. Mary) and Pear Tree River (St. Thomas). Also letters from the President and the Secretary of the Crofts Hill Agricultural Society *re* their application for affiliation which had been refused at the last meeting, asking for re-consideration and pointing out the distance by road the members would have to travel to attend the nearest Branch Meetings.

These matters had not yet been considered by the Instructors Committee so were referred to them for report.

Grants to Shows :—

The following applications for grants to Shows were submitted : Santa Cruz Branch for a Show to be held between December and April, probably 1st January ; Glengoffe in March or April 1914 ; and Chapelton January 1st, 1914.

The Secretary pointed out that Savanna-la-Mar had already applied for a Grant to their Show to be held on the 1st of August which would make three Shows being held on the same date which was very undesirable. He thought, however, that there was little likelihood of Savanna-la-Mar being able to hold a Show at that time and he would recommend the Committee there not to do so.

The matter of some Shows that had received grants not having paid all their prize money was brought up. The Secretary stated that the Regulations governing Shows lately framed and published would require further revision. The original Rule said 20 per cent. of the total amount of prize money actually *awarded*, but this had been altered to 20 per cent. of the total amount of prize money actually *paid*. The Secretaries of Shows read this to mean not what they ought to have paid but what they had actually paid ; whereas the meaning of the Board was that the total amount of the prize money awarded must be paid.

It was resolved to refer the matter again to the Shows Committee.

Resolutions from Branches :—

The Secretary said that several Branches had written asking for a renewal of the offer to pay half the cost of pure-bred boar pigs next year. He explained that *from the money at the credit of the Live Stock account* they had offered premiums amounting to half the share of pure-bred boar pigs of either Poland China or the Large Black breeds to 6 Branch Societies. Owing to the drought and the storm, only three of these had been applied for, and several Branches were now asking that the offer be renewed. As the money was available he would recommend that the offer be continued for next year. This was agreed to.

The Secretary of the Nain Branch wrote as follows :—

“At a meeting of the Nain Branch held to-day (11th July 1913) I was instructed to forward to you the undermentioned resolution, moved, seconded and agreed to, with the desire that you kindly do the needful at the coming meeting of the Board of Management :—

Resolved :—“That owing to all the Spring crop of corn being lost in the Nain Savannah districts and there is no money to purchase seeds for planting in August and September, that the Secretary of the Parent Society place our need before the Board of Management with the view of getting a grant for seeds for these districts.”

(Sgd.) JNO. B. HARRISON,
Secretary.

It was resolved to grant the Nain Branch two bushels of seed corn.

The following letter was submitted :—

Negril, 9th July, 1913.

“Can you devise no means whereby the people of this district could be supplied with seed coconuts for planting ?

There are no means open to them except you help. No one would object to pay a reasonable price for these plants, and it would be a great boon to all classes.

Please give this matter your earnest and early attention.”

(Sgd) P. O. WILLIAMS.

The Secretary was instructed to write and ask Mr. Williams how many seed coconuts he estimated to be required, and also to ask the Agricultural Instructor for a report on the subject.

Half Yearly Report :—

The Secretary submitted his Half Yearly Report which had already been circulated to members of the Board. The Report was approved.

Instructors Reports, etc.

The Instructors Reports & Itineraries for June were submitted and referred to the Instructors Committee.

The Secretary said he had asked each Instructor for a special Report for June *re* food crops, and with the exception of S. St. Elizabeth, and parts of Westmoreland and Hanover, foodstuffs were becoming plentiful and he estimated that by the end of July the scarcity of foodstuffs would be over, with the exception of the districts named. The seasons had not on the whole been good in S. St. Elizabeth, the late planted corn being a failure. On the whole however, some foodstuffs like beans and peas had seldom been more plentiful or cheaper than they were at present and all local foodstuffs would be plentiful by August with the exception of cassava and yams. This was considered satisfactory.

Statement of Accounts was tabled.

New Members :—

The following new members were elected :—A. A. Haughton, Miami, Florida, U.S.A. ; C. Gallusser, Guatemala, C.A. ; J. P. Kyte, Corozal, Canal Zone, Panama ; John Findlay, Kingston.

The meeting adjourned until Thursday the 21st of August, 1913 at 11.40 am.

HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETING.

The Half Yearly General Meeting of the Jamaica Agricultural Society was held at the office of the Society, 11 North Parade, Kingston, on Thursday the 17th July, 1913. at 11.40 a.m. There were present:—His Excellency the Governor Sir William Henry Manning, K.C.M.G., C.B., (President), Sir John Pringle, K.C.M.G., the Hons. Dugald Campbell; Geo. McGrath, R. P. Simmonds, and J. R. Williams; Rev. W. T. Graham, Messrs A. W. Douet, A. C. L. Martin, E. W. Muirhead, C. Watson (Members of the Board of Management) and Messrs W. Cradwick, H. L. Mossman, J. Briscoe, S. A. Schleifer, R. C. Somerville (Agricultural Instructors); Hon. and Rev. W. B. Esson (Porus Branch) Revs. Leo. Jones (Whitehouse Branch), W. Baker, (Mocho and Brixton Hill Branch); W. S. Taylor (Enfield Branch); Messrs C. C. Hortopp (Upper Metcalfe); W. Harrison, George Payne, J. W. Mennell (Darliston Branch); A. D. Mcwatt (Spanish Town Branch); Dr. Stoddart, C. L. Roper (Lucky Hill Branch); R. A. Cruickshank (Troja Branch); S. A. Martin, Alex. T. Allen (Windsor Castle); George Thomas, F. E. Nesbitt (Avocat Branch); J. H. Wynter, W. A. Sibbles, (Mahoe Hill Branch, St. Mary); A. E. McKenzie (Castleton Branch); R. A. Jones (Aeolus Valley Branch); F. Dennie (Above Rocks); J. Thomas, B. T. Atkinson (Mt. Regale Branch); A. Duncan, Saml. Robinson (Bloxburgh); E. T. Hamilton, and John Barclay, Secretary.

The Secretary said that Mr. Robert Craig had intimated that he would be off the Island for three months and that the Hon. S. S. Stedman had written stating that he could not be present owing to illness. The Director of Agriculture was also off the Island on leave of absence.

The Minutes of the previous Half Yearly General Meeting held in January last, and which were published in February JOURNAL: were taken as read and confirmed.

The report by the Secretary for the half year to the 31st March, 1913, was presented as follows:—

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS.

Gentlemen:—

I have the honour to submit my report for the second half of the financial year ending 31st March, 1913, together with the financial statement for the year ending that date, as follows:—

Meetings.—Board of Management.—The Board met each month at 11.40 a.m., and transacted the business on the Agenda. The Instructors' Committee met each month at 10 o'clock according to rule, but the business of this Committee so much increases that the time allotted is seldom now enough to get through all the business on the Agenda.

The Live Stock Committee met twice; the Office Committee once; the Journal Committee once. Most of the business done in Committee, however, except the Instructors' Committee, is done by circulation of the papers.

THE JOURNAL OF THE

The following is a record of the attendance of the members of the Board of Management :—

	Monthly Meetings.	Half Yearly General.	Committee	Total.
*His Excellency Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G.	2	1	-	3
*Hon. Lieut.-Col C. J. Ward, C.M.G.	-	-	-	-
* †Sir John Pringle, K.C.M.G.	2	1	2	5
*Hon H. H. Cousins, M.A., Director of Agriculture	3	1	6	10
His Grace the Archbishop	-	-	-	-
*Hon. L. J. Bertram, C.M.G.	-	1	-	1
†His Lordship Bishop Collins, S.J.	1	-	-	1
Robert Craig	6	1	6	13
*Hon. D. Campbell	4	1	3	11
A. W. Douet	5	1	2	9
Rev. W. T. Graham	2	1	-	3
†Hon. Geo. McGrath	5	1	-	6
A. C. L. Martin	5	1	5	11
E. W. Muirhead	5	1	-	6
*Hon. H. T. Ronaldson	-	-	-	-
*Hon. S. S. Stedman	4	1	5	10
*Hon. R. P. Simmonds	2	1	5	8
Conrad Watson	5	-	-	5
*Hon. J. R. Williams	3	1	6	10
The Secretary	6	1	8	15

During this period the members whose names are marked † were off the island for a time, and those marked * were in attendance at the Legislative Council which was in session in October, December and March.

His Grace the Archbishop sent a letter dated 9th November, 1912, resigning his seat on the Board of Management on the grounds that now general interest in the Society's work had been awakened, and there was a general appreciation of the need for continued active effort for promoting agricultural progress, this was one of the items of his public work he felt justified in giving up in order to reduce his own work within reasonable bounds. The Board expressed their regret at this decision, and after recording their high appreciation of the services of His Grace, asked him to allow his name to remain on the Board of Management until the next triennial election. His Grace acquiesced in this.

His Excellency Sir Sydney Olivier, K.C.M.G., President of the Society, who had been a member of the Board of Management when he was Colonial Secretary of Jamaica, and President of the Society from 1907, when he returned as Governor, took leave of the members at the half-yearly meeting, held in January, on the eve of his departure from the colony to take up new duties in England as Secretary of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Society recorded their appreciation of his great practical interest in, and services to, the agriculture of Jamaica. (Journal for Feb., 1913, page 78.) The Branch Societies also passed Resolutions to the same effect, which were forwarded to Sir Sydney Olivier.

The half-yearly General Meeting discussed the following matters:—Citrus Fruit Measure, Canada-Jamaica Steamship Service,

Distress in Southern St. Elizabeth, Banana Disease, Ornithologist & Entomologist, Duty on Citrus Fruit, U.S.A., Regulations for Drivers of Drays, Seed Relief, Revision of Rules of the Society. It was well attended.

The following are the most important matters dealt with :—

Distress in St. Elizabeth.—The subject of the distress prevailing in St. Elizabeth through the failure of crops over several years, because of drought, culminating in the long and severe drought of 1912, was repeatedly discussed by the Board on appeal made by the local Agricultural Societies. The subject was also discussed at length at the half yearly General Meeting held in January last. Representations were made to the Government that Secretaries of Branch Societies stated that deaths from actual starvation were occurring in Southern St. Elizabeth. The Government stated in reply that investigations made by the local Parochial Board showed that these reports were unfounded ; but it was admitted that deaths had occurred through mal-nutrition. The Governor also held that the subject of distress in St. Elizabeth and criticism of the local Parochial Board were subjects outside of the province of the Agricultural Society, seeing its scope was limited to the development of agriculture.

Grants for Seeds.—During the year grants to a total of £200 were made by the Government to supply seeds and plants to the drought-stricken districts. And after the storm of November additional grants were made to this Society to supply seeds and plants to the districts devastated by the wind and rain, chiefly the parishes of Hanover, Westmoreland and St. James. At the date of this report the total of the grants made for this purpose amounted to £325 0s. 0d.

The Secretary laid a statement before the meeting of the Board on 20th March, 1913, showing how the seeds were distributed, and this is appended hereto. A total of 128 bushels of seed corn, 173 bushels of red beans, 130 bushels of black eye peas, 157 bushels of cow peas, 1,635 packets of vegetable seeds, 108 quarts of pumpkin seed, in addition to 331 bundles sweet potato slips and 329 bundles cassava sticks etc. were distributed. As the drought was widespread, affecting all the middle and eastern parts, while the wind and rain of November were general, although only a hurricane in the west end, seeds and plants were all scarce and difficult to secure in quantity ; beans and peas had to be imported.

Seed Distribution.—Wherever possible these seeds were allocated under the supervision of the local Agricultural Instructor, and the strict injunction was that they were only to be given out to those who were really in need and had land prepared.

Members of Branch Societies naturally were those who took care to have land prepared promptly, but seed distribution was not confined to these, as has been asserted, where there was enough seed to go further. But such quantities as are noted did not go far among the hundreds of applicants in every district. Take for instance, the Nain Branch in St. Elizabeth with 63 members in a poor drought-stricken district. Their share was one bushel of seed corn and a half bushel of red beans. Such a quantity could not give all the members an appreciable quantity to plant and leave much to

the scores of others, who, learning of the supplies of seeds, made application later. There were other cases like this. On the other hand seeds were distributed through responsible agents in localities where there were no Branch Societies; and in some cases Branch Societies, which were in funds, bought supplies from us for their members.

Central Cultivations.—In connection with this distress the Local Agricultural Instructor submitted a suggestion that five central cultivations of 10 acres each should be started when rain came, to grow the ordinary local food crops, corn, cassava, sweet potatoes, peas and beans, etc.; these would furnish some labour, provide food cheaply, and also yield plants for cultivation which in the ordinary course would be scarce after the long drought

The Board, however, decided that, while the suggestion was good, it would not go far enough in helping the people permanently. There were also other drawbacks. The work provided by cultivating 50 acres of corn, sweet potatoes, cassava, etc., would not be sufficient; the whole time of the Instructor would be required, and probably the help of an Assistant; the places only to be used for a year or so would require to be well fenced, which would be expensive; watchmen would require to be provided; and in spite of such precautions such food crops would be largely stolen. Also that the relief to be provided was for the Government to carry through, not the Society. The Secretary then submitted a proposal to the Government that opportunity should be taken to provide relief work and establish an industry of a product or products such as could withstand drought, and if possible be exportable, such as cotton or cassava or both. On this being referred to the Board it was considered too late in the season (November) to entertain this proposal, but it was decided that the £50 grant already allocated to Mr. Eric Anderson for a private experiment in cotton growing in St. Elizabeth, but which had not been carried out through drought, should be renewed for 1913. It was pointed out also that the greatest desideratum was a water supply, and what was most wanted were capacious storage tanks, the time of the people during drought being mostly taken up in travelling long distances for water, month after month, leaving no time for work in the fields.

Port Royal Mountains District.—In November the Government sent a copy of a report by Mr. Wm. Harris and Mr. F. N. Isaacs on the conditions in Mavis Bank and adjacent districts of St. Andrew which had suffered severely from drought. This report was published in the Journal for November, page 629. It recommended the establishment of an Agricultural Loan or a Penny Savings Bank by the local Agricultural Society; the mulching of crops to save the crops in drought, and fertilize the hard worn soil; the planting of cedar trees by settlers as the most useful timber tree for them, and that the timber trees planted should be taken into account in the judging of the Prize Holdings Competition. and it regretted the repeal of "The Mountain and River Resources Law of 1889," and "Amendment Law of 1892," without anything to take their place, and stated that "the pernicious work of destruction and denudation now proceeds unchecked" at the sources of streams there.

The Secretary has repeatedly called attention in the Journal to the evil effects of the deforesting of the mountain ridges, the desirability of checking any further deforesting, and of encouraging tree planting.

Wide Wheel Tires.—On the representation of this Society the Legislative Council passed a resolution on 25rd October, 1912, approving of a refund of part of the tax on wheels not exceeding 50 per cent being granted in respect of all waggons having four wheels and the tires of which are not less than 4 inches wide, and the axles not exceeding 2 inches square, or the equivalent, and in respect of wain drays, carts or other two-wheeled vehicles having tires not less than 4 inches, having an axle not exceeding 2½ inches square or the equivalent.

The rebate was fixed at 50 per cent.

Entomologist and Ornithologist.—At the October meeting the question of the Government getting an Entomologist who was also an Ornithologist was again brought up, and the Governor said he was in favour of such an appointment, although such an officer had not been of such pressing importance as the Mycologist lately appointed. If an appointment was made it might not be made a permanent appointment, but a good man might be engaged for say a period of three years to make investigations. This recommendation was accordingly made to the Government. The Board was however informed that meantime the finances of the country would not allow of such an appointment.

Birds.—The matter of small boys being permitted to use catapults for killing birds, with impunity, was brought before the Board, and a recommendation was made to the Government that the Police be instructed to check this practice as it was illegal. And the Secretary was also instructed to bring this to the notice of the Director of Education with the view of teachers being asked to influence the school children against this practice. The Secretary was also directed to call attention in the JOURNAL to the reasons for preserving useful birds.

The Government replied that the Inspector General had been requested to instruct the Police to use every effort to put an end to the practice, and had also requested the Director of Education to call the attention of school teachers to the need for impressing upon school children the reason why birds should be protected and the illegality of destroying those protected by law.

Contagious Diseases Animals Law.—In November the Live Stock Committee submitted a Report containing suggested revisions, practically a recast of this Law (Law 1 of 1909) which were approved by the Board and forwarded to the Government.

In February the Government submitted some amendments in this Law for the Board's consideration. These were not considered sufficient and the attention of the Government was again called to the carefully considered recast of the whole Law sent on by the Board in November.

Entire Horse Law.—The matter of this Law not having effected any useful purpose, and not being the Law originally brought

forward and recommended by this Society, while as a Revenue measure it only produced £94 last year, was again considered (March JOURNAL page 124) and referred to the Live Stock Committee to consider and submit some workable measure which would have the effect of limiting if not of abolishing the use of unsound and weakly sires. This is still before the Live Stock Committee who are working along the lines of a recommendation for the Registration of Stallions.

Butchers Licenses.—The Board having had representation made to them of the difficulties the Police met with in preventing the stealing of goats which was exceedingly prevalent, and of discovering the thieves, there being no check on itinerant vendors of meat, again considered the question of Butchers Licenses (first considered six years before) and recommended that in order to place the slaughtering of beasts for human consumption and the sale of butchers' meat under some restrictions and under some control, a license on payment of a small fee, mainly for registration purposes, be required of all persons offering for sale to the public butchers meat of any description; and in order that all persons offering butchers meat for sale might be required to account for their possession of it to any constable or district constable and be liable to arrest if they failed to do so.

The Government, however, replied that they did not consider it advisable to propose legislation on the lines suggested by the Society.

Authorized Persons.—A member of the Board having frequently mentioned that "Authorized Persons" were not made properly conversant with the duties required of them on their appointment, and in consequence some of them did things outside of their scope, this subject has been several times discussed at length, and the attention of the Inspector General of Police has been directed to the necessity of the police instructing the newly appointed "Authorized Persons" fully in their duties. It has also been submitted that the "Authorized Persons" have often difficulty in getting paid for work done and in some cases have not been paid at all. It has been recommended by a majority of the Board that this body of men be put under the control of the Inspector General. A minority, however, have held that with the co-operation of all the parties concerned—the police who should see that the persons appointed are given full instructions in their duty, the Branch Societies on whose nomination the persons are appointed who should see that they understand their duties, and the Clerks of the Courts who should take trouble to pay promptly, the remuneration for the services rendered and which the "Authorized Persons" are entitled to under the Law,—the fundamental principle which governed the creation of this system would yet be justified.

Loan Banks.—The matter of Agricultural Loan Banks has been frequently discussed. On the 12th November the Agricultural Loan Societies Board wrote asking for the co-operation of the Society in the establishment of Loan Banks generally, and asking also whether the Agricultural Instructor, Mr. J. T. Palache could be detailed for the purpose of promulgating the establishment of such Loan Banks. The Governor explained that seeing the storm had destroyed culti-

vations to such a large extent, he proposed that assistance from the Government should be given to planters through the medium of Loan Banks. The Board agreed that as the establishment of Co-operative Agricultural Loan or Credit Banks had always been one of the planks in the Society's platform, they would give all the assistance they could under their constitution, through the organization of the Society.

In December the Government passed a new Law the Special Hurricane Loans Law, (Law 36 of 1912) under which the money loaned to cultivators for the purpose of being applied to their holdings would be furnished by the Government but such loans would only be made through local Loan Banks and to members of Loan Banks. Mr. Palache was detailed as requested and visited the west end parishes, and also St. Mary, St. Ann, Trelawny, Clarendon, St. Catherine and his own district to assist in explaining this Law, and in organizing Loan Banks.

The Agricultural Instructors were all requested to help in explaining the Law governing the establishment of Loan Banks and in guiding local Committees as far as they could, but were directed not to take office in any particular Loan Bank.

There was considerable confusion at first in the people's minds and some distrust and suspicion over the terms of this Law, the distinction between Law 36 of 1912 and Law 6 of 1912, the latter of which the Instructors had already been explaining, not being understood at first, and as was to be expected this added to the difficulties of the local Committees and the Instructors. However, most of the Banks which were proposed to be organized have now been firmly established, only a few dropping out. At present there is only one purely Co-operative Bank, Christiana—and one at Claremont in formation. Loans have been made by the Agricultural Loan Societies Board to two Banks under Law 6 of 1912, and to 17 Banks under The Agricultural Societies (Special Loans) Law 36 of 1912, two of which have also got loans under Law 6.

Children Driving Drays.—The attention of the Government was called to the increasingly common but dangerous practice of little boys being allowed to drive drays and buggies, who were unable to control such vehicles and accidents occurred in this way, and asking whether a Law could not be introduced regulating the age of drivers.

The Government, however, replied that they did not consider there would be sufficient justification for initiating special legislation in the direction suggested as the evil complained of was infrequent and small compared with the dangers arising from reckless or obstructive driving by adults. The subject was again brought up at the Half Yearly General Meeting in January and the following resolution passed:—"That in the opinion of the Agricultural Society the necessity has arisen for legislation to prevent incompetent youths from driving drays and that the Government be asked to pass the necessary Law to prohibit this."

The Government, however, referred the Society to the former decision.

Revision of Rules of the Society.—The General Rules of the Society requiring some revision, the matter was referred to a Committee who submitted their revisions. The changes were—abolition

of the practice of voting by proxy on special subjects submitted to members of the Society and the Branch Societies; a more specific definition of the rule covering the objects of the Society; a more definite arrangement for the nomination for members of the Board at the triennial elections.

The Committee's revisions were approved by the Board, referred to the Half-Yearly General Meeting in January for confirmation, and there confirmed.

Railway Carriage.—At the January meeting Mr. Conrad Watson moved—

“That this Board ask the Government to make the same concession to other industries as was made to the banana industry; that lime for use as an insecticide and fungicide be conveyed by the railway free of charge, and that this concession should cover all insecticides and fungicides.”

This was sent on to the Government, but the concession asked for was not conceded.

Duty on Citrus Fruit.—In November a letter was submitted to the Board by a member of the Society who is a prominent grower of citrus fruit, suggesting that some steps should be taken towards inducing the Government to approach the new Government of the United States to secure some reciprocal re-adjustment of tariff, especially the abolition or reduction of the high duties on citrus fruits. The matter was referred to the Half Yearly General Meeting in January and there discussed at length. A resolution was unanimously passed and sent to the Government asking that in case opportunity should occur through any revision of the tariff of the United States the Government should interest itself in trying to secure a reduction or the abolition of the present high duty on Jamaica citrus fruit.

Advisor on Tropical Agriculture.—In March the Government advised that the Secretary of State for the Colonies had intimated that it was no longer considered necessary to retain the appointment of Sir Daniel Morris, K.C.M.G., as Advisor to the Colonial Office on Tropical Agriculture, and that the appointment would be discontinued as from 1st April.

The Cotton Industry.—In March a letter from Mr. Eric Anderson was submitted calling attention to the importance this industry had attained in Lower Vere where 700 acres were grown, and suggesting that the Government should take steps for the proper regulation of the industry, appoint a special Instructor who would control the distribution of seed, give advice as to proper cultivation and prevent the ratooning of cotton, and if necessary legislation should be provided to control this and provide for the prompt treatment of insect pests.

A scheme for Cotton and Hemp cultivation on a large scale in Southern St. Elizabeth to introduce the cultivation of these products as suitable products for that dry district, and which would also provide labour for the relief of the people there. This scheme proposed to plant out yearly for four years 100 acres of Sisal Hemp, another 100 acres of Sea Island cotton between the rows where the land was

suitable; where not suitable the cotton to be planted elsewhere; and erect a ginnery and decorticating machinery for the cotton and hemp; and asked for a subsidy of £500 per annum for four years.

This scheme was referred to a Special Committee which was appointed to consider and report on the conditions in Southern Manchester and Southern St. Elizabeth.

In February a proposal to experiment with a new cotton from Cuba called *Cauta Cotton* was laid before the Board, but in view of the fact that the boll weevil was prevalent in Cuba, it was thought safer to the present promising industry in Sea Island cotton to recommend that the Government prohibit the importation of any cotton seed whatever from Cuba.

Experiment Grounds.—These having been heavily mulched came through the drought of 1912 without much loss except the check in the growth of the plants, but suffered greatly from prædial thieves who in No. 1 cleared out most of the crops. Owing to the lack of interest in No. III at Victoria Town and the amount of thieving that took place, it was decided to close this one.

These grounds received no grant this year and are expected to be self-supporting, and this they could be and yield a good profit in spite of experiments being made that require expenditure and cannot give revenue, if it were not for the thieving. The great drought in S. Manchester and S. St. Elizabeth has left so many people without means of sustenance that such plots full of crops, nearly all of an eatable nature, are likely to be preyed upon.

School Gardens.—On the appointment of Mr. Murray, who has acted as Inspector of School Gardens for some years, to the post of Headmaster at the Stock Farm at Hope, this post was discontinued, and as the Board had long recommended, it was arranged that the Agricultural Instructors should work in co-operation with the Education Department in this connection, visit the various School Gardens, give such help and advice in the conduct of these as they can, record their opinions in the School Log Book after each visit, and so enable the Inspectors of Schools on their annual inspections to form an opinion of the relative merits of the School Gardens during the year. (Journal for March, page 139.)

The Board offered prizes for the best plot of cotton grown in School Gardens in certain districts, with a further prize for the best sample of cotton from the plots competing.

It is proposed to repeat this offer next season, and also offer prizes for the growing of corn, and guinea corn.

Prize Holdings Competition.—This competition should have taken place in the parishes of St. Thomas, St. Catherine, Trelawny and St. James, and the judging in St. Thomas was in progress when the storm of November happened. Owing to the devastation by the hurricane in the western parishes, the great damage done to the coconut trees left standing, and the special need for assistance of an experienced Instructor, it was considered important that the Travelling Supervisor of Instructors should proceed at once to the west end to organize the instructional work there under the new conditions that had

arisen, and to transfer Mr. Wates, who had had special experience in dealing with coconuts after the hurricane of 1903, to give advice and assistance in treating the damaged coconut trees, so as to give them opportunity to recover as far as possible, and also to prevent disease. After the storm, holdings would not be in a condition to be judged fairly.

The Board, therefore, resolved to abandon the Prize Holdings Competition for this year.

The competition for next year will be held in the same parishes, except St. James, which having suffered severely in the hurricane will, it was considered, not be in a condition to compete. Portland has been included instead.

Special prizes have been arranged for the best cultivated fields of coffee, cocoa, bananas, plots of garden vegetables, best kept small stock, and to the housewife having the neatest and cleanest house.

Shows.—The following Shows arranged to be held during this half year were abandoned after the storm:—

Santa Cruz	11th November, 1912.
Sav.-la-Mar	1st January, 1913.
Frankfield	20th February
Maidstone	13th March
Lamb's River	27th March
St. Thomas ye Vale	27th March

Six Shows were held during the first half of the year, viz.: Cambridge (St. James), St. Thomas at Port Morant, Goshen, St. Mary, Hanover at Lucea, Upper St. John at Point Hill, and Upper Trelawny at Albert Town.

Instructors.—Some alterations are proposed to be made in the arrangements for Instructors. Mr. H. Q. Levy who was in charge of St. Ann and Upper Trelawny resigned from January last. The services of Mr. Thomas who was in charge of Bath Gardens and the Cocoa Nursery there for the Department of Agriculture and whose spare time from these duties was employed as an Assistant Agricultural Instructor under Mr. L. A. Wates, have been dispensed with.

Mr. Arnett, who has acted as Travelling Supervising Instructor, will take charge of his old district in place of Mr. Levy, and the Secretary will supervise the Instructors (See paragraph on "Office"), Mr. Hoare who was appointed an Assistant Instructor and has been stationed at the Cocoa Nursery at Montpelier, will be transferred to Bath under Mr. Wates, in place of Mr. Thomas. Mr. Briscoe who has been since 1905 in charge of St. Andrew and W. St. Thomas will be transferred to Montpelier to take charge of the Cocoa Nursery there, and also of a new Instructional district which will take in part of St. James, Westmoreland and Hanover and St. Elizabeth, with his centre as Montpelier. Mr. A. P. Hanson who was appointed an Assistant Instructor in September last and has been acting under Mr. Cradwick in Western Portland will be promoted as a 2nd class Instructor and take the district vacated by Mr. Briscoe.

Cocoa Nurseries have been established—(1) at Bath with the Assistant Instructor in charge, under Mr. Wates' supervision where 6,416 cocoa plants were sent out during the year, and there

are 1,000 on hand; (2) at Hartford where Mr. Wates personally is in charge, and from which 28,720 cocoa plants and 5,878 Castilleo Rubber plants were sent out during the year at a cost of two-thirds of a penny including cost of delivery; and (3) at Montpelier where 8,000 cocoa plants were sent out; the hurricane of November destroyed 20,000 plants there, over half of which were potted and ready for issue. Owing to the large extension of banana cultivation in St. James and Westmoreland, especially the former, the Cocoa Nursery was established at Montpelier to encourage and facilitate the planting of cocoa extensively both by large planters and small settlers. This extension of the planting of bananas has further increased of late so that it is intended to raise a larger number of plants than was at first contemplated. It is chiefly with this end in view that Mr. Briscoe, who is a trained Nursery man, will be placed in charge, to give this enterprise every opportunity of being effective in practice. A fourth Cocoa Nursery is under consideration to be established at Danks in Clarendon, in charge of the Agricultural Instructor, Mr. Schleifer.

Branch Societies.—During the six months, ten more local Agricultural Societies have been affiliated as Branches as follows:—

Alexandria	(St. Ann)
Mahoe Hill	(St. Mary)
Marlborough	(St. Mary)
Chesterfield	(St. Mary)
Royal Flat	(Manchester)
East Portland	(Portland)
Rural Hill	(Portland)
Reach	(Portland)
Ramble	(Hanover)
Waterloo	(St. Catherine)

These have a total membership of 460.

The total number of Branches affiliated for the year is 26 with a membership of 1,450.

The total number of Branches is now—132 affiliated Branches and 8 sub-Branches, with a total membership of 6,325, an average of 46.

Membership.—The total number of direct members is 519. During the year 59 new members joined, and 45 were struck off through resignation and non-payment of subscription.

Journals.—The number of JOURNALS issued for the last month of the financial year (March) was 7,200; in the first month of the year (April 1912) it was 5,350 an increase of 1,850 during the year. The total cost of the printing of the JOURNAL for the year was £622 7s. 9d. the income from advertisements was £126 14s. 3d. making the nett cost £495 13s. 6d. The JOURNAL consists usually of 28 pages of advertisement and 40 to 50 pages of reading matter. As almost every month now, local Societies are affiliated as Branches, there is a constant increase in the number of JOURNALS, requiring to be issued.

Owing to the continued delay in the issue of the JOURNAL by the printers, who have been our printers from the first issue, it has been found necessary to call for fresh tenders, and a new contract

has been made with other printers, under bond to produce the JOURNAL by the middle of each month. This new contract starts in June.

Office.—The work of the office so greatly increased, with the extension of the Society's operations in different directions, increase of correspondence, extension of the Instructors' work, increased demand for seeds, interest in Loan Banks, the appointments of "Authorized Persons" together with the work of organizing and allocating supplies for seed relief, and arranging for exhibits for Toronto Exhibition, and the personal calls made at the office, that the Secretary has not been able to leave the office to visit Branch Societies or Instructors' districts, nor even attend Shows, and has only made a few special visits during the year.

From the beginning of the next financial year (1st April) a new arrangement is being tried, on the recommendation of the Instructors Committee. An Assistant Secretary has been appointed, and the Secretary will take part of each month to visit each Instructor's district, report on the Instructors' work; and attend meetings of the Branch Societies. The object is to keep the Secretary, the Instructor's Committee and the Board of Management in more direct touch with the work. The office of Supervising Instructor is to be suspended meantime. There is a saving of £100 on this arrangement, which may be an improvement if all the work concerned can be as effectively carried through.

For the half year 5,612 letters were received and 3,735 issued being a total for the year of 9,842 and 7,193 respectively. The figures for letters despatched do not include circulars sent out, communications to the Branch Societies being frequent; or advice notes of despatch of goods during the year which are numerous, nor do the figures include my Minutes appended to letters submitted to me which are frequent.

The number of receipts for payments made to the Office is 948 and the number of vouchers received for payments made 1,366, making totals for the year of 1,795 and 2,192 respectively.

Finances.—We began the year with a credit balance of £269 4s. 1½d. most of which had accrued from margins on Deposits Accounts.

The ordinary Revenue of the Society was £285 12s. 8d. the receipt on Deposits Accounts £2,315 18s. 7d., the Grant from the Government £5,000. For seeds and plants supplied we received £1,127 11s. 7d. and for Live Stock supplied £53 14s. 8d.

We have exceeded the allocations made for the expenditure on a few items only, the total of which is largely exceeded by savings on other items.

Owing to the abandonment of the Prize Holding Competition and of Agricultural Shows after the storm of November, only charges for printing and sundries were expended on account of the former and the grants allocated to Shows were saved.

We close the year with a balance to our credit of £480 6s. 11d. Statement of Accounts for the year is appended.

JNO. BARCLAY.

Secretary and Treasurer.

Statement of Accounts as at 31st March, 1913.

	Estimate	£ s d	£ s d	Allocation	£ s d	£ s d
To Balance forward 1911-12			269 4 1½			
.. Subscriptions	100 0 0	95 18 5		By Secretary's Salary	350 0 0	350 0 0
.. Advertisements	100 0 0	126 14 3		.. Clerks, Typists, etc	339 8 0	340 8 10
.. Journals	1 0 0	2 8 3		.. Instructors	3,400 0 0	3,271 8 8½
.. Affiliations	26 0 0	28 13 5		.. Rent and Taxes	60 0 0	59 17 3
.. Prize Holdings	10 0 0	4 11 0		.. Office Furniture	10 0 0	12 5 4
.. Sundries	1 0 0	0 19 9		.. Printing Journal	500 0 0	622 7 9
.. Experiments	30 0 0	26 7 2	285 12 3	.. By Postage, Telegrams, etc.	25 0 0	14 19 4
.. Deposits :-				.. Stationery and Printing	60 0 0	64 15 0
.. Exhibitions Permanent		189 11 3		.. Telephone	7 4 0	7 4 0
.. Exhibitions Toronto		325 8 7		.. Travelling	60 0 0	56 4 10
.. Relief Seed Fund--				.. Advertising	5 0 0	1 4 0
.. Drought Grant £200		200 0 0		.. Live Stock	5 0 0	1 4 0
.. Relief Seed Fund--				.. Experiments	47 10 0	21 15 5
.. Storm Grant £325		348 1 0½		.. Prize Holdings	125 0 0	16 10 2
.. Arrowroot		115 2 10½		.. Grants to Shows	100 0 0	69 8 8
.. Potatoes		162 4 5½		.. Sundries :-		
.. Cowpeas		229 0 5		.. Books and Periodicals	40 0 0	4 15 3
.. Sundry Peas and Beans		308 13 11		.. Office Supplies		9 1 3
.. Seeds and Plants		76 1 0		.. Typewriter, Purchase new machine		12 13 5
.. Seed Corn		64 1 8		.. Repairs to old machine		10 13 3
.. Guinea Corn		11 13 5½		.. Hire of machine		6 0 0
.. Vegetable Seeds		44 15 6½		.. Secretary and Clerks Guarantee		5 5 0
.. Cocoanuts		123 18 3		.. Fixing Handrails on steps		2 0 0
.. Literature		1 8 1½		.. Miscellaneous		8 12 2½
.. Shows: Hire of Marquees, etc.		25 16 6			2,429 3 10	
.. Live Stock: Pigs		34 14 0		.. Deposits		
.. Poultry and Rabbits		19 0 8		.. Amount lodged to Premiums s/c £56 15 7		
.. Miscellaneous		44 6 10½	2,315 18 7½	.. less Premiums Paid		
				.. on Pigs	£16 6 0	40 9 7
.. Bank of Nova Scotia Premiums Account			40 9 7			
.. Grant from Government			5,000 0 0	.. Balance at Bank 31st March, 1913	388 8 11	
				.. " in Hand "	91 18 0	480 6 11
			£7,911 4 7			
						£7,911 4 7

JNO. BARCLAY,
Secretary and Treasurer.

STATEMENT shewing quantities of Peas, Beans, etc., distributed in connection with Drought and Storm Relief to 31.3.1918.
DROUGHT RELIEF.

	Cowpeas.	Red Beans.	B. Eye Peas.	Gungo Peas.	Corn.	Guinea Corn.	Vegt. Seeds.	Yam Heads.	Tobacco Seeds.	Seed Potatoes.	Sweet Potato Slips.	Pumpkin Seeds.
	bush, gts.	bush, gts.	bush, gts.	bush, gts.	bush, gts.	bush, gts.	packets.	cwt.	packets	barrels.	bundles.	gts, pks.
St. Elizabeth	56 0	10 14	2 0	5 0	50 0	4 0	..	..	8	..	132	25 3
Manchester	14 0	21 23	1 30	0 19	6 0	..	..	..	4	..	80	16 0
Clarendon	24 16	..	1 16	..	2 0	..	36	..	..	..	80	16 0
St. Catherine	5 0	1 0	1 0	..	..	..	581	..	..	..	20	26 4
St. Andrew	2 16	10 16	..	..	4 0	..	80	24	..	..	..	10 0
St. Thomas	..	4 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	102 0	47 21	6 14	5 19	62 0	4 0	676	24	12	..	282	90 1

STORM RELIEF.

	Cowpeas.	Red Beans.	B. Eye Peas.	Gungo Peas.	Corn.	Guinea Corn.	Vegt. Seeds.	Yam Heads.	Tobacco Seeds.	Seed Potatoes.	Sweet Potato Slips.	Pumpkin Seeds.
	bush, gts.	bush, gts.	bush, gts.	bush, gts.	bush, gts.	bush, gts.	packets.	cwt.	packets	barrels.	bundles.	gts, pks.
Hanover	16 24	24 31	22 3	22 0	22 0	..	372	195	..	..	..	5 0
Westmoreland	16 23	41 10	56 1	2 0	28 3	..	205	..	6	10	80	7 0
St. James	12 0	27 1	20 17	..	2 0	..	371	..	2	5	20	6 0
Trelawny	0 0	8 0	2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Elizabeth	1 0	14 13	16 16	..	4 9	..	81	..	..	..	..	..
St. Mary	1 0	3 0	2 0	..	1 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
St. Catherine	1 0	..	2 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Manchester	..	4 1	2 0	..	5 0	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
St. Ann	..	3 0	3 0	..	4 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	54 15	125 24	124 5	2 0	66 12	..	1019	194	8	17	50	18
Grand Total	156 15	173 13	130 19	7 19	129 12	4 0	1696	22	20	17	382	108 0

329 bundles Cassava Sticks were also distributed in Westmoreland and Hanover.

The Secretary said that a copy of the Report was in the hands of those present. The custom which had been followed in the past was to take the Report paragraph by paragraph, and members could make whatever observations they liked thereon. The Secretary then read the subject of each paragraph.

SEED DISTRIBUTION :—

"Wherever possible these seeds were allocated under the supervision of the local Agricultural Instructor, and the strict injunction was that they were only to be given out to those who were really in need and had land prepared.

Members of Branch Societies naturally were those who took care to have land prepared promptly, but seed distribution was not confined to these, as has been asserted, where there was enough seed to go further. But such quantities as are noted did not go far among the hundreds of applicants in every district. Take for instance, the Nain Branch in St. Elizabeth with 63 members in a poor drought-stricken district. Their share was one bushel of seed corn and a half bushel of red beans. Such a quantity could not give all the members an appreciable quantity to plant and leave much to the scores of others, who, learning of the supplies of seeds, made application later. There were other cases like this. On the other hand seeds were distributed through responsible agents in localities where there were no Branch Societies; and in some cases Branch Societies, which were in funds, bought supplies from us for their members."

Mr. Eason wanted to know what practical results had been obtained through the distribution of seeds.

The Secretary stated that he could not with certainty say what results had accrued from the seed distribution. But local foodstuffs through the drought of last year and the storm of November last had been very scarce; seeds for planting had been scarce. Now all local foodstuffs with the exception of cassava, and yams, were becoming plentiful. There were very large quantities of beans and peas in the markets and good corn crops on the whole would be reaped in a month or so. As regards the beans and peas at any rate the present large crops of these in several of what had been the worst off districts were due to the distribution of seeds.

Mr. Muirhead said that he should like to see the Society do something for marketing the crops for the people. For instance there were large crops of Irish potatoes in Mauchester which at present could not find an outlet. He thought they should endeavour to assist the producers in finding suitable markets for their products. There had also been a drawback to producers through the high railway freight. The Society had brought this matter to the attention of the Government, but, unfortunately, nothing had been done. He pointed out that the cultivators of such products as corn and potatoes had to obtain a certain price for these articles, otherwise they could not cultivate them at a profit. If the Society were to do something in the direction he had indicated, it would be a great boon to the producers. He pointed out that the Public Works Department could purchase a large portion of the corn that was produced in this Island, and there was no reason why they should pay a price as low as 2/ per bushel as they sometimes did. He thought there should be more local encouragement afforded the cultivators of these crops in the Island.

Mr. Eason endorsed the remarks of Mr. Muirhead and maintained that cheaper rates for the carriage of agricultural products should be provided.

The Secretary stated that at the beginning of this year there had been a scarcity of foodstuffs and the great object the Government and the Society had in view, was to see that seeds were available for planting, so that there might follow a plentiful supply of foodstuffs. This had been achieved. It would be a big task for the Society with the means at its disposal to tackle the marketing of products. Small cultivators could not hold their corn but rushed it into

market as soon as it was reaped and before it was quite dry. Small growers sometimes sold their corn at 2/ per bushel at the beginning of the season and a few months after were buying back for their own use at 4/. Personally, he did not think there would be much difficulty in the Public Works getting all the corn they wanted here this season for the feeding of their mules, but usually home-grown supplies were irregular. With regard to the cultivation of potatoes he pointed out that they all came in at the same time and the local markets could not take all the crop at once. The growers would not or could not store these potatoes. It was October before the Halifax potatoes came in and they had until then to supply the local markets. By that time there would not be much of the local crop left. With regard to the question of railway freight, the Society had already made representations to the Government when the question of revising railway freights came up and they had got a good many reductions and had some inconsistencies remedied.

Mr. Simmonds said that he could not tell what was the correct position with regard to the question of railway freight. On the one hand, he was told that the rates were exorbitant, yet on the other hand, he had met a producer who was able to bring his potatoes from Manchester and sell them at a profit. Here were two statements; which was correct?

Mr. Hannan said there were different phases to the question of railway charges. In his opinion, the inarticulate masses were not complaining, but only a comparatively few. He compared the price which was obtained in Jamaica for locally grown Irish potatoes as against that obtained abroad. Considering that the producer in Jamaica got three crops a year, he was certainly in a better position than the producer abroad. He did not think it was fair to say that the railway rates were exorbitant, when there was a large number of people who took their produce to market, notwithstanding the great difficulty; and thus received little benefit from the railway. He did not think it was right and proper to say that the railway rates were exorbitant, merely because they did not suit certain individuals.

Mr. Muirhead rose on a point of order. He did not think it was proper for Mr. Hannan to accuse them of unfairness. He was evidently judging others by himself. They represented the Agricultural interests of the Island and stood as an advisory board. To accuse the Board of unfair methods was certainly out of order.

The President said that he did not think Mr. Hannan was imputing any motives to any members of the Board; he was speaking generally.

Mr. Hannan said that he was speaking generally. He desired to see that the work which the Society was carrying on, was carried out to the full. In his opinion the Government should assist the work of the Society in finding new markets for the producers; and it would not be out of place for them to have their own steamships, as well as their own railway service.

TANKS:—

Mr. Martin said that with regard to the matter of obtaining grants from the Government for the completion of certain tanks in Manchester, in that parish they had got money from the Government from time to time for the purpose of building tanks in the dry districts. But although certain special grants had been made, the work of making these tanks was at a standstill. Owing to severe droughts in the parish, he thought that some effort should be made by the Government to sanction payment of the Grant to complete the tanks. The Government should take up the matter so that they might know where they were. The Government had given £250 so far, in connection with the building of five tanks; but no more money had been granted for their completion. The excavation work had been completed but they were left without the masonry being laid down, and there would have to be some re-excavation work, when they were ready to go on with the tanks.

The President stated that with regard to the question of tanks for Manchester, the Government had been asked to provide funds for the building of these tanks this year. This was, however, out of the question. He had gone over St. Elizabeth and the dry districts of Manchester, and he had come to the conclusion that tanks were absolutely necessary. Something should be done for the population in the dry districts in the way of water supply. When the opportunity offered they would go on with tank building; but it could not be undertaken this year.

COTTON SEED :—

Mr. Dugald Campbell stated that certain cotton seeds which the Society had advised should be prohibited being brought into the Island from Cuba had been brought here, and there might be danger of spreading disease amongst the cotton fields here. He asked Mr. Watson if he knew of this.

Mr. Watson said that there was a certain variety of tree cotton introduced in Cuba which was sold locally, he understood, at a penny per lb. : he did not think this was a variety to be grown here. He was advised in England that he should not grow Caravonica cotton which was similar but better because it was only used for mixing. He was advised to grow a fine grade of cotton. It cost the same to pick a poor variety of cotton as to pick the best. The cotton seed introduced from Cuba was a danger to the island. The matter had been discussed at the meeting of the Board of Management the previous afternoon and the Acting Director of Agriculture had stated that the seed had been treated both at the wharf and at Hope Gardens. Nevertheless it ought not to have been brought into the Island.

The Secretary said that a Special Committee had been appointed to report on the conditions in Southern Manchester and St. Elizabeth. Their report had been sent to the Governor. This Committee recommended among other things that experiments in cotton growing should be carried through in the dry districts. But as it was not likely at this date that the Government could carry through the recommendations this year, and as Mr. Anderson to whom the Society had made a grant of £50 to carry through an experiment on a commercial scale was still in England and could not be back in time for the planting season, the Board, not wishing that this season should pass without anything being done, had resolved to carry through the experiment themselves. They intended to apply the £50 mentioned, to cultivate ten one-acre plots of Sea Island cotton extending from Pedro Plains to the borders of Clarendon, taking different types of soils and different elevations.

Rev. Leo. Jones (Whitehouse Branch) suggested that experiments in cotton might be tried in the Bluefields district of Westmoreland. The district was away from the sugar factories, and if something was done to help the people in the way of cotton growing, it would be a great boon to the inhabitants of the locality. The pens around did not supply sufficient labour, and he thought it would be well if experiments were to be carried out in the district so as to ascertain whether cotton could be grown there or not.

The Secretary stated that they had only had a limited sum in hand for cotton experiments, which had already been allocated. He believed, however, that Mr. Kirkham intended to cultivate 5 to 10 acres in that locality, and perhaps that experiment would serve the purpose.

Mr. Jones : I did not know of that, sir.

Mr. Cradwick said that cotton was grown successfully, in the district in question some years ago but that there was no local market for it then :—

The President : The question of a market for our cotton is very important.

The Secretary said that in their first experiments the difficulty of those who had grown small quantities of cotton had been to sell what they raised, but there

were no ginneries then. Now there were two, and he had had no difficulty so far in arranging for the selling of the cotton of small settlers to those ginneries.

The President said that before they established cotton cultivation here generally, the question of providing a market would have to be considered.

Mr. Watson said that small ginneries might also be erected in different parts of the country.

ENTOMOLOGIST AND ORNITHOLOGIST :—

"At the October meeting the question of the Government getting an Entomologist who was also an Ornithologist was again brought up, and the Governor said he was in favour of such an appointment, although such an officer had not been of such pressing importance as the Mycologist lately appointed. If an appointment was made it might not be made a permanent appointment, but a good man might be engaged for say a period of three years to make investigations. This recommendation was accordingly made to the Government. The Board was however informed that meantime the finances of the country would not allow of such an appointment."

The President said that he should like to have a clear expression of opinion on the subject.

Mr. Martin said that the matter had been brought up by the Society before, and they had represented to the Governor that a Mycologist and Microbiologist and an Entomologist and Ornithologist should be appointed, but only the former had been appointed.

The Secretary said the Board thought they might be able to get a man who possessed both qualifications, Entomologist and Ornithologist.

Mr. Dugald Campbell : It is absolutely necessary to have the services of an Ornithologist.

Mr. Watson said that if the Government could not obtain the services of a man who combined the qualifications of an Entomologist and an Ornithologist then they should appoint an Entomologist.

The President said he hoped they would be able to get an Entomologist when finances permitted. (Hear hear).

BIRD DESTRUCTION :—

Mr. Cradwick called attention to the destruction of birds which was being carried on by small boys with catapults. It was a most dangerous practice.

The Secretary said that with regard to the question raised by Mr. Cradwick as to the use of the catapult for killing birds, the following paragraph in the report dealt with the question :

"The matter of small boys being permitted to use catapults for killing birds, with impunity, was brought before the Board, and a recommendation was made to the Government that the Police be instructed to check this practice as it was illegal. And the Secretary was also instructed to bring this to the notice of the Director of Education, with the view of teachers being asked to influence the school children against this practice. The Secretary was also directed to call attention in the Journal to the reasons for preserving useful birds.

"The Government replied that the Inspector General had been requested to instruct the police to use every effort to put an end to the practice, and had also requested the Director of Education to call the attention of school teachers to the need for impressing upon school children the reason why birds should be protected and the illegality of destroying those protected by law."

Mr. Hannan said he thought the definition of firearm in the Law did include catapults, and if so the Police should act on it.

Law 58 of 1908 says: "The word 'firearm' as used in the acts and laws mentioned in the schedule hereto and in all other acts and laws of this island now in force, or to be hereafter passed, shall be taken to mean and include a firearm of any description, and an air gun or spring gun, or any other kind of weapon from which any shot, bullet, or other missile can be discharged." Surely this definition covered sling-shots and catapults.

Mr. Muirhead said that the Secretary should make a note of what Mr. Hannan had said, and the Board of Management could consider it.

Mr. Dugald Campbell stated that he should like it known that he had been able to secure a conviction in a case where a catapult was used.

The Rev. Mr. Baker said that the use of the catapult was an evil that the Society should endeavour to put down.

The President said that enquiries would be made of the law officers of the Crown on the subject, and as soon as their opinion had been got, some action would be taken. It seemed to him that the use of the catapult should be prohibited altogether.

ENTIRE HORSE LAW :-

"The matter of this Law not having effected any useful purpose, and not being the Law originally brought forward and recommended by this Society, while as a Revenue measure it only produced £94 last year, was again considered (March JOURNAL, page 124) and referred to the Live Stock Committee to consider and submit some workable measure which would have the effect of limiting if not of abolishing the use of unsound and weakly sires. This is still before the Live Stock Committee who are working along the lines of a recommendation for the Registration of Stallions."

Mr. Graham raised the question as to whether the action which it was proposed to take would not be regarded as class legislation. Horses of all kinds were needed for service in the island. They required large as well as small horses. He was merely sounding a note of warning.

Mr. Martin said that what they desired to see was that diseased stallions were not allowed to stand for service. They wanted to have sound stallions that would be able to produce sturdy horses and ponies. It was not a question of class legislation. They were simply endeavouring to protect the horse-breeding industry of the colony.

The President stated that there was no question of class legislation in the matter. What was wanted was that unsound stallions should not be used as sires.

In reply to a question by the representative of one of the branch societies, as to who would examine the stallions, Mr. Martin said that this work could be done by a Government Vet.

Mr. Esson said that when he arrived in Jamaica some years ago, he found a fairly large trade between Jamaica and Cuba in the sale of horses; but that trade had disappeared, and he agreed with Mr. Martin that they should see that none but healthy stallions were kept.

Mr. Martin said he attributed the falling off of the trade to the fact that there was formerly more direct communication with the other West India Islands, and that those who used to purchase horses regularly here no doubt found it cheaper now to buy horses in England, where they could get a better animal than if they purchased it here.

BUTCHERS' LICENSES :-

"The Board having had representation made to them of the difficulties the Police met with in preventing the stealing of goats, which was exceedingly prevalent, and of discovering the thieves, there being no check on itinerant vendors of meat, again considered the question of Butchers' Licenses (first considered six years before) and recommended that in order to place the slaughtering of beasts for human consumption and the sale of butchers' meat under some restrictions and under some control, a license, on payment of a small fee, mainly for registration purposes, be required of all persons offering for sale to the public butchers'

meat of any description; and in order that all persons offering butchers' meat for sale might be required to account for their possession of it to any constable or district constable, and be liable to arrest if they failed to do so.

The Government, however, replied that they did not consider it advisable to propose legislation on the lines suggested by the Society''.

Mr. Hannan said he would like to call the attention of the meeting to the number of itinerant butchers in different parts of the island, who were in the habit of purchasing small stock from individuals without knowing where they came from. In many cases, the animals had been stolen. If the Society had any influence with the Government, as it professed to have, he thought that strong representations should be made to the Government, with a view to remedying the present condition of things. It was a matter of paramount importance.

The President said that representations had been made to the Government on the subject; but he did not know if they dealt with the whole question. From the remarks made he recognised that some action should be taken. It was necessary that there should be certain defined places for the slaughtering of animals.

Mr. Martin said that the St. Andrew Police had called the attention of the Government, who had asked the opinion of the Board of Management of the Agricultural Society on the matter, to the difficulty of tracing thefts of small stock owing to the number of itinerant butchers who sold the meat, and the Board had recommended that all butchers and those offering butchers' meat for sale should be licensed; but the Government had said that they did not see their way to adopt the suggestion. What Mr. Hannan wanted to see was something done to prevent so many itinerant butchers hawking meat around. They had made certain representations on the subject, and here he should like to refer to the remarks made by Mr. Hannan as to whether the Society had any influence with the Government. From time to time they had made representations to the Government (representing as they did the agricultural interests of the colony) and he maintained that their recommendations should be seriously considered by the Government, instead of being turned down as they mostly were. They were agriculturists, and had a better chance of judging what was wanted by the people for the agricultural interests of the island.

The Rev. Mr. Taylor also suggested that some action should be taken. That itinerant butchers should be licensed, and not allowed to go about the country broadcast.

The President said that he was not in the island when the matter was discussed; but he understood from the previous consideration of the subject that if a fee were to be charged in connection with the licensing of these small butchers, it would mean that a good many of them would go out of business. Perhaps the best method of dealing with the situation would be to register the men.

Mr. Hannan suggested that the itinerant butchers should keep a book of the purchases they had made, and if necessary they should be able also to produce the heads and skins of the animals slaughtered.

Sir John Pingle said that some of the arguments that were used now had also been put forward in the Legislative Council. It was stated that the payment of a small fee would put a large number of these butchers out of employment. He was glad to see, however, that public opinion on the subject had been changed and that it was now thought advisable that some action should be taken.

Mr. Muirhead stated that they had been discussing this question for the past fifteen years, and the opinion they now expressed was their opinion then. He also went on to state that there was no proper system of meat inspection, and that the police authorities would only intervene when the noxious odour of the meat wafted over the police station. He maintained that if itinerant butchers were licensed, it would have the effect of lessening the number of cases of theft.

The President said that the Society should send their recommendations to the Colonial Secretary as soon as possible, because the question was now before the Government. Although this matter had been discussed and nothing done during the past fifteen years, that was no reason why they should not take some action now.

Sir John Pringle suggested the establishment of licensed slaughter houses in different parts of the country.

The Secretary stated that he had seen animals being slaughtered near to the public roadway, with a crowd of school children looking on.

Mr. Muirhead said that the Society had made recommendations from time to time on many matters but that practically none of them had been carried out.

The Secretary said he could not endorse that statement because almost every bit of agricultural legislation had been initiated by this Society although it took years sometimes before the Society's recommendations had effect. Meantime however the frequent discussions on questions of new legislation or amendments of laws dealing with agricultural matters educated public opinion up to the necessity for this legislation, in the same way as on the present subject, the licensing of butchers.

The Secretary was instructed to send to the Government again the recommendations made by the Board of Management referred to in his report, and ask reconsideration of the subject.

AUTHORIZED PERSONS:—

"A member of the Board having frequently mentioned that "Authorized Persons" were not made properly conversant with the duties required of them on their appointment, and in consequence some of them did things outside of their scope, this subject has been several times discussed at length, and the attention of the Inspector General of Police has been directed to the necessity of the police instructing the newly appointed "Authorized Persons" fully in their duties. It has also been submitted that the "Authorized Persons" have often difficulty in getting paid for work done and in some cases have not been paid at all. It has been recommended by a majority of the Board that this body of men be put under the control of the Inspector General. A minority, however, have held that with the co-operation of all parties concerned—the police who should see that the persons appointed are given full instructions in their duty, the Branch Societies on whose nomination the persons are appointed, who should see that they understand their duties, and the Clerks of the Courts, who should take trouble to pay promptly the remuneration for the services rendered, and which the "Authorized Persons" are entitled to under the Law.—the fundamental principle which governed the creation of this system would yet be justified."

Mr. McGrath said they had a police force in the island, then they had district constables, then these "Authorized Persons," yet prædial larceny was still increasing. He should like the representatives of the Branch Societies present to give their opinion frankly as to the value of the work which these "Authorized Persons" were rendering.

Rev. Mr. Taylor (Enfield Branch) stated that he represented a district which was known to be a great cocoa producing centre. There were three district constables in his and the surrounding districts, and yet they had not made any arrests. Their branch had three "Authorized Persons," and they were doing very valuable work in his district. One of them had 23 cases that were taken to court, out of which there were 22 convictions. (hear, hear). At first their men were resisted on the ground that they had no authority, but that had now been overcome, and since the men had got their handcuffs it had given them extra vim and confidence in their work.

The Rev. Leo. Jones, (Whitehouse Branch) supported the remarks of Mr. Taylor as to the value of the work of "Authorized Persons."

Mr. Mossman (Instructor) also bore testimony to the good work which the "Authorized Persons" were doing. As an Agricultural Instructor he came into close touch with them, but he pointed out that a great difficulty under which the men suffered, was to get their remuneration after they had made a case. He instanced one case where one of these "Authorized Persons" had been given a certificate by the Hon. J. V. Calder, and yet the Clerk of the Courts refused to pay on the ground that the certificate was not in order. He suggested that they should have printed forms of certificates.

Mr. Nesbitt, (Swift River Branch) also produced letters showing the difficulty which had been experienced in his district by "Authorized Persons" in obtaining pay after they had made a case. In his opinion, there was some prejudice between the Police and the "Authorized Persons."

Mr. Schleifer (Instructor) also referred to the difficulty in his parish (Clarendon), and stated that he had arranged a meeting between the Police and the "Authorized Persons" for next week, in order that there should be an understanding between them.

Mr. Mennell (Darliston Branch) instanced a case where an "Authorized Person" had to walk over thirty miles after he had made a case, to get his pay.

Mr. Somerville (Instructor) said that the "Authorized Persons" had not at first been properly instructed in their duties. He had known of cases where "Authorized Persons" had effected arrests for disorderly conduct and larceny of money.

Mr. Williams suggested that they might recommend to the Government that a leaflet clearly defining the duties of "Authorized Persons" might be prepared, showing what was expected of them, and also the limitation of their powers. This might be issued to all concerned in the working of the law—the Branch Societies, "Authorized Persons," Instructors, Police, Magistrates and Clerks of the Courts.

Other members of the Branch Societies also spoke in support of the good work being done by the "Authorized Persons." The representative of Troja Branch suggested that power should be given to them to inspect the books of produce dealers, as it was difficult to trace the various thefts, especially of cocoa, without having access to these books.

Mr. Cradwick said that the chief form of prædial larceny in St. Mary was the theft of cocoa pods, and he thought the books of produce dealers should be more strictly inspected.

The Secretary said that this particular subject was being brought up later on.

CHILDREN DRIVING DRAYS—

The attention of the Government was called to the increasingly common but dangerous practice of little boys being allowed to drive drays and buggies, who were unable to control such vehicles, and accidents occurred in this way, and asking whether a law could not be introduced regulating the age of drivers.

The Government, however, replied that they did not consider there would be sufficient justification for initiating special legislation in the direction suggested, as the evil complained of was small compared with the dangers arising from reckless and obstructive driving by adults. The subject was again brought up at the Half Yearly General Meeting in January, and the following resolution passed:—That in the opinion of the Agricultural Society the necessity has arisen for legislation to prevent incompetent youths from driving drays, and that the Government be asked to pass the necessary Law to prohibit this.

The Government, however, referred the Society to the former decision."

Mr. Martin said that representations had been made to the Government on the subject, but His Excellency's predecessor had turned them down. He thought, however, that legislative action should be taken in this matter.

Rev. Mr. Taylor (Enfield Branch) said that it was not a matter of dangerous driving on the part of small boys only but the evil was general.

Mr. Hannan agreed, and referred to the difficulty which he had sometimes experienced in going to his home in Upper Clarendon, owing to obstruction by drays.

DUTY ON CITRUS FRUIT :—

"In November a letter was submitted to the Board by a member of the Society who is a prominent grower of citrus fruit, suggesting that some steps should be taken towards inducing the Government to approach the new Government of the United States to secure some reciprocal re-adjustment of tariff, especially the abolition or reduction of the high duties on citrus fruits. The matter was referred to the Half Yearly General Meeting in January and there discussed at length. A resolution was unanimously passed and sent to the

Government asking that in case opportunity should occur through any revision of the tariff of the United States the Government should interest itself in trying to secure a reduction or the abolition of the present high duty on citrus fruit.

Mr. Muirhead said that as the subject of the paragraph was Citrus Fruit, he would take the opportunity to call attention to the fact that although there were regulations requiring shippers to use trade marks, these were not carried out. Neither the Customs Authorities nor other officers of the Government seemed to be acquainted with the regulations. He had telephoned the Collector General and the Government Printing Office asking them if they had a copy of the Law on this subject but both said they had not. It was necessary that the Government should take such steps as would secure the fulfilment of these requirements in this trade.

The President said that the question of the Orange Trade had been brought up in the Legislative Council by the Hon. member for Manchester and, as far as he remembered, a committee had been appointed to deal with the matter.

Mr. Esson : I think the matter was left in your hands, sir.

The President said that he had been going into this matter of the Citrus Industry and that the papers would be sent to Mr. E. Esson. A Committee should enquire into the matter and try to arrive at some definite conclusions.

Mr. Muirhead said that a law requiring the use of a trade mark on every package was already in existence and what he was complaining about was that it was not being enforced.

The President said that he would be glad to have any opinions that would throw light on the subject.

The Secretary said the Society had held an Orange Conference in November 1905 and appointed a special Committee on the Citrus Fruit Industry in March 1909, both of which had gone fully into the whole question including inspection of fruit. The reports of these might be of use to the Committee.

Rev. Mr. Baker (Mocho & Brixton Hill Branch) said that the Society ought to be represented on this Citrus Fruit Committee, and they should make this recommendation to the Government. This was agreed to.

SCHOOL GARDENS :—

"On the appointment of Mr. Murray, who has acted as Inspector of School Gardens for some years, to the post of Headmaster at the Stock Farm at Hupe, this post was discontinued, and as the Board had long recommended, it was arranged that the Agricultural Instructors should work in co-operation with the Education Department in this connection, visit the various School Gardens, give such help and advice in the conduct of these as they can, record their opinions in the School Log Book after each visit, and so enable the Inspectors of Schools on their annual inspections to form an opinion of the relative merits of the School Gardens during the year." (JOURNAL for March, page 130.)

The Board offered prizes for the best plot of cotton grown in School Gardens in certain districts, with a further prize for the best sample of cotton from the plots competing.

It is proposed to repeat this offer next season and also offer prizes for the growing of corn, and guinea corn."

Mr. Esson said he thought that School Gardens should be run more on practical lines and be made use of as nurseries for raising and distributing plants. In this way they would be more generally useful to the children and people alike.

Mr. Cradwick said if it were attempted to run them on a commercial basis and the growing only of the most profitable crops were attempted the educational influence would surely be destroyed. If tidy methodical habits could be inculcated and an interest in Agriculture aroused through the School Gardens they would justify their existence. He thought the time fully ripe to encourage only gardens which could come up to a certain standard and had efficient fences, and no grant at all be given to those gardens which did not.

Mr. Moesman said that as an Instructor who had interested himself in School Gardens he thought they should be made more and more experimental grounds, and so be of greater service to the Instructor and the people.

The Hon. J. R. Willams (Director of Education) said what Mr. Mossman says of the importance of experiments in School Garden work is quite true, but it is not the whole truth. In one sense it is true because all School Garden teaching is objective, and the lessons are to be learnt from doing things and seeing things done. But in the narrower sense only a part of the work can be experimental, in the way of testing new ideas or showing the contrast between proper and improper methods of cultivation. This is very valuable as far as it is practicable.

Mr. Cradwick's reminder that the first object of a School Garden is to be educative is just and timely. A Garden may or may not be more or less of a commercial success; it may or may not produce varieties of plants of exceptional merit, but the development of the children's ideas, training their intelligence while it adds to their knowledge, is its first duty. And one of the most commonly neglected at present, is the lesson of orderliness and neatness; fences particularly seem to need attention. There is such a wide difference between the best Garden and the worst; and the worst do so little good, the time is not far when the worst must cease to be recognised if they fail to improve.

PRIZE HOLDINGS COMPETITION :—

"This competition should have taken place in the parishes of St. Thomas, St. Catherine, Trelawny and St. James, and the judging in St. Thomas was in progress when the storm of November happened. Owing to the devastation by the hurricane in the western parishes, the great damage done to the coconut trees left standing, and the special need for the assistance of an experienced Instructor, it was considered important that the Travelling Supervisor of Instructors should proceed at once to the west end to organize the instructorial work there under the new conditions that had arisen, and to transfer Mr. Watea, who had special experience in dealing with coconuts after the hurricane of 1903, to give advice and assistance in treating the damaged coconut trees, so as to give them opportunity to recover as far as possible, and also to prevent disease. After the storm, holdings would not be in a condition to be judged fairly.

The Board, therefore, resolved to abandon the Prize Holdings Competition for this year.

The competition for next year will be held in the same parishes, except St. James, which having suffered severely in the hurricane will, it was considered, not be in a condition to compete. Portland has been included instead.

Special prizes have been arranged for the best cultivated fields of coffee, cocoa, bananas, plots of garden vegetables, best kept small stock, and to the housewife having the neatest and cleanest house."

Mr. Mowatt representing the Spanish Town Branch, rose to call attention to the difficulties the small cultivators in the irrigation area of St. Catherine experienced in getting a supply of water from the Canal. He said that if the cultivators were given a supply to irrigate, say one acre of land and upwards, they could develop their holdings and some could enter into this competition.

Mr. Mossman (Instructor) endorsed the remarks of the previous speaker.

The Secretary said he understood that one of the difficulties in supplying water to cultivators at the present time was due to the larger demand, and water supply in the Canal not being available. However, the representations of the Spanish Town Branch had been sent forward to the Government and acknowledged as receiving attention.

BRANCH SOCIETIES :—

"During the six months, ten more local Agricultural Societies have been affiliated as Branches as follows :—

Alexandria	(St. Ann)
Mahoe Hill	(St. Mary)
Marlborough	(St. Mary)
Chesterfield	(St. Mary)
Royal Flat	(Manchester)
East Portland	(Portland)
Rural Hill	(Portland)

Reach	(Portland)
Ramble	(Hanover)
Waterloo	(St. Catherine)

These have a total membership of 460.

The total number of Branches affiliated for the year is 26, with a membership of 3,450.

The total number of Branches is now—132 affiliated Branches and 8 sub-Branches, with a total membership of 6,325, an average of 46."

Mr. Hannan pointed out that there had been a new policy initiated by the Board of Management of discouraging the formation of Branch Societies, and gave the instance of a local Society started at Crofts Hill which had been refused affiliation.

Mr. Williams said that the Board of Management considered that local Societies were being formed too close to each other, and each one added to the list was an additional burden to the work of the parent Society, and they recommended that those who desired to be connected with the Agricultural Society, should, wherever possible, be advised to join the nearest Branch Society.

The Secretary stated that also the addition of so many Branch Societies during the year increased the expenditure of the Society for the issue of Journals far beyond their estimates; longer notice would require to be given of the formation of Branches.

Mr. Hannan stated that the Journal of the Society was a most useful publication, and its issue to every Agriculturist who wanted it should not be restricted. He thought that there should be local Agricultural Societies in every district that wanted one.

The Secretary submitted resolutions passed by the Mahoe Hill (St. Mary) and Avocat (Portland) Branches, suggesting that the gun license should be reduced from 8s. to 4s.

The President said that he had considerable experience in the use of firearms and he did not think the use of them should be encouraged, He did not see the necessity for the possession of firearms here.

The Secretary said that the argument of the Branch Societies was that cultivators suffered great loss at times from small stock trespassing, and they wanted to be in a position to shoot pigs and goats causing damage to their cultivations.

The Governor said that these animals could be driven off or caught. He was not in favour of every one possessing fire arms and so he did not think a small license desirable.

PRAEDIAL LARCENY:

The Secretary read the following resolutions *re* praedial larceny:—

(1) from Ulster Spring Branch—

RESOLVED: "That the system of dealing with the praedial thief is neither satisfactory nor preventative of crime and that the Government take steps to deal with this growing evil.

Arguments and suggestions:—

1. The present laws do not prevent crime and the conviction of the praedial thief is often difficult to secure.

2. When a conviction is secured, the sufferer from praedial larceny should be compensated by the Government who makes good such compensation out of the work done by the convict who should not be liberated till he shall have performed sufficient convict labour to pay for his keep, his travelling expenses, and all the expenses connected with the securing of his conviction.

3. This would necessarily require the amendment of the laws that now fix the terms of imprisonment."

(2) from Craighhead Branch—

"Be it resolved that the Government be asked to establish farms on available Crown Lands where praedial thieves on their conviction be sent for lengthened periods of not more than fifteen years with the view of acquiring the princi-

ples of agriculture and the habit of working. At the end of each prisoner's term, a monetary allowance might be made him in order to enable him (then a reformed man) to make a start in life.

It was also moved by Mr. C. H. Morgan, seconded by Mr. A. Weston and agreed to:—

“That the Government be asked to make it possible that the services of praedial thieves might become available to capable citizens who might be willing to keep him during the term for which he might be convicted at a nominal rate of wages. The Government will exercise full control over him and divide equally between them whatever money may be earned by him. Spanish Town might be made headquarters for the transaction of business.”

Mr. Hannan instanced a case where an orchard was plundered, and although there was the clearest possible evidence the Magistrate would not convict. Praedial larceny was a very serious menace to the development of the community and he strongly urged that the Government should take firm steps to suppress the evil.

Mr. Esson said the matter was getting worse and worse, and particularly in Manchester, where the people were threatening to shoot thieves. Hard-working men and women were being discouraged in their cultivations, owing to the deprivations on the part of those who did not sow, yet reaped. When His Excellency was in Manchester the other day, his attention had been called to the number of juvenile offenders, and he (Mr. Esson) would suggest that the Industrial School at Stony Hill should be enlarged so as to take in juvenile offenders of South Manchester and South St. Elizabeth, where praedial larceny was rampant. There was also a suggestion made that habitual criminals should be detained on prison farms to be established.

This proposal was brought up during the regime of the late Governor, but unfortunately nothing was done. In his (Mr. Esson's) opinion habitual criminals should be kept until they showed some signs of reformation, and not be allowed to go plundering their neighbour's goods.

Mr. Martin said he could corroborate all Mr. Esson had said. The praedial larceny evil was a growing one at this time, and the Government evidently did not recognize the extent of the evil that was being done. Praedial larceny was one of the greatest scourges of the country. There was a large body of able-bodied men nearly all over the country, who would not work but went out stealing at nights. It was no use sending them to prison. That did them no good; for they came out and boasted how well they were fed. What they wanted was a sound vagrancy law, so that the men could be punished unless they worked. If His Excellency, the President, were to conceive a successful scheme for the wiping out of praedial larceny, he would have conferred the greatest benefit on the community (hear, hear).

The Rev. Mr. Taylor hoped that the Governor, with the assistance of the elected members, would be able to pass such a stringent law as would suppress praedial larceny. So far as his district of St. Mary was concerned, the people who committed praedial larceny there hailed from other parishes.

Mr. J. W. Mennell pointed out that the present system of policing the agricultural districts of the island was quite unsatisfactory. The rural headmen who had done such good services in the past had been substituted by district constables who were paid by results which did not work so well as the system of rural headmen paid 5/ a week as a subsidy. Praedial larceny was certainly a serious question to the community, and some stringent measures to suppress it would have to be introduced.

Mr. Esson: There was a suggestion about flogging praedial thieves.

Mr. Martin said that some years ago they had a District Court Judge, Mr. Baird, who ordered praedial thieves to be flogged when he found them guilty. This had a deterrent effect, and it was stated then one could go so far as to leave a bunch of bananas on the public highway and it would not be stolen. Something would have to be done. It was not for them to suggest the remedy. It was a matter for the ruling authorities of the island. He would, however,

propose the following resolution: "That this Society, in general meeting assembled, desires to call the attention of the Government to the prevalence of prædial larceny, and asks that stringent measures be adopted to put down this growing evil."

Mr. Mowatt seconded. He stated that if the Government were to adopt the system pertaining on the Isthmus, namely, if a man was not at work, he must either be in hospital or prison; it would have a beneficial effect on the vagrancy in this community.

Mr. Mossman pointed out that one of the things which contributed to the prevalence of prædial larceny was the buying of cocoa in pods. It was a very common thing for children to be sent to the fields of other people to take off the cocoa pods then go to the nearest shop and exchange the pods for goods. He thought there should be more stringent regulations with regard to the buying of cocoa in pods. Shopkeepers should not be allowed to make such purchases indiscriminately.

The President said that he was very glad to hear the remarks of the members on this question of prædial larceny. He had recently read the report of a speech made by a Governor at a meeting of an agricultural society, where the question of prædial larceny was discussed, and he (the President) would now say what that that governor had said: "that any suggestion which anybody could make, with a view to lessening the prædial larceny evil, he would be only too willing to consider and to give the matter his serious consideration."

Mr. Martin's resolution was unanimously carried.

BANANA DISEASE:—

Mr. Esson said he saw in the newspapers that disease of bananas had occurred in St. Catherine. Was there any information to be got on the subject?

In reply, Mr. W. Harris, the Acting Director of Agriculture, stated that banana disease had occurred in St. Catherine, which the Microbiologist had investigated.

A member: Is it the Panama disease?

Mr. Harris: No, it is the Bonnygate disease, and it is under control.

A resolution was submitted from the Lamb's River Branch asking that Mahoe bark used for making rope and the getting of which destroyed valuable Mahoe trees, and Mahogany bark, which the people used for staining floors, should be added to the schedule of the Prædial Larceny Law.

After discussion the Secretary was instructed to submit this question to the Branch Societies for their consideration and report.

A resolution from the Troja Brauch was submitted, re the buying of cocoa in pods.

The Secretary stated that this question had been submitted for the opinions of the Branch Societies two years ago, but their recommendations had been very conflicting. Perhaps it would be judicious to refer this matter to the Branches again, as the stealing of cocoa pods and their easy sale in cocoa-growing parishes was a very serious question.

It was agreed to refer the matter again to the Branch Societies, as suggested.

Resolutions from Mount Regale and Browns Hall Branches re improvement of local roads were submitted.

The President, however, said that this matter of roads was one for the local Parochial Boards and not for the Agricultural Society to consider.

Mr. Mennell asked if he could submit a resolution from the Darliston Branch with regard to relief work at Darliston.

The President said that the matter of relief work, generally, in Westmoreland had had his serious attention, and if Mr. Mennell had any representation to make, he should forward same to the Secretary of the Board of Supervision.

This ended the business on the Agenda, and the meeting was open for consideration of any agricultural matter of importance.

Mr. Hannan brought to the notice of the meeting that in certain countries, where the prices of gasoline and petrol were rising, they were looking for some other article to carry on their work. In Jamaica, where there were many pro-

ducts from which alcohol could be economically made he thought something could be done in the direction of using alcohol for motive power. He only threw it out as a suggestion.

The Secretary said that as it was now 10 minutes to 3 o'clock, and His Excellency the President had to attend another meeting at 3 o'clock, the meeting might adjourn.

His Excellency said he did not mean the meeting to be interrupted; they could go on in his absence.

The meeting, however, agreed to adjourn.

Rev. Mr. Esson moved that a hearty vote of thanks be awarded to the President for the great interest he had taken in the work of the Agricultural Society and the patient attention he had devoted to the business that had come before them that day.

Mr. Hannan seconded.

The President stated that he would only have been too pleased to remain a little longer, but there was an important meeting which he had to attend that afternoon. The subjects brought up were so fully and interestingly discussed that he only regretted that they could not meet once every three months; for there were so many points of interest to the different districts that they could not be conveniently discussed in so short a time. He could assure them that their deliberations had been of the greatest possible interest to him. It was certainly one of the most instructive meetings he had ever attended. He had learnt that day more about the requirements of the island than he had ever learnt before.

The meeting then adjourned.

After the meeting, Mr. Cradwick, the Senior Agricultural Instructor, gave a short address to those who remained, on the Diehack disease of coconuts, exhibited a Holder Pneumatic Sprayer, and showed how it was worked.

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SISAL HEMP -Continued

CHAPTER 7.

MACHINERY, DRYING STAND, PRESS AND BUILDINGS.

Machinery.

To begin with, there must be on the spot or as near as possible a never failing supply of water for the use of the engine, etc. In the selection of the engine, it of course depends on the number of acres under cultivation, and the capacity of the fibre extracting machine to be used. One fibre machine of the old type was allowed for every hundred acres. There is no actual necessity of my describing the old extracting machine of Yucatan, when we are able to procure a superior one of modern style which will suit the work splendidly, in decorticating more perfectly, causing less waste and turning out the fibre to better advantage. I will, however, give the details of the position of the machine, etc. Sufficient space must be allowed between the engine and the cleaning machine to admit of the reception of the leaves on the stand which is fixed near to the machine, as well as to give room to the operators who take their position there. The machine which is connected to the engine by means of a driving belt is made to take a backward motion towards the operators, which must necessarily be so, in order that the leaves on being inserted find their way downwards, the refuse or bagasse going under and emptying itself outside. The spot where the cleaning machine is to be situated ought to have a

certain elevation above the general level of the ground, for facilitating the descent of the juice of the leaves and of the water, with which the machine is washed down, which is carried away by natural or artificial declivities to deposits where the stuff is absorbed by the earth or evaporated by the action of the sun, from a neglect of which I have known farms to present a disagreeable condition around the works.

It is very important that the works be easily accessible by having good roads, so that carting leaves, bringing in fuel, and removing bagasse, etc., can be easily and quickly done, as on the good operation of these depend in great part the order and exactness of a work like this which requires persistence, and entails loss in the least mismanagement, as well as for its cheapness and the final out turn of the business.

On large plantations, tram lines are laid in the field. In Yucatan after the days work, the fibre extracting machines are well washed as the fermented juice of the leaves is corrosive. The cleaning wheel of the machine used there is from 39 to 54 inches diameter; the last size is more in use, as it is considered that the wheel of greater diameter cleans the large leaves with more facility, but on the other hand, requires greater motive power for maintaining it at the point of velocity which the cleaning demands. The number of revolutions of a cleaning wheel calculated there, is from 150 to 200 per minute at the least, if not so arranged, the extraction takes too long and is defective, in which case the combination of the engine and other wheels is reformed until the required velocity is obtained.

Drying Stands.—These are for the purpose of hanging out the fibre to dry in the sun, and may be erected by putting up posts 3½ or 4 feet high at certain distances apart and nailing small nails on top or against them, or, if preferred wire may be used instead, making the sufficient number of stands that may be required under the circumstances. They can be put close enough, so as to merely allow of the attendants going between, and must be at no distance from the cleaning machine, and not too far from the baling room, free from all shade and exposed in such a way as to have the benefit of the sun at any hour.

The Press.—This is entitled to consideration after the drying process. It is much needed, so as to put in the smallest space possible a certain quantity of fibre for easy and cheap carriage and transmission.

Buildings.—The buildings for engine and fibre machine and for the reception of leaves from the field are in the form of sheds, open nearly all around and are constructed so as to have ventilation of air and freedom from the sun.

These may all be under one roof or in separate buildings as the planter chooses. The baling or press room where the dry fibre is put up, must be secured so as to keep out rain. The dry house for use only in very rainy weather may be built on the lines of a Cuban tobacco house to be seen on the tobacco plantations.

(To be continued.)

THE JOURNAL OF THE
DISEASE OF BANANAS.

In the last Bulletin of the Department of Agriculture (Jamaica) (Vol. 2 No. 6) there is some interesting and instructive matter on "Banana Diseases" written by the Microbiologist, S. F. Ashby, B.Sc.

The first disease treated of is "Panama Disease." A full description is given of the symptoms of the bananas attacked here by what was stated to be Panama disease, and also of this disease as it occurs in Costa Rica. The article says the account of the symptoms—(McKenney's account of his experiences in Costa Rica and Panama)—agrees very closely with the appearances in the outbreak here, and gives confirmation to the declaration of Goldsmith H. Williams and H. Q. Levy.

A description is also given of this disease in Trinidad, where it is common, rendering the cultivation of our large banana,—the Martinique or Gros Michel,—impossible; but the dwarf or Chinese banana (Cavendishii) is proof against this disease, unless it is planted on land where other bananas have had the disease.

In Surinam (Dutch Guiana) the banana growing industry, which was only started a few years before, was completely wiped out by Panama Disease, causing great loss, and ruin, to many planters who had embarked on it. The United Fruit Company had taken up this industry there, made arrangements for steamers, and the trade commenced under the best auspices. There are no bananas shipped now.

The exports of bananas from Costa Rica have fallen during the last few years by nearly a half, instead of increasing, as under ordinary circumstances they should have done. Panama Disease is responsible for this decrease.

No precautions are therefore too great to prevent this disease spreading here.

There are indeed some differences noted in the various descriptions of the disease in the different countries, but these are minor differences.

The Microbiologist goes on to say:—"The writer prefers to follow Mr. Goldsmith Williams and regard this disease in Surinam as identical with that in Panama, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Trinidad and probably Cuba.

He goes on to say further:—"The passing of this Law (Infectious Diseases of Plants Law) happened to be very timely and fortunate for the banana industry as it made every Agricultural Instructor (twelve in number, then) an inspector of Plant Diseases, and also every grower of bananas sharp to notice disease in his neighbours fields. As a result three important diseases of bananas were discovered within six months of its becoming operative, including Panama Disease.

A description is given of what are called The Bonnygate Disease or Banana Wilt, and Black Spot Disease.

Every banana grower should make himself familiar with the symptoms of these diseases.

EVERY DAY WASTE.

Some months ago there was an article in this Journal drawing attention to the subject of Capital and pointing out the value of labour, as a form of Capital to the small proprietor. It has since occurred to me as I have been driving through my instructional district day by day, what an immense loss there is to the people and the country, going on from two causes which could very well be improved upon.

These two causes are first glaring and deliberate waste of time every day of the year by a large number of individuals of the community, and secondly waste of power by the large proportion of the working section of the population through the constant use of dull tools.

In the case of the former cause, no one of an observant mind can drive round the roads of Jamaica without noticing with surprise and regret the large number of people especially young men who appear to have nothing to do except loaf and lie about the shops or beside the road during the regular working hours of the day. As a matter of curiosity I counted the number of loafers one day not long ago along the 15 miles from Long Bay to Port Antonio between the hours of 10 and 12 a.m. The number of "resters" exclusive of Port Antonio and not including children, was 59.

Taking this figure for the sake of getting a mere idea of the waste going on, as a fair sample and simply figuring the 2,500 miles of road, we would find that 10,000 people were loafing and not working in sight of the roads, on each day of the year. Figuring each wasted 2 hours a day we find a loss of 20,000 hours at 3d. per hour worth £250 a day.

Figuring 250 working days a year we see that £62,500 worth of labour which should produce at least £100,000 of value is going to waste each year along side the roads alone.

These figures are of course hypothetical as there is only one point to start from, yet they must go to emphasize a very observable and undesirable condition that exists in this country. The remedy seems to rest with the parents more than anyone else. How few of them have a regular and systematic way of working their holdings themselves, and how few insist from baby-hood on their children doing some work regularly and systematically each day.

How deplorably early do the young men and women become emancipated from parental control and drift into idling and loafing. If these small settlers will only realize the value of time and make all those he is responsible for value it too, many a poor man to-day would quickly find his income going up by leaps and bounds and his prosperity assured.

The second cause is also worthy of thought, and it is pleasing to note by the increased number of Branches getting grindstones for the use of the members, that the value of sharp tools is being more realized.

Yet how many men are satisfied still to labour with dull tools. Take the man who bills a pasture, and is careless over his tool being kept sharp. At a low average he has to make 2 chops for every one he would make with razor edged tools.

Supposing he had an 100 acres to bill at 2s. 6d. per acre and along side of him the man who kept his tools always sharp had a similar job. Mr. Dull-tool would take 2 chops to the other's one with the result Mr. Sharp-tool earns £12 10s. whilst the other earns £6 5s. all things being equal and what is more the one has expended twice as much force, energy and strength, and therefore, power as the other.

So it would be all through the list of tools needed by the worker in the field, the hoe, the fork, the spade, the pruning tools, etc. Every worker should have a Carborandum stone to carry round with him and use constantly.

A rub in time saves many times nine in many ways.

It is impossible to compute the loss in actual power and money to the Island caused by carelessness in not sharpening and keeping sharp the tools of labourers, and in the use of poor tools, but it is undoubtedly a big figure and the time seems certainly to have arrived when all wasters should consider the value of these two assets going to waste, and should help to save these for themselves and the country. Does it not seem on consideration that it would not be at all impossible for another quarter million of money to be brought into circulation in this Island by conserving carefully these two forms of every day waste, of time and power.

L. A. WATES.
Agricultural Instructor.

Mr. Wates is Agricultural Instructor for Eastern Portland and Eastern St. Thomas. He has written trenchantly what every one with intimate experience of the country, unless he deliberately blinds himself or is afraid or too indifferent to acknowledge or express, knows. This same subject—the great waste of working hours and working days has been talked over at some of the meetings we have attended. It is admitted by the people themselves that there has been no need whatever for many of those who had land and crops and have cleared off for Panama, to have gone. Large numbers have done this—left good fertile land, banana soils too, 5 acres, 8 acres, often planted with staple crops, cocoa, coffee, cocoanut trees and fruit trees of all kinds growing through, in some cases sold them out cheap, and in some cases simply abandoned them, with perhaps a family left on them to potter about them. We can understand young men with no land or land not yet developed, going to Panama to work hard for big wages while these last, with the intention of returning to buy land, or develop the land they have. But men with 5 or 10 acres of land already planted and bearing could make, at the present prices of the crops on them, if these crops had been attended to, from £50 to £100 per annum. It is not the want of land or lack of work that sends such men to Panama. The average small settler throughout the Island, with exceptions in some parts of course, does not do on an average more than 3 short days work per week. And it is seldom that well cultivated lands, clean of weeds or well pruned, well arranged trees can be seen; they are the exception in some parts and not common in most.

It is a pleasure to us to see the evidences of the Agricultural Instructor's work in the cultivations we have visited, and to hear the expressions of some men at meetings and in their fields, that if they had only realized earlier what capable Instructors can do for them, they would not have been so indifferent so long. The very men who cry out "they want more land" are in many cases those with land lying idle or under a tangle of trees, that were planted by their fathers and grandfathers. We have cases, lots of them, in mind. We have sympathy with the man with 3 acres only of land all under good cultivation and a growing family, in seeking to retain these by getting more land for them. But the cry of no land, in general is most often the cry of those who have already devastated the Island, gone to the woodlands burned down trees, mahogany, cedars and mahoe ruthlessly, in order to raise crops easily. It is the cry often of those who will not work the holdings they have, will not make the most of them. In many districts of Jamaica there are good lands you pass by lying along the roadside, even in so-called congested districts, which are producing nothing and which are owned by small settlers.

There are in some districts, shrewd and hard working men who take the opportunity of buying *cheap*, the lands left by those who have gone away, and who are adding acre by acre to their own small holdings. Many men have several 3 or 5 acre pieces not in one run but sometimes close together, sometimes a good bit apart, sometimes in different districts, bought as opportunity afforded. We have known men looking for work and spend days doing nothing because they were disappointed in getting work that week, while their own land was gasping for some labour to be put on it, their provision field was full of weeds, their small stock half-fed, with food looking at them if these men took the trouble to get it for them, or shift the beasts to the feeding. There are many things that want adjusting for the good of all, but the cry of more land in some districts will not be one of them, until the acres that are under bush and weeds, under neglected coffee and cocoa, and have tumble-down huts on them, are transformed into productive holdings with decent houses and outhouses. There are lands that are poor, because no attempt has ever been made to utilise the trash, the excrement and waste, of the household and stock to be added to the land as manure.

Mr. Wates is right all through. We subscribe to it all. Time and strength are the first forms of capital.

Men with land and good intentions will soon be able to get money to develop their land now through the Loan Banks as some have already got. But there will be many with bad intentions from the first who will bring discredit to some Loan Banks if the rest of the shareholders do not look out and play the detective on them.

INTRODUCTION OF GAME ANIMALS INTO JAMAICA.

By desire of the Board of Governors of the Institute of Jamaica I enclose herewith extracts from two letters received from Doctor E. W. Nelson, Chief of the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, with regard to the introduction of deer and certain game birds into Jamaica. The second letter was caused by my telling Dr Nelson that I fancied that objection might be raised by the planters and others in Jamaica to the importation of the deer on the ground that they would damage crops.

The Board would be glad if you would insert these extracts in your Journal with a view to ascertaining the opinion of planters and others in the island on the points raised. The Board itself is in favour of the proposed importation of the birds named.

I should also be glad to have for transmission to Dr. Nelson any information available with regard to the present abundance of mongoose in the island as compared with their period of greater abundance: as well as any notes which your readers may be able to give on the history of the Blue Mountain Duck."

FRANK CUNDALL,

Secty. The Institute of Jamaica,

EXTRACT FROM LETTER FROM DR. E. W. NELSON TO F. CUNDALL OF THE 1ST
MAY, 1913.

Although the deer are numerous in various parts of Cuba, I have never heard any complaint of their injury to crops. As a matter of fact, deer rarely interfere with crops unless they become extremely abundant. In Jamaica the island is so much occupied by people, that I do not imagine that deer would ever be permitted to become abundant enough to do any serious damage. By proper regulation of the open season, as soon as the deer became numerous enough there they could always be held down to reasonable limits. The easiest way to stock Jamaica with deer would be to get them from Cuba. I am satisfied that the value of the deer as a game and food animal in Jamaica would very greatly exceed any possible damage it could do.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTER FROM DR. E. W. NELSON TO F. CUNDALL OF THE 4TH
OF APRIL, 1913.

"In regard to the introduction of game animals and birds in Jamaica, of which I spoke to you while in Kingston I have the following suggestions to make:

The deer found in abundance in Cuba were introduced on that island and appear to do extremely well. The vegetation and climatic conditions are so similar in Jamaica, that there is no reason to doubt that if these deer were introduced in Jamaica it would thrive very well indeed and in a few years become a common animal throughout the forested areas. Arrangements could no doubt be made to secure deer for stocking purposes from Cuba. Several individuals are being kept as pets at the Hotel Camaguey, Camaguey, Cuba, and I have no doubt that Mr. Castillo, the Director of the Camaguey, Branch of the Royal Bank of Canada, at Camaguey, would be able to secure the deer necessary for stocking purposes in Jamaica, since these animals are numerous in that section of Cuba. To insure success in the stocking experiment I would advise that not less than four males and 10 or 12 female deer be secured which could be kept temporarily in confinement in an enclosure adjoining Hope Gardens; and if kept in suitable pasture there, the deer would undoubtedly breed and from the young the stocking of the island could proceed rapidly. The pasture should be surrounded by a woven wire fence about four feet high which would undoubtedly be sufficient to retain the deer.

The most suitable game bird for introduction in Jamaica would be three species related to the pheasants, which are common along the tropical coast of eastern Mexico, and all of which have the habit of nesting in the tree tops. This would make them especially suitable for Jamaica, since the young could be hatched without danger from the mongoose. They are all good game birds, and the flesh of two of them, the curasow and the chachalacca, is peculiarly good. These three birds are the curasow (*Oreax globicera*), the black penelope (*Penelope purpurascens*) and the Chachalacca (*Orientalis vestita*). These birds could be secured without much difficulty by the British Consular Representatives in eastern Mexico. The Mexican names of these birds in the foregoing sequence

are, Faisan real, faisán griton and the chachalacca. A few pairs of each, perhaps four or five, to be released in a section of the island similar to that about Castleton Gardens, should have a successful outcome, and these introductions could be made at a moderate expenditure of money and should abundantly repay for any trouble and expense attending this project. Should anything be done in this matter I shall be greatly interested to know of it and trust that you will inform me at the time when any introductions are made so that a record can be kept of it here for future reference. Should you desire any further suggestions along these lines, I shall be glad to furnish them at any time.

In regard to the mongoose, I shall be glad to have anything that has been published by the Jamaica Government or anything available from your records that can be supplied without too much trouble; also any notes you may have concerning the relative abundance of the mongoose at present, as compared with their period of greatest abundance on the island, also what reasons are given for their apparent decrease in numbers recently, if such has been a fact."

Now in regard to the Blue Mountain Duck, you mentioned to me, two gentlemen from whom you thought you could get authentic information concerning the country which these birds formerly occupied in the higher parts of the Blue Mountain. If you will secure from them any observations they have made in the higher parts of the Blue Mountains concerning the presence or absence of these birds and any information that any of them may have from the higher parts of the Blue Mountains concerning the former presence of these birds and the exact location which they occupied, and the period in the year they were found, it will be of extreme interest to me and I shall be grateful to you for the information. The fuller and more detailed the notes concerning where these birds occur, their former and possibly present existence or chance of their present existence are most desirable.

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COVER CROPS IN DROUGHT.

Referring to the article "Protection of Crops" in July JOURNAL we do not agree that green cover crops, if they are of creeping habit and cover the ground, rob supplies of moisture from the chief plants, even in dry weather.

We have turned up the thick covering of Cowpeas and Jerusalem peas many times, and found the soil beneath them, not only moist, not only wet, but even drenched with moisture, while the soil not so covered, was hard and dry.

There is always moisture rising in the soil and being evaporated when the surface is exposed; when it is covered, the moisture rising in the soil is intercepted or caught, first by the roots of the plant, and then what reaches the surface, is prevented from evaporating by the green covering.

Experiments have already been carried through in the West Indies which show that the soil with a cover crop, contained more moisture than the soil without a cover crop.

Again it is wrong policy, we are sure, for the leguminous crop to be cut down and buried during the dry months. Nothing is better calculated to let the hot dry air into the soil and increase evaporation, than the digging in of coarse manure during dry weather.

When dry weather comes on, the green cover crop, whenever it is in blossom, should be cut down and allowed to lie as a "dry mulch," what remains of it on the soil will be forked in later when forking is required. As a rule in St. Mary and rainy places, when rain does come the mulch rots very quickly. Planters who have experimented and observed might give us the results of their experiences and observations.

COCONUTS.

There is no question that there is a steady increase right along the North East Coast of coconuts dying from the so-called "Dwindling or Pencil Point," if it is a disease. These trees are to be found now on every estate from the Johnson River in St. Thomas round to the Rio Grande in Portland which is as far as my district goes. It would seem necessary for a thorough investigation of this disease or the cause of the death of trees to be made as it may be possible that it is a form of Bud Rot or some other contagious disease. Possibly it may be accounted for by the protracted drought, yet it is to be noticed in districts like Plantain Garden River which did not suffer from drought to any extent.

L. A. WATES,
Agricultural Instructor.

There is also a form of coconut leaf disease, where the leaves become grey, then brown, and die.

This is called the "die back or dry back", and was brought to the notice of the Director of Agriculture by Mr. Cradwick and specimens sent to the Microbiologist.

The disease has been declared under the Infectious Diseases of Plants Act.

See last Journal page 43-44. (Ed.)

There will be an article on these Coconut Diseases in next Journal.
—Ed.

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POTATOES.

By potatoes we refer to what are usually termed "Irish" Potatoes here.

These were largely planted this spring especially in the parish of Manchester, owing to the great scarcity of yams, a scarcity that will continue for two years or so, and more in some districts. The crop lifted in Manchester is reckoned to be about 4,000 barrels of 150 lbs. each average. The Jamaica grown potatoes if lifted when matured, and dried in a cool shady place, — they must not be exposed to the sun at all — and kept in a cool place, will keep for from two to three months, without sprouting.

For eating, potatoes are only at their best when allowed to get fully ripe in the ground which is known by the stalk or haulms becoming brown and dying down. A fit potato, matured in a suitable soil for growing the tuber is a luxury, an exceedingly good food, palatable and digestible but it must be properly cooked. The unripe potato cannot be properly cooked; it remains damp, soggy and clammy.

But the art of cooking an Irish Potato is little known here. Potatoes are usually cooked in the same pot with yams and cocoes and so cannot have the appearance or flavour of a floury, "laughing" potato. A stodgy potato is not good; the starch has not been transformed into a fine granulated dry powder, but has become a starchy paste.

Here is a hint or two on this subject :—

How seldom we get so called homely food, cooked to perfection. Cooks who will turn out high class and expensive dishes, will fail in serving a simple, but dainty and tempting rice or tapioca pudding. The same applies to potatoes and rice. Oh! anyone can boil potatoes we are told, but can they? If a little care is exercised it is as easy to serve up a nice floury "laughing" potato as it is to serve up a damp stodgy one. Now you will find all potatoes cannot be boiled in the same way, some do best if put in the pot while the water is cold, other do best if put straight into the boiling water, I prefer the former as they cook gradually through, and if strained before any sign of breaking, a dash of salt thrown over and covered with a cloth and left to dry well, then serve hot as required, they will be good eating. Do not cook too fast or too long or they may break before the centre gets soft. Young potatoes should be put straight into the boiling water. A leaf of mint thrown in improves the flavour. More nourishing and better tasting are those boiled in their jackets, these must be put in the pot while the water is cold. Always wash them well first, and let them stand awhile in cold salt and water, but not too long.

Take care to have plenty of water and boil fast.

In January 1911 Matthew G. Wallace a farmer in Dumfries, Scotland, was knighted by King George for his great services in the potato industry. This is the first time in history that a man has received such an honour for such a service. It is a sign of the times, of the new and lately increased interest in agriculture. Sir Matthew G. Wallace is a tenant farmer and has been growing potatoes on a 300 acre farm for the last twenty years. He has specialised on potato production; has made it his whole work and has been able to grow potatoes every year for twenty years on 260 acres out of his total of 300 acres. He uses annually 5,000 tons of manure, and 80 tons of commercial fertilizer. The manure is applied at the rate of twenty tons per acre.

Think of that those here, who think it hard to be obliged to manure a square chain for a garden.

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COMMENTS.

PIGS.—The Board of Management again offer premiums amounting to half the cost of boar pigs, of the Poland China and Large Black breeds to six Branch Societies.

The premiums will be half the cost of the pigs.

Orders for the Large Black breed, bred at the Hope Stock Farm must be made long ahead. Not many Poland China pigs are available, as there is only one pure bred sow in the island that we know of. But a high grade Poland China, that is sired by a pure bred Poland China boar out of a good sow, with a large proportion of Poland China blood, would be eligible for the premium.

SEASONABLE HINTS.—Our readers should refer to what we wrote in the last number, most of which is applicable for August and September.

IRISH POTATOES.—Those who have a scarcity of provisions in their district should lay in a stock of Irish Potatoes, which are cheap now in Manchester; they will keep two months.

We shall be importing seed again in October for those in the lowlands who wish to plant early. Orders should be sent in early.

Up to an elevation of about 1,400 feet, planting in November is the best period.

SEEDS IN STOCK.—For seeds in stock, readers should refer to our advertisement. Those who desire to plant Guinea Corn, should not miss August.

COMPETITIONS IN SCHOOL GARDENS.—Entries for the School Gardens Competition for growing Corn (maize), Guinea Corn, and Sea Island Cotton are now closed. We have sent out the seed to the Competitors.

There are seventy entries for the Corn Growing Competition fifteen entries for the Guinea Corn Competition and fifteen for the Sea Island Cotton Competition.

Many of the School Gardens are debarred from entering as they have not space enough to spare from other crops.

BRANCH SOCIETIES AND LOAN BANKS.—Branch Societies should note that Loan Bank business must be kept separate from Branch Society business. Meetings of Branch Societies should not discuss the local business of the Loan Bank. If it is convenient for members to hold the meetings on the same day, then the meeting of the branch Society should be dissolved and the meeting of the Loan Bank held separately.

SHOWS.—It is a good sign in the country districts that they are again considering the holding of shows. The trouble will be that too many of them will be held next spring. Already six are fixed to be held between December and March, and three others are under consideration.

HALF YEARLY GENERAL MEETING.—In this issue we publish the report of the Half Yearly General Meeting, at which was submitted the Report of the Secretary for the half year ending March 31st, 1913.

It was very gratifying that in spite of the hard times so many Branch Societies sent representatives. At the next Half Yearly Meeting in January we expect that more Branch Societies will send delegates. We should, however, like more of the direct members of the Society to turn out.

PRIZE HOLDINGS COMPETITION.—We wish to repeat the notice of last month that the judging in St. Catherine is fixed for September, St. Thomas in January, Portland in February and Trelawny in March.

TORONTO EXHIBITION.—On the 22nd of July 153 packages of Exhibits together with Bamboos, Sugar Cane, Wild Cane, growing Coconuts and some ornamental plants were shipped to Toronto via Halifax, and by the steamer previous 23 packages of exhibits from Messrs. F. L. Myers & Son, who wished to make sure of their exhibits being in good time, were shipped.

The Bamboo, Cane and Coconut boughs are for building the booths, to give the Jamaica section a tropical look.

Mr. Cradwick, the representative of Jamaica this year, left on the S.S. "Metapan" on the 2nd of August. On the 14th of August we are shipping the largest bunches of bananas we can get, besides Plantains, Grapefruit, Oranges, Navel Oranges, Lemons, Limes, Pineapples and Mangoes. By the steamer leaving a week later, another consignment of fruit will be sent to keep up fresh supplies.

Everything in connection with this Exhibition has been done in such haste, that it caused a great deal more work and more expense, with less effect, than if the business was carried through deliberately.

We trust the Exhibits will arrive safely and that Jamaica will be well advertised through them.

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STOCK NOTES.

PIGS.—Ninety-nine per cent. of the pigs that are confined in pens live a miserable existence almost knee deep in wet muck and filth, with no covering from the rain whatever. A pig that is free to roam the pastures finds comfortable dry spots to retire to in the wet weather : and clean wet or moist places to wallow in, when the weather is hot and dry. The confined pig lives in misery among its own filth.

Yet every one should know that comfort means a saving of food - a contented comfortable pig makes more on a given amount of food than the animal existing in misery.

Rheumatism.—This disease is very frequently noted in pigs kept in damp wet sties, and improperly fed. The symptoms are loss of appetite, some fever, lameness, and general loss of condition. The lameness may move from one leg to the other, and swellings occur in the joints, especially in the hock and knees. Preventive measures are of more importance than cure, and consist in providing the pigs with dry, clean sties and shelter from winds, while the diet in the case of sick pigs should be light.

Rickets.—More especially a disease of young pigs, and almost entirely due to improper feeding. The bones of the pig are weakened and bend easily, the animals develop symptoms of paralysis, and in long-standing cases are unthrifty and stunted. If, as is generally the case, the disease is epidemic in certain piggeries, the feeding should be inquired into and altered by giving variety, foods rich in salts being given warm, the change from boiled green bananas to ripe bananas does a lot of good ; the pens should be made comfortable and dry with plenty of bedding, and since the weakness which leads to rickets is apt to show a hereditary tendency, new blood should be introduced.

DOGS.—“Some two years ago you gave me a cure for mange in dogs and I remember that the formula you gave was good, I have been on the hunt for the recipe, but among the heaps of letters I can't come across the one I want.

The mange has again attacked two of my dogs, so I am asking you to tell me what you recommend for this complaint.

You must pardon my troubling and bothering. My J. A. S. JOURNALS are not yet arranged in Vols., or I might find it under your notes. The 1912 Vol. has nothing on mange."

Red Mange in Dogs.—Many treatments of this unsightly and very contagious disease among dogs, fail because the diet is not attended to. Many writers on the subject simply say feed on such and such a diet, whereas the disease may be caused in part by different diets yet both heating, and the principle is to change the diet whatever it has been. If the diet has been largely fresh meat, change to one that is largely farinaceous; if the diet has been on the contrary largely or chiefly cornmeal porridge, change it to thick soups made of cheap bones and vegetables, letting the dogs gnaw the bones afterwards. The vegetables will cool the blood. Wash the skin clean with Jeyes and water; then take three parts castor oil, one of kerosene, one of flowers of sulphur, and making sure to shake the bottle of this mixture before using, take a little on a cloth and rub it into the dog's skin. Do this every second day for a week, then stop and use only the Jeyes and water for a week, and begin the sulphur and oil treatment again. Whenever the scabs are gone and a clean healthy skin appears, use the sulphur and oil treatment only once a week, but continue the Jeyes wash every day. The dog licks itself and so gets doses of sulphur and oil and they do it good.

Internally administer twice a day until better, in the food, twenty grains of granulated soda hyposulphite, first dissolved in water. The treatment usually requires to be kept up for six weeks vigorously, and it may take six months before the skin and hair are all right.

The above appeared in the October JOURNAL, 1910.

Since then the preparation called Paranaph made at the Government Laboratory and used for killing ticks and fleas, has also been found good for Mange. It should be used as a regular wash for dogs.

CATS.—Most useful animals in a household are Cats, but some are lazy and worthless, and do not help much. Greedy cats are usually the rat and mice catchers, but there are exceptions. A good cat will keep the house clear of rats and mice. In this office, where seeds are stored and there is plenty of food for rodents we had a constant struggle to keep down rats and mice by poison and traps. Fresh relays came in from the neighbours as soon as we cleared them out. The Editor brought in his own cat, and in a week there were no further signs of rats. And mice get short shrift. This cat will sit patiently on a bin for hours, watching where it saw a mouse go in. Practically we are clear of mice and quite clear of rats.

Cats are therefore valuable, and they should receive some attention, be fed regularly, and if they are much troubled by fleas, some sulphur or insect powder should be dusted into the skin.

Meagre and mangy cats, never fed, are only nuisances, and prowling thieves.

WARTS ON ANIMALS.—We repeatedly get letters asking how warts on cows should be treated, to get rid of them. The following

paragraphs from the New York Tribune Farmer, written by the Veterinary adviser of that paper treated the subject clearly.

"As a general remedy for the ordinary skin warts that come on the noses of colts and on the ears and eyes and legs of calves, almost any kind of grease or vegetable oil will remove them if applied frequently enough. The wart on the skin of man or beast is the result of a vegetable spore, that finds a lodgement on the skin, takes root and grows, forming what we call a wart, yet in reality a cluster of spores which adhere in their growth. They may spread over a considerable surface, or become pendent. There are doubtless different classes of the spores, and they assume different appearances as they grow, just as a plant will grow differently in different soils. The point we wish to make clear, is that grease to a wart on the skin of man or beast is destruction to the spore which causes the wart. Therefore grease say axle grease or castor oil is used daily, quite freely so as to saturate the skin and penetrate it to the root of the spore, it will not be long before the spore will die, and can be pulled out. Acids of various kinds will kill the spore, but all of them cannot safely be used, especially nitric or sulphuric acids. Diluted acetic acid is a safe one to use when the spores seem to have rooted deeply, or it can be applied with a small camel's hair brush. Pure carbolic acid also can be used and is a favourite remedy when the wart is on the skin near some important organ, like the eyelid or on or over a large blood vessel. Large old warts when so located as to render the operation safe, had better be removed by the knife, especially when the tissues beneath the skin are involved. Then use acid on the wound once, and animal or vegetable oils afterward, but not rancid animal grease. Castor oil mixed with one part carbolic acid, to six of oil is good also."

I saw a few days ago what appeared to me a most barbarous thing being done to a cow, a man had a pair of scissors clipping off those little hooks on the cow's lips which I have always understood were specially designed by nature for holding on to herbage and assisting the beast to get it into its mouth. The beast was in rather a poor condition and it was said that these things were too long and prevented it from eating. Might not this be a parallel case to lamps which I have more than once seen treated by either being torn out or rather the gums horribly torn with a steel hook and in other cases burnt with hot irons in a way which must have inflicted horribly agony to the poor horse. What appears to me to be another superstition, is the taking of the "pip" out of a chicken's mouth, which as far as I have been able to see, simply consists in tearing off a part of the fowl's tongue. Would not these three things come under the Law for the prevention of cruelty to Animals?

I have had a young horse with swollen gums: which I presume is the equivalent to lamps, but I have usually given him a little tonic, crushed the corn, rubbed the gums with a little salt, and that has been the end of the matter.

Whether the little hooks on the bull's lips (I do not know what the technical name is) were really of an abnormal size I could not say, or what the remedy would be, but perhaps you can furnish some information on this subject.

W. CRADWICK.

On reference to the Government Veterinary Surgeon, he wrote as follows:—

I fully concur with the writer in his remarks about the barbarous treatment to which the cow in poor condition was subjected. The little hooks of which he speaks (known as the conical papillae of the lips and cheeks) are a provision for

aiding the animal in the prehension and mastication of herbage. They vary in length according to their situation from small eminences nearly on a level with the surrounding tissues to elevations of half an inch. I cannot see how their removal, unless they were the seat of warts or other tumor-like growths could in any way increase the feeding powers of the animal or improve her physical condition.

S. LOCKETT,
Govt. Vet. Surgeon

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POULTRY NOTES.

Roup is the distinguishing term for a cold in the head which fowls, turkeys and pigeons suffer from. The symptoms have often been described in this JOURNAL and the disease can be comparatively easily cured if taken in the early stages. But once let the fowl get a heavy dose of it, and it is a nasty job washing out from the eyes, nostrils and mouth, the roup matter which gathers in them.

There are several forms of it which may all exist together.

The mouth of the fowl has always a distinctive and foul smell if there is any roup even in its very early stage. Persistent washing out with Permanganate of Potash in water, even without medicine will cure any ordinary case of roup, but it needs persistence. Doses of a good roup powder certainly help. The fowls attacked must be kept apart from others.

Turkeys are harder to cure than fowls and with them the roup more often takes the form of a swelling or lump between the eyes and nostrils which contains matter. This when soft can be squeezed through the nostrils and the roof of the mouth, sometimes from the corner of the eye too, but it is better to get it out through the nostrils. When this lump becomes hard through neglect to tackle the roup early, it can be cut open with a sharp pen knife and the matter picked out with a match stick, or feather quill. The cavity should be kept open for two days or so, and washed out with the Permanganate solution; then healing oil should be applied and the wound will soon heal over.

Whenever a case of roup is observed give the fowl a half teaspoonful of castor oil and an equal quantity of cocanout oil together. A turkey should have a half, or double more according to weight.

If the eye is washed with the Permanganate solution, and washed gently much matter may be squeezed out. It helps greatly to reduce the inflammation if Tincture of Iodine is painted round the eye.

Sometimes white looking growths are seen in the mouth of the fowl and on the tongue. This is Canker. When the growths become cheesy looking, smell badly and grow down the throat, this is Diphtheric Roup and at this stage it is best to kill the fowl. The simple growths of canker can be got rid of by washing persistently with the permanganate solution; or better still three drops of Formalin to a cupful of water.

Roup, Canker, Diphtheric Roup are all highly contagious, especially through the drinking water and the birds attacked should be isolated.

RECORD FOR EGG LAYING.—The eleventh annual egg laying competition at the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, New South Wales, terminated on the 1st of April last.

The report says that the general laying of the hens was rather below that of the previous year but that the ducks laid better than previously.

The conspicuous feature of the competition is the establishment of a new world's record for first year laying. The previous record for first year birds was 1589 eggs by a pen of six White Leghorns at the Roseworthy Agricultural College, South Australia, competition 1911-1912.

This has been eclipsed by Mr. F. Morrison's pen of Indian Runner ducks, which put out 1601 eggs, notwithstanding that the first egg was not laid until April 12th.

As the eggs averaged 31 oz. per dozen, the six ducks laid no less than 258 lbs. weight of eggs, the net market value of which was £8 11s. 2. The ducks were allowed to complete the 12 months from the day they started laying, and made a grand total of 1631 eggs in the year.

In the competition carried out at Storrs, Connecticut, U.S.A., the pens of English birds lead easily.

Mr. Tom Barron's White Leghorns have laid 798 eggs from October 1st to June 30th.

Mr. Edward Cam's White Leghorns have laid 717 eggs.

The 3rd pen belonging to Mr. O. E. Foster, English birds, also birds have laid 675 eggs.

The 4th pen of White Wyandottes are Mr. Edward Cam's English which have laid 657 eggs.

In the Missouri laying contest Mr. Tom Barron's English White Leghorns are 230 eggs beyond the next competitor and but for the fact that one hen lays soft eggs, would be 330 eggs ahead.

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BRANCH NOTES.

Whitehouse (Westmoreland).—The monthly meeting was held in Kings School at 5 p.m. on Tuesday July 1, 1913. The President occupied the chair. There were sixteen members present. Five new members elected. R. C. Somerville (Agricultural Instructor) came in during the meeting. Several ladies and other visitors attended the meeting. After prayer, the Secretary read the minutes of the June meeting; and submitted correspondence received during the month. Arising out of the minutes some matters of general agricultural interests for the half-yearly meeting in July. After discussion it was agreed to submit the following subject Prize Holdings Competition. "This Society is of opinion that the present Rules governing the Prize Holdings Competition should be altered so as to give prizes to holdings showing *most improvements* during the period. The holdings in some districts are advantageously situated as to soil and climate, and can make a good show with comparatively little work, while in other districts the result of hard labour is not so easily seen. We therefore submit the following resolution to the half-yearly meeting. Resolved:—"That the present rules with regard to the Prize Holdings Competition be altered so as to give *more credit to improvements*. The corn competition for September was again brought up and preparations are being made for this interesting event. "Authorized Persons" discussion was laid over for next meeting. An Authorized Person

reported having arrested a person suspected of stealing corn and obtained his conviction. Mr. Somerville gave a very interesting lecture on "The peasant proprietor." A hearty vote of thanks was voted the Instructor. A talk on Cassava planting, and Cotton was laid over for the August meeting, when a large attendance is expected. Members expressed delight with their JOURNALS, they found them very instructive. Meeting closed with National Anthem.

M. HEWITT, Secretary.

Beach (Portland)—The regular monthly meeting was held in the Church of England mission house on July 1st, 1913. There were present fourteen members and two visitors. Mr. Geo. Buckley, 1st Vice-president presided. The meeting opened with prayer. Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was also read. The Instructor visited this branch for demonstration at Mr. Joseph Gordon's field, pruning cocoa, he also brought sulphate of iron and lime, but owing to the tremendous showers of rain the demonstration was postponed. At 4 p.m. he gave a lecture on mulching. Two new members were admitted. A resolution was moved and seconded, that the Government be approached through the Parent Society in order to have a person sent around all the districts to publicly give notice of any new amendments to laws, so that those who have no means of informing themselves, may have no excuse of being ignorant of the law, and that all other branches be asked to support this resolution. A vote of thanks was moved for the Instructor for his kind attention and unanimously carried. Richard Allen was nominated for the position of an authorized person. Rules and regulations were read to him and he agreed to them. Meeting adjourned to August 1st. The singing of the National Anthem brought the meeting to a close. — L. RICHARD, Secretary.

Above Rocks, (St. Catherine)—The regular meeting was held on the 1st July, 1913. The President occupied the chair. Present twenty-three other members and the Secretary. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. It was moved and seconded that work on the model plot be postponed until more interest is shown by the members. The Secretary was requested to write again about the JOURNALS. The Society propose writing to the Custos *re* the appointment of a J. P. A Committee was appointed to draft rules for the working of the branch. Suggestions for developing interest in the Society were submitted and discussed. The debate for next meeting will be "Banana or Coffee which is more profitable to grow and why." A profitable time is anticipated. There being no other business the meeting adjourned. — FRED DENNIE, Secretary.

Albany, (St. Mary)—The regular bi-monthly meeting was held at Friendship Chapel on the 2nd July, 1913. There were present L. S. Clarke, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair. W. Cradwick, Esq., Agricultural Instructor, fifty-three other members and over fifty visitors. The minutes of the last meeting were read and after minor corrections were confirmed. The Treasurer reported that the funds of the Society have been lodged in the Nova Scotia Bank according to instructions. *Re* Boar for Society, the Secretary said that he had communicated with Mr. Barclay on the matter. He was instructed to write again. The Social Committee reported that the arrangements for the annual Social are being made and that it will take place at Islington on the 17th inst. *Re* J. P. for the district, the Secretary was instructed to write to the Custos of the parish mentioning the names of the gentlemen proposed by the Branch. The Secretary read apology for absence from the Rev. S. R. Brathwaite. He was instructed to write to the Rev. gentleman to find out if he will be willing to represent the Branch at the half yearly general meeting on the 17th inst. Mr. Walker suggested that Mr. Clarke be asked to represent the Branch as the meeting ought to know at the present time if the Branch will be represented or not. Mr. Clarke said that between Mr. Brathwaite and himself, they would arrange it later on. The Secretary read reply from the Director of Public Works *re* foot-bridges across streams in the district. It was agreed to refer the letter back to the Committee as the reply was unsatisfactory. A very interesting discussion *re* the holding of a show followed. Agreed that the matter be referred to the Hon. B. P. Simmonds,

The Secretary reported that the Assistant Superintendent of Parochial Roads was in the district lately and had conferred with one of the Way Wardens and promised to start work at an early date. The Secretary read reply from Mr. Edwards of the "Banana Fig Co.," *re* the establishment of a factory in the district. The Chairman pointed out that such a factory if properly managed ought to be a boon to the district. He advised all present to consider the matter favourably and to try and help the scheme as much as possible. *Re* delay of JOURNALS the Chairman explained that the fault was not due to the Secretary as the JOURNALS came to hand late. Mr. Cradwick said that he will not be able to do spraying in this district as he will be leaving for Toronto, but will arrange to have it done as soon as possible after his return. He spoke on the cocoa competition, showed how keen the contest was, due to the great improvements in cultivating. He urged those that did not get a prize not to be disheartened but to work harder for the next competition. At this stage Mr. W. B. Hannan of the Banana Fig Co., who was expected, came in. The Chairman after thanking Mr. Cradwick for his interesting report introduced Mr. Hannan to the meeting, he was given a hearty welcome. Mr. Hannan responded. He detailed the object of his mission, and expressed the hope that a sufficient number of shares would be taken so as to enable him to start a factory without delay. After a lengthy speech about forty shares were taken up. The number being insufficient it was agreed to fix the 10th inst. for another meeting when it is hoped the necessary number of shares will be taken so as to enable a start being made. It being late in the evening the meeting then adjourned.—T. A. BURKE, Secretary.

Brown's Hall, (St. Catherine).—A special meeting was held in the school-room on Wednesday, 2nd July, at which there were over 50 persons present. J. L. Mossman, Esq., J. P., Agricultural Instructor, was also present. George Thomas, Esq., presided. The minutes were read and confirmed. The Secretary read letter from the Parent Society *re* Resolution on "Cutting of Trees," also letter *re* "Authorized Persons." The rules and regulations governing the duties and remuneration of Authorized Persons were fully explained by Mr. Mossman. A resolution in support of which many persons spoke, urging many very important points, was unanimously carried. It was agreed to forward the resolution without delay to the Commissioner for St. Catherine. The meeting then adjourned.—E. A. TOMLINSON, Secretary.

Stewart Town (Trelawny).—The regular monthly meeting was held on Thursday evening, July 3, 1913, commencing at 8 o'clock. In the absence of Mr. John Stockhausen, the President, Mr. Arnett, the Instructor, was asked to occupy the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer. There were six members present, the Secretary and two visitors. The minutes of the May meeting were read and confirmed. There was no meeting held in June owing to the fact that sufficient members were not present to form a quorum. The following correspondence from the Secretary of the Parent Society was read:—

(a) Acknowledgment of report of meeting held in April, and the payment of affiliation fee of 5s. (b) Acknowledgement of £3 14s. received as payment of printing account for Show. (c) *Re* entries in Prize Holdings Competition. (d) *Re* belated JOURNALS. (e) With reference to the sending of a Representative to the Half-Yearly General Meeting to be held July 17. (f) With reference to "Authorized Persons." Two Authorized Persons present, only one arrest reported. They were requested to exercise more vigilance, as prædial larceny was prevalent in the district. Mr. Arnett stated that by mutual co-operation much of the evil of prædial larceny could be checked. The Secretary read the "Rules for the payment of 'Authorized Persons' for attending Court as witnesses and for performing actual duties" two copies of which he had received from the Secretary of the Parent Society. Representative to attend the Half-Yearly General Meeting of the Parent Society to be held on Thursday July 17. Owing to lack of funds the Branch would not be represented. The Chairman asked if there were any subjects the Branch desired to forward to be discussed at the meeting. The Secretary thought that the matter of the 5 cent per bunch tax on bananas by the American Government might be submitted to the meeting

through the Secretary, but it was considered unnecessary as the authorities had already taken up the matter. The subject of the JOURNAL was next brought up. The Secretary pointed out why there had been delay in the printing of the April and May JOURNALS. The April JOURNALS had been received and distributed. The Instructor advised the members to preserve their JOURNALS for future reference, and instanced a case where a back number of the JOURNAL proved of great use. A cow belonging to a member of the Albert Town Branch got sick. The man did not know what the cow was suffering from. He turned up his JOURNAL, and in one of the back numbers—one that was over two years old—he read in an article the same symptoms he noticed his cow was suffering from, viz.: Red water. The prescription was there. He instantly went to the druggist's shop and procured the remedy prescribed. His valuable cow was saved. Prize Holdings Competition. A meeting to bring the matter prominently to the attention of the community will be held on Thursday evening, August 24. The Instructor, Mr. Arnett, will be present on the occasion to lecture on the subject. On the afternoon of August 24, the show of small stock, initiated in April last and which has proved most instructive will be held. Mr. Arnett reported that the pedigree boar placed under his charge did not improve very well when he first came to him; but he found out that he had lice which he had brought with him, but he had killed the lice by washing the pigs with paranaph. Since then the boar is improving nicely. The Rules drawn up for the use of the corn sheller and the grindstone respectively were read. They were adopted. The items on the agenda being disposed of, the Benediction was pronounced, and the meeting brought to a close at 10 o'clock.

JOSHUA JOHNSON, Secretary.

Upper Metcalfe (St. Mary).—The regular monthly meeting was held in Braiterd School Room on the evening of the 3rd July, 1913. Owing to very heavy showers, of rain, the attendance was not very large. The Instructor, Mr. Cradwick, the chairman and Rev. Hastings were among those present. The minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Warm discussion followed on the banana tax, after which a resolution moved by the chairman and seconded by Mr. Simmonds passed unanimously.

The Instructor gave some very valuable hints on broom corn, and instructed the Secretary to write to Mr. Barclay for seeds to distribute at next meeting. The result of the competition in small settlers' cocoa cultivation in St. Mary was announced. The Instructor took the occasion as a fitting opportunity to give a stirring address on cocoa cultivation and the reason why many have failed to obtain prizes. He thought the competition should be the means of improving the cultivations for "The Prize Holding Competition" next year. The Secretary spoke in glowing terms of the Instructor's services and urged renewed effort to carry out his suggestions. Mr. Abrahams here tendered his resignation as chairman, owing to his change of district. He named the Rev. Hastings as a capable successor. The Rev. Gentleman was willing to be one of the Vice-presidents and would in that capacity do his best. Mr. Abrahams was pressed to withdraw his resignation which he did, remarking that if the Society would be satisfied with what service he could render, he would offer no objection to continue even for a time. Rev. Hastings nominated Mr. Timothy Bonner as an authorized person for Lucky Hill, agreed. The Secretary was asked to write Mr. Barclay on the subject. Mr. Hastings on behalf of the Society wished the Instructor who would shortly sail for Toronto *Bon Voyage*. He replied suitably and said that his trip would be beneficial both to the district and himself as he hoped to get valuable hints on corn planting when in the United States. The meeting then adjourned.—W. T. EDWARDS, Secretary.

Richmond, (St. Mary).—The regular monthly meeting was held on the 4th July, 1913. After the meeting was called to order, the President spoke on the proposed tax on bananas. His remarks went to prove how very detrimental it would be to the banana industry. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Arising out of the minutes, V. P. Thomas asked what had been done about the function that was to have been held at Richmond. The Instructor

informed the members that it had to be delayed till a little later, as the Hon. R. P. Simmonds is sick, and will be leaving the island for a few weeks. Correspondence from the Hon. R. P. Simmonds was next read. The President asked the Instructor to address the meeting. He spoke on three points, first, relative to a Show to be held in St. Mary, 1914, at Nashville. The President made reference to the Goshen Show. He said that he had been there twice, and from what he saw, they were ideal Shows. He next spoke on the prize holding competition that will come off 1914. He urged on the members the necessity of having their holdings fenced, also to have a gate attached. Next and last was the Toronto Exhibition. He said he would be leaving for the exhibition at the end of July. As some of the branch societies are sending exhibits to the Toronto Exhibition, he also asked this branch to send some exhibits. Some of the members agreed to send a few bunches of bananas, some cocoa pods and dried coconuts. He also said that after the Show he will go to the States, and will have an interview with the Director of Agriculture, on corn growing, and he will bring with him on his return some specimens of seed corn for planting purposes. He advised them to plant some of the Broom Corn. Year by year a large sum is spent in buying imported brooms. Members agreed to get some seed from the Parent Society. Before the close of the meeting it was moved and seconded that a petition be drafted and sent to the Secretary of Jamaica Agricultural Society, and to be forwarded to His Excellency the Governor, re taxation of bananas. The members then bade Mr. Cradwick a safe voyage to the Dominion, after which the meeting stood adjourned till the 2nd Friday in August 1913.—CHARLES GREGG, Secretary.

Hanover Windward.—The usual bi-monthly meeting was held on Friday the 4th July, 1913, in the Bethel school room. There were present E. Melville, Esq., J.P., President, and fifteen members, A. Shaw-Samuels, Secretary and R. C. Somerville, Agricultural Instructor. In calling the meeting to order, the President in a short speech, thanked the Society for reposing so much confidence in him, and electing him President in his absence. After the minutes were read and confirmed, the Secretary read a letter from the Spaldings Branch re the detention (by the police till the day of trial) of things stolen that are perishable. The President explained that the matter has already been dealt with by the Legislative Council, and that nothing more could be done. A letter from the Parent Society re Authorized Persons was read, and the President read rules relating to their duties and pay, explaining them fully. A discussion arose about the misunderstanding on the part of several Authorized Persons with regard to their duty. It was decided that Mr. Barclay be written to, stating that in the opinion of the Society, it would be best if the Government could see its way to appoint a police officer in each division, to give instructions to authorized persons with respect to their duties. A letter from the Superintending Medical Officer, saying that he will consider the request for a Government Dispensary at Hopewell. It was agreed to send a letter to the Chairman of the Parochial Board, asking that the D.M.O. be prevailed on to visit the areas where dysentery is prevalent and send for medicine for the relief of the sufferers. The Instructor called the attention of the Society to the fact that other Societies endeavour to improve their small stock by obtaining new and improved breeds through the Parent Society, and urged that a move be made in that direction. It was then moved, seconded and agreed to, that the members subscribe to buy a boar for the use of the Society. A subscription list was immediately opened, and nearly every member tendered his fee. The Secretary was then instructed to write to Mr. Barclay and try to secure a Large Black boar. It was agreed to get a grindstone from the Society's funds for the use of the members, and it was moved, seconded and agreed to that the grindstone when obtained be put up at Thompson Hill. It was agreed that this Society request the Department of Agriculture to make Flint River a distributing centre for cocoa plants from the Montpelier nursery to supply the surrounding districts. It was moved, seconded and agreed to that the Chairman be asked to represent the Society at the Half Yearly meeting of the Jamaica Agricultural Society. The Instructor expressed his regret that many of the peasant proprietors have not yet cleared up their holdings. That it tells badly on the districts and that it is high time to begin to look after the permanent crops.

and to prepare for the Prize Holding Competition to come off next year. The Secretary explained that the General Society gives only 3 months grace for the payment of fees. Mr. O. N. Mowatt was received as a member of the Society. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the President for agreeing to represent the Society at the general half yearly meeting. The meeting closed in the usual way.—P. H. DAVIS, Assistant Secretary.

East Portland—A regular meeting was held in the Government Schoolroom, Manchioneal, on the 5th July, 1913. There were 25 members present and a few visitors. Mr. L. R. McBean, the President, occupied the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. As arising out of the minutes the Secretary reported that he had bought the lamps for the society. It was decided to discuss the matter of "Authorized Persons" at the August meeting. Eight members paid dues. The following resolution was moved and seconded and carried unanimously. Whereas the small settlers of Manchioneal and the surrounding districts experience great hardship in obtaining suitable lands for agricultural purposes on any terms whether by sale, lease or rent from the fact that the large land owners around require nearly all of theirs for their own purposes. And whereas the prosperity of this island depends on agriculture. Be it resolved that the Government be approached with a view to getting the vast amount of Crown Lands lying idle in Portland and especially in the immediate vicinity of Manchioneal opened up to the small settlers in any of the terms mentioned above so that the existing conditions may be ameliorated. Mr. C. M. Clarke led off in a discussion on the cultivations of the small settler. Several other members joined in. Mr. Allwood moved a vote of thanks to the leader which was carried. Mr. Saml. Titus in his discourse stated that by following the improved methods of cultivating corn as advised by the Instructor and in the JOURNAL he is now growing corn of a much better quality than he grew two years ago on the same spot of land. Some members complained of not receiving JOURNALS. The Secretary referred the members to the slip found in the April JOURNAL, which explained the delay. The Secretary will lead off in a discussion on the growth of the banana at the next meeting. The following notices of motion were handed in for next meeting. Mr. Lennox to move that future meetings be opened and closed with prayer, Mr. Fuller to move that the Government be approached to get a law made to protect tenants, and Mr. Allwood to deal with the unsatisfactory methods by which the fruit companies buy fruit in Manchioneal. The meeting then adjourned.—ERNEST WALLACE, Secretary.

Prospect (Clarendon).—The monthly meeting was held on the 7th July, 1913, in the chapel. President, 11 members and one visitor. The meeting was opened with prayer, Miss A. M. Boyd having vacated her position as Secretary the meeting agreed to ask Miss L. A. Clarke to act as Secretary, Miss Clarke accepted and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. One new member was proposed, accepted and welcomed by the President. The president submitted a by-rule to be given to new members to bind them to the Society. It was moved seconded and unanimously adopted. From matters arising out of the minutes, the meeting decided to send a present to their late Secretary, Miss A. M. Boyd. The 'Gun license' was fully discussed. The President pointed out (1) the necessity of a gun, by means of which a man could protect his cultivation. (2) advantages to be gained by the license being reduced, as more people could procure guns and more licenses would be taken. The names of seven members were submitted to form the managing committee. The meeting was closed by singing the National Anthem.

L. A. CLARKE, Secretary.

Troja (St. Catherine).—A meeting was held in the schoolroom here on the 8th July, 1913. There was a large turn out of members. Messrs. E. A. McNeil, and A. Gardner occupied the positions of President and Secretary respectively. After the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, it was moved and seconded that Mr. R. A. Cruickshank be appointed as a delegate to represent the Troja Branch at the coming general meeting in

Kingston, and that a sum of money out of the funds of the Branch be allowed him to defray expenses. The delegate was asked to speak on the following subjects at the coming meeting:—

1. The suppression of prædial larceny especially in regard to the stealing of cocoa pods. (a) By extending the powers of all Authorized Persons so as to allow them to examine the books of dealers in cocoa pods (specially Chinamen many of whom are incapable of keeping their books properly) or (b) By withholding the cocoa pods license, or (c) by changing the punishment of persons convicted of prædial larceny.

2. The connection of Troja (Post Office) with Richmond by telephone.

In proposing (a) Mr. W. E. Douglas said that "Authorized Persons" were better qualified than policemen, to examine the books of dealers in cocoa pods, because being in the district they knew who were cultivators of cocoa and who were not. Policemen were generally, perfect strangers to the districts. In No. (2) Mr. McNeil pointed out clearly the benefits to be derived from having Troja connected with Richmond by telephone. Complaints were heard on all sides of the prevalence of prædial larceny in the districts. Mr. Bonner said that the thieves were becoming expert in the art of stealing, that a little boy could tell almost at a glance that a cocoa pod which looked apparently green was ripe. After some further discussion on the interpretation of the Prædial Larceny Law in connection with the duties of "Authorized Persons," Mr. McNeil proposed to speak on the "Rearing of Pigs" at the next regular meeting. A most profitable meeting was then brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.—W. E. DOUGLAS, Secretary.

Central St. Mary.—The regular monthly meeting was held on the 8th instead of the 3rd of July, 1913, owing to the rain. There were present J. A. Banks, Esq. in the chair. Thirteen members and the Secretary. Reading and confirmation of minutes. Two new members elected. Letters were read from the General Secretary *re* the "Authorized Persons", the Half Yearly meeting of the Parent Society; also letter from the Hon. R. P. Simmonds regretting his inability to attend meeting through ill health. Letter from the Travelling Instructor, Mr. Cradwick, *re* seed corn. The Secretary was instructed to reply to the Hon. R. P. Simmonds, It was decided not to send a representative to the Half Yearly meeting this year. A resolution:—Appreciation of the interest manifested in the small settlers of this parish, by the committee at Port Maria *viz.* the Hon. R. P. Simmonds, Messrs. J. R. Benjamin and A. Davidson Goffee for having supplied the means to organize the Cocoa Competition and to the two Instructors, Wm. Cradwick, Esq. and L. A. Wates, Esq., for their zeal and energy. Unanimously carried. Three prizes were won by members of this Branch. A debate followed, in which all present were greatly interested. The subject was "Burning or Burying which is the better?" Voting resulted in favour of burying: Burying 10. Burning 6. Secretary reported that the May JOURNALS had not come to him and was instructed to inquire the cause of the delay. The Secretary reported that he had received a letter from the Secretary of the Parent Society that Messrs. Charles Whytie, Isaiah Thompson, and James A. McGibbon have been appointed "Authorized Persons" in connection with this Branch. The Secretary urged that the subscriptions of those in arrears, should be handed in early, as the time of grace allowed had expired on the 30th June. The subject for the next debate at the August meeting as proposed by the Secretary will be:—"You are a young man starting life, your father offers you £80 cash or four acres of land (good uncultivated St. Mary-land), which would you choose, and how would you cultivate it?" At that meeting a paper on liming, will be read by the Secretary. Subscriptions were received from three members. Members rose and the National Anthem closed the proceedings.—E. A. GUNTER, Secretary.

Enfield, (St. Mary).—The usual monthly meeting was held in the school-room on the 9th July, 1913, at 3.50 p.m. Present:—The Rev. W. S. Taylor, President, Mr. W. Cradwick, Travelling Instructor, the Secretary, J. Z. Johnson and 41 other members. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and con-

firmed. Mr. R. A. Cranston was proposed and elected a member. The correspondence was read and also the reports of the Authorized Persons. It was highly satisfactory to note the report of Mr. Daniel Hughes, which showed that he had taken action in no less than 22 cases during the quarter, in nearly all of which he had secured convictions. The subject of the working of the Loan Bank came up for discussion, but the matter was deferred to a future meeting. At this stage the Instructor was asked to revise the Prize List and Rules of the proposed Show to come off on the 14th August next. His suggestions were received with appreciation. Mr. Cradwick expressed his regret at not being able to be present at the Show, as he had been appointed as Delegate to represent Jamaica at the Toronto Exhibition. Mr. T. R. Beckford moved and it was seconded by Mr. H. D. Sheriff that a letter be written to the Secretary of the Parent Society, asking for the services of Mr. A. P. Hanson and L. A. Wates if possible, to assist at the Show, and also to invite the Secretary of the Parent Society. The matter was ultimately left with the President and Secretary. At this stage the President thanked Mr. Cradwick on behalf of the Show Committee, for his many kind and timely suggestions regarding the Show. He also wished him success in his visit to Toronto, and hoped that he would derive many benefits therefrom. Mr. Cradwick thanked the President for his kind expressions and gave a report on the Cocoa Competition which came off in May last. Mr. Alex. Donald got a certificate for his cultivation. Mr. Cradwick promised to visit the Show Ground the next day to see how the preparations were progressing. It being 5 o'clock the roll was called and the meeting adjourned until the 12th prox. — J. Z. JOHNSON, Secretary.

Swift River, (Portland).—The regular monthly meeting was held on Wednesday, 9th July, at 5 p.m. In the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents the Chair was taken by T. G. McGrath, Esq. The meeting was called to order, minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. Members present, eighteen, roll called and two members paid in their subs. Papers on "How Can a Small Man Make Himself Independent," were read, 1st by Mr. E. N. Bailey, 2nd by T. W. J. Livingston and the third paper by the Secretary for Mr. W. Falvon who, being pressed with work, could not attend. These were very good papers and did not need much discussion, only a few questions were asked on the first paper, which were answered by the writer himself. Mr. McGrath, E. E. Anderson and the Secretary spoke a few words on the papers and praised the writers. This being the first attempt to make the meeting more interesting. It is to be hoped that it will be continued. There was some discussion on a certain section of the roads in this district. A committee of six members was formed to draft a Petition to the Parochial Board also to write an address to be presented to Mr. A. P. Hanson, Agricultural Instructor, on the eve of his transfer to another district, when he will give his farewell lecture in the district. A vote of thanks was moved by the Chairman for the three men who wrote the papers, unanimously carried. The next meeting was fixed for the 13th August, when papers to be written on "Cocoa Cultivation" by three members will be read, as well as a Discussion on Crown Lands. There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

D. N. PARKER, Secretary.

Marlborough, (St. Mary).—The usual monthly meeting was held in the school-room on Thursday, 10th July, 1913, at 5 p.m. There were present Messrs. A. J. Duncan, President, in the Chair, the Secretary and 12 other members and one visitor. Meeting called to order. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Matters arising out of the minutes were next dealt with. A letter from the Parochial Board, in reply to one sent from the Society relative to road matters was read. This reply was considered unsatisfactory, it was agreed that a petition, praying for the improvement of Road No. 37 in the Richmond district, be got up and sent to the Board, by the residents of the district. Moved and seconded that Mr. Levi Ferguson be elected a member of the Society, carried unanimously. Correspondence.—The Secretary read letter from Hon. R. P. Simmonds thanking the Society for resolution sent to him conveying thanks for his interest taken in the recent Cocoa Cultivation Competition. Letters from the Secretary of the Parent Society relative to the duties, and payment of Authorized

Persons, and reminding the Society of the Half Yearly meeting of the Agricultural Society on the 17th inst. Letter from Mr. Cradwick asking that orders for American Seed Corn be postponed until his return from the Toronto Exhibition, as during his stay in America, he would get full information as to the seeds that would be most useful to us in Jamaica. Treasurer's report. The Treasurer read his report showing the amount of 8/10 in hand. Report of Authorized Persons. Mr. Chas. Thomas, the only one present, reported that although he had not effected any arrest for prædial larceny, yet he was glad to say that larceny was not so prevalent in his district as formerly. The appointment of others to serve as Authorized Persons was deferred till next meeting. Mr. Z. French gave notice to move at the next meeting that a Penny Bank be formed in connection with the Society. This was seconded by Mr. J. E. Ford. Date for next meeting, August 14th—time, 4 p.m. in the school room. Meeting adjourned after singing the National Anthem.—R. SAMUEL FINLAYSON, Secretary.

Mt. Charles, (St. Andrew).—The regular meeting was held on July 10th, 1913. There were present, Rev. C. B. Berry (President) twenty-one other members and the Secretary. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was read on "Authorized Persons," their duties, and rates of payment for services rendered; "Change of Instructor for the district"; and "Half Yearly General Meeting." It was learnt from those present that Authorized Persons have been supplied with handcuffs. In some districts prædial larceny is still prevalent, but in districts where there are Authorized Persons, there is much less than formerly. Mr. R. C. Francis was elected to represent this Branch at the General Meeting on July 17th. The President spoke on the proposed tax on bananas in America. Mr. R. C. Francis will speak at the next meeting on the advantages and disadvantages of burning land before planting. It was agreed by a majority vote that the meetings be held monthly as formerly. The next meeting will be on the second Thursday of August next. The meeting adjourned.—W. R. SMELLIE, Secretary.

Darliston (Westmoreland).—The quarterly meeting was held in the Enfield Schoolroom on Friday 11th July, 1913. There were present: J. W. Mennell, Esq., President, R. C. Somerville, Esq., Agricultural Instructor, the Secretary and 30 other members. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. As arising out of the minutes it was agreed to strike off the roll the names of members who are in arrears with their dues at the end of July. Four letters received from the Secretary of the Jamaica Agricultural Society were read and discussed. (1) *re* "Authorized Persons", the letter was discussed and it was stated that some difficulties had arisen in the payment of "Authorized Persons" some had not received their pay on the conviction of the persons they had arrested, which made it difficult to obtain good work from the "Authorized Persons." It was decided to ask the Inspector of Police to appoint a date on which the "Authorized Persons" could meet to receive instruction from him or from some sub-officer qualified to give such instruction as to their duties as "Authorized Persons." The following resolution was moved and seconded and passed unanimously:—That in the opinion of the Darliston Branch of the Jamaica Agricultural Society *Mahoe Bark* should be placed on the Schedule of articles for which "Authorized Persons" may arrest suspected persons and that this matter be brought up at the Half Yearly general meeting to be held on the 17th July, with a view to having it brought to the notice of the government. J. W. Mennell, Esq., President, has been selected as representative from this Branch to attend the Half Yearly general meeting. A vote of thanks was moved for the President and was carried by all present. A statement was made by Mr. W. Smalling, keeper of the young boar pig purchased from the Hope Farm, that in a week's time he will deliver the pig to the Society. Mr. Smalling stated that he was unable to keep the pig longer in his custody. Moved and seconded 'That Mr. John O. Crooks be appointed the keeper of the pig on the same conditions as Mr. Smalling kept it.' Agreed. Mr. S. J. Philp was appointed to see the pig and to make a report on its condition before it changed hands. Mr. Philp kindly agreed to do this. After a lengthy discussion on

"Relief Work" the following was also moved and seconded and passed unanimously: "In view of the straightened condition of the District as a result of the hurricane, this Society asks the government to start "Relief Works" where the circulating of money in the district may ameliorate the condition and the roads be made better and easier for traffic." Moved and seconded "That the President with the Secretary be asked to write a covering letter to Mr. Stewart's Resolution to be forwarded to the General Secretary in order that he may put same before the general meeting of the Agricultural Society on Thursday 17th July." After two short discussions on "Banana Figs" and on the "Exportation of bananas" one of the members remarked "That disease seemed to be playing havoc with his bananas." The Instructor replied that he would visit his field the next day. It was decided that the Secretary be instructed to purchase from the funds of the Society 1lb. of tobacco seeds from the Parent Society for distribution to the members of the Branch. The Instructor after having given several hints about "House Flies" and the remedies to apply to get rid of them, told the members present that at the close of the meeting each would get a quart of Cow-peas which he had brought with him. Three new members were enrolled. Meeting adjourned to 8th August next at the Enfield Schoolroom at 9 a.m.—J. H. HEDLEY, Secretary,

Waldensia (Trelawny).—The regular monthly meeting was held on the 11th of July, 1913. Present the President, Secretary, Local Instructor, thirteen members and several visitors. At the hour fixed for the Managing Committee to meet there was not a quorum, so their business meeting was postponed for the eighth of August. Matters arising out of the minutes, correspondence with the General Secretary re the rejection of Messrs. James Whitley and Robert Simpson as "Authorized Persons". The correspondence was tabled. The rules guiding "Authorized Persons" were read and explained to the members present. A circular letter from the General Secretary inviting a representative from each Branch Society to the half-yearly meeting to be held on July 17th in Kingston, was read, but the members decided they could not send up a delegate. The Secretary then asked "What matters of Agricultural importance have we to submit to the Half Yearly meeting? Mr. Harrison, the Instructor pointed out that it would be wise if the members could always appoint a Representative to Half Yearly meetings. The question of the deviation of the road near Fontabelle was brought up, but on the President's explanation the matter was dropped. Nothing further was suggested. On the suggestion of Mr. Harrison the subject of a J.P. for the immediate neighbourhood, was brought up for consideration. Three members spoke in favour of the suggestion and expressed their willingness to support it so as to get the services of any gentleman resident among them for the office of J.P. The Instructor was called on by the chair to address the meeting, and he spoke at full length on the Prize Holdings' Scheme. He also encouraged the peasants to start planting of canes along with bananas and other products assuring them that very soon there will open up a market near by for the purchase of their canes. The President spoke of the 5 cents import Duty on every bunch of bananas in the American ports, and told of the efforts put forth by our Governor and other gentlemen who have the interests of Jamaica at heart, to effect a change in this Duty. After some words of encouragement the evening's proceedings were brought to a close.—M. LIVINGSTON, Secretary.

Port Royal Mountains (St. Andrew).—The monthly meeting was held on Saturday 11th July, 1913. There were present Rev. J. J. K. Fletcher, President, forty-six members and the Secretary. The meeting opened with prayer. Resignation of Mr. C. C. Ireland as Secretary, was presented and Mr. J. Edward Simms was appointed to fill his place. The financial statement was read by Mr. C. C. Ireland and was held over till the next meeting to allow certain corrections to be made. The books, etc., were then handed over to the new Secretary. Then followed correspondence. Letters were read from the Colonial Secretary, Collector General and the acting Director of Public Works. All these were chiefly about relief works. The memorial re removing constabulary station from Guava Ridge to Mavis Bank, and establishing a Hospital at

Guava Ridge or at some suitable place in the vicinity was also read. The Governor's message re coming up to Mavis Bank mid day on Monday, riding round the district to see for himself the state of affairs, and meeting the members of the Branch at 4 p.m. was read. The President read correspondence which had taken place between himself and the Colonial Secretary relative to the case of Alex. Jackson who could not pay his taxes last year through want and sickness. Re rules for the payment of "Authorized Persons" for attending Court as witnesses and for performing actual duties, it was decided to discuss the same at the next meeting when it is hoped there will be a still larger gathering. Owing to the pressure of work the President did not see his way to attend the Half Yearly meeting and asked that Rev. P. Chaperlin be sent in his stead. The meeting agreed and Mr. Chaperlin accepted. Resolution for a special meeting to meet the Governor on Monday at 4 p.m. was unanimously agreed to. It was also agreed at the suggestion of Mr. Chaperlin that the meeting be a general one so that the friends of the members of the branch may be allowed to attend. Transfer of Mr. Briscoe. A resolution in the form of an address was presented and read. After a few remarks from the President the meeting adjourned with prayer till Monday, 14th inst. at 4 p.m.

J. E. SIMMS, Secretary.

Tryall Hill, (St. Mary).—Regular monthly meeting was held at Fort George instead of at Tryall Hill school room on the 13th July, 1913 D McNichol, Esq., occupied the Chair. There were about 400 persons present. The minutes were read and confirmed. Six persons were proposed and duly elected members of the Society. The Instructor, W. Cradwick, Esq., informed the meeting of the absence of the Hon. Member for St. Mary which was due to his illness. Poorer taxpayers.—The Instructor pointed out that this was a matter entirely in the hands of the Parochial Board of the Parish. Penar Bridge.—Mr. H. R. Cargill being called upon to address the meeting. He expressed the pleasure it afforded him in addressing so large an audience, and stated that this is the first successful gathering of the kind in these districts wherein the people responded so heartily, leaving their regular work and seeking unanimously that which they felt they needed. He quoted the Camberwell Road which took 22 years agitation by the speaker before it was made a Main Road. He cherished the hope that the bridges will yet be made. Suggestion.—That a second meeting of the kind be held in the Annotto Bay Court House. Mr. A. C. Westmoreland who represented Mr. A. F. Ellis spoke of the lack of spirit that is noticeable both in the upper and lower walks of life, and he hoped that a more energetic spirit would be shown in the future. He thinks it a misfortune for the Metcalfe districts to be separated from the Western and South ends of the Parish of St. Mary. Another sign of lethargy is to be seen in the want of a foot bridge over the Quaco and Pear Rivers which would cost but little. He promised to do all he could in obtaining this, that the Society could rely on his support. The Instructor showed that much can be done through the Society with which the people must associate themselves by becoming members. Districts that were very low down in the scale have been brought forward through Agricultural Societies and within a short time. A very interesting account of the Cocoa Competition in St. Mary was given by the Instructor to which the audience listened with attention, there were prize winners among those present also some who had obtained certificates. He concluded with remarks on (Spraying) and the loss of cocoa pods caused by rats and thieves. Discussion arose on the proposed Tax on Bananas, and also on a proposed Fig Factory for the district. Vote of thanks was moved and seconded for the St. Mary Trust Fund for the prizes awarded in the Cocoa Competition. A vote of thanks also moved to Messrs. H. R. Cargill, A. C. Westmoreland, C. Casserlea, for attending the meeting and promising to support the Bridge Question. The Instructor will give a lecture on marketing at his next visit. The business being over the National Anthem was sung and the meeting adjourned.—A. A. CONSTABLE, Secretary.

May Pen, (Clarendon).—The monthly meeting was held at May Pen on Thursday the 17th July, 1913, there was a large attendance. The President, Mr. Stokes deRoux, occupied the Chair. The minutes of last monthly meeting as well as of

the special meeting, were read and confirmed. The financial statement was presented and adopted. The Secretary read a letter from the Secretary of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, saying that this Branch has been duly affiliated, and that the Board will watch with interest the progress of this Branch and the subjects it will discuss from time to time. The Secretary said the affiliation fee for 66 members has been paid to the Parent Society. Three new members were elected. Moved and seconded that the Secretary be authorized to purchase a carbon copying letter book to facilitate his work. Carried. Mr. S. A. Schliefer, the Agricultural Instructor, entered and was introduced to the meeting by the President. He was given a cordial welcome. The Secretary stated that owing to his illness he could not prepare his paper on "Cotton Growing for Small Settlers," but as the Instructor was present he would ask him to take up that subject. He also spoke on the condition of the holdings in and around May Pen which he thought were not complimentary to the people and did not compare favourably with the settlers holdings in other parts of the island. If cocoa and bananas cannot stand the climate, something else could be grown which would help to make the waste land around their homes more attractive and at the same time bring something into their pockets, and he thought that cotton was just the thing. Mr. Schliefer then addressed the meeting. He said that now the Society is about to take up the industry of cotton growing it will give him much pleasure to communicate all the information he could get on the subject. What was necessary to find out first of all was whether money can be made out of it or not. In reply to a query by some members who thought cotton was not as profitable as other crops, the Instructor informed the meeting that he was not advising them to give up any one crop for cotton, but that it was advisable to have alternate crops especially in these dry areas and not to put all their eggs in one basket. During the Instructor's address in which he dealt with all the main points of the industry, several members became enthusiastic. After the Instructor had finished a great many questions were asked and satisfactorily answered and many members resolved to give cotton a fair trial. President then gave a very forcible address. "People in May Pen" he said, "ought to feel ashamed that there was cause for the remarks made by Mr. Rennalls. There was a time when the people use to have fine holdings and beautiful surroundings. One of the things that made him so zealous in the cause of agriculture was the neglect shown on all sides. The people of Jamaica will never be prosperous until they learn to stick to the land and improve their holdings. He emphasized the fact that the Instructor has not been advising the giving up of the crops now being handled but to take up the neglected lands and so improve the holdings and at the same time earn a little more money. Mr. Rennalls said his remarks were not intended as a censure on the people, but he expressed what struck him most forcibly and what would strike every stranger coming to the district. Mr. Schliefer spoke in very complimentary terms of the Secretary and the work he had done in the past and of what he is capable of accomplishing. Moved and seconded that a cordial vote of thanks be accorded to the Instructor who was requested to speak on Tobacco Cultivation at next meeting. There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

C: L. A. RENNALLS, Secretary.

Bunker's Hill, (Trelawny).—The regular monthly meeting came off on the 17th July, 1913, at the usual hour. There was a shower of rain just before the meeting which caused the attendance to be small. There were present, the Vice-President in the Chair, the Instructor, Secretary and eight other members. The meeting opened with prayer. Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed. Matters arising from minutes were discussed. Re the proposed Post Office Mrs. Lowe informed the meeting that she would build it. The Society accepted and thanked her for the offer. Owing to some dissatisfaction about the minutes not constantly appearing in the JOURNAL, due to the date of the meetings being late, it was proposed and agreed to, that the date be changed and meetings be held on the second Thursday of each month. A committee was appointed to revise the rules and have copies printed for the use of each member. The Instructor spoke on the request of the Deeside Branch to join them in having a small local show in November. He pointed out how it would show to the general public the activity

of the Societies after the recent hurricane and that experience would be gained which would ensure the success of the larger one, expected to be held next year by the four branches. Secretary was appointed as a Delegate to attend a meeting to this effect at Deside on the 22nd July. The Instructor also spoke on the Prize Holding Scheme to come off in March and advised many to enter. The roll was called and the meeting closed.—W. R. ROBOTHAM, Secretary.

Guy's Hill (St. Mary).—The regular monthly meeting was held at Guy's Hill Wesleyan Chapel on Thursday July 17, 1913. There were present Messrs. P. C. Bell (V.P.) in the chair, 10 members and the Secretary. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Messrs. Pollock and Greeves having been proposed and accepted became members of the Society and paid in their subscriptions. The Secretary gave some explanation about Mr. Martin going to Kingston on that day to represent the Branch at the half-yearly meeting of the Parent Society and the meeting agreed to give four shillings towards travelling expenses. A letter from the Inspector of Police for St. Mary was read re a district constable for Upper DeCoy. After a brief consideration of the subject it was decided to let the matter lie over a while. A letter from Mr. Cradwick re his expected visit to Canada and his intentions to see after seed corn in the interest of the district was read and the Secretary was instructed to write thanking the Instructor for his fore-thought and interest. The Secretary was authorized to write the members of the Parochial Board of St. Mary to find out what is being done with regard to the road leading from Halifax through Rose Street. Some time was spent in discussing plans for the carrying out of the demonstration to take place at Gayle on Thursday the 29th inst. when His Excellency, the Governor is expected to pay his first visit to these parts. The meeting adjourned to meet again on Thursday the 21st of August at St. George's.
W. E. WATSON, Secretary.

Southfield (St. Elizabeth). The regular monthly meeting came off on July 18, 1913, presided over by A. P. Hewitt, Esq., in the absence of the President and Vice-presidents. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The Instructor informed the meeting that contributions towards the Toronto Exhibition were sent up as follows: Thatch mats by Miss J. Hewitt; Straw baskets and mats by Mr. N. Brooks; Pipe tobacco by Mr. Julius Holness. Authorized Persons:—Mr. Joseph Powel reported the arrest of James Johnson. The meeting recommended his pay to be 2s. 6d. Mr. William Jones reported the attempted arrest of Charlotte Vassal. The meeting decided his pay to be 2s. Cotton Planting:—The Instructor addressed the meeting on this industry, and said that he is aiding in the management of 10 plots as a means of stimulating the people to cultivate cotton. He gave a fair description of the cultivation of the plant, and urged very strongly the planting of cotton as a profitable crop for dry districts. Seeds will be supplied free to members. The acting chairman being an apiarist, was asked to address the next meeting on Bee-keeping. The meeting then adjourned.—J. J. MILLER, Secretary.

NOTE.—Severe strong wind, scorching sun, and the lack of rain for many weeks is the cause of the destruction of the corn crop, potatoes and other minor products.

Bath, (St. Thomas).—The monthly meeting was held on Thursday, 17th July, 1913. There were present, J. Hamilton, Esq., (in the Chair) thirteen members, and the Secretaries. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The President explained that no meeting of the Committee to report upon the character of the persons whose names are proposed as "Authorized Persons" had been held, but that very soon a meeting would be convened. The Secretary stated that owing to his absence from home, and pressure of work on the Assistant Secretary, none of the resolutions passed at the last meeting respecting the new road from Bath to Port Antonio and the coconut nursery at Bath had gone forward, but that attention would be given to these matters shortly. There was a free discussion on the proposed Banana Tax to be levied by the American Government, and arising out of this matter the Secretary was requested to write

and ask Mr. Anderson to be good enough to come over and address the meeting in August on the Banana Fig Industry with the view to establishing a factory in the district. The meeting adjourned to August 21st, 4 p.m.

G. R. GROVES, Secretary.

Whitehall.—The annual meeting came off on the evening of the 16th July 1913. There was a good turn out of members and visitors. In the absence of the President, Mr. R. McLean took the Chair. The minutes of last meeting read and confirmed, the election of officers for the ensuing year followed, which resulted as follows:—Edward Ashman, Esq., J.P., President, Messrs. R. McLean and E. A. Blake, Vice Presidents, Mr. Arthur Munroe, Treasurer, Laughlin Barrett, Secretary and Miss E. J. E. Ryan, Assistant Secretary. This done the Instructor, Mr. A. H. Hoare, was called on to speak on the Prize Holdings Competition. He outlined the whole scheme, and gave advice to those who intend to compete. It may well be said that the zeal with which the Assistant Instructor has taken up his work, has given a fresh impetus to the cultivation of cocoa in these parts. Over 4,000 plants from the Bath Nursery have been planted out, and cultivators are learning to care for their cocoa trees. His visits to the districts are much appreciated as not only are his instructions found very helpful, but he leaves behind him on every occasion instances of Agricultural improvement. Mr. B. W. Johnson, representing the Jamaica Banana Fig Co., Ltd., in these parts asked to have a hearing on the interests of the Company. This was granted and he spoke for about half an hour on the advantages of establishing a Fig Factory in the district, and urged members to take shares. At this stage of the meeting Mr. Barrett moved a suspension of the Standing Order to put through the following resolution, moved, seconded and carried. Resolved that whereas this Society learns with deep regret of the death of Mr. A. N. Boyd, an "Authorized Person" and active member of this Branch, the members will show their sympathy towards the bereaved by standing. Rules regulating the duties and payment of Authorized Persons were again discussed. Four men were nominated as Authorized Persons. The following were proposed and accepted members:—B. W. Johnson, Alfred Johnson, Matthew Benjamin and Sarah Fraser. Subscriptions received were 17/- The Secretary asked to be allowed to purchase a Transfer Duplicator" in order to facilitate the getting out of circulars and receipt forms. His suggestion was taken and the order made. Before the close of the meeting the Instructor gave his views on the Banana Fig business and recommended it to the favourable consideration of members, after which he moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Johnson wishing him great success in his undertaking. This was heartily supported. The meeting adjourned with the singing of the National Anthem.

L. ANGLIN BARRETT, Secretary.

Patrick Town.—The by-monthly meeting met in the Church of England Meeting House at 3 p.m. on Friday the 25th of July, 1913. There were present twenty-three members and Mr. J. T. Palache, Agricultural Instructor, The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence re "Authorized Persons" was read and the meeting agreed that the Secretary ask that each authorized person be supplied with copies of Law 9 of 1899 as amended by Law 4 of 1902. Mr. Palache addressed the meeting. He said that it would be the last time that he would be able to give an address in his official capacity as Instructor for the district. He stated briefly the benefits to be obtained from these Branch Societies and urged on the members the necessity of remaining true and firm to their Branch. He mentioned too, that through the agency of Branch Societies, the Prædial Larceny Law had been passed and Loan Banks instituted. The discussions on agriculture have been the means of increasing their knowledge of the subject. Rev. S. E. Morrison moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Palache which was seconded and carried. A resolution was moved and seconded that Mr. Palache be given a grant by the Parent Society in order to enable him to keep on the "Model Garden" at Clover. Mr. Palache brought for the Branch a parcel of "Seed Corn" which was grown from imported seeds. He wanted the members to plant out the corn and when that corn was reaped each member must note the yield and he (Mr. Palache) would be quite willing to

come over to a meeting; if invited, to decide the result of the competition. Mr. Benjamin suggested Aug. 17th as the day for planting out the corn so that all the corn would be ready at the same time. As it would be the last time that Mr. Palache would be present as Instructor, this Branch presented him with an address. He replied thanking them and expressing his regret. Rev. S. E. Morrison suggested that the members would try tobacco growing and that the Secretary be advised to ask Mr. Barclay to supply the branch with some good quality of seed. Rev. Morrison promised a paper on tobacco for the next meeting. The election of officers for the ensuing year took place. The following enlisted as members of the Society:—Messrs. Theo. Dennis, Robert Barrett, John Trew. The next meeting was fixed for Monday 22nd Sept. at 8 p.m.

A. G. BENJAMIN, Secretary.

Baxters Mountain, (St. Mary).—The regular meeting was held on Wednesday, 23rd July, 1913. There were present Mr. W. Cradwick, Agricultural Instructor, Mr. A. E. Giscombe, Vice President who occupied the Chair, the Secretary and twenty members. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Mr. M. H. Edwards, Secretary of the Banana Fig Co., was to be present at this meeting to fully explain the Prospectus of his Company, but he did not turn up. The members were very much disappointed as they are keenly interested in the erection of a Factory. Mr. Cradwick was therefore asked to say something on the subject. Mr. Cradwick said that the manufacture of Banana Figs comes under the scope of an Agricultural Subject and that he would be glad to say all he possibly could about it. It is a necessary thing he said, for cultivators to seek new channels for the output of their small fruits but they should go wisely and cautiously into any concern. A discussion followed and it was decided to await the visit of Mr. Edwards when certain matters would be put to him before any shares were taken up. The Penny Bank Scheme was next dealt with by Mr. Cradwick. He encouraged the Society in this venture and showed the necessity of saving as a safe guard against poverty and ruin. He thought it would be a step in advance if the Government would establish Banks at all Post Offices. It would be convenient and useful and people would be induced to save more. The Society decided to start a Penny Bank at their next meeting. A report of the recent Cocoa Competition was read by Mr. Cradwick. He pointed out some of the chief defects among the small settlers cultivation. Bad pruning, Canker and over-crowding are common defects. The proper methods were fully explained with a demonstration and all felt satisfied with the valuable lessons obtained. The meeting then closed with prayer.—F. A. DEAN, Secretary.

Bio Minho Valley, (Clarendon.)—The regular monthly meeting was held in the Park Hall Government School on the 24th July, 1913. Members present 11 and 2 visitors, who subsequently became members. In the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents, Mr. J. S. Cameron, presided. The meeting was called to order. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. After the adoption of the minutes, election of new members followed when Messrs. P. A. Brown and J. S. Chambers were unanimously elected. Matters arising out of the minutes were next dealt with. It was decided that the members of the Society residing in the Collington district be kept in closer touch with those in the Park Hall district. On the matter of "Crown Lands" at Penrhyn, it was decided that a visit be paid to the said lands before approaching the Government re acquiring same on easy terms. The members present agreed to do their best to make the proposed "Show" at Danks on New Year's Day a unique success it was suggested that Sub-committees should be appointed by the General Committee in the various Branch Societies to work up the Show in the separate districts. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Secretary of the Show Committee putting forward the suggestion. It was agreed to have a "Social" in the near future, in connection with the Branch. The Committee was instructed to make the necessary arrangements as to date, etc. The Agricultural Instructor was unavoidably absent and his lecture on "The Curing of Cocoa" was consequently deferred.

until next meeting. At the next meeting there will be a discussion on the "Growing of Cocoa." Mr. J. S. Chambers will introduce the subject by a "Paper." Subscriptions were paid and the meeting adjourned after the singing of the National Anthem.—J. S. CAMERON, Secretary.

Mt. Begale, (St. Mary).—A special meeting was held on the 26th July, and although the regular meeting was held just two weeks before there was an exceptionally large turn out including Mr. Cradwick and three visitors. Mr. C. A. Robinson, V.C., presided. Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. In reply to a question arising out of the minutes, Mr. Robinson said that the Jippi Jappa debt had been paid off. Mr. Cradwick spoke on Tobacco Growing. He also gave valuable hints on spots suitable for sowing, treatment of seeds and method of curing. As members are somewhat curious about the packets it was decided that preparatory to ordering, one packet be got from Mr. Barclay. On the matter of Authorized Persons having more authority, Mr. Cradwick wanted to know in what direction this was desired but on being told, he made it clear that no such power will be given as that will be contrary to the spirit and purpose for which they have been appointed. It was pointed out that the Serjeant at Richmond is quite prepared to give once a month, instructions to the Authorized Persons if they will avail themselves of the opportunity. Mr. Cradwick then dealt with the Small Holdings Competition which will take place next year. It is desired that broom corn be grown and the Secretary was instructed to apply for some. Read letter from Parochial Board, directing Branch to apply to the Jamaica Agricultural Society for rat poison. On the matter of corn preservation from weevils Mr. Cradwick explained how this can be done by the use of carbon bisulphide. The members desire to try a little cotton growing and an application is to be made for some seeds of the Sea Island variety. Mr. Cradwick reported having found banana disease on the plantation of Mr. Henry Clarke but the affected plants have been burnt. The delegate to the half yearly meeting gave his report which was well received and which was supplemented by one from Mr. Cradwick, and so satisfied were the members that they wished for quarterly meetings instead of half yearly. With the singing of the National Anthem the meeting adjourned to the second Friday in September.

B. THOS. ATKINSON, Secretary.

Upper Trelawny.—The thirteenth annual meeting was held at the Baptist Chapel, Albert Town, on Friday, 27th June, 1913, at 7 p.m., when there were present, J. D. Easy, Esq., President (in the Chair) fifteen members, the Secretary and many visitors. There would have been a much larger attendance if the meeting was called at the hour fixed, 2 p.m., when the Instructor was expected to be present. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed. Arising out of the minutes Mr. Linton asked about the amount still owing by the ex-Treasurer and why it has not been wiped off the books of the Society. The President in replying said he thought another reminder should be sent to him to make good the amount. The President next called upon the Secretary to give his annual report this was accordingly done. Mr. Linton next spoke in praiseworthy terms of the report, and also in like manner two other members. It was then moved and seconded that the report be adopted. Agreed. Treasurer's report.—His report showed a balance of £5 14s. 6d., exclusive of the amount still in hands of his predecessor. Report was also adopted. Mr. Linton who was highly pleased with the report, thought from the funds now in hand something useful and by way of encouragement to the members could be procured and a lengthy discussion followed and suggestions were made for a grind stone and corn sheller, etc. Final decision to be arrived at, at next regular meeting. At this stage the President, gave his retiring address, which was received with applause. He then vacated the Chair. He commented on the year's work and urged all members to pull together. Mr. A. M. Gayle made a short speech. He advised regular attendance at meetings, a large membership and to co-operate in every thing for their mutual benefit, he was also in favour of a District Committee being formed at Wait-a-bit. The next item was the election of officers which Mr. J. T. Morrison was asked to preside over. The result of this election was as follows:—J. D. Easy, Esq., returned President; A. A. Palmer, Esq., returned Secretary; G. T. Morrison, Esq., returned Assistant Secretary; R. R. Linton, Esq., returned Vice President; A. M. Gayle, Esq., returned Vice President; A. A. Palmer, Esq., returned Treasurer. The hour being late election of Managing Committee left over for next regular meeting 23rd July, 1913. National Anthem was sung, and meeting terminated.—A. A. PALMER, Secretary.