ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

BY H. B. ALLEN, Richland Center.

Mr. President, Members of the Association, Ladies and Gentlemen—Through the ballot, and on behalf of the citizens of this village, it has become my pleasant duty to extend you our hearty welcome. Not a pleasant duty because of my fitness to occupy the position of speaker—far from it—but because I feel that we have common needs. It should be a source of pride to any community to have the privilege of affirming its hospitality to so distinguished a body as is the Wisconsin Dairymen's Association. Though you are a child of but thirteen summers, yet you are scattering your permanent blessings throughout the state and exerting an influence even beyond its borders. Nothing, save pressing needs, could have increased your membership from eight to four hundred in the brief period since your first meeting at Watertown.

Nothing but success can have attended your efforts when our state shows during the last decade an increased annual production of over $1,000,000. Our dairymen need no higher commendation than a comparison of the records of 1872 and 1884, for during the one their productions were $1,000,000, while during the other they were $20,000,000.

What means this rapid progress unless it be the adaptability of our state to the butter and cheese interests, and the earnestness and ability on the part of those engaged in its manufacture. These two essential factors have certainly united and achieved many unlooked for results.

When we consider that less than a century ago the entire production of cheese in the United States was 114,734 pounds while in 1877 it reached 300,000,000 pounds, and that Wisconsin alone made 33,478,500 pounds of cheese and 36,240,000 of butter. That fifteen years ago there were only 1,313 cheese factories in the United States, of which Wisconsin had 54. That as late as 1830 most of the butter and cheese was made in the homes of our farmers, and the supply was
limited to local demands. While to-day the world is our market, and our only successful competitors are Australia and Canada.

We have just cause for feeling grateful for our progress as a nation and as a state.

An interest in this branch of agriculture was first awakened in New England, but rapidly extended westward, being carried on very successfully by New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois.

Wisconsin in an opportune time, and in the right way, placed herself as early as 1850 as the fourth state in the number of her factories.

You and those whose desires you represent and foster, have been quick to see our possibilities, and so wisely have these been directed that our dairy products have entered into successful competition with our sister states, though they have had longer and wider experience than we. Our brands are well known and highly prized in our largest cities.

Our competition at the New Orleans World’s Exposition was not so much a source of satisfaction because of the $3,372 awarded us, out of the $10,000 in premiums there offered, but because this state has men of such experience and determination.

It is a matter of vast importance to us that we have such ability in our colleges and on the farm, in our factories and behind the counters, for in any great enterprise, be it what it may, science, theory, practice and exchange must go hand in hand. Any undertaking in which mind, heart and muscle do not unite must from necessity fail.

By extending to you an invitation to assemble here we have reasons to believe that there will be mutual benefits.

We as a county, and a village feel that you have for us the results of experience and practice, and that you are ready and willing to bestow these upon all anxious recipients, and such I am sure you will find our people.

Some of our farmers many years since, caught the spirit of the dairy business, and with credit to themselves and to
our county and to the state, they have done much to develop the resources of this part of the state.

Through their efforts many families are prosperous and many acres of land that would otherwise have been nearly valueless have yielded quick cash profits.

It is justly a source of pride to Richland county to have among her citizens some of the oldest and most enthusiastic dairymen of the state, those who are alive to all the modern improvements in the manufacture of butter and cheese; those who are aiming to keep this county abreast in this important enterprise.

From these I can bespeak for you a most cordial support and earnest attention. They are anxious to receive from you new ideas, new inspiration, and are ready to co-operate with you in advancing this important industry.

I hope our people will be able to respond liberally to your call for memberships, and that you will be instrumental in impressing upon many more of our farmers the need of better stock more improved appliances, and a more thorough understanding of the dairy business. This and the surrounding counties seem by nature to be well adapted to the dairy interest; the hills and valleys alike furnish good pasturage of native grasses and yield abundantly the clovers and other important tame grasses.

Nature has prepared the land and it now remains for you to impress upon us the advisability of engaging in that line of agriculture that will add to the richness of the soil instead of depleting it and at the same time be of greater financial benefit. It is for you to encourage more to engage in that industry which is in the very front ranks among the industries of the world.

You have before you many important problems, some of which may be old to many but to others new. Some are the results of this year's experiments and will be exceedingly interesting to all. Some will be results of practical tests in various parts of the state and which are the results of previously discussed theories, thus indicating how closely you have harmonized theory and practice.
I sincerely hope that your pleasure in meeting with us will be as abundant as the welcome we extend to you.

And I hope if there is anything overlooked on our part that you will be as free to indicate that omission as we shall be to supply it.

Hoping that your meeting will be pleasant and profitable and a bright spot in the memory of your association. I bid you welcome.

RESPONSE TO THE ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

By Hon. H. C. Adams, Madison.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen—The members of the Wisconsin Dairymen's Association think they know good cream when they see it, and I can assure you that we can appreciate the greeting which we have received, as the genuine cream of hospitality which has arisen upon the human kindness, and which has been offered to us in the golden goblet of good fellowship, lined with the silver of intelligence and thought.

The dairymen of Wisconsin have met for a practical purpose. They are not here simply to have a good time; they are not here to uphold imposibilities; they are not here to ridicule or antagonize other branches of farming industry. They are not here to declare the purity and wisdom of their own business methods, but they are here to improve those methods by contact and association of ideas. We are here to find out more about the calf and the cow, the churn and the cheese, the butter, the milk and the cream. We are here to study together all those questions relating to the growth and production of grasses and grain. We are here to make sight drafts upon each other's knowledge for information about all those matters which relate to the business of dairying; and we are here in part to devise, if we can, some means whereby the fraudulent butterine may be stamped out by the iron foot of the law.

Dairying has revolutionized in part the agriculture of this state. It has restored the soil that had been robbed of its