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Should the Horse Breeders' Exhibition be Removed

The signal success of the horse breeders' exhibition, held last week at the Union Stock Yards, Toronto West, has revived interest in the proposal to move the exhibition to Guelph and hold it there in connection with the Guelph Winter Fair. At the banquet given to the breeders by the management of the Union Stock Yards, Toronto last week, Mr. W. L. Smith, editor of the Weekly Sun, stated that the success of the exhibition had been so great as to demonstrate that Toronto is the best place for holding the show. He claimed that not only should the horse show be continued in Toronto, but that the Winter Fair should be moved from Guelph to Toronto and arrangements be made for the holding with it of a big dairy show.

As the success of any exhibition depends upon the support given it by the exhibitors of stock, Farm and Dairy last week, interviewed a number of the leading exhibitors at the horse show as well as some of the judges and other prominent horsemen and farmers, to find their views. All were asked to give their views freely, whether they were favorable or opposed to the proposal. One or two seemed diffident about giving an expression of opinion. The government gives a large grant the horse breeders and as the government apparently intends to move the show to Guelph, they did not think it wise to say anything that might appear to conflict with the intentions of the government. No one seemed enthusiastic over the thought of having the show moved from Toronto. Only one man declined to be interviewed.

WHAT THE BREEDERS THINK

It will be noticed in the following interviews, that practically all who were spoken to, were of the opinion that the show should be continued in Toronto. They seemed to think that the convenience of the public and of the exhibitors should be considered ahead of those of a smaller place anxious to hold the show. They were generally of the opinion that, even if the show was moved to Guelph, it would ultimately have to come back to Toronto. It was felt that the Union Stock Yards are destined to become the great horse breeding centre of Ontario and of Canada. It was pointed out that the show has already outgrown the arena accommodation at the stock yards and that a new arena would have to be erected there shortly. All were enthusiastic about the splendid accommodations and the splendid and railway facilities at the Union Stock Yards this year.

The following are the views that were expressed:

Senator Robert Beith, Bowmanville.—"Toronto is the recognized center of the province for all events of this kind and it is the best place for the horse show. Some people seem to think that Toronto Junction is rather far from the center of the city. It is not nearly so far as the people have to travel in Chicago to attend the show held there and that show is a great success. Even if the show does go to Guelph, it will ultimately have to come to Toronto as the facilities in Toronto for holding such a show are so much better."

Wm. Smith, Columbus, Ont.—"I have been in favor of holding the horse show in Guelph, but the success of the show at the stock yards has been a surprise to me."

B. Rothwell, Cummings' Bridge, Ont.—"As railway communications grow there is a tendency to concentrate at central points. Toronto seems to be the natural center for Ontario. As the country grows the advantages of Toronto will become more and more marked. Toronto, also, has the wealth that will enable it to enlarge the facilities for the horse show as it

grows. Already it is evident that we will have to have a still larger arena next year."

A. G. Gormley, Unionville.—"Toronto is more of a center for the breeding interests of the province. The shipping facilities at the Union Stock Yards could not be improved. Breeders in the West who come to Ontario to see the show buy their tickets for Toronto. They generally have other business to do in Toronto beside attending the show. I am not in favor of having the show moved from Toronto."

Wm. Graham, Claremont, Ont.—"The Union Stock Yards are the best place to hold the show. They are central, they are the natural center for the horsemen and four times as many people should attend the show at the Stock Yards as would at a smaller outside point."

Robert Graham, Bedford Park.—"Toronto is the natural center. I prefer it for a horse show of this kind. Even should the show go to Guelph I am inclined to think that it would ultimately and come back to Toronto, where the facilities are all kinds for holding a show of this kind are so much better."

R. H. Taber, Hillcrest Stock Farm, Condie, Sask.—"I don't think Guelph could accommodate a show of this kind. This show is going to become international in character but it can never do so, and become a rival of the Chicago show, unless it is held in Toronto which is the only place in Canada that has the natural facilities. Toronto can handle the crowds in a way no small place can. Out in the west we look on Toronto as the natural live stock center. Many of our breeders never heard of Guelph."

R. M. Holtby, Manchester, Ont.—"I favor Toronto because it is the railway center. From our part of the province we can visit Toronto and get back in one day. We could not do that if the show was at Guelph because the railways have far better connections with Toronto than they ever will have with Guelph."

W. H. Gibson, Beaconsfield, Que.—"The success of the show this year proves that the Union Stock Yards is the place for the holding of the horse show. The men who are behind the stock yards know how to manage an affair of this kind. It would be a shame to move the show to Guelph where the accommodation for both people and stock cannot be compared to that available in Toronto."

John Bright, Myrtle Station.—"This show has been a huge success; the show has ever held. The people who have attended it have done so because they are lovers of horses. It would be difficult to surpass it even in Guelph."

John A. Boag, Ravenshoe.—"Toronto is more convenient for most of the breeders and importers. It is the best place for a show of this kind. It has better facilities than any other place. The show this year has been a great success. It demonstrates what can be done here."

L. J. C. Bull, Brampton, Ont.—"Toronto is a far better place for holding the show than Guelph. In Toronto we do not have to fight for beds and food the way we do at Guelph. The show would be too large for Guelph. Not so many horsemen would attend it in Guelph as in Toronto."

John Gifford.—"The Union Stock Yards is the best place for the holding of a horse show because of the splendid shipping facilities and its excellent stabling accommodation. There is no other place where sellers and buyers can get together to the same advantage. This year's exhibition shows that the crowd will attend the show in the afternoon leaving the morning as a crowd free for the holding of the numerous breeders' meetings that are held in connection with it."

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