

The Sherbrooke Exhibition.

The farmers of Quebec look forward to Canada's Great Eastern Exhibition just as eagerly as the farmers of Ontario await the annual events of similar kind in Toronto and Ottawa. And if the Board of Directors had only been able to arrange with the weatherman in the same way as they did other things there is no doubt but the 1914 fair would have been the best for years, also financially. As it was, it at least proved a great qualitative success.

The cattle exhibit was in both numbers and quality one of the best Sherbrooke has ever had. The majority of the leading breeders in the Province of Quebec were represented, and prominent herds from Ontario and New Brunswick were also shown. The Exhibition included a number of new herds from the province, this being their first appearance at a large fair.

The strong showing in the beef cattle section was made particularly so by the Shorthorn exhibit. Herefords and Aberdeen-Angus were there in smaller numbers, but of good quality. The Shorthorn fanciers certainly brought out some splendid animals. F. R. Crowell, Cookshire; and J. M. Parker, Lennoxville, both had their herds in the best of form, and T. D. Elliot, from Richmond, also got his share of the coveted prizes. In Herefords, B. A. Alger, Eaton, Que., and A. Hunter took most of the money. In the Aberdeen-Angus class J. A. McLeod, Plainville, Ont., was the best exhibitor.

In spite of the fact that the Sherbrooke district is not essentially a dairying district, the exhibit of dairy cattle at Sherbrooke has been steadily increasing from year to year. Ayrshires made their usual strong showing, and so did the Holsteins. The Jersey exhibit really merits special mentioning, as both numbers and quality surpassed all previous displays of this breed at Sherbrooke. Excellent Ayrshires were shown by James Boden & Sons, Danville, Que.; D. T. Ness, Howick, Que.; Senator Owens, Mohte Bello, Que.; A. Phaneuf, St. Norbert, Que.; J. St. Marie, Compton, and F. Montgomery, Phillipsburg, Que. The strongest exhibitors in the Holstein class were Harding Bros., Welsford; Neil Sangster, of Ormstown; J. J. Alexander, St. Louis, Que., and J. L. Riches, Sherbrooke. In the Jersey class the Cowansville herd from C. R. Ruiter & Sons made perhaps the best display, but the herds from W. Martin, Warden, Que., and from Edwards & Alexander, Ayers Cliff, Que., also showed excellent individuals.

The Cape Rouge Government Farm gave a nice object lesson to the breeders of French Canadian cattle, how animals should be fitted for and shown at an exhibition, and it is to be hoped that they will learn the lesson. It is certainly needed.

Among the horses the heavy draft classes were

keenly contested both in Clydesdales and Percherons. The light horse classes were also well filled, represented by French Canadians, Carriage horses and Roadsters. Ness Bros., from Howick won the championship in Clydesdales this year again with "Sir Spencer," and some of his get were in first money in the younger classes. Wm. Nussey, Howick, exhibited his big Canadian-bred Clydesdale and captured first prize and championship in this class. The Brampton Pulp & Paper Company, East Angus, showed a splendid four-horse team.

In point of excellence as well as in number the sheep at the Eastern Exhibition this year excelled previous records. The breeders within the province were reinforced by some of the best flocks from Ontario. Leicesters and Cotswolds were particularly strong, and the competition in many classes was very close.

All classes in medium wools were well filled. J. W. Oughtred, Marbleton, Que., carried off a good share of the money in Hampshires, and Lyster Bros., Drummond Cy., were runners up. In Shropshires J. R. Kelsey, Woodville, practically swept the board. The Southdowns lacked somewhat in number, but this was made up in quality. M. Ayre, Bowmanville, was leading exhibitor in this class. There was good competition in the Oxfords, though some of the sheep were not so well fitted as they might have been. Guy Carr, Cookshire; P. Sylvestre, Clairvaux de Bagot; Arsene Denis, St. Norbert, and Senator Owens, Monte Beilo, all came out strong in the lamb class. In aged classes Carr and Denis carried the money. Ayre Bros. had the strongest exhibit in the Cheviot class. The long wools were fully as well represented as the medium and short wools. Allen Bros., Newcastle, Ont., were out with a very strong flock of Leicesters, and were also well represented in Cotswolds. A demonstration flock of Cheviots from Macdonald College, including representatives from the extension flocks of W. J. Parnell, Lennoxville, and E. N. Chaddock, Cookshire, drew well-deserved attention.

Swine were somewhat cut down in numbers on account of several prominent herds being decimated last year by hog cholera. Yorkshires and Chester Whites, however, were well represented, especially the first mentioned. In the Yorkshire class McCullough Bros., Sutton Que., got a big share of the coveted prizes. Marshall W. Millar, Brome Centre, Que., was the most prominent exhibitor of Chester Whites, and John Harvey, Frelighsburg, Que., showed a good display of Berkshires. The Tamworth class as a whole was not very strong.

In the poultry exhibit Rhode Island Reds and Leghorns were decidedly better than in previous years. Dark Cornish were also strong, and Bantams made a good display. The Barred Rocks were, of course, numerous, but only comparative-

ly few really first-class birds were shown. The Wyandottes as a class were not numerous, but the quality was above average. It was, I am sorry to say, quite noticeable that a great majority of the Quebec birds lacked in quality, and one of the judges also stated that it would probably be a long time before the breeders of Quebec would produce stock to compare with the breeders of Ontario.

The school exhibit, arranged by the Poultry Department of Macdonald College, included 308 birds. The eggs were distributed last spring to pupils of the Lennoxville Academy, and to rural schools around Sherbrooke. The majority of the birds, all of Macdonald Plymouth Rock stock, were well developed, and the awarding of prizes, was a very difficult task.

Flowers, from amateurs as well as from professional growers, garden produce and fruit compared very favorably with, and in some cases surpassed, those of other years. The Eastern Townships, of course, is not a fruit-growing district, but the exhibit nevertheless showed many entries of good quality. Asa Johnston, Brome, was the most successful winner in fruit. Vegetables did fair to any exhibit of similar kind, and one of the judges, a man with wide experience, pronounced the collection of vegetables displayed by Miss Parker, Willowdale, Lennoxville, to be the best he had ever seen.

The exhibition of field crops on the average could scarcely be said to reach the standard, neither in number nor in quality. There was for instance only a limited amount of grain, and only few of these were absolutely free from mixtures of some kind. It is a shame that the many good farmers of the province allow the public to consider such samples as these to be representative of the grain-growing capacity of the Eastern Townships. Even if the climate of our province prevents us from growing absolutely first-class grain, there is no reason why oats, almost ranking with "Western oats," should win simply on account of lacking competition. Silage corn was better represented, both in proportionate quantity and in absolute quality. The exhibits of roots and vegetables were of high class, and most of the potatoes ranked very high.

A new appearance at Sherbrooke was the purely educational exhibit, at least in its present extent. The Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa, Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, and the Agricultural Institute at Oka had arranged some very instructive exhibits. Different methods in general husbandry, different ways of seeding, planting and treating different crops were shown and explained by competent persons. Co-operation of this kind adds, in a very great measure, to the value of an exhibition, both as an attraction and as an educational feature.

PAUL A. BOVING.

Ottawa Exhibition the Dairy Congress of Canada.

Favored by fine weather and the patronage of many exhibitors, the Central Canada Exhibition, during the week September 11th to 19th, 1914, was a success, and truly a great fair. It is needless to say that the populace did not attend in numbers equal to those of other years, for the character of the times would suggest that, but the people did come in large numbers and went away pleased with what they saw. It is no easy matter to manage an exhibition in these trying times, and the executives of our leading fairs deserve much credit for the able and successful way in which they have met the situation.

Horses were somewhat fewer in numbers, but the increase in the cattle department more than compensated for this loss, whereas the poultry almost doubled their records of former years. Exhibits of machinery, household goods, farm produce and dairy products together made a pleasing and educative display, and left not a link from the chain of our daily life, while the midway and grandstand performance added those thrills and pleasures that seem an integral part of a real day's amusements.

Horses.

The blame for any little irregularities in the running of the business machinery of the Country these days are laid to the war, and no doubt the war is the cause, to a very great extent at least, for the falling off in the horse entries at this show as well as that at Toronto a week ago, although in number of entries the show this year was not up to that of last year. Yet the old saying that what was lost in quantity was more than made up in quality was truly applicable. Very few sections of the various classes went by default, and by far the larger number of them were keenly contested by most excellent types of the various breeds brought out in the nicest kind of fit. Among the heavy breeds the Clydesdales largely outnumbered any of the other breeds, Percherons coming second in point of numbers, with Belgians and Shires following in the order named. As usual at this show, held as it is in the capital of the Dominion

where society flourishes and fancy harness horses are the rage, the light harness classes were well filled and the quality high, this is true also of the saddle classes as well as those for ponies.

CANADIAN-BRED CLYDESDALES.—Of outstanding merit was the exhibit of Canadian-bred Clydesdales, certainly one of the best ever seen in a Canadian show-ring. In the class for stallions four years old and over, J. F. Staples & Son, of Ida, Ont., came to the top with Baron Elator, a horse of massive build, very smooth and nicely balanced on a set of well high faultless underpinning. A close second was found in the many times champion at Ottawa shows, Koyama, whose several years fitting has left him a little off bloom at the ground, but withal a great horse, exhibited by Wm. Allin, Osgoode, Ont. Third went to R. W. Whiteford, Allan's Corners, Que., on Wee Sago, whose little faultiness of action kept him from higher honors. Fourth went to Wm. Nussey, of Howick, Que., on Baron Silioth's Heir, a horse of ideal character, but somewhat coarser than the others.

Stallion, three years old, had a single entry. Silver Band, exhibited by Adam Scharf, of Cumming's Bridge, he is a horse that for quality and character could stand a lot of competition.

Stallion, two years old. Superb quality characterized the winner in this class, Glen Ivory, last year's champion at this show, exhibited by Smith & Richardson, Columbus, Ont. Second and fourth went to R. M. Holtby, Manchester, Ont., on Acme's Favorite and McQueen's Acme, both showing a big drafty character, but not so much quality as the winner. Third went to Aberdeen's Upholder, exhibited by E. Watson, Hudson Heights, Que.

In the class for stallion, one-year-old, Smith & Richardson was again first with Ivory's Joy, a colt showing a well-balanced combination of size, character and quality. Second went to J. Callander, North Gore, on a nice, quality colt that won first at Toronto the week before, but had not as much scale as the winner here. The championship for best stallion, any age, went to

Smith & Richardson on Glen Ivory, winner of the same honors last year.

Brood mares with foal by side were led by A. Watson & Sons, of St. Thomas, Ont., in the big quality mare, Trim of Oro. The same firm was second on Royal Rose. Third went to Wm. Watson, of Hammond, Ont., on Hilda Baron, and fourth to Adam Scharf, on Florence McLaws. The foals went, first to Meadowbrook Farm, Whitby; second to J. Tierney, Twin Elm, Ont., and third to A. Scharf.

Pretty Lass, winner of last year's championship, and exhibited by Geo. Watson, Hammond, Ont., won easily in the class for fillies, three years old; a mare of superb quality and finish, she shows a calibre seldom attained in heavy horse breeding. Second went to R. W. Whiteford on Topsy Fashion, a filly with winning qualities in less pretentious company.

A much greater variety of quality and fit was evident in the class for two-year-old fillies than in any of the other mare or filly classes, and required no great effort on the part of the judges to place them. First went to the Toronto first prize, Mabel Kandahar, a filly with quality and smoothness in plenty, exhibited by Nelson Wagg, Claremont, Ont. Second went to the well-styled entry of Wm. Pollock, on Ruby Soutar. Third to S. McGerrigle, Tatehurst, Que., on Maple Leaf, and fourth to Meadowbrook Farm, on Bessie Priam.

First in the filly class, one-year-old, Crown Faith, exhibited by G. McFadden, Navan, Ont., was much the larger of the trio, and an easy winner. Second went to the entry of W. Nussey, and third to Meadowbrook Farm, on Princess Marchbank. Championship for best mare, any age, went to last year's champion, Pretty Lass, exhibited by G. Watson.

S. Wyatt, Osgoode, Ont., had the best string of three Canadian-bred mares, any age. Second went to Watson & Sons, and third to Meadowbrook Farm. Britnell & Co., Toronto, were first with a single heavy-draft mare or gelding in harness. R. Ness & Son, Howick, Que., were second, and T. L. Fairburn, Billing's Bridge, third and