

THE INDUSTRIAL FAIR.

A FULL REPORT OF THE EXHIBITS IN
THE AGRICULTURAL AND LIVE
STOCK DEPARTMENTS.

The Industrial Fair was formally opened on Tuesday, August 30th, by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor. A larger number of visitors than usual were in attendance on the opening day, and from the time the electric button which set the machinery in motion was touched till the closing day, on September 9th, a steady stream of eager sight-seers passed in and out the gates. The attendance throughout was large, and probably largely in excess of former years. Especially was this so of farmers' day (September 6th), which was a record breaker. There were more farmers in attendance on that day than on any previous day in the history of the show.

The character of the exhibits was up to the usual standard, and in many respects ahead of former years in point of quality. The number of exhibits in some of the live stock classes was not as large as formerly, as will be seen from the detailed report given below. This is accounted for largely from the fact that many breeders who formerly made large exhibits had either sold all their best stock, or had sold so many of them that their exhibits were smaller than usual. The small reduction in the prize money in some sections may have kept some at home, but this is improbable.

Though it may be necessary sometimes to retrench a little in expenditure in order to come out on the right side at the end of the year, yet considerable care should be exercised as to how the retrenchment is made. The catalogue of exhibits this year was almost useless, and wholly so as far as the live stock exhibits were concerned. We understand that this was due to a desire on the part of the management to cut down expenses. It was a short-sighted policy in any case, and we heard many complaints from breeders and others regarding the uselessness of the catalogue of live stock. None of the horses were numbered, and a catalogue without any means of identifying the animals was useless. The same complaint was made of the cattle and other classes. This should be remedied another year, and a properly-numbered catalogue supplied whereby visitors and others might be able to identify the animals they are examining.

HORSES.

There were more empty stalls this year at Toronto than have been seen for years before. Altogether, the show of horses did not excel those of recent years. In some classes there was a decided falling away. In none was there any great advance. Unfortunately some extra good animals had to be sent home on account of an outbreak of distemper. This affection has been specially prevalent in many sections of Canada during the past year, and while it has been known in the stables during former shows, yet no special notice was taken of it. This year an example was made of a

prominent exhibitor who had a fine lot, but all his animals were sent home at the beginning of the show by order of the Directors.

Thoroughbreds.—This class had some sixty entries, rather fewer than usual. There were many old favorites, who have been seen year after year. Wm. Hendrie, of Hamilton, got first and silver medal for Othmar. He was judged the best for breeding hunters and the best thoroughbred in the show. The same owner had a good one in the ordinary class in Versatile, a regular racer type, with beautiful legs. In the class for best mare old Thistle was again winner of the silver medal. She must have five or six medals by this time. She carries her years well, and had at foot a beautiful foal, by Parisian, also a winner of a red ticket. W. Hendrie had firsts for a bunch of five fillies. The half-bred is a most useful light-legged horse, and we have not too many good ones in Canada. The thoroughbred sires shown were good ones for such breeders.

Roadsters.—The class for roadsters was smaller than usual, but there were a few very good ones. It is a popular class and is well patronized. For best pair of matched roadsters, C. H. Gooderham, Toronto, was 1st with a beautifully moving team; J. C. Dietrich, Galt, had 2nd for a pair by Axland, while W. D. Platt, Hamilton, got 3rd for a pair of dark brown. They are both by Longitude, and are nicely matched. For single roadster under 16 hands, J. C. Dietrich had 1st for Ronoco, a fine driver. In the smaller class under 15½ hands, 1st prize went to a son of George Wilkes, shown by Chas. Burns, Toronto, a capital mover. Among the stallions, H. Scott, Caledonia, had the winner of the sweepstakes silver medal in the two year-old Dalton McCarthy by Boyda.

Standard Bred had a number of good animals, but while some were sweet and blood-like they were sometimes undersized. R. Davies, Toronto, had the prize filly, Jingle Bell, a bright bay with dark points, with the rounded buttocks of many trotters, and nice clean legs. A. F. Hillock, Brampton, had the best brood mare in Elma Snell, and her foal was also a winner. In matched teams, T. Rudd, Markham, won both 1st and 2nd prizes with beautiful free-stepping pairs.

Carriage Horses.—This is always a large class, and this year was no exception, over a hundred animals being entered. It is a class that comprises often very varied breeding. A few are sired by coaching stallions. This year there were many of half hackney blood, and a few by thoroughbred horses out of well-graded trotting mares. This last cross gave some good ones. W. C. Brown, of Meadowvale, won in the aged stallion class with Prince George, by Prince Victor, a high-standing horse with good action. In the class for matched pairs the dealers came well forward with several very good teams, Thos. A. Crow, Toronto, winning 1st for team 16 hands and over, and 2nd for team under 16 hands. Chas. Head, Guelph, had 2nd place with a fine stepping pair.

Hackneys were a fair lot—Graham Bros had the winner in Royol Standard, the Irish bred hackney who has so often brought the first prize ribbon to his owners. He is too well known to our readers to need any description. Enough to say that he went in his best form, and he is one of the best movers in America. For three-year-olds A. Yeager, Simcoe, got first for Hiltburst Sensation, Robert Beith being second with Squire Rickell, which he expected to be a winner. This horse was not going in his best form, his owner alleging that it was the time at which he was shown and the varied noises that put him off his usual gait. He is by Cadet, dam Miss Rickell, a sister of Bonfire. His full brother won in New York in 1896. Great things are expected of this horse. The Ottawa Live Stock Co. got first for Lorenzo, a dark-brown by Banquo, and out of Lady Aberdeen. Lady Aberdeen was in good form but had to be content with second place, H. N. Crossley, Rosseau, coming first with a much smaller mare, Lady Bird, a dark-brown almost black, thick at the heart, and a great

mover, showing her paces in a style that only a first class hackney can manage to attain. For foals R. Beith's Cressida, out of Lady Aberdeen, by Ganymede 3rd, was unplaced, but the owner thinks it the plum of the stable. The same owner was also first for a filly foal, by Banquo, the last of his get out of Mona's Queen, a fine chestnut and the winner of third place in her class. In the three-year-olds R. Beith won with Cassandra, a daughter of Jubilee Chief, out of Mona's Queen. This mare promises to be big and is of good hackney type. She was good enough to win the medal at the spring show. In this class 2nd and 3rd fell to M. J. Lottridge, of Hamilton, for a bay and a brown by Conner. In yearlings R. Beith led with Cordelia, a chestnut mare with a very few scattering white hairs, a daughter of the imported mare Florence and by Banquo. H. N. Crossley came 2nd and 3rd with daughters of Rosseau Performer. For the silver medal R. Beith's Jessica was first. She has been often a winner and won going in a style seldom excelled.

High Steppers and Harness Horses were a large class, and attracted a good deal of attention from the crowds of visitors, but few in the onlookers could tell anything about them, because there were no catalogues that gave numbers for identification. The Toronto dealers made a good exhibit and captured a number of the prizes. Sales were good, and many of the horses shown changed owners at good prices. In this respect it was the best for the exhibitors in many years. The ordinary farmer and breeder has neither the skill nor the time to train properly horses for this work, and the dealers have the schooling and the fitting for the ring, so that they came usually to be the exhibitors, and it is not easy to get reliable records of the original breeders or the breeding of these, but many were evidently full of Hackney blood.

Hunters and Saddlers were a large class one of the largest in the show. In the straight class The Toronto Pioneer Hunting and Jumping Stables came first with a well-trained animal.

In heavy-weight hunters Dr. Andrew Smith won with Kedar in a very large class, Ten Broeck owned by A. R. Curzon, Guelph, a good second.

In light-weights there was a large field of good horses.

Ladies' saddle horses brought out a field of seventeen. Miss Beardmore, Toronto, was first with Lassic, a well-schooled mare, Mr. Curzon's well-known bay, Victoria, also getting a ticket. She is a sweet bay with blood like lines.

Jumping was an attractive feature of the show and the public showed by their attendance about the ring the great interest they took in the performances. The trials were spread over the show so that part at least was seen by many thousands of visitors. The judges were a trio of officers from the military circles of Toronto, and gave satisfaction in their work.

General Purpose Horses.—This was a small class for females or geldings only. It is popular with a class of exhibitors, and there is always more or less uncertainty as to what the judge may consider the best type for general purposes. This year high-standing, rangy animals had the best of the awards. Some half-breds had a place, and many animals of this breeding made excellent horses. In the class four years and upwards James Ryan, Guelph, won with Cleveland Bay, with a half-bred, by the well-known Wiley Buckles, 2nd, and gets of the same sire captured both 1st and 2nd in the three-year-old class, J. H. Ferguson, Brampton, gaining 1st with a fine, blood-like bay. M. Harrison, Brampton, made a good record, bringing three animals and winning three first prizes. For brood mare he had a bay of a coaching type, by Young England, and her rangy-like foal was a most promising one, her two-year-old filly by Jubilee Chief being a very clean-legged specimen with good action. Mr. Harrison also got the silver medal for his mare as the best in the class. For matched teams Alex. Wild, Toronto, won both 1st and 2nd prizes.