

DIARRHŒA AND DYSENTERY IN FOWLS.

From *The Rural World*

Diarrhœa in fowls is very common, and the exciting causes are numerous, especially during the spring and autumn seasons of the year. The symptoms are, however, so very self-evident that no poultry-keeper who pays the slightest attention to his birds can fail to note them. Sometimes it is very slight, and will naturally come right in a few days, more especially if hard grain is given entirely, and the morning meal of soft food suspended for a time. The most frequent causes of diarrhœa are improper feeding, cold, and the presence in the intestines of some irritant. At times a slight looseness of the bowels is caused by a change in the food, and it is often the means of preventing serious disease, this being the way which nature uses for carrying off the trouble. For that reason it is not advisable to take strong measures to stop slight looseness, for, though we can stop diarrhœa by astringents, it is not always desirable to do so, and worse may result if we do so. Should it be continued for long, however, and especially should the discharge become offensive, it is necessary to deal with it, as it is very weakening indeed. Bone meal, or crushed fresh bones, may at the outset be given to the birds, for these have the effect of correcting the action of the stomach, and are also a preventive, for which reason they are specially serviceable in the feeding of young chickens. Boiled rice, in which some powdered chalk has been mixed, is very useful in the earlier stages, and can be given very freely. When neither bone meal nor boiled rice is effective, it then becomes necessary to take stronger measures, and one of the best remedies we know is the ordinary chlorodyne, one or two drops of which should be given in a teaspoonful of water twice or three times a day. In its place a pill may be prepared of a grain of opium and five grains of turkey rhubarb, and half given twice a day, but the chlorodyne is much simpler, and we have always found it most effective. The food given to fowls affected with diarrhœa must be nutritious, easily digested, and not rich. We prefer soft food, say Spratts' poultry meal, adding thereto a little lean meat. Green food must be avoided for a few days.

Dysentery is really an aggravated form of diarrhœa, and often follows neglect of that complaint, though at times it assumes this type without any previous warning. The symptoms are similar in some respects, but the evacuations are generally more in quantity and offensiveness, and are often tinged with blood streaks. There is usually a considerable amount of bodily heat. Frequently dysentery accompanies other diseases, especially chicken cholera and other affections of the digestive organs, in which case it is a very serious symptom. It is important to stop the discharge as soon as possible, and for this purpose five drops of laudanum, mixed with the same quantity of fluid carbolate, should be given

twice a day. As food, nothing more than well-boiled rice should be supplied, and the sufferer must be kept warm and free from contact with other fowls. It is, however, very difficult of cure, and when once the complaint has taken a firm hold successful treatment is not often the case, whilst the birds affected are greatly weakened.

MONTREAL EXHIBITION.

Specially reported for FARMING.

The Montreal Exhibition Company have again had a wet and disagreeable week for their show. Last year, with dates between September 11th and 19th, they were treated to cold and wet weather, and, with the main building destroyed by fire in August, had hard work getting ready for a fine show. This year the directors determined to make a new departure, and, to secure good weather without fail, set the dates for August 19-28, almost one month earlier. Usually the weather is fine and warm, and the harvest over at

harder on the stock. In face of this, so popular is the Montreal show, and such a good point for sales to eastern buyers, that quite an excellent display of cattle, sheep, swine, and poultry was made from the west, as well as a splendid turnout of stock from many Quebec breeders.

The attractions before the grand stand this year were select, the riding and drill manoeuvres of the Royal Canadian Dragoons being the most pleasing feature of this exhibit, and one which delighted every audience.

Light Horses.

Montreal has many very staunch lovers of a good horse, and as a consequence contains a great many very good harness horses. Few of the best were entered for this show, but the select few were much admired. Mrs. H. V. Meredith (Bank of Montreal) showed a beautiful, well schooled, blood-like bay, a typical ladies' riding horse, who was the sweepstakes winner among the *saddlers*. Dr. Robb had a fine big heavy-weight saddler, with good barrel and powerful quarters. James Johnston, Como, had also a fine saddle horse that ran the winners a close race for the prizes. For

to a fine specimen of the standard breed owned by Dawes & Co., Lachine.

Mr. Roy won both in the carriage and the roadster classes for best gelding three years old. These were both sired by his standard bred horse, "Royston," he by old "Almont" 33, and dam running back to old "Hambletonian" 10. They are out of half-bred mares, a cross breeding which is very successful and therefore quite popular.

For pair of roadsters there was nothing of extra quality forward, and first place was taken by a badly matched pair of good mares.

For best *standardbred* mare, any age, a three-year-old filly owned by George Jordan, Montreal, got the medal, completing the trio of medal winners the standard bred, carriage, and roadster sweepstakes all going to young fellows. The roadster two-year-old, shown by C. L. Campbell, Lachine, was a very good mare, a well balanced, clean legged, growthy youngster, one of the best on the ground.

In *thoroughbreds* John Newman, Lachine, was the only exhibitor in the classes for mares and fillies. There were a couple of very good stallions shown in the thoroughbred class. "Redfellow," owned by Dawes & Co., Lachine, is a grand horse, deep in the chest and ribs, and with lots of staying powers. "June Day," owned by W. C. Edwards, M.P., Ottawa, was second. He is a nice animal, with good legs, and a gay mover, but not so deep chested as his more fortunate rival. Both have proved themselves capital sires.

The *ponies* were good but not numerous. Robert Ness, of Howick, Que., had the winners in Shetlands; E. Mc. Gale, St. Lambert, Que., had the Welsh winners, and John Carsley, Montreal, came first in both the riding and driving competition, as well as winning the special prize for best boy rider.

Hackneys had one representative only, and he of the primitive sort.

French Coachers had only two shown, A. Stewart, St. Eustache, Que., first with a good specimen. The classes for mares and fillies had not an entry—one would have expected that Quebec province would have had many specimens of this breed.

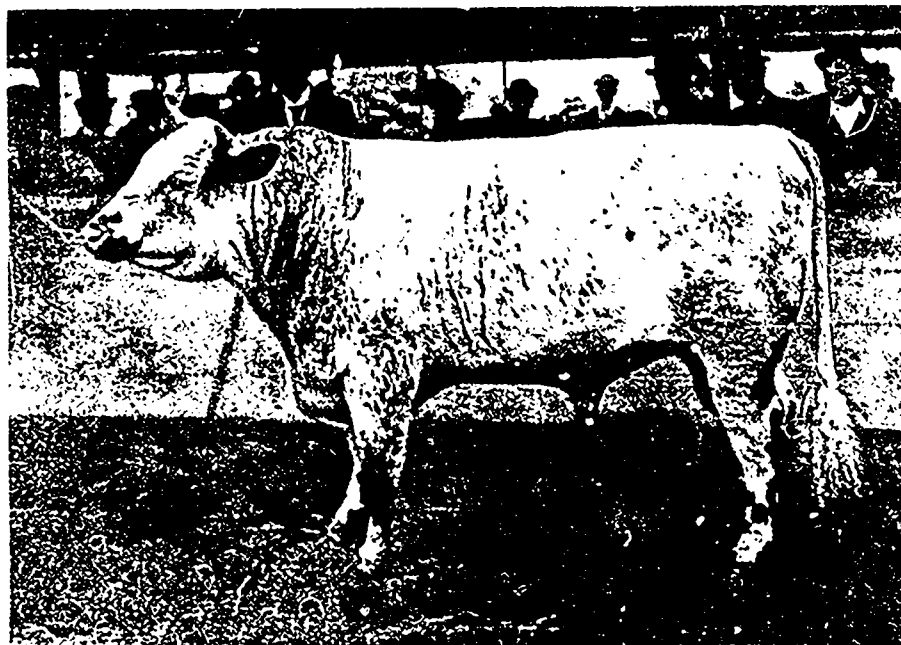
The *Canadian horses* were also rather a disappointment. A stud book has been started, and an endeavor to make more popular this grand old breed, but progress has been slow, and the exhibit contained only a very few that could be called typical animals of the breed, and these were lighter in build than those seen many years ago. The old French-Canadian teams that came to Ontario thirty or forty years ago were black, chunky animals, short-legged and blocky—quite different from the type here shown. In this class Joseph Deland, L'Acadie, had some good young things, and S. Lecavalier, of St. Martin's, Que., a winner amongst the stallions.

Heavy Horses.

This class as a whole was behind former shows. The *Clydes* had a few good animals shown by Robert Ness, Howick, and McGerrigle Bros., of Ormstown, Que. Mr. Robert Ness brought out his aged horse "Lawrence Again" in good shape and with nice clean legs, hard to get in some old horses after a heavy season. For mare and two of her progeny there was a close run between these two exhibitors, but Mr. Ness had the winning mare, and her foal was a very good one, and secured the first ticket for that group. The second prize lot were good animals, but hardly as sweet as their rivals, but showed good bone and a good draught type.

Outside of the *Clydes* there was not much calling for special mention. One animal represented the *Shires*, and he might have been classed as an off-type *Clyde*. There were no *Suffolk-Punches*. In *Percherons* there were one stallion and one pair of mares. Dr. Craik had a very good span of greys—a fine draught team. J. R. McCay, Helena, came second. For a lighter team, the dark brown team of Robert Cairns, Cairnside, were first.

In former years there were horses from the west, and they helped to make up a good exhibit. This year coming as the show did before Toronto, where close competition was expected, the western exhibitors could not risk losing a Toronto prize by going first to Montreal, and therefore they stayed at home. The horse exhibit was distinctly inferior to former years because of the lack of western patronage.



Champion English Shorthorn Bull.

Shorthorn Bull, "Master Recorder". The property of W. Heaton, Lostock, Bolton, England. Bred by R. & W. Henderson, Hexham, England. Reserve Champion Shorthorn, Champion Male Shorthorn, and First Prize two year old Shorthorn at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Manchester, 1897. Engraving made from photograph in supplement to the *Mark Lane Express*.

that date. This year proved an exception. The harvest was late—very late—and the weather showery. Many farmers could not leave their valuable crops in the field, and those that did turn out did so only to find wet weather, worse almost than last year. The directors and the able manager, Mr. S. C. Stevenson, had again to face diminished receipts, and after much hard work to make the show a success, to see the grounds wet and disagreeable from continued rains, and the attendance, in consequence, far below what it ought to have been.

The change of date entailed a change of route, which makes a material difference to an exhibitor. Last year, from a central point where many exhibitors reside, the round trip—Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa—was a journey of 772 miles for the stock. This year, with the same shows, but coming as Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, the journey is lengthened to 1,314 miles, and is more expensive to the exhibitor and

high jumpers J. S. Evans' grey, a high standing, level-headed, powerful hunter, had first place. There were a few good *harness horses*, but there were none that stood out as being of exceptional merit. Competition in these classes was very much between the owners of sales stables and the professional dealers of the city.

The facilities for showing this class of stock were rather primitive. If proper facilities are available the public always appreciate the saddle and harness classes.

The Mayor of Montreal, R. Wilson-Smith, showed a fine dark bay (Bonnie Boy), a winner in the class for *single drivers*, and a beautiful pony cob, also a first prize winner. Jas. McVey had a fine pair of cobs—a brown and a bay—nicely mated and well handled.

Carriage horses were not out in large numbers, and were not of extra quality. In the younger classes the best was a three-year-old filly shown by Hugh Craig, Howick. This mare, sired by a French coacher owned by Robt. Ness, is a fine specimen, and was awarded the special medal in the carriage classes. She is a bay with black points, evenly balanced, and full of promise.

Roadsters had a few good animals. Jas. I. Roy, Bordeaux, won first for his aged stallion, a very good standard bred animal, but one that had to take second place in his own class