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The Coming Horse Show.

The preparations for the great horse show to be held at Toronto in the new Armories on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, April 18th, 19th, and 20th, are now fairly complete, and, judging from the interest taken in it by breeders, horsemen, and the general public, there should be a grand turnout of horses, and a large and appreciative crowd of spectators on the three days. The prize list drawn up is a very liberal one, and, though it might, possibly, have been improved in one or two particulars, yet, considering that it is the first one of its kind, it may be classed as an excellent one. Over \$5,000 will be given in prizes, some \$2,000 of which are offered by the Agriculture and Arts Association, and the kindred horse societies, and no pains will be spared to induce owners of fine horses to compete in the ring. His Excellency the Governor-General has signified his willingness to open the horse show, and, in addition to large numbers from the Province and Dominion, distinguished visitors are expected from New York and other large cities on the other side.

The new Armories cover a space of 300 by 100 feet, and in the main hall a ring of tanbark can be laid out 200 by 100 feet, ample for the purposes of the show, and nearly as large as the horse ring at Madison Square Garden, New York. Space will be left for the erection of a structure which, with the

present galleries, will seat 4,000 people, while a promenade will be laid out accommodating 2,000 more. There will also be rows of boxes along the arena.

We hope that all who take an interest in horses will try and attend this show. It will be a splendid opportunity for those who have good hunters and harness horses to dispose of them if they wish to, as there will be buyers present from Canada and the United States, and breeders would also do well to enter their stallions and show what they have. Prize lists can be obtained from Mr. Henry Wade, Agricultural Hall, Toronto.

Canadian Horses to Go to Belgium.

It is reported that a company has been formed in Belgium having for its object the importation of Canadian horses into that country. If the report is true, it will be welcome news to our breeders and farmers who have on hand horses of the kinds desired. If we can extend our export horse trade with Great Britain, and our horses find favor in Belgium, it will do much to lift the trade out of the depressed condition in which it has been for some time.

Prohibition of Importation of American Cattle into France.

The decree lately issued by the French government prohibiting the importation of American cattle into that country means the loss of \$18,000,000 worth, or more, of cattle and cattle products every year, according to Nelson Morris, the well-known packer of Chicago. That, at least, was the total worth of cattle and cattle products shipped last year. He says:

"The effect of the German and Belgium embargo has been to reduce the price of cattle of the classes shipped to these countries by \$10 a head, and this French edict will even more injuriously affect the stockyards. The effect on the product is even greater than the effect on the live cattle trade, especially so far as France is concerned.

"We were shipping 7,000 cattle a week, and as many or more in addition in the form of the product. France has been taking a great deal of lean cattle for soups, and this class of cattle will be very injuriously affected by the new edict, while as to dressed beef and pork, and products, the result will be even more far reaching."

Prime Cattle Scarce

We have more than once referred to the fact that really choice cattle are much scarcer than they have been for years, and have counselled our readers to raise better stock, as for such the demand and the prices paid are always more remunerative than for inferior stock.

Recent reports still point in the same direction, viz., a still further decrease in the number of choice beeves that are being prepared for market. It really seems as if it would not be long before such would sell at considerably increased figures. The Chicago Live Stock Report, through its correspondents, figures out a shortage of 40 per cent. of beef cattle throughout the corn belt, and predicts a firm, healthy market there for the next few months. In Canada we have no figures to go by, but the fact that a large number of our farmers have given up feeding cattle and gone into dairying, must mean a considerable difference in the number of beef cattle to be forwarded to market in the next few months.

It may be asked, in view of the fact that the number of choice beeves on this continent were greatly reduced last year, as compared with previous years, why the prices obtained for such did not improve in inverse ratio. There are, probably, many excellent reasons for this state of affairs, but one of the principal ones is the great depression which has been prevailing for so long and of which we have not yet seen the end, although the glimmer of dawn seems to be appearing. During this depressed time butchers have found their customers unwilling to give as good prices as previously for first-class beef, and they have, therefore, in order to make their profit, been content with inferior stock, and for this reason, the supply of really choice animals, though less than usual, was sufficient for all demands on it. With the advent of better times, however, all this will be changed, and then the want of first-class beeves will be quickly felt. Breeders and feeders should bear this in mind and govern themselves accordingly.

A New Outlet for Canadian Cattle.

We learn that the Grand Trunk Railway, in conjunction with the Vermont Central Railway, have obtained permission from the United States Government to carry Canadian cattle and sheep to Portland, Maine, to be shipped thence to Great Britain. The stock will undergo inspection from the U.S. authorities at Island Pond, and the certificate of Dr. McEachran, Montreal, will be required as to the freedom from disease of each lot shipped.

These privileges will be welcomed by dealers, as there will now be a competitive port of shipment with Montreal and Halifax, and the effect will be a cheapening of rates. At present, however, only the two railways mentioned are permitted to carry stock to Portland from Canada; and they thus have a monopoly of the carrying trade thither.

Under the new regulations all Canadian sheep must be shipped from that port, whereas, previously, they could be sent from New York, Philadelphia, and Boston as well.

We hope that the opening of this port may be the prelude to the entire removal of the quarantine embargo on our cattle by the United States.

Premiums for Essays on Poultry.

In order to encourage farmers to pay more attention to poultry raising, we have been enabled, through the kindness of Mr. W. J. Stevenson, of Oshawa, to offer prizes for the two best essays on the subject: "How to get the best results from farm poultry." Two prizes will be given. The first prize will be a trio of golden Wyandotte chickens, and the second a pair of white Wyandottes. These birds will be supplied from Mr. Stevenson's well-known poultry yards, and will be selected by him for show purposes. They will be delivered during the first week of September, 1895.

The conditions governing this contest are as follows: Only farmers are to compete, and all fancy breeders will be excluded. By fancy breeders are meant those who follow poultry breeding as a pursuit, independently of farming. All essays must be in this office on or before May 15th, and none will be accepted after that date. Only subscribers to THE JOURNAL will be allowed to compete. Essays must not contain more than 1,000 words. The prize essays and such others as possess merit

will appear from time to time in THE JOURNAL. We hope that a great many of our readers will take advantage of Mr. Stevenson's offer.

Illness of Mr. Shore.

Owing to the protracted illness of Mr. Shore, our stock editor, who has been laid up for about three months with inflammatory rheumatism, a great many visits to breeders, that had been arranged for, had to be cancelled. Mr. Shore, we are glad to say, is now improving in health, and, we hope, will soon be able to resume his trip at the point where he left off. We ask, in the meantime, for the indulgence of those breeders whom he was unable to reach on his last trip. It is with great regret that we inform our readers that Mr. Shore has also suffered a sad bereavement in the death of his excellent wife, which took place on March 13th, and which was, without doubt, caused by her untiring devotion and nursing of him during his severe illness. We are sure that those of our readers who are acquainted with Mr. Shore (and they are very numerous) will sympathize with him in his great trouble.

Burning of the Agriculture and Arts Building.

It is with deep regret that we announce to our readers the loss by fire of the Agriculture and Arts Association's building in Toronto, early on the morning of Sunday, March 3rd. The fire, which is supposed to have been started by an incendiary, originated in the fine departmental store of Mr. R. Simpson, across the street, and, owing to the lack of competent fire appliances, spread, burning all the four corners of Queen and Yonge streets.

While the loss of the building is to be deplored, it is made more serious by the fact that all the records of the association and all the documents and registration papers relating to the following herd and stud books were stored in the building, viz., the Shorthorn, Hereford, Polled Angus, Ayrshire, and Devon herdbooks; swine records (six different kinds); Clydesdale, Shire, Hackney, and draught horse studbooks, and Dorset and Suffolk sheep registers; as well as a valuable live stock and natural history library, including Brace's studbook, full sets of both the English and American herdbooks, bound volumes of agricultural papers, a complete set of the transactions of the Royal Society, a valuable collection of works secured in England at an expenditure of \$2,000, by the late Professor Buckland; the transactions of the Agriculture and Arts Association, minute books, the secretary's reports, and a large number of miscellaneous tomes. All the documents, records, registration papers, etc., were numbered, indexed, and filed, and, as they represented the accumulation by the association during half a century, it can be understood that the amount of labor represented was enormous, apart from the fact that they can never be replaced.

The Devon, Polled Angus, Hereford, Hackney, and Shire books were in manuscript and are a total loss, and can only be replaced by correspondence with the breeders and owners of stock, and it will be a work of time even then. Ten volumes of the Shorthorn herdbook had been published, and the eleventh had been compiled and would have been in the hands of the printers in a few weeks. Four hundred copies of each of the