

In Southern Ontario, trees may be planted in the fall quite successfully if only a few hours elapse between the removal from the nursery row and the planting. Generally, however, spring planting is the best, especially if the trees are shipped any distance. The planting should be done in the spring as early as the land can be cultivated. The trees should be set at least two inches deeper than they were in the nursery row. Shallow planting must be avoided, as it causes the growth of suckers, and there is also the danger of drying out. In planting, cut off all the dead, broken and bruised roots, and prune back the main roots to five or six inches long. Make the cut with the slope down and towards the center of the tree. Prof. Crow laid great stress on the importance of firmly packing the soil around the roots. There are two reasons for this. The tree has to develop an entirely new system of feeding roots, and the closer the soil lies to the roots, the sooner they will be able to obtain nourishment from it, and a firmly-packed soil warms up much more quickly than a loose one. This will stimulate a more rapid root growth.

The tree at planting has only about twenty-five per cent. of its root system left. Therefore, a certain amount of the top must be removed to balance things up. The tree should be cut back to the point where it is desired to form the head. "I prefer the low head," said Prof. Crow, in answer to a question. After planting, it is important that a dust mulch be kept around the tree to conserve the soil moisture and induce a vigorous growth.

## POULTRY

### Starting a Poultry Farm.

I shall be much indebted to you if, through your esteemed paper (which I find very helpful), you could give me answers to the following questions:

1. The number of hens to start a poultry farm?
2. The best breeds for (a) eggs, (b) table birds?
3. Number of acres required?
4. Whether it is best to purchase feed or grow it?
5. Amount of cash for a fair start?

T. K.

Ans.—1. In commencing any new enterprise, it is always safer to begin in a small way, and, as experience is gained, increase the magnitude of the undertaking. The number of hens you start with depends largely upon how extensive you wish to make your plant. We cannot state a definite number without knowing the conditions. Perhaps from 25 to 100 hens would be a fair start. Of course, on a small scale, the smaller number would be advisable.

2. We are not prepared to state which are the best breeds. Most of the breeds recognized by the American Standard of Perfection are good. The non-sitting breeds are good layers, but not extra good table birds. The general-purpose breeds lay well and are fair table fowl, while the heavy breeds are best suited for table use only. Some of the best of the general-purpose breeds are Plymouth Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, Wyandottes and Orpingtons. Non-sitters are well represented in Leghorns, Minorcas, Andalusians, Houdans and Hamburgs. Table fowls—Brahmas, Cochins, Langshans, Dorkings and Games. General-purpose fowl usually prove about as profitable as any, and Barred Plymouth Rocks have been found among the best, while White Leghorns are a good laying breed.

3. The number of acres required depends on the extent to which the plant is to be pushed. It is not advisable to crowd the chicks into too limited space. It would be well to buy a few acres in a district where, as business progressed, more land could be added. Two or three acres would make a nice beginning.

4. Grow as much feed as you can on the ground you have. The remainder will have to be bought. The more you grow, the larger your profits, because then you get it at first cost.

5. The capital required depends largely on the locality in which operations are begun. Land is much more valuable some places than others. A small plant could be started on from \$500 to \$1,000.

Poultry houses need not be very warm. The warmer a winter poultry house, the more often the litter must be changed to keep it reasonably free from objectionable filth. A single ply of boards, doubled only at the end where the roosts are, will answer nicely, except for large-combed breeds. Banked around the bottom, tight-roofed, with straw loft and a liberal area of glass and cotton on the south side, one may expect results from vigorous stock.

## THE FARM BULLETIN.

### Success Attends Westminster Exhibition.

From an agricultural viewpoint, the British Columbia Provincial Fair, held this year at Westminster, was an entire success. Weather conditions were favorable the greater part of the time, being warm, with bright sunshine to cheer and lend splendor to the event. Judging commenced October 3rd, and nearly all the awards were placed in the utility classes before the close of the second day. Under the management of Mr. Keary, the exhibition went along fairly well, but at times exhibitors and others found it very difficult to locate an official who would attend to their necessities. Of course, the manager could not be available at all times, but apparently there was no one else who could give desired information.

The Westminster exhibition had attractions for all classes. The eyes of enthusiastic breeders were given a treat to see splendid exhibits of nearly all breeds of farm animals; fruit-growers were gratified to see such fine displays of fruits and other agricultural products. Attractive displays of fish were on exhibition. The Manufacturers' Building was well filled with the latest improved machinery; fine art and women's work was shown in abundance. The side-show spieler was there in plenty, and all went to make up one of the greatest shows ever held in British Columbia.

The exhibit of dairy cattle was the strongest of the classes of live stock. Holsteins, Ayrshires, Jerseys and Guernseys were all represented. The exhibit of forty head of Holsteins from the Government Farm at Coquitlam was interesting, but these animals were barred from getting awards. Another fine herd of twelve Holsteins was exhibited by J. M. Steves, Steveston, Lulu Island. This herd won six firsts, five seconds, and four thirds, in addition to first for aged bull on Sir Canary Mechthilde, and championship over all breeds on Bessy Dotsford. These animals come from a fine herd, many of the cows holding high official records. Two three-year-old heifers of this breed hold the highest official record for Holsteins in Canada. One of these heifers, Lady Piet's Canary, gave 5,845 pounds of milk in 90 days, and a record of 26 pounds of butter in seven days. Another herd, from Sunnycroft Farm, Port Hammond, owned by T. R. Pearson, and managed by P. B. Black, succeeded in carrying off many honors, including seven firsts, five seconds, and four thirds, in addition to championship for aged bull. Other exhibitors of Holsteins were: H. Bonsall, Chemainus; A. W. Haine, Dewdney, and A. B. Atkinson, Steveston. In all, there were 87 head of Holsteins on exhibition.

Ayrshires made a very creditable showing, 49 animals being on exhibition. A. C. Wells & Son, of Sardis, exhibited 23 fine animals, their winnings comprising nine firsts, eight seconds, several thirds, and the championship for best aged cow, on White Rose of Springbrook. This firm also led out the champion bull of all breeds, Ruby's King of Beauty, a fine two-year-old animal of great promise. Messrs Wells also won the Welsh Cup, for the best exhibit of cattle at the fair with their Ayrshire herd. W. T. Shuttleworth, of Delburne, Alta., had sixteen head of high-class Ayrshires out. To this herd, on Floss Morton, the highest award was given for best Ayrshire milk cow. Her official record shows a total of 14,700 pounds of milk, averaging over 4 per cent. butter-fat, for a period of twelve months. Galtz Valley herd also had second place for best milk cow, with Bluebell of Ormestown. He exhibited Little Gem, a cow with a ten-thousand-pound milk record. She was first at Regina for cow and two of her progeny, and was purchased from P. D. McArthur, of Quebec, at Regina Fair. The total winnings of Mr. Shuttleworth's herd were four firsts, seven seconds and two thirds. J. Thompson, Chilliwack, exhibited a nice herd of ten animals, winning seven firsts, four seconds, one third, and the special for best herd of Ayrshires bred in British Columbia. John Lawson was also an Ayrshire exhibitor.

A. H. Menzies & Son, Pender Island, had out a fine herd of 14 head of Jerseys that carried off the lion's share of the prizes for this breed. This herd produced the champion Jersey cow in British Columbia. This cow, Lilac of Pender, has an official record of 471 pounds of butter-fat in 12 months, at the age of four years. Grimmer Bros., West Pender Island, exhibited a nice herd, their winnings amounting to seven firsts and three seconds. E. H. Barton, of Cheam, led out the first-prize and champion bull, Monarch of Avelreagh. Other exhibitors of Jerseys were John Savage, Langley Prairie, and C. M. Richards, Westminster.

The Guernsey classes furnished no competition, Banford Bros., of Chilliwack, winning all the prizes.

The classes for beef breeds and dual-purpose cattle were not contested. J. T. Maynard, Chilliwack, carried off all the prizes offered for Red Polled cattle; while Chas. E. Hope, Langley Fort, had four head of Aberdeen-Angus, the only representatives of the breed on the grounds; and Shorthorn classes were represented by fourteen head, exhibited by Joseph Tamboline, Westham Island, B. C.

The representative of "The Farmer's Advocate" was obliged to remain outside the ring where all the heavy horses were judged. This made it difficult to get a full account of the awards. C. W. Wilson, of Vancouver, had a fine exhibit of Clydesdales out. His three-year-old imported stallion, Fiscal Fighter, stood champion of the breed and grand champion of all breeds of heavy horses on the ground. He is sired by Everlasting, and is a credit to such a sire, being a fine mover, of good quality, with splendid conformation. His two-year-old imported, Nancy Gilchrist, a fine mare, with great quality and splendid style, stood first in her class. In addition to these, Mr. Wilson's showing of ten head of animals was very creditable, indeed. Shannon Bros., of Cloverdale, had five head of good Clydesdales on exhibition. Their Canadian-bred mare, Grandview Lassie, stood champion of the breed in a close class. The first-prize aged stallion, exhibited by Messrs. Shannon is an animal with great quality and nice clean action. Other exhibitors of Clydesdale horses were Archie Brown and J. A. Thompson, Vancouver; Guichon Estate, Port Guichon; John Savage, Westham Island; W. M. Heaton, Oliver Road, East Delta, and Alex. Davie, Ladner.

J. M. Steves was the only exhibitor of Suffolk Punch horses, having six fine animals in the barns, and Alex. Davie was the only breeder in the ring with Shires.

None of the classes of heavy horses were well filled, except in the Clydesdales, and no Percherons were on the grounds.

The light-horse exhibit was good, and some splendid individuals were brought into the ring. For his Coach stallion, Alex. Davie, Ladner, won first in his class and reserve championship over all breeds of light horses. Exhibitors in roadster classes were F. J. Smith, Vancouver; John McLeod, Vancouver; Endersby Bros., Strawberry Hill; R. G. Marshall, Ralph Robinson and E. Henderson, Westminster.

Standard-bred classes brought out the most exhibitors of all. Those whose names appeared in the entry books were A. L. McDonald, Vancouver; Jno. McLeod, Vancouver; E. S. Knowlton, Vancouver; Jos. Travers, Westminster; J. Wilkinson, Chilliwack; J. Nation, Vancouver; Alex. Miller, Vancouver; Endersby Bros., Strawberry Hill; R. W. Hawthorne, Coquitlam; and Jos. Cameron, Sapperton.

In Thoroughbred classes, exhibitors were: E. Henderson, Victoria; G. Fortescue, Vancouver, and F. J. Smith.

The offerings for Hackneys brought out some high-stepping, well-trained animals, in prime show condition. Those exhibiting were: Roberts & Field, Vancouver; F. J. Smith, Vancouver; Jos. Tamboline, Westham Island; Robt. Jardine, Westminster; D. C. McGregor, Vancouver, and Von Alvon, Stevens.

The exhibit of sheep was very strong, twenty-one breeders having entries out. J. H. Maynard had an exhibit of fourteen Dorset sheep, winning all the prizes offered. Alex. Davie, Ladner, brought out a strong flock of Oxfords, winning nine firsts, six seconds, and four thirds. Other exhibitors in these classes were McClughan Bros., Port Wells, and John Richardson, Port Guichon.

In Cotswolds, John Richardson, Port Guichon, carried off the best prizes, but W. T. Shuttleworth, Delburne, Alta., shared the honors with him. Mr. Shuttleworth's flock won three firsts and four seconds.

In Shropshires, Mr. Shuttleworth was not a large exhibitor, having only a few entries, as he sold his Shropshires out to G. H. Hadwen at Victoria Fair. Alex. Davie was out with a fine flock of Shropshires. T. R. Pearson, Port Hammond, had 13 Shropshires in the pens. Other exhibitors were J. T. Maynard, Chilliwack; Thos. W. Paterson, Ladner, and P. H. Wilson.

Joseph Thompson, Sardis, was the only Suffolk breeder represented, and won all the prizes.

In Lincolns, A. C. Wells & Son exhibited sixteen head; being the only exhibitor, he took all the money.

The prizes for Leicesters were almost evenly divided between Banford Bros., Chilliwack, and Alex. Davie, each sharing victory and defeat in turn.

Grimmer Bros., West Pender Island, won one first, five seconds and three thirds on Hampshire sheep. Other exhibitors in these classes were Alex. Davie, Ladner, and John Richardson, Port Guichon.

C. T. Higginson & Son, Sardis, won a championship for best fat wether lamb on the grounds,