

# The Farming World

And Canadian Farm and Home

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## A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### The Provincial Winter Fair

WHILE this issue is being made ready for the press the Provincial Winter Fair is in full blast at Guelph. All departments are well filled and the number and quality of the exhibits are quite up to other years and a little ahead in some classes. There is the usual interest in the series of practical lectures. Some new features are the discussions on the "dual purpose cow" and the results of some practical feed tests relative to the cost of producing the bacon hog. Other interesting topics being discussed are the keeping of cow records and the practicability of the milking machine.

Owing to the dates of the show and this issue being crowded with reports of the Chicago and Amherst shows, we are unable to give a detailed report in this number. Full particulars, with a critical report of the show, will appear next issue, together with illustrations showing the winners in some of the more important classes.

### The International Show

At the International Show last week Canada was as usual to the front. In Hackney and Clydesdale horses, in sheep and in swine exhibitors from the north of the boundary took no second place. They have brought honor to Canada and well maintained the reputation of this country for producing high-class breeding stock. The show throughout was a good one and well worth the price of a trip to Chicago to anyone interested in the great live stock industry of this country. At no other point in America, perhaps, would it be possible to gather together such a splendid array of all that is best of the various breeds of live stock which this continent produces. The management are to be congratulated upon its continued success.

And yet, in spite of this great success there are a few features of the management upon which we would presume to offer a few words of criticism, our chief excuse for so doing being that so many Canadians are interested in its welfare. In the first place, a show of its magnitude and character should have a definite judging program arranged beforehand, and, if possible, carry it out to the letter. This year's plan of never

knowing just when a certain class of stock was to be shown was neither fair to the visitor nor the exhibitor. There should be little difficulty in running the judging on schedule time.

A feature of this year's show that seemed to be relegated to the background was the carcass competitions. These will never be satisfactory to exhibitors and visitors alike until a cold storage room, attached to the main show, is provided for this display. The present plan of distributing the carcasses around several of the large packing houses is, to say the least, very unsatisfactory. They were as hard to find this year as the proverbial needle, and we feel sure that not five per cent. of

breeding cattle classes this year only one judge acted. Then why not in the "Reds, Whites and Roans?"

The new live stock arena in which the show was held is just such an one as Ontario needs at the present time. Let those interested press their claims in the right quarter and we feel sure something of this kind will be forthcoming ere long. Nothing would assist our live stock interests so much as this at the present time.

### Cold Storage

The plan by which the Government will aid cold storage was presented to the House last week by the Hon. Mr. Fisher. It provides for the appropriation of \$100,000 for this purpose. When a cold storage plant has been constructed and has been approved by the officials of the Department, 10 per cent. of its cost will be paid down and probably 5 per cent. a year for the four succeeding years. The features of the plan are that the Government is to have full power to decide what points to help; that existing plants are not to be helped; that unfair competition with existing plants is not contemplated; that the Government reserves liberty to decide as to what will constitute unfair competition; that rates and temperatures shall be subject to Government supervision.

The great need of cold storage, more particularly for perishable fruit products, makes any scheme for its encouragement welcome. On its merits the plan proposed by the Minister of Agriculture should do much to encourage the erection of suitable cold storage plants where most needed. Cold storage plants properly managed, and with a fair rate for service, should be a good investment. They have proven profitable in other places, notably in the United States—then why not in Canada? At any rate, the need is very great and if the inducement offered is not sufficient it might be materially increased without any serious objection being raised.

### Provincial Work for Agriculture

The new Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta have set a good example for some of the older Provinces of the Dominion in the energetic and practical way in which they have organized their respective departments of agriculture. Already aggressive work is being done in both

### Do Not Miss This

There has been a very liberal response to our special premium offers published in our last two issues. A great many, however, seem to be under the impression that this offer is for renewals as well as for new subscribers. This is not correct. These premiums are for new subscribers only and were planned solely to induce our many old readers to help in increasing our growing subscription list.

Read the offer over carefully in this issue, then see your neighbors and friends, get them to subscribe and we shall be glad to forward the special premium you choose. Any of them will make a good Christmas box.

the people saw them. The best feeders are not entering their good animals in the carcass competitions for the simple reason that they get no benefit from them outside of the prize money. In a great meat centre like Chicago the carcass competition should be the chief feature of the show.

While the judging as a whole was satisfactory, it was not above criticism in one or two instances. In the Shorthorn classes more particularly a change might be advisable. Where three judges are chosen and where Canadians are urged to compete, it would be the fair thing to at least have one of the judges a Canadian. But better, perhaps, than all this, have one judge only, of international repute, such as Mr. Duthie or some other equally reliable and competent judge. In all the other