

Canada's Great National Fair

With an aggregate attendance of over half a million and gross receipts totalling fully \$150,000, the Canadian National Exhibition of 1904 must be characterized as a magnificent success. Almost every day of the fair was a record one in so far as attendances were concerned. During the first week a couple of severe rainstorms hampered things somewhat. But the delightful exhibition weather of the second week fully made up for this and helped to swell the receipts beyond that of any previous show, and to put the management on easy street in so far as financing the enterprise is concerned. With a surplus of \$40,000 there should be something doing next year in the way of improved equipment both for exhibitors and visitors. But the success of a great fair is measured as much by the quantity and quality of the

these, prepared with great care by experts, follow. They make interesting and profitable reading.

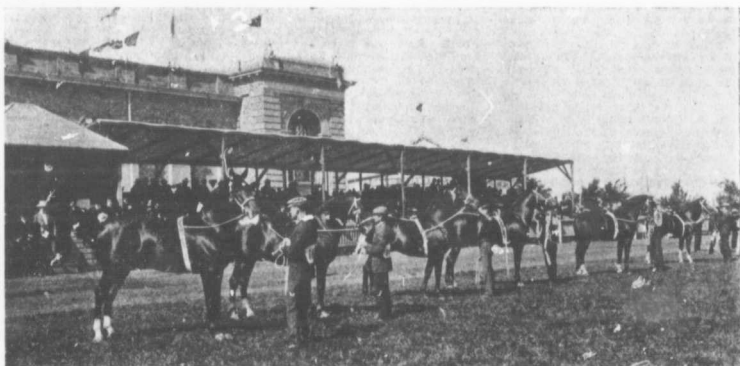
HORSES

There were 1,068 entries in the horse classes, as against 1,179 for 1903, but in point of quality the exhibits made this year far surpassed those of 1903. This was particularly to be remarked among the Standard-breds, Roadster, Thoroughbred and Clydesdales. Of the last named it can truly be said that there was lined up in the small judges' ring such classes of imported Clydesdale stallions and fillies as Canada had never before seen. Every stable, with perhaps one exception, sent out representatives to the ring that, if they all could not win the coveted trophy, at least did a whole lot to vindicate the pre-eminence of this breed as the royalty of the

had ever seen of that trappy, fine-mannered, and splendidly-gaited horse, the English Hackney. Miss K. Wilks, of Galt, came in for third place with a string of Standard-breds, good animals all, but mixed, as is always the case with this breed, as to gait, style and conformation. The racing events, pulled off every afternoon, sandwiched in among the classes of light horses and saddlers in the large showing, were features that attracted a great deal of attention.

CLYDESDALES

Such an aggregation of Clydesdales Canada has never before seen, many of the leading importers having searched Scotland for the best to be had in order to meet competitors in the large showing here, and also the demand for the very best that can be obtained, a demand that has become a very strong one in Canada of late years. The judges officiating were Messrs. McLaren and Prof. Carlyle,



The Hackneys make a fine showing. The champion, Saxon, is at the head of the line.

exhibits as by large gate receipts and attendance. In this respect the Canadian National was not lacking. In fact, leaving the money question out of consideration, the exhibition throughout was a great success. In but few departments, and these of minor importance, was there anything lacking. The art, the manufacturers, the transportation, the process, the implement, the dairy, and other buildings were filled with most creditable displays. But it was left for live stock to crown them all. Never in the history of any annual fair on this continent has a finer and larger exhibit of live stock been seen. All kinds were there and mostly brought out in splendid fit. The chief feature was, no doubt, the magnificent show of the "red, white and roans." The Shorthorn breeders did themselves proud. The show excelled in quality the great display at the International last fall. The Hon. John Dryden, who visited the Royal Show of England last June, stated to the writer that he did not think the champion cow at the Royal would be in it with the magnificent representatives of Shorthorn perfection shown in the cow class at Toronto. It was indeed a show of which every Canadian might well feel proud.

But we must not linger. Our readers will be anxious to pass on to the more detailed accounts of the battles of the showing. Special reports of

draught horse realm. The Hackneys were also out in force, both imported and home-bred, and it says a good deal for Canada that the championship both for stallion and mare were awarded to Canadian-bred animals. The prize for the best ten animals was this year divided into two classes, one for the light and one for the heavy horses. These two classes had to meet for the possession of this honor last year, but it was judged a rather hard matter to rightfully discriminate between these. In the light harness horses this prize called out five strong strings, and again Canadian-breds won the honors of the day, the prize going to the splendid string of Hackneys exhibited by Mr. A. Yeager, of Simcoe. At the head of his string was his famous sire Hillhurst Sensation, followed by ten of his get, all as like as so many beans, and high-class harness step-pers, every one of them. One could have taken the first horse of the string and mated him perfectly with any one of the other nine. Next in line was a mare, though perhaps a far less valuable aggregation, really representing many times the dollars that the best string did, was the exhibit of Mr. Robert Beith, of Bowmanville, Ont. Fresh from winning supreme honors in the ring at St. Louis, and in the breeding classes at Toronto, they were certainly entitled to their place as the best that Canada

of Colorado, both well-known in Canada, and while in the main their awards showed them to be familiar with the requirements of a draught horse, there were times when a very keen and discerning ringside talent gave indubitable proofs that they had from the other side of the fence decided otherwise. Twenty-five entries. The first class to enter the ring at two o'clock p.m. on Wednesday afternoon was the aged stallion's, four years old and over. Twenty-two of these marched into the ring and the judges tackled the game. The horses were as grand a lot as ever faced a judge. Splendid representatives of a splendid breed, they were an object lesson to the 400 numerous cranks in Canada who bred a worthless skate of a mare to a four-dollar Clydesdale grade stallion and then say the breed is running out. Grand, massive horses, wearing their feathers with all the pomp of the best, bodies nicely turned and sleek, walking with smooth, graceful, effortless tread, their majesty and ease of strength made an impressive sight. Not a hoof that was not good enough to last a lifetime on macadam and stone pavements. Not a pastern that did not spring resilient to the impact of the massive body above, and there was a wealth of bone, flat, clean and smooth, in the broad symmetrical and cordy legs, which, covered with fine, silky hair, spoke only of one