

## Toronto Fat Stock Show

**T**HE Eighth Annual Fat Stock Show, held at the Union Stock Yards, brought out a greater number of entries than last year, but the average quality was not quite so good. Attendance was greater than ever before and it would seem that if the fair is to be continued, better accommodations must be provided for those desiring to watch the judging and inspect the exhibits. The grand championship beef animal was "Black George," owned by Jas. Leask and Son, that had won the sweepstakes at Guelph. This steer sold for \$1 a pound at the auction sale on Saturday. This is a record price, the champion last year selling for 50 cents a pound and the previous year for 46 cents. Numerous of the prize winning steers sold at from 20 cents to 30 cents. Lambs sold as high as 36 cents a pound.

Jas. Leask and Sons, Searsville, carried off a number of prizes, besides the grand championship. J. D. Ferguson and Son, of St. Thomas, and John Brown and Sons, of Galt, were also well represented among the winners.

## To Investigate Serum Treatment

**T**HE Canadian Swine Breeders' Association has appointed a committee of three to investigate conditions in the United States where immunization against hog cholera by the double serum treatment is practised. The personnel of the committee commands respect. They are J. P. Brethour, Burford; Prof. G. E. Day, O.A.C. and R. W. Wade, secretary of the association.

This committee will investigate the simultaneous treatment, which permanently immunizes hogs against cholera, with a view to proving that a treated hog does not transmit the disease. If their reports are favorable to the treatment an effort will be made to modify the regulations prohibiting its use in Canada.

## Seed Supply Short

**G**OOD seed in certain lines will be extremely scarce in Canada next year. This fact was emphasized again and again, at the Seed Growers' meeting held in Guelph during the Winter Fair. Next year Canada will produce most of the root seed required for the 1918 crop, but seed for the 1918 crop will be scarce and farmers who buy early will get the best supply. As high as one dollar a pound for mangel seed and \$1.75 for turnip seed were figures mentioned at Guelph by Mr. A. McMeans, who has been going into the matter for the Dominion government.

Dr. C. A. Zavitz emphasized the importance of keeping the very best of the grain crop of 1917 for seedling purposes next spring. Fanning mills, he said, should be used extensively. For general cultivation in Ontario, the following varieties were recommended: Marquis spring wheat, O.A.C. No. 75 oats and O.A.C. No. 11 barley.

Dr. Zavitz predicted further that good seed beans would be scarce next spring. Not only is the Ontario supply short, but weather conditions were not more favorable in the seed centres of the United States. He suggested that growers of seed beans forward samples to the official seed laboratory at Ottawa for information tests, which information will be forwarded free of cost.

P. L. Pancher, corn specialist, sized up the seed corn situation as the worst in 50 years. Mr. Pancher suggested that the ensilage growers of Ontario rely on the United States for their supply of seed corn next spring, that they buy it early and test the seed. Mr. J. O. Duke, who has been

investigating the situation, stated that there is considerable good seed in the Southern States.

Many varieties of potatoes seem to be "running out", whereas the real trouble is that they are infested with disease. Prof. J. E. Howitt of the O.A.C. mentioned a case in which a diseased plot of potatoes gave 25 bushels to the acre, while a disease free plot, under the same conditions, gave 297 bushels. Leaf roll, mosaic and curly dwarf are the three diseases which have developed in the last few years and which are working havoc with the potato crop.

## Eradicating Tuberculosis

**A** BRIEF statement of the excellent results that are being accomplished in British Columbia, in the matter of eradicating tuberculosis from the herds of the province, was given to an editor of Farm and Dairy last August, while in Victoria, B.C., by Mr. A. Knight, V.S., an official of the Department of Agriculture. Four years ago it was found that 16 per cent. of the herds in south-

ern British Columbia, including Vancouver Island, were affected by tuberculosis. To-day the percentage is estimated at 3 per cent. The Government when it decided to eradicate this disease, appointed inspectors, and sent them from farm to farm. Five men were engaged besides Mr. Knight. Dairy herds only were visited, largely because it was from these herds that milk was being produced. Animals found to be affected had to be slaughtered. In such cases an allowance running as high as \$10., was made in the case of grade animals, and as high as \$200 for purebreds. At first many herds were found to be infected. In one instance in a herd of 15, all had to be disposed of. In another case 53 out of 80 purebreds were slaughtered.

As high as 1,000 animals were slaughtered in one year. Owing to the decreased percentage of infection, not nearly that number are being slaughtered to-day.

The breeders of British Columbia are determined not to let this disease get the best of their herds, and are emphatic in saying that Ontario breeders, if they desire to sell stock

in the West, must take steps to see that their live stock is free from this disease. All stock imported into the province has to be tested.

## Cold Weather Hints for Autoists

**I**F a water-cooled engine is not carefully guarded in cold weather, and the radiator is allowed to freeze, the pipes or radiators will break or a water jacket will crack. To prevent such damage, the safest plan is to drain the water from all parts of the system when the car is left for the night or for a long time during the day, according to the agricultural engineering department of the State University. The engine may then be allowed to run a few minutes to make sure that all the water has been removed.

If the car is used a great deal in cold weather, it may be advisable to use a non-freezing solution. A mixture containing 20 per cent. of denatured alcohol will freeze at 10 degrees above zero; a 30 per cent. solution will freeze a few below zero; 40 per cent. at 20 below; and 50 per cent. at 35 below.

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