

The Royal Show of England

The sixtieth annual show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England was opened at the new show yards, Park Royal London, on Tuesday, 7th June, and closed the following Saturday. For 63 years the Society have been going about in England to various show yards; now they have permanent grounds near the capital and have begun the new era of a permanent show yard and hope soon to have substantial permanent buildings. The weather was not all that might have been wished for. The preceding week and especially the Friday recorded a great rain fall, and the new grounds suffered in consequence. We, in Canada, know something of what that means, and a wet time at the Toronto Industrial sometimes gives country visitors good specimens of clinging clay—but the London clay of the new Park Royal seems to be quite as persistent as any that can be found in Toronto, and may even rival Winnipeg. A well-known Scot on his return from the show writes: "London clay is of a nice, kindly, loving and clinging disposition. It won't let you go until you have blessed it." The show itself was favored with a fairly dry weather, but the excessive rains left the grounds in a condition that injured the attendance and the first Park Royal Show was only a moderate success. On Wednesday, the King, Queen and Royal party paid a long visit. The Prince of Wales, as President this year, gave a lot of time to his official duties during the show, and made a very good speech at the annual meeting.

HORSES.

The show of horses was only a moderate one. There were 475 entries, but many were deterred by the wet weather of the previous week from exhibiting, and this made the horse show fall below the average. There was a fair display of harness horses and ponies. The champion harness horse, sired by a Hackney, a wonderfully good goer, was owned by Miss Ella S. Ross, Beechfield Sale, and named Rowton Blackthorn (5,778). In the regular Hackney class for females the champion was "Queen of the South" (12,246), a very handsome mare with a splendid colt foal at foot. The stallion championship went to T. & R. Black of Whitehall, Malton, for St. John (8,390), by Garton, Duke of Connaught (3,089). This horse was also the champion Hackney at Edinburgh. He is a dark chestnut, with white hind socks, a good back, and short, stout legs and a very attractive look about him as he walks and moves. There were very small lots of Cleveland Bays and Coach horses, and also a very small display of Hunters. The Shires were disappointing—nothing like the numbers turning out at the London shows. The champion was

Hendre Royal Albert (19,686) by Hendre Baronet; he is a gay smart mover with plenty of size, good legs and feet, white stripe on face and four white legs, white socks in front and white almost to the hocks behind. He is owned by Lord Llangattock, the Hendre, Monmouth. The champion mare was Sir I. Blundell Maple's well-known winner "Queen of the Shires." She is one of the best of the breed ever seen, possessing size, shape, quality and a perfection of bone and style. She was brought out in perfect bloom with a fine foal at foot. She is now nine years old and has been a winner since shown as a foal.

Clydesdales were also few in numbers. Messrs. A. & W. Montgomery, Nether Hall, Castle Douglas, Scotland, won the stallion championship with the three-year-old colt Baron's Style, by Baron's Pride, out of Winsome Charteris, by Prince of Kyle. The same owners were first for two-year-olds, with Premier Pride, another son of Baron's Pride. The champion mare was Royal Ruby, a three-year-old, owned by Thomas Smith, Blaenau Point, Chester. She is a beautiful bay with white markings. She was a winner all along the line last year and was first at Ayr and at Edinburgh this year.

CATTLE.

The cattle were the feature of the show—944 were entered—Jerseys and Shorthorns heading the list for large entries. The champion Shorthorn bull was Pearl King (79,531), a roan shown by J. Handley, Greenhead, Milnthorpe. He was a winner last year in the two-year-old class. He has a straight, well-covered top line, and was well brought out. It was a close contest with Baron Abbotsford, a four-year-old, of massive build and a stylish mover, but more inclined to be patchy. Mr. J. Deane of Bapton Manor, won in the cow class for the third time with White Heather, a five-year-old. The champion female was the King's two-year-old heifer Sylph, by Royal Duke. She was the winning yearling last year at Carlisle Royal and has done well during the year. King Edward VII. also won the male Hereford championship with Fire King (22,135), a very fine specimen of the white-faced breed. There was a fairly good show of the ruby red Devons, and also of Sussex. Sir W. O. Colbert had the champion Red Poll in Albert, a bull of size and style and a former winner at local shows. Aberdeen-Angus were shown by several English breeders and never before did they make such a display at the Royal, and a few good ones from Scotland helped the exhibit. The championship went to Maramere (18,160), owned by T. H. Bainbridge. He has a good loin and well covered back, but a little

round in the quarters. Galloways made a creditable display. H. C. Stephens, Cholderton, Salisbury, won first with his two-year-old bull Jasper (8,142); he is well ribbed and good lines above and below, but has a plain head. John Cunningham won for cows with Lady Harden 2nd (11,354), eight years old, but still fresh and youthful looking; already she has bred three first prize winners.

Ayrshires were led by Gay Lass III., a handsome red cow which calved at the show and won for her owner, Andrew Mitchell, of Bartheskie. She is a big useful dairy cow. In Jerseys Mrs. McIntosh had first for her cow Gloriosa III., and for heifers Lord Rothschild's Joyful was the winner. For milking registered Shorthorns, Lord Rothschild's had first and second prizes—with Crocus and Butter Scotch.

SHEEP.

There was a fair exhibit of sheep. There was a much larger number of breeds represented than we have in Canada. In addition to the Shropshires, Southdowns, Oxford Downs in medium wools and Cotswolds, Lincolns and Leicesters in long wools, we sometimes see Hampshires and Suffolks and always Dorset Horns, but we, in Canada, are not as familiar with Kent of Romney Marsh, Wensleydales, Devon long wools, Dartmoors, Exmoors, Cheviots, Black-faced Herdwicks, Lons, Welsh Mountain or Ryelands, all of which have classes at the Royal of England.

There was only a small show of pigs, with many entries absent. The classes were Large White, Middle White, Small Whites, Berkshires, Tamworths and Large Blacks.

There was a large and excellent poultry show, Orpingtons being the leading breed as to numbers and excellence in quality. There was also a large show of Dorkings and Indian game.

Prepare for the Fall Fairs

With too many of our farmers the only preparation that suggests itself in connection with the fall fairs is to put on one's best suit of clothes, pay the admission fee and see what is going on. All this is well and good. But how much better it would be to begin now and prepare some animal or some exhibit for the fall fair. You will have a personal interest in its outcome then and will derive much more benefit and pleasure from the results.

The local or county fair is the best place for a beginner to exhibit. And there are few farmers who could not win profit to themselves, turn out a creditable exhibit in some line for the fall fair. Live stock intended for this purpose should be given a little more attention now, and fed a little extra (not pampered) from now till showtime. You will be more interested in your exhibit