

LEICESTERS—The exhibitors were Willowdale Farm, Lennoxville; H. F. Goff, Cookshire; R. P. Wingett, S. N. Parnell, Lennoxville, and H. & N. Allen, Newcastle, Ont. Allen won the pen prize.

COTSWOLDS—Exhibitors—H. J. Elliott, Danville; E. P. Le Maye, E. Sherbrooke; Guy Carr, Compton, and A. Ayre, Bowmanville, Ont. the latter winning the pen prize.

CHEVIOTS—Exhibited by H. F. Goff, A. H. Goff, H. C. Bailey, Cookshire, and Guy Carr, Compton. H. F. Goff won the pen prize.

OXFORD DOWNS—A. L. Libby & Sons, Ayer's Cliff; Arsene Denis, St. Norbert; Pierre Sylvestre, Clairvaux; H. F. Goff; H. & N. Allen, who won the pen prize.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS—J. W. Outred, Marblenton; Arsene Denis, Victor Sylvestre, and A. J. A. Lyster, Kirkdale, who won the pen prize.

SHROPSHIRE—Gladys M. Parker, Lennoxville; Arsene Denis, H. C. Bailey, G. H. Vailancourt, and G. L. Riches, Sherbrooke, and Paul Sylvestre, who won the diploma for best pen.

SOUTHDOWNS—H. J. Elliott, Danville; E. P. Le Maye, Guy Carr, and A. Ayre, who won the pen prize.

Best display of sheep—Allen. Best two grade wether lambs, Bailey; best two grade ewe lambs, H. F. Goff. Judges on sheep—Prof. Reid and A. R. Ness, Macdonald College.

SWINE.

There was gathered together the greatest aggregation of swine ever got together in any show in the Province of Quebec. John Harvey, of Frelighsburg, was the largest exhibitor, having out 180 head, and showed seven breeds. The classes were well filled with animals of high quality, but the judge, R. J. Garbutt, of Belleville, Ont., was equal to the occasion, and gave his decisions carefully.

TAMWORTHS led in point of numbers. The exhibitors were John Harvey, Marshall Miller, Brome Centre; J. M. Stevens, Bedford; Fred. Moe, Sherbrooke.

YORKSHIRES—J. J. Parnell, Lennoxville; J. M. Stevens, John Harvey, Wm. Owens, P. M. McCullough, E. Durham; R. P. Wingett, Lennoxville. The latter won the pen prize, also pen prize for best pen of bacon hogs, second and third going to Harvey on Tamworths.

BERKSHIRES—Victor Sylvestre, J. M. Stevens, Jno. Harvey, Broadview Stock Farms.

CHESTER WHITES—Marshall, W. Miller, Brome Centre; Pierre and Paul Sylvestre, J. M. Stevens, John Harvey. Miller won the pen prize.

POLAND CHINAS—J. M. Stevens, Victor Sylvestre, H. C. Bailey, and John Harvey, who won the pen prize.

Harvey also exhibited a few Hampshires, the first seen here.

JUDGING COMPETITION.

This is a strong feature of the Sherbrooke Exhibition, and many young men avail themselves of this opportunity of learning how to judge cereals and live stock. There is a class for farmers' sons and another for college students. The awards were as follows: Grain, farmers' sons—1, A. St. Marie, Moe's River; 2, Cecil Warner, Sand Hill; 3, J. A. Brown, Beith. Students—1, G. A. Matthews, Macdonald College; 2, W. G. McDougall, Ormstown; 3, Geo. Holliday, Sawyerville. Potatoes, farmers' sons—1, Cecil Warner; 2, J. A. Brown; 3, Geo. Cross, Rey Sonville. Students—1, A. G. Taylor, Dewittville; 2, W. G. McDougall; 3, Chas. E. McClarey, Hillhurst. Dairy cattle, farmers' sons—1, Geo. Cross; 2, Cecil Warner; 3, A. S. Libby, Ayer's Cliff. Students—1, B. T. Reed, Ulverton; 2, C. H. Hodge, Cookshire; 3, W. G. McDougall. Beef cattle, farmers' sons—1, H. J. Elliott; 2, Cecil Warner; 3, Geo. Cross. Students—1, C. H. Hodge; 2, A. E. Matthews, Macdonald College; 3, Chas. E. McClarey. Sheep, farmers' sons—1, J. A. Brown; 2, A. L. Libby; 3, Henry O'Neil, Sandbruit. Students—1, C. H. Hodge; 2, Geo. Muir, Howick; 3, R. T. Reed. Swine, farmers' sons—1, J. A. Brown; 2, Geo. Cross; 3, Pierre Sylvestre. Students—1, A. G. Taylor; 2, A. E. Matthews; 3, C. H. Hodge.

POULTRY.

There were 1,500 birds, representing the various breeds. Taylor Bros., Dewittville, were the largest and most successful exhibitors.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

There was a large entry of butter and cheese of exceptionally fine quality, much of it scoring from .91 to .96. Best three cheese, white—1, L. Roy, St. Flavien; 2, W. F. Girou, Napanee, Ont.; 3, Z. Bergeron, Methot's Mills; 4, Geo. Empey, Newby, Ont. Best 3 cheese, colored—1, Ernest Thibodeau, N. Stukely; 2, Wilfrid Touchette, St. Eli de Victoria; 3, A. Thibodeau, As-

cot Corners. Dairy cheese—1, J. J. Emerson, Sutton Junction; 2, N. P. Emerson; 3, J. P. Strong, W. Sutton. Best 3 boxes butter—1, J. P. Vincent, Racine; 2, J. H. Leclair, Foster; 3, W. W. Shufelt, Frelighsburg; 4, P. Pomirleau, St. Isidore. Dairy butter, tubs—1, B. D. Young, Mansonville; 2, Miss C. L. Edwards; 3, Ed. Alexander; 4, Mrs. Alexander, all of Coaticook. Prints, dairy—1, Clark Hall, Sweetsburg; 2, Mrs. Alexander; 3, Mrs. Wm. McGowan, Birchton; 4, B. D. Young, Mansonville.

NOTES ON THE FAIR.

The side show was too much in evidence. These fairs scooped in thousands of dollars of hard-earned cash.

The show of vegetables was up to former occasions, but the fruit surpassed anything seen here of late.

The exhibit of maple products of M. F. Goddard, Waterloo, was magnificent, and was the "sweetest" thing on exhibition, barring the large and fine display of honey—and the ladies.

The Provincial Department of Public Instruction, Quebec, had a most educative exhibit in the Industrial Building, in charge of J. Sutherland, Inspector General to the schools of the Province of Quebec.

Bigger crowds than ever attended the fair, but the weather played mean on Thursday afternoon by giving down more moisture than was desirable.

Hon. Martin Burrell, Federal Minister of Agriculture, graced the exhibition with his presence, as did also the Minister of Agriculture of Quebec, Hon. J. E. Caron. The Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Francis Langelier, was also a guest of honor. The butter-making competition was a source of interest.

Canadian Observations in England

On our way up to London, the great, I noticed many fields of wheat in England (fine crops), some ready to cut, some cut and in stook, and a few fields cleared. I noticed quite a few binders at work in the fields, a few of them with three horses abreast, but many of them had two horses on the tongue and a boy riding another horse ahead, and I saw one binder with two horses on the tongue and two horses with boys on their backs, one ahead of the other. One field where the grain was badly lodged was being cut with a manual-delivery reaper, but I saw quite a number of fields that were being cut by men with the sickles in the old old-fashioned way. There had been a great time of rain in England, and there was much hay lying spoiling in the swath; in some places the grass was growing through it. The hay, which was mostly old meadow (very fine), looked very brown dirty stuff. In many districts that I passed through in England there seemed to be very much of the land in permanent pasture; many sheep being kept, many of them Shropshire Downs, or grades of that breed.

While in London I went to the Metropolitan Cattle Market, to learn the method of selling cattle there. Their methods are different from anything that I have seen. I suppose the market would contain between 25 and 30 acres, which is all paved with stone blocks, and the space for the cattle has posts with two strong scantlings bolted to posts, the top one about 3 feet from the ground. There is a four- or five-foot space, and then a thirty-foot space alternating. To these scantling the cattle to be sold are tied by a rope around the neck. The rope has a loop on the end, through which the other end is run, and the noose is thrown over the animal's head, and then tied to both scantlings. I asked if the cattle were not liable to hang themselves when tied with a running noose, but the men said that there was very seldom any trouble. There are men who make a business of supplying the ropes and taking the cattle from the cars and tying them up for one shilling (25 cents) a head. They get quite expert at their business. Whenever the cattle are sold the men cut the long hair from their tails, which they sell for 8 pence a pound. There are small pens for the sheep, and the corporation charge 1½ pence per head for the sheep and 6 pence per head for the cattle. The butchers and buyers just go around the market and haggle away and make purchases privately. The animals are mostly all bought at so much a head. The day that I was there the cattle had all great

long, dangerous-looking horns. There were some very good Hereford grades which sold as high as £26 each, and there were some smaller Black Welsh cattle which sold from £19 up. The lambs, many of them not very good, sold from 30s. to 48s. On the day that I visited the Metropolitan market there might have been a few hundred fat cattle, a few milch cows, a few bulls, and about 1,000 sheep.

I did not approve of their system of selling stock. The auction mart system as conducted at Montrose was, I think, very much superior, and more advantageous to both seller and buyer, and was a much more business method than the London system. But when people get used to any system it is often hard to make a change. I spoke to several dealers who had been attending that market from 40 to 50 years, who thought their system was all right, but there were younger men who did not like it, and would, I think, be prepared to accept something better. I thought that their cattle would be ever so much better if they had been dehorned when young; but the drovers don't seem to mind the horns.

On another morning I went to Covent Garden Market, which was a sight well worth seeing. It was 6 o'clock in the morning when I got there, but the large place was crowded with men, women and vegetables of all kinds, and flowers, mushrooms, etc. The place seemed to be too small for the business that was being done, but although the place was so crowded, there was scarcely a policeman to be seen, and everybody seemed to be in very good humor. I saw one vegetable stall where there were 20 women shelling peas at so much a tin full, and the man in charge gave each woman a check as she emptied her tin. Much of the stuff was handled in baskets that would hold nearly a bushel, and the men would carry 6 or 8 of these on their heads through the crowd. It is a job that a novice could not do. I was told that many of these farmers had to start away from home shortly after midnight in order to get there in time. The flowers were really beautiful, and large quantities of moss and foliage were also offered for sale, to be used in making wreaths. All around the market there are restaurants and coffee rooms that do a good business with those coming to the market.

On my return from London to Liverpool, I went by the Great Western Railway, via Oxford, Stratford and Birmingham, and the crops were not nearly so good on that route. The potatoes and turnips were generally poor and dirty; partly, perhaps, on account of the land not being so good, but more perhaps on account of poorer methods of cultivation. Farmers there seemed to be behind the times. Perhaps readers will hardly believe me, but I saw quite a few fields being cut by the sickle. In the greater part of England the fields are very irregular; of all sorts of shapes and forms, and generally divided by high hedges. In low-lying districts much of the land was flooded by water, caused by the heavy rains, and much of the grain was dead ripe, but very little of it lodged. There is a great difference between England and Scotland as seen through Canadian spectacles, the latter being generally much ahead of the former, but both are suffering much from neglect of the landlords.

D. L.

Against Disking Alfalfa.

It has been often advised to renovate alfalfa stands that have become dirty with grass or weeds by disking in spring or after the first cutting of the season has been removed in order to loosen the surface, set the weeds back and split the crowns of the alfalfa plants, thus thickening the stand. We have never been sure about the advisability of this practice, and never tried it until this summer after the first-cutting was removed, when the ground was too dry and hard for the disk to make any impression. We did only a very narrow strip and noticed little effect.

Prof. N. E. Hansen, a famous alfalfa expert of the South Dakota College of Agriculture, is the first authority we have known to dissent positively from the disking practice. Writing in Wallace's Farmer, he says:

"I 'throw my hat into the ring' on this proposition: that we should not mutilate alfalfa plants by disking and harrowing. This is in distinct contradiction to the present, recommended practice; but examination of many plants that have been split through the heart with the disk or harrow, shows they heal with difficulty, and many are black-hearted or diseased, giving free access to bacteria. The Orientals know better. An alfalfa plant should be good for at least four centuries; but this means that the heart of the plant must be held sacred."