

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN
THE DOMINION.

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Wm. Dickson was first with Red Fyfe wheat and first with collection of wheat, oats, and barley.

The Department of Agriculture had a tent full of noxious weeds, with Territorial Weed Inspector Willing present to assist enquirers in identifying weeds, and discuss ways and means of controlling them. He drew a full house, and had a busy time of it. The results of this practical education will be far-reaching.

In the ladies' work department the rules required all exhibits to have been made within the year, and consequently there was a freshness and up-to-dateness about this part of the fair which is often lacking.

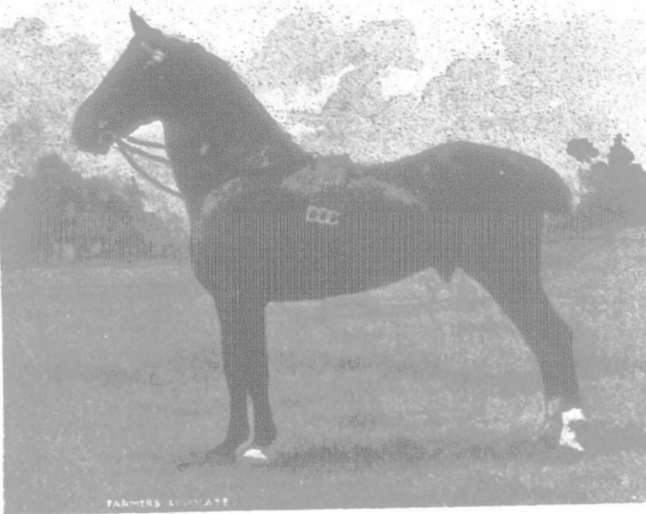
Indian Head District.

Apart from the Experimental Farm and the attraction of the Central Assiniboia Agricultural Fair, the Indian Head district is one of the most successful wheat sections of the West, and is a most interesting country to visit. In the early days, the big bonanza farms, known as the Bell and Brassy farms, while advertising the district, retarded settlement in the immediate neighborhood of the station by occupying and cultivating immense areas of land. Years of crop failure from drought, smut and weeds, owing in a large measure to the want of understanding methods of cultivation suitable to the district, have led to the breaking up of these big farms, and now they are being occupied by individual farmers. Proper and more careful methods are being applied, with most gratifying results. The town is growing in importance, and the land throughout the neighborhood rising in value, until some of it has been sold as high as \$25 per acre. Everywhere for miles around good crops are to be seen, many of them good enough to yield 35 or 40 bushels to the acre. Summer-fallow crops are all very heavy, but on the late side. The crops on backsetting are much earlier and about as good, while the stubble crops, whether spring plowed or sown right on the stubble, are for the most part later and late. One thing that strikes a stranger more than anything else is that the crops in the Indian Head district are mostly inclined to work more easily than they can farm properly. The soil is sticky, and hard to work. The past season has been one of the most trying since the settlement of the district, consequently much of the farm work has been done in the

vast difference between crops on well-prepared summer-fallow and those on stubble land is evidence that it will pay better to work less land and do it properly. The favorable appearance, both as to yield and early maturity, of the crops on backsetting points to the advantages that may be gained by seeding down the older land to some suitable grass in order to make the soil more easily worked, as well as earlier. There is throughout this splendid district, however, a noticeable lack of good barn buildings. There are a few very fine and quite a number of good, comfortable farm-houses, but good barns and stables are exceedingly scarce. This will no doubt improve as permanent water supply and other conveniences necessary for permanent farm steadings are obtained.

Regina Summer Fair.

No fair has been held at the Territorial Capital since the memorable Territorial Exposition in '95 until this year. On July 25th and 26th a summer fair was held under the auspices of a newly organized agricultural society, with Mr. G. Spring-Rice, president; Wm. Trant, secretary, and a full board of directors, representing Regina and all the surrounding settlements. Unfortunately, a heavy rain the first day of the fair deterred many exhibits from coming forward, and also interfered seriously with the attendance. A very good list of attractions, including races and sports, was provided on the second day, and served to attract a large attendance. The prize list requires a pretty general overhauling, prizes being offered in some of the live stock classes for grade or scrub males. Government grants should be withheld from any society that offers such encouragement to the scrub, be he called general purpose stallion or grade ram. The grounds are the same as used at the Territorial Fair, and excellent buildings are available for the principal exhibits, stock stables only being lacking. The grounds, however, are too large, and the departments too widely scattered. These little defects can easily be remedied, and doubtless, profiting by



MARCH PAST (Imp.)
First-prize Hackney stallion at the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition, 1899.
OWNED BY R. I. M. POWER, CARBERRY, MANITOBA.

the experience of this year, the Regina Fair will continue and grow in importance and popularity. In the main building the exhibit was exceedingly slim. There were four entries of Red Fyfe wheat, first prizes going in each section to Chas. Gilroy, the competition being very close and the samples all fine. But few entries were forward in oats, prizes going to Jos. Fessant. H. A. Buchanan, Cottonwood, showed a good sample of black barley. Brome grass is becoming very popular in the Regina district, and ten entries were made of sheaves of green Brome grass, nearly all of which were splendid specimens. First prize went to Robt. McKell, Wm. Clancy winning first on Brome seed. In roots and vegetables the exhibit was small, H. Anticknap and Paul Bredt being the principal exhibitors. In the dairy building there were but few entries, and the judge, Mr. J. A. Mitchell, Dairy Superintendent for Assiniboia, had not a very long task. Mr. Wm. Clancy, Camden, was the successful competitor in most classes in both cheese and butter. R. Bourne, Mrs. D. Kennedy, and Robt. McKell were also successful exhibitors in butter. An exhibit of exceptional merit, and that attracted much attention, was the noxious weed exhibit, made by the Department of Agriculture. These had been collected, mounted and correctly labelled by Mr. Willing, Territorial Weed Inspector, and Mr. J. R. C. Honeyman, of the Departmental staff. It would have added much to the practical value of this exhibit had some qualified person been present to show people the weeds and discuss methods of eradication, as is now done at some of the leading Manitoba fairs by the Provincial Department of Agriculture. The only regrettable thing in connection with this noxious weed exhibit, is that most of the specimens were obtained in the locality, and unless Regina district at once inaugurates a vigorous policy of weed extermination, she will soon be a strong rival to the Red River Valley.

In the stock class, the heavy rain of the first day doubtless kept back many would-be exhibitors. In

cattle, Shorthorns and Ayrshires only were represented, with one Holstein bull. In Shorthorns there were three bulls. First prize in the aged class went to Josiah Gilbert; second to Wm. McIlree; both good bulls, of John E. Smith's (Brandon) breeding. In the yearling class, S. Beach won with Frank Willard, a good, smooth, level bull, bred by Mr. Jones, of Yellow Grass. To this bull also went the sweepstakes. In Ayrshires, J. C. Pope had first on yearling bull, and first and second on cows; and A. E. Risk had first on King of the Valley, a two-year-old, imported in dam, and purchased from Robt. Davies, Toronto. Walter Simpson was second with a Holstein. The grade cattle were not strong. Cattle were judged by Mr. J. A. Turner, of Millarville, Alta.; Mr. Ferguson, Moose Jaw; and Mr. R. Linton, Regina.

The horse classes were better filled, and were judged by J. A. Turner, R. G. Mathew, D. V. S., Regina, and Jas. Churchill, V. S., Indian Head. But two Clydesdale stallions entered the ring, first going easily to Glenfarg, a good, big, thick, imported horse, lacking in style and action. He was shown by R. J. Kinnon, of Cottonwood; second to H. C. Lawson's Boydson. In draft teams and brood mare, G. Spring-Rice was a winner. C. Martin, Wascana, won in two-year-olds and yearlings, and J. McMichael, Qu'Appelle, in foals. In general purpose teams there were four entries, first going to a useful pair shown by John Godson; second to a pair of good-boned colts just off the range and hardly broken, shown by Mr. Lawson. John Gibson also won in brood mare, with a clean-boned, good sort; Angus Grant second. In foals, first also went to Gibson, on a foal by Kinnon's Clydesdale, Glenfarg; second to Thomas Elliot. Two Standard-bred stallions were entered, first going easily to Mr. Forrester's Madword; second to Angus Wilkie. H. C. Lawson was winner in pair of roadster horses and saddle horses. John Godson first on carriage pair. J. Moody showed a very stylish, high-actioned single driver, and was easy first; T. Elliot second. A good class of seven ponies, under 14½ hands, came out, first going to a breedy-looking entry of R. Robinson's; second to N. Baker; and third to A. E. Iredale, of Fort Qu'Appelle.

Sheep were shown by Jos. Fessant, of Edgeley, and David Wyse.

Swine by H. McIlree, J. V. Boyd, and John Soles.

The Regina District.

As a general thing, one gets but a poor idea of the capabilities of a country from the windows of a railway carriage; but nowhere is this more noticeable than in the district immediately surrounding the Territorial Capital. From the railway one sees nothing but bare, uncultivated plains, dotted here and there near the outskirts of the town with Indian teepees. Not until one gets out some ten miles north of the railway track, can any idea be formed as to where the wheat comes from that fills the Regina elevators. It was our good fortune to spend a couple of days driving through what are known as the Lumsden and Wascana district immediately after the Regina Fair. In a hurried drive through so well settled a district, it is obviously impossible to call on many of the settlers. A few stops were made in order that the methods found best adapted to the locality might be studied. From Regina northward the land gradually rises, and at what appears the height of land, drained by a coulee running into the Pile of Bones creek, Charles Martin is located on a farm with a northward slope. Mr. Martin owns five quarter-sections, but confines his operations chiefly to one quarter, which, however, he works for all it is worth, and throughout the neighborhood his home farm is celebrated for neatness, thrift and throughgoing methods. This is one of the few farms upon which the buildings are well protected by shelter belts of maple and poplar. The garden is, in many respects, a model one; not a weed to be seen, and the cultivation given is such as to favor rapid growth of all kinds of vegetables. There is also a good plantation of small fruits. The ninety acres of wheat is as clean, even and promises as good a crop as any in the neighborhood. Mr. Martin has in course of erection a frame stable on stone foundation, 70x40, with 14-foot posts.

The next farm is occupied by Cornelius Martin, who controls seven quarter-sections. He has 135 acres in wheat, and about 35 acres in oats. Mr. Martin has a fine stone house just about completed, and is preparing plans for a stone basement stable and barn, for which he has a most excellent situation, with convenient water supply of the best quality. Here is also a fine vegetable garden, with a good layout of small fruits and the commencement of shelter belts.

A few miles north-west, Mr. Robert Kinnon, near the Wascana Creek, has an excellent farm and a comfortable home, 160 acres of wheat, 100 acres of oats and barley, and 130 acres of summer-fallow. Throughout the district summer-fallowing unquestionably gives the best results, and many of the leading farmers are aiming at summer-fallowing as near as possible half their land every year. It is noticeable, however, that the crops on backsetting are considerably earlier than on fallow, and from this one would suppose that seeding down to Brome or rye grass would prove of benefit in hastening the maturity of the crops. Mr. Kinnon has a neat little brick veneered house, and is building a stone stable, 80x50, with a 9-foot stone wall, surmounted with a frame barn, with 16-foot