

Mr. John A. McGillivray's Dorset Horns.

Our last issue was adorned by a very handsome photo-engraving of three of Mr. John A. McGillivray's Dorset Horn sheep. This gentleman's farm is situated adjacent to the town of Uxbridge, Ont., and contains 300 acres, and while he raises thoroughbred Durhams, Jerseys and Tamworth pigs, the farm is, for the most part, devoted to sheep. In a recent letter he says:—"I experimented for some years with Shropshires, Cotswolds and Dorsets, and finally, six years ago, parted with all my other sheep and kept to the Dorsets, which, in my opinion, are the hardiest and most easily kept; and I am inclined to think they are dog-proof, as I never had one worried by dogs, although my farm is adjacent to the town, and I have had dogs kill, in the same night, a number of my Cotswolds and Shropshires and never touch a Dorset, although in the same field. I have about 175 of this breed. I imported 120 this year; these were selected from the best flocks in England, viz., those belonging to Messrs. W. S. Hull, Paddestown, Dorset; Joseph S. Hull, Dorchester; J. O. Pauly, Dorchester; Culverwell Bros., Bridgewater, Somerset; F. Sprake, Dorchester; Charles Hawkins, Dorchester, and Thos. Chick, Dorchester. In my flock I have Royal first prize winning ewes of the years 1890, 1892 and 1893, and at the head of my flock I have Dugald, who was a second prize Royal winner of two years ago, and who has since taken first prize in Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto, both this year and last year, and first prize in his class at Chicago World's Fair, and also the head of the best pen of Dorset sheep at the World's Fair.

"I have also Wallace who won fourth place at the Royal in 1893, and first place at the World's Fair, Chicago, in the yearling ram class. I have also Sir Charles, which, as a ram lamb, was one of the first prize pen at the Somerset County Show, on the 9th of May last, and second prize at the Bath and West of England, on the 18th of June last.

"I have also another imported ram called Rob Roy, from the flock of Joseph S. Hull.

"The following is a list of the prizes won by my sheep at Chicago:—

SECTION.	PREMIUM.	AMOUNT.
Ram, 3 years or over.....1st	1st	\$ 25 00
Ram, 1 year and under.....1st	1st	25 00
Ram, under 1 year.....3rd	3rd	10 00
Ewe, 3 years or over.....2nd	2nd	20 00
Ewe, 2 years and under 3.....2nd	2nd	20 00
Ewe, 2 years and under 3.....4th	4th	10 00
Ewe, 1 year and under 2.....1st	1st	25 00
Ewe, 1 year and under 2.....4th	4th	10 00
Ewe, under 1 year.....1st	1st	20 00
Ewe, under 1 year.....2nd	2nd	15 00
Ram and 3 ewes of over 2 years.....1st	1st	30 00
Pen of 2 rams and 3 ewes, under 2 years, bred by exhibitor.....		25 00
Ewe of any age.....First Sweepstake		50 00
Ewe of any age.....Silver cup—value		30 00
		\$315 00

"Those of my sheep awarded first special prizes given at Chicago by the Dorset Horn Sheep Breeder's Association of America, were as follows:—

Second prize, ram of any age.....	\$ 50 00
Third prize, ram of any age.....	25 00
Best ewe of any age having lambed in September 1st, 1892, 3rd prize.....	50 00
Best pen of exhibitor's own breeding of three ewes, under 2 years of age, 1st prize.....	35 00
Best pen of 3 fat sheep, 1st prize.....	50 00
	\$210 00
Total.....	\$525 00

"In addition to the foregoing, in 1892 my flock won a majority of the first prizes given to this class at Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and London, against heavy competition. They did the same thing in 1893 at London, Toronto and Montreal. I have sold sheep to go to all parts of this Province, and also to the following States:—New York, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio and the District of Columbia. The sheep that are portrayed in the ADVOCATE are Wallace, who, as I said before, took first prize at the Royal in 1893; first prize, as a yearling, at Toronto and Ottawa last year, and first prize in the yearling class at Chicago, and also first prize in the class "best ram of any age" at Chicago.

"Lavinia, No. 3237, was a first prize winner as a yearling at the Royal, the World's Columbian Exposition, Toronto and Montreal, last year.

"The third is my sweepstake ewe Sister, No. 3236, whose record is as follows:—She was first taken into the show room on May 9th, 1893, at the Somerset County Show, where she won first prize. She did the same thing on the 7th of the following month at the Royal County Show; the same thing at the Bath and West of England Show, on the 18th of the same month, and again, two days later, at the Royal Show of England. She then came to America and won the same honors at Toronto and Montreal, and took first prize as a yearling at the World's Columbian Exposition, and was also the winner of the sweepstakes which carried a fifty dollar prize, and, in addition, a thirty dollar silver cup.

It is poor policy to winter poor stock.

If you would have sound horses, keep their litter dry and clean. If they are allowed to stand on manure that is hot and fermenting, it will result in soft hoofs and lameness.

Chatty Stock Letter from the States.

FROM OUR CHICAGO CORRESPONDENT.

It is gratifying to learn from the recently published agricultural reports at Ottawa, that Canada has suffered far less in trade depression than the United States. However, the interests of the two countries in trade matters are largely akin, and what affects one a good deal cannot help affecting the other to some extent.

The Department of Agriculture at Washington has made some important changes. It has tended lately to top off some of the expense of inspecting meats for foreign trade, and is doing more toward a proper inspection of products for inter-state commerce. Secretary Morton says one reform of the department will be in diminishing the work of inspection, except as to pork for export to France and Germany. The appropriation for this purpose will be greatly reduced. Last year it was nearly a million dollars, but Secretary Morton insists that henceforth the exporters shall bear the heaviest part of the expense.

The Government now keeps a force of men stationed in the yards to see that pregnant sows and other hogs unfit for food are not allowed to be weighed to any dealer who does an inter-state or export business. There are nine inspectors—one at each hog scales, and three veterinarians who devote themselves entirely to the ante-mortem inspection. In addition to that, of course, hogs intended for export are inspected after slaughtered.

There are many good people in the live stock trade who feel that there is a good deal of farcical red tapery about the various kinds of inspections.

At Chicago, for instance, there are three kinds of inspection—government, state and municipal. Between these various interests or authorities there is more or less friction, due mainly to the vicious habit of appointing inspectors more on account of political belief than ability.

In the matter of lumpy jaw cattle there has been a good deal of scandal, as the meat of condemned animals has more than once found its way upon the local market. The meat of such animals is sold surreptitiously to irresponsible peddlers, who hawk it about among the ignorant foreign elements of the population.

Cattle are now selling about \$1.50 per 100 lbs. lower than a year ago.

Hogs are selling \$3 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs. lower than a year ago. It was about one year ago that the highest point in many years was reached—\$8.75.

Schwartzchild & S. bought 600 head of choice Montana sheep, averaging 145 lbs., at \$3.80. They will export them direct to London, more as an experiment than anything else, and, if the venture proves successful, more shipments will follow. These are the first States sheep that have been exported for some time. They were fed by the Woodson Sheep Co., at Trevor, Wis. The floods of sheep continue to arrive, and, while the demand is very much better than it was awhile ago, prices remain very low, good sheep selling at \$3.25 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs.

A Wisconsin man recently marketed here a lot of 324-lb. hogs that were only 8 and 9 months old. That is early maturity with a vengeance.

FARM.**The Central Farmers' Institute.**

The Central Farmers' Institute convened in Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto, on the 6th of February. The hall was filled with delegates. The meeting opened with a larger attendance than that of any previous convention. Owing to the President, Mr. T. Lloyd Jones, being absent through illness, Mr. James McEwing, of Drayton, was chosen as chairman. After a few introductory remarks, the Secretary presented the financial report, which showed a credit of \$766 on hand. An item of \$209 for expenses of the nine members of the executive, who had gone to Ottawa to urge the government to remove the duties on British imports, was somewhat freely criticised.

After reading reports and communications, the resolutions began to pour in in a way which showed that every delegate had made up his mind to do his share at least towards ameliorating the condition of the farmer. These resolutions were all read from the chair, and then referred for consideration to the committee on resolutions.

Mr. Nicholas Awrey, M. P. P., the World's Fair Commissioner for Ontario, was then invited to address the meeting. He congratulated the institute upon the number present and representative character of the gathering. What he admired in the farmers was their determination not to ask anything unreasonable, but to take the broad ground, and when they ask for anything see that it would be beneficial not only to themselves, but also to the whole community. He desired to warn the members of the institute, because he saw looming up in the assembly questions which would give rise to a considerable amount of warm discussion, against forgetting that for the time being they were public men. If they were determined to discuss political questions, they should do so as men, as lovers of their country, and not from the biased side of which ever particular party they were in favor of. Subsequent events showed that this warning was not altogether unneeded. He closed by referring to the honors which were won by Canada at the World's Fair.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED.

Doubtless the most important work of the institute was in giving expression to the feeling which exists throughout the country by resolutions, a great number of which were passed. Those most worthy of notice are the following:—

Timber Limits.—A motion was brought forward by Mr. John Stokes to memorialize the Ontario Government to auction the timber limits of Ontario off in small sections, thus bringing them within the reach of the small mill owners; this would bring the manufacturers' product within easy reach of most farmers, and monopoly in lumber would be prevented.

Prohibition.—The convention placed themselves on record as being in favor of prohibition, by adopting by a practically unanimous vote the Prohibition resolution introduced by Mr. D. E. Smith.

Statute Labor.—The discussion on the motion to do away with statute labor showed that the meeting, as a whole, were against the system, but the motion was withdrawn, as it was deemed unwise for the government to interfere further with the subject than it had already done by making it optional with the municipalities.

Free Trade.—After a hot discussion, in which party feeling ran high, the institute again placed itself on record as being in favor of freer trade relations with the world, by passing a resolution in favor of a tariff for revenue only, and by appointing a committee of three, in response to a request from the Manitoba Farmers' Institute, to act with a similar delegation from Manitoba to wait on the Dominion Government in regard to the reduction of duties which bear heavily on the farmers of Canada.

Cumulative Voting.—This motion was not a resolution in favor of cumulative voting as is generally understood, and as outlined in our last issue, but one in favor of a man having a number of votes in proportion to the amount of property which he owned in the municipality. This motion did not find favor in the eyes of the delegates, though Mr. McFarlane, the mover, was allowed to read his paper on the subject.

Public Schools.—The feeling of the meeting was, that the government was giving too much assistance to high schools and colleges, and that more attention should be paid to the common schools of the country. A motion to the effect that the teaching of agriculture in the public schools be made compulsory was voted down. It was thought that to make the subject compulsory would result in its being badly taught.

Reducing the Number of Delegates.—A sensible resolution, which was introduced by Mr. Hogarth, of Exeter, to reduce the number of delegates from two to one from each electoral district, was defeated.

Cattle Embargo.—Mr. McCrae moved that the Central Farmers' Institute take steps to urge the Dominion Government to make greater efforts to have our cattle admitted to the markets of Great Britain and United States.

French Treaty.—The motion of Mr. Clinton, of Windsor, which showed the appreciation of the grape growers of the action of the Dominion Government in not ratifying the French treaty, was passed, the wine makers and the prohibitionists uniting their forces, both considering that it was against the interests of the country.

Director of Institutes.—In response to Professor Mills' paper on Institutes, which asked for either the appointment of a director of institutes or an assistant to Prof. Mills, who has been acting as director for the past ten years, the institute decided that an assistant should be given to President Mills.

Grain Testing.—No action was taken on the resolution to memorialize the government to enlarge the grain test to half a bushel, as there was no law authorizing the use of the test, and the farmers need not have their grain tested without they wished.

Deputation to Ottawa.—Considerable difference of opinion appeared to exist in the minds of the nine members of the executive who visited Ottawa in regard to their reception. This was chiefly due to their political bearings. The Reformers characterized their reception as discourteous, while the Conservatives were quite satisfied. Eventually a resolution was carried, thanking the government for the audience which was given the deputation.

Liability Act.—A vote of thanks was also tendered to the Ontario Government for the ready adoption of the suggestions made by the institute in regard to that measure.

The Torrens System of Land Transfer.—The resolution which was introduced by the request of the Lambton Farmers' Institute in favor of the advisability of introducing this system of land transfer was not voted upon, as the municipalities have already the power to introduce this system where it is thought desirable.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

For the Presidency—Mr. T. Lloyd Jones, Burford, Mr. Jas. McEwing, Drayton, and Mr. T. M. McPherson, Lancaster, were put in nomination. Mr. McEwing was elected by a vote of 84 out of a total number of 155.

For Vice-President—Messrs. T. G. Raynor, Rosedale, D. McCrae, Guelph, and J. C. Dance, of Kingsville, were nominated. Mr. Raynor was elected, 79 votes being cast in his favor.