

THE FARMING WORLD

Devoted to Canadian Country Life

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exhibits. If the visitor be filled with egotism or a fault-finding spirit, constantly complaining and picking flaws in what he sees he will be no better for his attendance.

Some people seem to have a special aptitude for fault-finding. The best cattle shown they declare are no better than their own if they were in the same condition. They are stuffed with feed, loaded with fat, groomed and petted and spoiled etc., etc. Those who know the cattle at home doubtless could give evidence of their absolute inferiority, but the owner is blind to their defects and open-eyed for all others.

If a horse shows spindly action, how often the statement is heard:—"My horse could beat that if he were only trained." In such case he ought to be trained and brought out. But it is not at all likely that any training could change the character of an animal whose fine qualities only existed in the owner's imagination.

What lessons will the exhibitors themselves carry home. Some there will be, who because they were not placed first in their class, will let the good work slip because of either disgust or discouragement. They will not be seen among the exhibitors next year. They are so far behind they are ready to give up the race. Such are to be pitied, not followed. Why not act the philosopher and say what others can do I can attempt. I see my weakness and will try again. Let the experience stimulate rather than discourage. Some of the best men to-day were badly beaten in the beginning.

There is much to learn in the preparation of animals to show at their best. The secrets of the art are not discovered easily, but they can be mastered, and the young man is to be commended, in whom failure plants determination to do better next time.

Above all things do not blame the judges. They are usually painstaking, honorable men. They have a difficult task, especially where the entries are large. They are not infallible. They may make mistakes. But it is far more likely that the exhibitor is mistaken in supposing his animal has not received justice. Let the young exhibitor keep his eyes and ears open and thus seek to add to his store of knowledge and he will return again to the battle and finally win. To every loyal man it is always a delight to see beginners forging to the front. The more the better so long as skill and foresight are being cultivated. It will, however, not pay to breed stock merely for display. That should be only a means to an end. A few animals are usually exhibited in order that a greater number may find a ready sale to outside customers. For that reason those exhibited should be representative of the general herd. If both are good it will pay to present them before the public in the show yard.

What lessons have the fair managers gleaned during the season of 1907? If they will suffer a reminder we humbly suggest that they do not allow themselves to be drawn away from the real objects of these displays into catering merely for the amusement class. Amusements may occasionally be added, but they can never occupy the chief place in the conduct of the show without demoralization and decay setting

in. What is done in Toronto can not be successfully copied in smaller towns and cities. If it is attempted on a much lower scale it soon ceases to be attractive and tends to general failure.

The real aim ought to be: First, increasing the general quality and the quantity of farm products; second, the dissemination of knowledge leading to this end; and third, the utilization of the exhibition towards a higher and better citizenship. Information, education and inspiration may all be imparted at these annual gatherings, but not without thought and vigorous effort on the part of the management.

Live Stock Judging at Toronto

Editor The Farming World:

At the live stock exhibitions in most European countries as soon as the animals are judged, a card containing the decision of the judge is at once tacked up behind the animal's stall. The tabulated cards used for this purpose are in principle the same as those used in Toronto in judging butter and cheese. All the different points of the animal are taken into consideration by the judge and marked on the card.

By this method the stock breeder can see the weak points as well as the good of his animal and can learn how to breed to improve his stock.

While in Toronto I spoke to several breeders and most of them saw the advantages of this plan of judging. A noted judge, though, expressed himself as not in favor of the method. He said: "We have all that in the eye and in the touch, also such a plan would take too much time." To this we might reply that, if a judge has a sure eye and touch it should be an easy matter for him to mark down in figures the various points of excellence or otherwise of the animal he is judging. This latter argument regarding the time taken does not hold good. For, if a judge wishes to do justice to an animal he must in any case take time to consider all the points of the animal's make up.

Many judges would probably oppose the new method for it would lay their judgments open to public criticism.

Ed. May.

Heidelberg, Ont.

Judicial eastern graphed dailies echoes I ern Ca weeks in conditio ishly op western to have pass and "blue ri absurd. follows:

The we ground for it is usual taking the in prime c few section Then follo summer th cool June, some seetic others. At looked as if the south would be a lack of rain west the Rains came the crop pic also came i they were n was the mo to imagine month, and everyone wh truth knew I month behind cloudy and the crop did September he tern to date thousands of to-day as the die J July a vanced as to are a small September st for a crop of on 4,750,000 - all wheat i drought and i was no prob If the West h ther from Se promise won The hot weat instead it was i deal of rain, there was he Alberta there frost was ly the entire weat large area damage must b damage these i told when the have done thei September the 250,000 bushels 80,000,000 for o that yield is will tell, but pessimist has n thing lower th ketable wheat. on that basis, low, and with at \$1.05-75 and \$1.06 on Septen crop will be a for the country a large crop of