

Quite the most successful spring live-stock event held in Alberta for many years, if not in history, took place last week in Calgary, with the holding of the spring stallion and horse show, the fat-stock show and the bull sale. Each of these events were singly most successful, and the success in the aggregate constituted cause for much satisfaction and enthusiasm among stockmen.

It was the first occasion of the holding of a show of fancy and commercial horses, and this event was well received and patronized by not only the city of Calgary, but by horse lovers throughout the whole Province.

The spring stallion show was one of the most cosmopolitan ever witnessed. There were Clydesdales, Shires, Percherons, Suffolks, Belgians, Hackneys, Thoroughbreds, Standard-breds and grades of all of these. Such an assortment as this rarely assembled in one show, and goes to illustrate the diversity of tastes among our population. The awards were made in the heavy-draft sections by Mr. W. J. Rutherford, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Saskatchewan, and in the light sections by Principal Black, of the Manitoba Agricultural College. Judging where types are so numerous is not an easy task, and while every verdict was not received unanimously, the judging was, in most cases, generally satisfactory, and in every case where the spectators could see all that the judges saw, the verdict was unanimous.

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The most noticeable thing in the cattle division was the falling off in the number of bulls offered for sale. Last year the vendors got a hard rap which resulted in many not preparing for the sale, as few expected the tone would return to the trade so soon.

Another noticeable thing among the cattle was the very general improvement in the quality of the stuff on show. This was noticeable in both the fat sections and among the bulls. There were very few of the weedy, scraggy runts we used to see only a few years ago, but yet there were too many, and while the Alberta stockmen are not given to paying extravagant prices, nor yet of going keen after first-class stuff, they showed a marked preference for the best offered them.

In the sections for sheep and swine, there were quite noticeable increases in numbers, there being carload lots of each.

#### CLYDESDALES

Increase in numbers and improvement in quality was noticeable in all breeds of horses, but none more so among the Clydesdales. Exhibitors of other years were out to meet competition from new exhibitors. Classes were well filled with exceptionally fine horses at the heads, and, while there are Clydes with which considerable fault can be found, the outstanding merits of the better individuals, demonstrated the high degree of draft horse excellence to which the breed has attained. As usual at spring stallion shows, the numbers of stallions over three years, were out of all proportion larger than the numbers of individuals in other sections, so much larger in fact, that a separate class was made for four-year-olds, an innovation that might be followed with advantage at some of our other shows.

There were seven stallions shown in the class for five years and over, and while the champion was not found among them, they were one of the most even lots of the show. First place, went without much debate to John A. Turner's Baron Moncton, by Baron's Pride. This is a thick, strong, clean and handy horse but inclined to be a little low set. His timber is well dressed, his feet up to demand, and he is a trackable dispositioned horse. Next to him was Sonnie's Best, by Lord Charming, and out of the old Champion mare Sonnie Lass. This was Wm. Moodie's entry and a horse that steps away free and easy, with hard clean legs under a strong heavy body, but shows rather too much width in front. The third in the class was Bunden Boy (imp.), shown by John Graham of Carberry, and one of his latest importations. He is a horse of medium size, well proportioned, and set on good legs, but not a flashy show horse. Celtic Duke by Up-to-Time, shown by J. R. Hinshaw of High River; Mount Clifton and Master McQueen, shown by James Clark of Crowfoot were also strong entries in this class.

In the four-year-old class, John A. Turner was again to the front with Jocelyn, by Baron Handston. This is not a big horse but a strongly built one that fills the bill for a right good horse, minus championship quality. Prospero, shown by McPherson Bros. of Calgary, challenged hard for first place, but could hardly show as much fullness of chest and ruggedness

of constitution. Another of Turner's horses, McCaul, by Boreland's Pride, stood third and Prince of Roumania, shown by P. Robertson, High River was fourth.

About the judging of the three-year-olds considerable interest developed. It was expected by the "talent" that the first real struggle for championship would be pulled off here. The contestants were Turner's Etonion, by Pride of Blacon, and Smith and Richardson's, Dunure Pebble, by Baron o'Buchlyvie. At the standing posture Dunure Pebble at once catches the eye. He is built right from the ground up with the exception of a slight defect at the hocks, and crowns it all with a most exceptionally pleasing head and neck. But in action Etonion had him faded, and also carried a deeper heavier body. The third in the class was Clark's Mainspring (imp.) by Ruby Pride.

The winning streak, which Turner had struck, was broken in the two-year-old class by Bryce Wright, of De Winton, with Masterpiece by Consul. This is a colt of substantial size and with the cleanest, yet the most ample of bone, and with great roomy feet and free action. Economist by Blacon Sensation, shown by John A. Turner, made a strong second, while James Clark got third on Colonel McQueen and John Clark, Jr., fourth on McGuire of Crowfoot, both by Master McQueen.

Proud Descent, by Choice Descent, shown by Turner, made a pleasing first number in the yearling class. He is a youngster with style, quality and size and will come on. Second place was taken by Sonnie Boy and third by his half-brother, Sonnie's Select, a big drafty colt that should have been higher up. Both are by Sonnie's Best, and were shown by Wm. Moodie of De Winton.

Canadian-bred Clydesdale stallions of all ages, were shown together and the prizes went to winners in previous classes. First was Bryce Wright's Masterpiece, second Moodie's, Sonnie's Best, third to Turner's Proud Descent and fourth to James Clark's Colonel McQueen.

The championship contest was between Etonion and Masterpiece, the former winning on account of his fuller maturity and higher fit.

#### FEMALES

There were no brood mares shown which left but three classes of females. In the section for fillies, three years and over, first went to Turner's Rosie McLaren, by Royal Favorite, a good-quality true-moving filly well up to size and with every promise of future usefulness, second was last year's champion, Sweet Barlae, by Baron's Gem, shown by Bryce Wright which has come on well. Third went to John Clark, Jr., on Boydavie Queen, by Consort.

The two-year-old filly class was small but a Revalenta filly, May Steele, shown by John A. Turner, which headed the class was an exceptionally good one, both for substance and quality. Hattie McClure, shown by John Clark, Jr., made a good showing in second place. Eventually May Steele was made female champion.

Choice Queen, by Choice Descent, was the favorite of the judge in the yearling filly class, and a right sweet one she is. She was shown by Bryce Wright and her dam is Nellie Granite. Another Choice Descent, Choice Lass, shown by Turner, was second, and Bessie Afton and Lady Afton, shown by D. S. Shantz of Didsbury, were third and fourth.

The progeny class for three pure-bred or grade, any age or sex, the get of a Clydesdale sire, brought out a long entry. In the ring were strings by Master McQueen (Clark's), Barhorrow (Hallman's), Sonnie's Best (Moodie's), Bold Boy II (McPherson's), Baron Afton (Shantz's) and Choice Descent (Turner's). The final award went to Moodie's three yearlings, and second to Hallman's on a string of different ages.

#### PERCHERONS

It is within the memory of the youngest horsemen, when the Percheron breed made no showing whatever in the Calgary rings, and from year to year have they been strengthened by larger numbers. But it could hardly have been expected that in so short a time, this breed would have secured so firm a hold upon the esteem of Alberta ranchers and farmers. Today the largest Percheron horse breeding establishment on the continent is located in Alberta, and the demand for stallions seems to be keener than for any other breed. But this very demand detracted to some extent from the size of the exhibit at this year's show, as dealers are well sold out and the horses have gone to their new owners.

From two stables the greater part of the entries were drawn. These were George Lane's of Pekisko and E. J. Wigle's, Calgary.

In the class for stallion four years and over, Lane's Epétant was quite easily first. This horse is not of the great rangy kind, but is thick and deep, with more than the average Percheron spring of pastern and cleanness of bone. He is a horse that acts well and pleases the eye all over except with his head, which is not quite of the Percheron type. Second and third went to E. J. Wigle on Takeon, and Grison, both blacks and thoroughly typical of the breed.

The three-year-olds had some six entries. First was quite a sensational horse, just landed from France for Geo. Lane. His name is Gournay, and he is of the

modern type, big, rangy, with proud head and neck and a strong frame. He is without doubt one of the most exceptional horses of the breed ever brought to Canada, although he showed to disadvantage on account of his long trip. Next to him was a brown, smaller in size but with a strongly built body and graceful carriage. His name is Theodore, and he was shown by E. J. Wigle. The same exhibitor also had the third prize horse, Prince Adolphus, that measures well up to the demands of the Percheron breeders.

The two-year-olds were quite weak in numbers and quality, and were headed by Geo. Lane's Dido. Yearlings were also weak.

The Percheron females came out quite strong in the class for two years and over. First place was close between Lane's Guardianne and Pantomine. Guardianne is a low thick filly, as full and low at her flanks as at her ribs and her ribs springing out square and deep. Her underpinning is of the true breed kind, and altogether she fills the eye of the Percheron admirer. Pantomine is a somewhat larger but not as fresh, though cleaner in the bone. The third place was taken by Brietta, a black mare with free active gait, a smooth round body and heavy, well laid quarters and shoulders. She was shown by E. J. Wigle and is one of the "plums" of his string.

In championships, Lane got both male and female. The stallion championship went to the older horse, Epétant, and the female championship to Guardianne.

#### BELGIANS

R. Pirmez, of the Belgian Ranch, Calgary, made quite an attractive showing of this breed, having out two very good stallions, a pair of mares fit for any company, a yearling filly, and a string of three for a progeny prize.

#### SHIRES

The Shires were decidedly few in number, there being only two to represent the breed. These were Turntree Sweep, and Turntree Juvenal, both outstanding individuals, shown by John Lee of High River and placed in the order named.

#### SUFFOLK PUNCHES

As was to be expected from the discussions of this breed in these columns, during the past few months, these horses were shown in numbers and strength by Messrs. Jacques of Lamerton and Ingleton, and by F. J. Hortell of Cheadle. The Suffolks are somewhat of a revelation to most horse breeders. Few of us expected to find them so heavy. But their increasing weight has given their breeders a big problem to solve. To carry a ton horse requires big feet and strong hocks, and this is where the most common weakness of the Suffolk is found. If the breeders will give us that heavily muscled body, those easy feeding characteristics, that mild disposition, and that active step, along with strong joints and ample foot room, they will meet a demand that will not be easily satisfied.

In the four-year-old class, there were six entries, and the first had draft horse type to an unusual degree with the weakness mentioned above well eliminated, as his feet, though not as roomy as a Clyde's, were ample and his hocks quite true and sound. His name is Spoughton Marquis and was shown by F. J. Hortell. He was afterwards made champion. The remaining winners were Rendlesham May King, and Rendlesham Snow King.

In the three-year-old stallion class the quality was not quite so good, judged from the standpoint of commercial draft horses, although we were assured by Messrs. Jacques that the best horse of the exhibit was in it. The order of placing was Benedict, Rendlesham Major and Rendlesham Matchem.

Messrs. Jacques also showed two typical Suffolk mares and with the whole exhibit attracted unusual attention.

#### HACKNEYS

There was not much of a show of Hackneys this year, in fact, the Hackney seems to have lost ground in Alberta the last few years. But the champion stallion, shown by John A. Turner is a beautiful specimen of the breed, fine in the bone, well turned, and with high straight action. His name is Seaham Mason by Freemason and is three years old. Mr. Turner also won the female championship with Flossy, by Square Shot.

#### THE SHOW OF CATTLE

The most apparent improvement in the cattle department of the spring show was in the numbers and quality of the fat stock shown. Alberta farmers are fast evolving from the range finished methods of cattle feeding, to the more intensive system of hay and grain finishing, and this progress was noticeable in the fat stock on exhibition. Practically every class was well filled with either fat or fattening animals, and, in addition, the carload lots showed evidence of careful selection and intelligent feeding. The judging in all the cattle classes, was done by Duncan Anderson of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Most of the interest in the fat stock show centered around the carload lot exhibits. Of these there were three entered. The classification provided for a section excluding dealers and butchers, and another open. In the first the \$100 prize was won by the Industrial school at Glenboro and the second by Wm.

Tees, of Tees. In the open P. Burn's ranch, south of the entries in sheep and but there was lots of quality. A large number slaughtered for the carload awards in the fat stock were

#### CATTLE

Pure-bred Shorthorns—under four years; cows and over—1, Henry Talbot, 1 Priddis; 3, Thos. Talbot, 1 Steer or heifer, two years; Henry Talbot; 2, John Ramsay; 3, Jas. St. John Ramsay; 3, Jas. St. John Ramsay.

Pure-bred Herefords—under three years—S. M. Lantyne, Lacombe; 3, M. Lantyne.

Steer or heifer, under 2, P. M. Ballantyne.

Pure-bred Galloways—Hutchinson, Duhamel; 2, W. E. Tees.

Steer or heifer under 2, W. E. Tees; 3, E. D. A.

#### GE

Steer over three years; fail; 2, J. L. Walter, Tee Industrial school, Davis.

Steer two years and under; Lacombe; 2, H. G. Talt Industrial school; 4, Lou H.

Steer one year and under; Lou Hutchinson; 3, S. M. Cow or heifer three years; 2, P. T. Huntley; 3, W. E. Tees.

Heifer two years and under; W. E. Tees.

Heifer one year and under; 2, P. T. Huntley; 3 and 4 Carload of cattle, but Industrial school, Glenboro.

Carload open—1, P. I. Best beef animal of Championship medal—1 Best herdsman's feed George Duncan; 2, P. F.

It is difficult to account the number of bulls offered sale next month at Lac then ranchers are more be, and are selecting. In all there were only years ago it was no uncommon for quality there is and prize winners were they got.

Before the bulls were judged in their respective follows:

Shorthorn Bulls—3, bot, Lacombe; 2, G. Watkin, Olds.

Thirty months and Wright; 2, James Wilson; Two years and under; 2, D. Sinclair; 3, A. F.

Eighteen months and W. Sharp; 5, James Wil Championship Shortl Won by Bryce Wright,

#### H

Thirty months and 2, P. M. Ballantyne; 3, Two years and under; 2, P. M. Ballantyne; 3, Eighteen months and Mace; 2, P. M. Ballantyne; 5, O. Palmer.

Hereford Champions in Alberta—Won by F. Championship, open same animal.

As has been intimated bulls were quite enc being small there was Nearly all those offered largest buyers were Cross of the Calgary B.

The Herefords were average of \$101, his three Angus and one of \$121. Then came for of \$109. In the Shires were made. The character, made only show. This price was bull, eighteen months name is Historian by by Wm. Sharp of averages were: Wm. James Sharp, \$115 c