

these same industries. Thus, we are rapidly becoming a "nation of shopkeepers," with its attendant vices and extremes of wealth and poverty, while in ten years our country districts will be little better for population than the prairies of Manitoba. As a result of these changing conditions, a great many farms have been sold this spring at good prices, while the owners in some cases go West, but, as stated above, many retire to the town, there to swell the ranks of the non-producers, while their once picturesque homesteads are turned into pasture for the production of beef, for which there seems to be an almost unlimited market among the "beef-eating Christians."

Fall wheat came through the winter in good condition, but since suffered somewhat from unfavorable spring weather. Clovers and grasses are, likewise, in good shape, although conditions are favorable for the season's work. J. H. BURNS.

April 16th.

Eleventh Annual Canadian Horse Show.

(Continued from page 661.)

they have forged into prominence at this exhibition, until, whereas there used to be two or three to the class, they are now entered by the dozen, while the quality and action of several individuals this spring was sensational. Several judges considered the aged stallion class probably the longest ever seen on the continent, and the champion stallion good enough to win any ring this side the Atlantic. It is, therefore, no reflection on the company to say that Graham Bros. had an outstanding first in their imported chestnut, Whitewall Fashion, by Troubadour. Of beautiful conformation and limbs, regal bearing and magnificent action, he was at once marked for a winner, and when subsequently exhibited for the championship, won hearty applause by his behavior on the rein. An extraordinarily high actor, he is perfectly true and level in his paces, and gets away with a stride that carries him rapidly over the ground. Capturing the sweepstakes landed him two prizes, the silver medal of the Hackney Horse Society of Great Britain, and the King Edward prize of \$50 in cash. Copalder Bonny Gabriel, imported by Stow Gabriel, exhibited by Truman's Pioneer Stud Farm, Bushnell, Ill., was placed second on the award list. A close contestant was Imp. Warwick Paragon, shown by Telfer Bros., Milton, Ont. This is a young horse of promise, that would discredit no blue ribbon. The reserve went to another imported horse, Truman's Wood Baronet, sired by Goldfinder 6th. Among the good ones unplaced, was Imp. Maxim, by Garton Duke of Connaught, owned by T. H. Hassard, of Millbrook. But for being in rather gross condition, he would doubtless have ranked in the first quartette.

In stallions three years old, Graham Bros. again led, with their recently-imported chestnut, Anticipator, rather thin as yet from his journey, and, perhaps, a shade short in the posterior ribs, but giving promise of rivaling the action of his senior stable mate. Already he shows good manners and a well-nigh faultless pace, and not only lifts his feet well, but goes with the speed of a roadster. For sweepstakes he was reserve to Whitewall Fashion. None too good was the blue for Truman's Bonny Gabriel, a son of Copalder Bonny Gabriel. He is a strong stamp, and extra well topped, though not quite able to handle his feet with the red-ribbon colt. Third went to Salford Roseus (imp.), by Rosador, shown by J. B. Hogate, Sarnia. Reserve was Robt. Davies' Squire of Chester. A popular win was that of A. Yeager, Simcoe, Ont., for high-stepping Hackney stallion, on the renowned Hillhurst Sensation, a favorite of last year. He is a prime mover, and a very impressive sire, a fact demonstrated later by the special exhibit of Hillhurst Sensation with ten of his get. He also won in the class for best Hackney stallion foaled in Canada. He was bred by Hon. M. H. Cochrane, Hillhurst, Que., sired by Hayton Shales (imp.), dam Miss Baker (imp.).

In mares any age, the judges turned for a winner to the Alberta-bred champion actor, Priscilla, by Robin Adair 2nd, exhibited by her new owner, Dr. H. A. Bruce, Toronto. The second mare, Lady Melgund, owned by H. J. Spencely, Box Grove, sired by Barthorpe Performer (imp.), also leaves you with a clean pair of heels. The third mare, Woodland's Queen, by Woodland's Performer, property of Dr. Gollop, Milton, would have deserved better had she been correctly handled. She is a beautifully moulded mare, with superb head and crest, and clean-cut limbs. Properly trained on the rein, she would show good manners and splendid action. Fourth position was allotted to Chorus Girl, a daughter of Hillhurst Sensation, shown by Mr. Yeager. The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for best mare from an imported sire and dam, went to Viola, by Barthorpe Performer, shown by Thos. Early (agent), Tillsonburg, Ont.

HEAVY HORSES.

About perfection was the pair of four-year-old geldings of John W. Cowie, Markham, who carried off first for mares or geldings, any breed; first for pair of heavy draft mares or geldings, sired by a Clydesdale stallion, and first and third for single draft mare or gelding, any breed. In the latter class the red ribbon was placed on Mr. Cowie's Prince Arthur, got by the noted Montrave Chief, the third prize mare being the get of Royal Hun-

tley; between them was one of the second-prize pair exhibited by the Dominion Transport Co., Toronto. Scaling fairly well up towards the ton mark, each well balanced and of faultless conformation, with the best of quality, feet and legs, good bone of the clean, flat kind, and amazingly handy with their feet, Cowie's team would grace the top in any ring in any country. Another pair that was a credit to the breed was that of the Dominion Transport Co., which got second for draft teams; Mr. Wm. Hendrie, of Hamilton, bringing up the list with an excellent third pair, of greater scale than the first team, but showing somewhat the effects of work. Reserve went to J. M. Shantz, Plattsville, on a seventeen-hand pair, got by Hedon Hero. Of the two entries for four-horse teams of heavy draft, first went to the Dominion Transport Co., and second to Hendrie. Throughout, the drafters, though few in numbers, were exceptionally good. In fact they were, in Judge Stericker's opinion, simply splendid.

HORSES IN HARNESS.

Ontario may well be proud of the magnificent exhibition in heavy leather seen at Toronto, which shows that we can breed and train these long-price horses with the best. To particularize where there are so many rare good ones is impracticable; suffice to say that the fact of being fit to exhibit creditably here is a better recommendation than to win in many less pretentious shows. Some of the pairs of heavy harness horses were just about perfection, while of the tandems, at least four were pronounced by the American judge to be as good as could be seen anywhere.

As usual, Hon. and Mrs. Adam Beck, of London, carried off a large share of the honors. Particular mention might be made of Mrs. Beck's Sparkle, first in the class for mares or geldings under 15 hands. This mare is beautifully lined, well mannered and true in her action. In the next class, viz., that over fifteen hands, Crow & Murray, Toronto, came to the top with their bay mare, The Empress, a Nonsuch, one of the finest animals in the show, and able to trot anything that is wanted. G. Pepper & Co., of Boston, landed the blue, leaving a good third to Gay Boy, one of the string belonging to A. Yeager, Simcoe. In the next section of the catalogue, mare or gelding 15.2 to 16 hands, Yeager got to the top, with a promising four-year-old bay gelding, New Finish. The over 16 hands class was well headed by Mr. J. J. Dixon's Montrose, a fine, strong, well-topped horse, with clean, cordy limbs, and spirited action. For pairs not exceeding 15.2, Crow & Murray won with The Empress and Show Girl, and in the next class Mrs. Beck's fine, well-mannered, neat-gaited pair got in ahead of a strong second, in that grand pair of bays, the Governor-General and Her Excellency, owned by W. A. Young, M.D., Toronto. The best team over 16 hands was exhibited by Arthur A. White, of Acton. Much the same horses captured the honors in the amateur classes, Young's team, in particular, being repeatedly recipients of the red badge.

Champion high-steppers, brought on the last evening, furnished a distinctly interesting class. First finally went to J. J. Dixon's Montrose, although Yeager's four-year-old, New Finish, ran him pretty close, and will probably exchange positions after another year or two of development. In tandems the order of positions was: Pepper & Co., Boston; Crow & Murray, Toronto; Mrs. Adam Beck, and A. Yeager, Simcoe. For tandems owned and driven by an amateur, first went to Mrs. Beck. Four-in-hands resulted in a victory for Yeager, with Crow & Murray second, and Pepper & Co. third and reserve.

ROADSTERS.

A good, useful type of roadster was the first-prize trotter, Daisy Buckner, exhibited by Jas. Crow, of Toronto. Speedy, but possessing less substance, was Lady Furcia, owned by R. I. Henderson, Toronto, and shown with her mate for first in the corresponding class for pairs. From the Cruickston stables Miss Wilks sent the winning mare over 15.2, Rhea W., first also in the class for pairs when driven with her stable mate, Easter Belle. Well matched, and clean, rapid movers, this pair clearly deserved the honors over Hugh Scott's team, which, though good, were scarcely so well matched. Calgary, Alta., furnished the red ribbon pacer, under 15.2, in Geo. McMillan's Gallagher (2.034); Robt. Davies coming in over P. Maher, with Jingle Bell. The best pacer over 15.2 was owned by John Dowden, second by Snow Bros., and third by A. W. Holman, all of Toronto; reserve going to the chestnut gelding, Prince Odana, Wm. Adams, Thornton.

SADDLE HORSES.

The first saddle class in the prize-list is that for combination saddle and harness mare or gelding, 15 hands and over, to be first shown in an appropriate vehicle and judged as a horse best suited for harness purposes, the horse to be unharnessed and judged under saddle. There was a long string of entries, and the judging required considerable time. There was no getting over Dixon's Montrose for first, while second was Mrs. Dixon's Othello, clean of limbs and true in his paces. Othello went to the top in the section for mare or gelding over 14.2 and under 15.2; competition was keen, and considerable enthusiasm was evoked when the decision was announced. First winners in the two heavier weight saddle classes were, respectively, Cingalee, exhibited by Jos. Kilgour, Toronto, and Bro. Wilson, shown by Pepper & Co., of Boston. Othello also won in the ladies' and Cingalee in the amateur saddle class. Saddle championship went to Othello, reserve to Cingalee.

HUNTERS.

Popular interest centered on the hunters and jumpers, many of which acquitted themselves well in the hurdle performance. Mr. Beck won on Black Knight, in heavy-weight qualified hunters, while another Beck entry, Lady Mandal, headed the middle-weights. Beck's star exhibit, however, was the magnificent bay gelding, Grand Master, by Imp. Grand Falconer, which, though beaten by Pepper's crack Brother Wilson in a strong class of heavy-weight green hunters, carried off first in the amateur heavy-weights. Gordon J. Henderson, of Hamilton, got first for ladies' hunters up to 150 pounds, and also won the Toronto Hunt plate.

A great exhibition of hurdle work was that given on the opening forenoon. Victory finally rested upon Senator, the chestnut gelding exhibited by E. H. Weatherbee, New York. Two others by the same exhibitor landed second and third, while reserve went rather strangely to Miss Pepper's Myopia, which concluded an excellent performance by refusing one of the last jumps, pitching her rider over the hurdle instead. On middle-weight hunters ridden by amateurs, first money fell to Alf. Rogers, of Hamilton, on Cloth of Gold; the same exhibitor also scoring a popular win on Gold Dust, which in class 51 outjumped a couple of dozen green and qualified light-weight hunters.

PONIES.

Harness, saddle and polo ponies were out in variety of size, type and equipment. Mrs. C. Wilmot exhibited Strawberry Blonde for first in the combination class, and the stallion Black Diamond for best pony sired by a Hackney stallion. Burns & Sheppard won on saddle ponies under 14.1, and the champion pony in harness was San Toy, owned by Wm. Baker, of Woodstock. The polo pony work was the best ever seen here, and must have contributed materially to the ticket sales.

Among the special classes, mention must be made of the splendid competition of the Hunt Club teams of three horses under saddle, for the Hunt Club silver cup, which was finally captured by one of the Montreal teams, though Hon. A. Beck's (London) ran a close second, and was chosen for reserve.

In the open classes of hunters and jumpers, the two firsts were won, respectively, by Beck's Grand Master and Alf. Rogers' Cloth of Gold. A list of the awards in the breeding, heavy draft and more important light horse classes will be published in the Gossip columns next issue.

Ontario Director of Live Stock.

For some years past the Ontario Government have made grants to the Cattle, Sheep, Swine and Poultry Associations, for the purpose of conducting winter fairs. Mr. A. P. Westervelt has been secretary of these associations, and Mr. T. D. Elderkin his assistant. The new Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Nelson Monteith, has decided to continue to provide office accommodation in the Parliament buildings in Toronto for the officers of these associations, and has made Mr. Westervelt director of live stock for the Province, with Mr. Elderkin as his chief clerk, and has provided in the estimates submitted this year for a grant for the Provincial Winter Fair at Guelph, and office expenses and salaries are provided for in a special grant. The board to manage the Winter Fair will be made up as usual of representatives from the three live-stock associations, and the Government grant for the Winter Fair will be turned over to that board. The associations will continue their organization as formerly, and can use their fees for any purpose they may see fit. The live-stock work of the Province will thus be brought a little more directly under the Department.

Grain Rates.

The Railway Commission has issued an order, dated April 22, directing the railway companies to "restore the equilibrium between their freight rates on grain and its products by reducing the rates now charged on grain to the same basis as charged on the milled products thereof."

Grain merchants estimate that this decision will add one cent a bushel to the value of the grain in the producers' hands. It means a great deal to the farmers. Taking the item of oats, for example, it is said that about 20,000,000 bushels are marketed yearly. On that one crop there is, according to the estimates of those best qualified to judge, an addition of \$200,000 a year to the profits of the grower.

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