

working along that line. It will not do, however, to associate coarse bone with large frames. On this point the writer has this to say: "Great, coarse bone, therefore, went out of fashion, and finer and more consolidated bone came into favor instead, and has continued, whilst the demand for size has fluctuated according to circumstances and local conditions. Confusion of the ideas of great bone and great size should be avoided, for it is quite possible to have the frame large and the bone fine, and on the other hand coarse bone in a small frame. The quality of the bone inclining to either the sponge-like or the more compact extreme is irrespective of the size of the frame; although bone of a certain quality supposed, the length and thickness (or average diameter) of each piece forming the skeleton, shoulder fairly proportioned to the size of the entire skeleton." As looked at from a butcher's standpoint an animal has two classes of points—one of structure and the other of flesh points. An animal when lean may be defective in points of structure, but when fat may have its faults on these points concealed by excellent flesh points.



The Best Way to Manage an Agricultural Show

A Paper Read by J. Thos. Murphy, Simcoe, Ont., Before the Canadian Fairs Association

In having this subject allotted to me, I feel my inability to deal with it in a manner satisfactory to this association. However, in doing so I can only trust that the members will bear with me, and give me credit for stating that which I conscientiously believe is for the best in this matter.

The society having elected its board, the officers and directors must determine to work together in the most harmonious manner, always being anxious to act in a conciliatory spirit, avoiding all semblances of bickering and strife, thus showing conclusively that their sole idea is to lay aside all thought of self advancement or aggrandizement, and anxiously maintaining every effort to advance the interest of the society according to its rules and regulations, as well as the granting of that which is right and just to exhibitors. As much of the stability and standing of a society depends upon the selection of a president, and too great care cannot be taken in securing a person of good executive ability.

The chief, and I might say the greatest, aid to proper management is the secretary, as upon him to a very great extent devolves the success of the fair. He should at all times have his work thoroughly in hand, sparing neither pains nor time in having each day's business duly completed and his books entered up, so that if applied to at any moment by either any member of his board or an exhibitor he may be in a position to say all is ready and complete. He must also be courteous and obliging in all his transactions with the members or the public, and any information required, no matter of what nature, must be willingly and pleasantly given. He must know all the rules and regulations thoroughly, carry them out to the letter, not overbearingly but in a respectful manner, not permitting any one to sway him from the right. In so doing he will receive in the end the sanction and approval of all; even those who might have been inclined to overstep the bounds, having to acknowledge that in carrying out the rules and regulations he was actuated by the desire to further the interests of the society, thus clearly indicating that in conducting the affairs of a show the same conscientious observance of that which is right may be accomplished therein, as well as in that of any other legitimate business transaction.

Another very important position in connection with the management and success of the show is that of a general superintendent, having supervision of the grounds and buildings, hiring of caretakers and all needed help, the letting of rights for grocery booths and privileges, if same are allowed. It requires that he should be a man of sound judgment and also well versed in the rules and regulations

of the society, and fully alive to the carrying out of same. Having neat, well kept and tidy grounds, buildings in good order and cleanly, keeping and preserving of order and attending to the wants of all concerned, he thus adds very much to the comfort and enjoyment of the exhibitors and the public, and also to a large extent to the success of the fair.

Great care should be exercised in the selection of judges and only those should be appointed having a thorough knowledge of the class in which they are to judge (in other words, experts), persons of undoubted integrity and above reproach, in whom the exhibitors and public have implicit confidence. To secure such judges is not difficult. But it must be borne in mind by any society that in doing so it must provide their travelling expenses, entertain them as guests of the society and look after their comfort and convenience in every way. Without the extending of these courtesies to those selected, the day has gone by when any society can hope to secure the services of such expert judges, as it is not reasonable to suppose that they should not only lose their valuable time, but also be expected to pay their own expenses for the privilege of filling the position. The prize list should be as complete as possible in each department so that all exhibitors may feel that every interest is served.

In all matters connected with the fair it should be a resolution of the society that no member of the board nor the superintendent in charge of the separate classes, should under any circumstances or in any way interfere in or bias the decision of the judge. They should stand aloof and have no conversation with the judge, unless applied to regarding any information required, thus showing to exhibitors and the public that, on the part of the association, everything is being done to allay any suspicion of interference or wrong-doing.

Another very important factor in the work is that no favoritism be observed. This is one of the worst features of many shows, and I would strongly impress on every society the evil of the same. Exhibitors and the public are very quick to observe anything of this nature, and the discontent occasioned thereby seriously affects the standing of the show. The secretary being the chief officer in giving decisions should by all in his power abstain from every appearance of wrong and should uphold the rules and regulations in every respect, favoring neither officers, directors, or any other persons, but granting equal justice to all alike. If this is done by the various shows a very great cause of complaint and one interfering with the proper success of many will be done away with.

A matter given much attention at the present time is that of attractions and entertainments. It is supposed by the great majority of shows that to draw the crowds such must be resorted to, and our agricultural shows are thus becoming less agricultural educators and more of a circus combination.

The Norfolk Union Fair, held at Simcoe, Ont., of which I have the honor of being secretary-treasurer, some years ago ceased entirely to allow any kind of circus or mountebank performances, exhibitions or shows, or the selling of goods, wares or merchandise on the grounds, and I can assure this association that ever since we adopted this course our fair has grown in the esteem of the public, success has crowned our efforts, and on no account would our society again permit anything of that nature on the grounds or within the statutory allowance, viz: 300 yards. Horse-racing, or more politely termed at present "trials of speed," are now greatly favored, although the Government is endeavoring to prevent the giving of the people's money to such purposes in connection with agricultural fairs, yet it seems an impossibility to suppress it just now. I feel sanguine, however, that if the managers of the fairs would determine upon the discontinuance of the same that they would get rid of a class of people who have not been any help to the agricultural or better class of people, and the shows would be conducted with much less friction and much more satisfaction to all concerned. Another great detriment to the success of many shows is the admittance to the