

should be sufficient enterprise among horse-breeders to prompt them to look out for their own interests by taking steps to secure first-class stallions. Those interested in the horse industry in any community might well meet together once a year, or more frequently, to discuss the local situation, and, if necessary, organize a company, appoint a committee of good horsemen to visit some of the exhibitions, winter fairs, spring stallion shows, and the stables of reliable breeders and importers, with the object of discovering what horses are available, and for what price they may be bought, with power to purchase a certain horse with funds that their company would subscribe. No business method is so satisfactory as that of knowing just what one wants, and purchasing it at first cost, and few methods are so unsatisfactory to the farmer as that of being drummed up to take stock in some concern without due deliberation and candid discussion with the other prospective stockholders. We have in mind an organization of horsemen, who, after duly considering the needs of their community, decided to subscribe capital, and then said to a certain young farmer who was a well-known horseman: "Take our money, and buy us the best possible horse you can find." The transaction was put through, the organization has been in operation for some years, other horses have been bought, and always by the same method. Good stallions are always available, and never yet has there been raised a dissenting voice. The purchaser knew his business, he went straight to the best-known convenient breeding or importing stud, and closed as satisfactory bargains as could be made. It is an instance of how a stallion may be secured at least cost, borne by those who were to profit by his services.

STOCK.

The Maritime Winter Fair.

The Maritime Winter Fair, held at Amherst, N. S., on December 12th to 15th, was a splendid success. The weather was all that could be desired, and the wheeling was splendid, so that probably more people within a radius of fifteen miles of Amherst attended the fair than ever before. The fact that some seven bye-elections throughout the Province were held on the last day of the fair probably prevented many residents of other counties from attending, as it is a well-known saying, "wherever you find a Nova Scotian you find a politician." Probably more agriculture and less politics would make a better ration for Nova Scotians. The attendance, however, was probably as good as last year.

The beef cattle were a very creditable show, and a marked improvement on former years, especially in point of uniformity and symmetry of form. There was only one animal in the building that would not be considered a suitable animal for the show-ring.

W. W. Black, of Amherst, was out in force, with twenty-five head of Herefords and grades, eleven of which were pure-bred Herefords. This was certainly a splendid exhibit, and the uniformity of type is a great credit to Mr. Black as a breeder, while the bloom and finish of the stock is a strong recommendation of the Hereford as a feeder, and to Mr. Black and his indefatigable herdsman, Wm. Robertson, as stockmen.

On the next row was almost as good a show, put up by Mr. F. W. Thompson, of Fort Lawrence, containing twenty-six head, ten of which are pure-bred Shorthorn. This herd was also brought out in splendid form, and if some of the young stuff is not quite so ripe as Mr. Black's, it may be none the worse for carrying over for another year.

C. A. Archibald, of Truro, had his well-known herd of roan and white Shorthorns out in first-class shape, numbering eleven head, with one Shorthorn and one Ayrshire in the dairy stable.

Other exhibitors of beef cattle were: C. R. H. Starr & Son, of Port Williams; Blake Eaton, Canard; J. R. Coates, Nappan; Harold Vernon, of Minudie (who won the Giles cup last year); Percy Starr, and A. N. Giffon, of Kentville, and several others, with from one to four animals each.

Judging began on Tuesday morning, with Prof. M. Cummings and Duncan Anderson in the ring as judges.

The first class judged was grade steers over three years old. There were four entries, three of which were smooth, thick-fleshed steers, and quite well entitled to a place in the show-ring. First went to W. W. Black, on a very heavy, thick-fleshed roan, with rather too much daylight under him, but a good feeder, and very tidy for such a massive steer. F. W. Thompson took second, and third on good, low-set, well-quartered steers, not so well finished as the first-prize steer.

In grade steers, over two and under three years, there were seven entries, and all really good animals, of the kind that are profitable to both feeder and consumer. W. W. Black took first on a Hereford grade, of the low-down, thick-set, even-fleshed type; F. W. Thompson second and third on a pair of tidy roans, with extra good quarters and good handlers; fourth went to Blake Eaton, on a rich red, showing lots of good breeding, but hardly in the same fit as those placed above him.

In grade steers, one year and under two, ten splendid specimens of Shorthorn and Hereford grades faced the judges. W. W. Black showed two Hereford-

Angus grades, one of which is a full brother to the steer "Dewey," with which Mr. Black won the sweepstakes at the Pan-American two years ago. This was a pretty hard class to judge, and several really good steers had to go from the ring without a ribbon. The judges won the respect of both exhibitors and spectators by the careful and painstaking manner in which they did their work, and after careful consideration the brother of "Dewey" was placed first. This steer also won for Mr. Black the "Giles" cup this year. This cup is probably the most coveted trophy of the show, and has to be won three times to become the property of the winner. Mr. Black's other Hereford-Angus grade was placed second, and F. W. Thompson took third. Prof. Cumming, in commenting on this class, said that they were all exceptionally good animals, and speak more for the advancement of the beef industry in the Maritime Provinces than any words.

Steers under one year were six nice straight calves, three of which, being Herefords, carried their pedigree in their faces as well as on their backs; the other three showed lots of Shorthorn breeding. W. W. Black took first, F. W. Thompson second, J. B. Etter third, Albert Anderson fourth, E. S. Congdon fifth, F. W. Thompson sixth.

In calves under six months there were five entries. First went to W. W. Black, on another Hereford-Angus grade; second to F. W. Thompson; third to W. O. Bowser; fourth, Thos. J. Etter; and fifth, Arthur Etter.

The class for cows over three years old brought out six well-bred Shorthorn grades. First place went to Edwin Forrest, of Amherst Point, on an exceedingly showy cow, with extra good rib and loin, perhaps a little light in the quarter and short back of the hooks. W. W. Black came second, on a more massive cow, perhaps hardly as well covered; Harold Vernon third, and J. R. Coates fourth, on good, big, broad-backed cows, showing good breeding.

Heifers, two years old and under three, W. W. Black first, on a model Hereford heifer, low-set, thick-fleshed, and a small proportion of waste; second and third went to F. W. Thompson, on heifers sired by his old herd bull, Count Minto.

In yearling heifers, W. W. Black won first and second, on two Sir Horace calves. It is a notable fact that among the young grade stock all of the first prizes were won by steers or heifers sired by Sir Horace, or from dams sired by him, thus demonstrating Mr. Black's wisdom in purchasing this son of the great Corrector when he was founding his herd. Third and fourth went to F. W. Thompson, on two roans sired by Count Minto.

Heifer calves brought out nine entries, all of which were good, and most of them in splendid shape. F. W. Thompson won first on a remarkably ripe one; W. W. Black second; Arthur Etter third.

In the classes for pure-bred Shorthorns, and for pure Hereford and Angus cattle, the competition was not so keen, though in several classes a new exhibitor would step in to divide the honors with C. A. Archibald and F. W. Thompson in the Shorthorns, or W. W. Black in the Herefords and Angus.

The many and valuable special prizes offered by the Shorthorn Breeders' Association, and by private individuals and firms, were keenly competed for, especially as some of them were offered expressly for animals that had not taken prizes in the regular classes, thus widening the range of competition.

In the dairy stable Logan Bros., of Amherst Point, had six Holsteins, three cows over three years old, and

three under three years. One of these cows gave 107 lbs. of milk in the two days, testing four per cent. fat, and one of the heifers gave 99 lbs. of milk in the two days testing considerably over three per cent.

In Jerseys, Jas. E. Baker, of Barronsfield, won first, H. S. Pipes, of Amherst, second and third.

The Ayrshires only had one representative this year, but this was a good imported cow, Gypsy of Hillhouse, bred by Jas. Howie, of Hillhouse, Kilmarnock, Scotland.

The Shorthorns were represented by C. A. Archibald's Red Rose; Donald McIntyre, of Minudie, showing Maggie O'Keefe, and F. W. Thompson, Miss Dora.

The Shorthorns did not make a particularly good showing, and we would say that the Shorthorns in the Maritime Provinces appear to be more of a beef breed than general-purpose.

In grades, Hubert Logan won first on a grade Holstein; W. N. Boomer was second, with the grade Shorthorn that took first last year, and J. R. Semple, of Brule, third, with a Guernsey grade. In grade heifers, M. P. Pike, Amherst, won first on an Ayrshire grade; F. J. Holmes second, and Hubert Logan, Amherst, third, on a grade Holstein.

The exhibit of sheep was about as large as last year, but of much even quality. The nice exhibit that was put on last year by Chamcook Farm, of St. Andrews, was not at the fair this year, but J. I. Stewart, Logan Bros., and T. W. Kellor, of Amherst Point, and Jas. E. Baker, of Barronsfield, had creditable flocks, brought out in very fine condition. One of Mr. Logan's lambs, about eight months old, weighs 160 pounds, and is a perfect beauty. This firm showed 34 head of Shropshires and Shropshire grades, most of the flock being sired by an excellent Shropshire ram that Mr. Logan purchased from Mr. Wilson, of Ontario, three years ago.

James E. Baker, of Barronsfield, had an excellent flock of Oxford Downs. J. I. Stewart, of Amherst Point, showed Shropshires, and T. W. Kellor Leicester grades.

Hogs were more numerous than last year, and very much more of the bacon type. Mr. J. W. Callbeck, of P. E. I., who put up such a large and creditable exhibit last year, was not here this year, but the pens were occupied by contributions from the herds of T. T. Trenholm, of Amherst, with Yorkshires; Jas. E. Baker, Barronsfield, Jersey Reds; Holmes Bros., Amherst, Yorkshires and Berkshires; John and James Roper, of Charlottetown, P.E.I., with Tamworths, and C. F. Rogers, of Woodstock, N.B., with Yorkshires. Logan Bros., and Jas. I. Stewart, of Amherst, had a fine lot of Yorkshires and Berkshires, both in the pure-bred and grade classes. J. R. Semple, of Brule, N. S., had some lengthy Berks, from stock imported from R. P. Snell, of Snelgrove.

The block test included seven carcasses of beef, twenty-two of mutton, and about forty of hogs. Most of the beef and mutton carcasses were too fat for profit to the consumer, but there was a great improvement in the bacon carcasses over former shows, and several almost ideal bacon carcasses were shown.

The evening programmes were of a high order; the addresses of Prof. C. C. James, on "Agricultural Education" and "The New Agriculture," were listened to by large audiences. Prof. James recounted the changes in agriculture, from the log house in the clearing, with the "patch" of wheat reaped with the sickle, to the frame or brick farmhouse and basement stable of to-day, and the large acreage handled by the modern



We've Seen Them More Anxious.