

duced for the first time since last year. The Clydesdales, Percherons, and other draft classes were all light. The General Purpose class was well filled and hotly contested. There is a chance for improvement in all classes in the future.

The show of cattle was one of the best ever made in the Province. The classes were all well filled, and, with but few exceptions, were animals of the highest order. Herbert Stairs, of King's County, carried away the laurels in Polled Angus. The herd prize for Guernseys was taken by W. Miller, Truro. In sweepstakes for thoroughbred cows, William McCully, of Truro, took the prize with a Jersey. Among the Jerseys the herd of E. B. Elderkin & Sons took the lead. In Ayrshires, Chas. Archibald, of Truro, took the main prizes. He was also successful with his herd of Devons. Samuel Dickie, Onslow, and John Cameron, New Glasgow, made the show of Holsteins. Durhams were principally exhibited by Chase Bros., of Cornwallis. W. W. Black carried off the bulk of awards for Herefords. The Government Farm at Truro had a good exhibit of cattle of different breeds.

The exhibit of sheep was exceedingly small, coming entirely from Pictou County, consisting of Leicesters, Shropshires, and Southdowns. There is no question but what this exhibit has been neglected, although an important one to the farmers of the Province.

In swine the exhibit was even smaller, consisting of Berkshires, Chester Whites, and Yorkshires.

The vegetable department was well filled. The fruit show was the largest ever made in the Eastern part of the Province, consisting of pears, peaches, plums, apples, etc. The fact that all the awards did not go to the exhibitors from the "Annapolis Valley" evinces the fact of the growth of the fruit industry in Eastern Nova Scotia.

Among the special features of the Exhibition was the display made by the Truro Condensed Milk and Canning Co., being the only one of its kind in Canada. The dairy exhibit of butter and cheese was smaller than it should have been. In factory-made cheese, the Upper Stewiacke Dairy Co. took first prize. Some criticism was made on the non-uniformity of the prizes granted; while at

THE EXHIBITION IN YARMOUTH

the general criticism was the fitting of the prize lists more to suit the County of Yarmouth, rather than to meet the Western portion of the entire Province. The outside show at the latter was larger than in former years. The inclemency of the weather injured the exhibition of a number of fancy breeds of live stock.

The cattle exhibit was good, and of a high class. The exhibition of the Jersey class was by far the largest of any. A good show of Guernseys and Ayrshires was also made. One of the leading features in this division was the exhibit of "class oxen and steers."

The Hackney, Draft, and Saddle classes comprised the list of horses; the first was the largest.

In the sheep section a number of fine Shropshires, Cheviots, grades and crosses were found. In the Shropshire class, S. P. Goudy, Yarmouth, took the chief prizes.

The poultry yard was filled with a large number of breeds, and was considered the best exhibit ever made in Nova Scotia.

The swine exhibit was very light.

The Western portion of the Province sustained its reputation in its extensive exhibit of vegetables of all kinds.

A most creditable exhibition of fruit was made. Prizes among apples were granted on "best varieties for market and export." Fifty-two varieties were included in this list, taken chiefly by exhibitors from the Annapolis and La Have valleys. The exhibit of small fruits was not large. In cranberries, A. V. Parker, of Berwick, took the prizes on market varieties. Grapes from the cold grape-ries were quite noticeable, the Black Prince variety taking the lead.

Taking the condition of the weather attending both exhibitions into consideration, they may be said to have been a success. The annual Provincial Exhibition, to be held in the future in Halifax, will be a great boon to the Province, the intention being to retain the District Exhibitions as feeders to the Provincial. There is some diversity of opinion as to the success of the scheme.

Work at the Dominion Experimental Farm.

A short visit to the Dominion Experimental Farm, Ottawa, on Sept. 25th, found the silo filling with the "Robertson Mixture" in full operation. This has been a good season for each of the three crops—corn, horse-beans, and sunflowers. The corn, of which we shall speak later, was well grown and fairly well matured, and was being cut by means of a modern corn harvester, which gave fair satisfaction, using some five pounds of twine per acre. The bands have all to be removed from the sheaves before entering the cutting-box, to prevent winding up the rollers. There need be no dearth of bag strings on a farm where a corn binder is used. Mr. Fixter, the Farm foreman, would like the machine better if it could be made to leave less stubble. This improvement will likely receive attention in the near future. The beans were well grown and well matured, but were very black in stalks and pods. There possibly may be no objection to this. The sunflowers were a magnificent crop. They are of the Mammoth Russian variety, grown in rows three feet apart and eighteen inches

apart in the row. Many of the heads being saved for seed were about fourteen inches across and of fine quality. The corn and beans were being cut very finely—about one-third of an inch long. The sunflower heads were thrown into the silo whole and there chopped into pieces by means of a spade.

Of corn, some seventeen varieties were grown in half-acre experimental plots. The following data regarding them was provided us by Mr. Fixter:—

Red cob ensilage gave 10 tons 1,915 pounds per half acre: fairly leafy, cobs well formed, but no grain on cobs.

Champion White Pearl gave 9 tons 1,160 pounds per half acre: leafy on top, scarcely any at base of stalks, cobs well formed, in late milk. This is a very promising variety for Western Ontario.

Leaming gave 8 tons 1,575 pounds per half acre: leafy on top of stalks, well cobs, grain beginning to form, in watery state.

Cuban Giant gave 8 tons 1,095 pounds per half acre: well cobs, grain beginning to form, in watery state, leafy on top.

Giant Prolific Sweet Ensilage gave 8 tons 1,060 pounds per half acre: well cobs, grain beginning to form, in watery state, leafy on top.

Pride of the North gave 8 tons 455 pounds per half acre: well cobs, in watery state, leafy on top.

Mastodon Dent gave 7 tons 1,875 pounds per half acre: well cobs, grain well formed, in watery state, fairly leafy both top and bottom.

New White Cap Yellow Dent gave 7 tons 1,605 pounds per half acre: well cobs, in doughy state, leafy on top, promising for Western Ontario.

Angel of Midnight gave 7 tons 1,164 pounds per half acre: well cobs, all in late doughy state, in first-class condition for ensilage, leafy both top and bottom, promising for Northern and Eastern Ontario.

Thoroughbred White Flint gave 7 tons 605 pounds: very leafy both top and bottom, well cobs, grain in watery state.

Longfellow gave 7 tons 307 pounds per half acre: cobs well formed, all in late doughy state, leafy both top and bottom, in first-class condition for ensilage.

Mammoth Extra Early Yellow Flint gave 6 tons 1,602 pounds per half acre: well cobs, all in doughy state, leafy both top and bottom, in first-class condition for ensilage.

Canada White Flint gave 6 tons 1,430 pounds per half acre: well cobs, in doughy state, not leafy.

Pearce's Prolific gave 6 tons 1,185 pounds per half acre: leafy, well cobs, grain beginning to harden.

Sanford Flint gave 6 tons 837 pounds per half acre: well cobs, grain in doughy state, beginning to harden, fairly leafy.

King of the Earliest gave 5 tons 1,506 pounds per half acre: well cobs, grain in doughy state, some beginning to harden, not very leafy.

Extra Early Huron Dent gave 5 tons 340 pounds per half acre: well cobs, in doughy state, fairly leafy.

The soil that these plots were sown on was not the best corn land, being part peaty and balance heavy sand. Also, a heavy frost cut it considerably just as cutting was commenced.

The growth of new clover upon the Farm was extraordinary. Not only was it very thick, but some was out in head. Crimson clover was out in full head, but it is not a favorite in that locality.

The root crops, especially carrots, were very heavy and of good quality. Repeated experiments have proved that the largest yields of turnips, mangels, and carrots can be grown in rows twenty-four inches apart—turnips twelve inches apart in the rows, mangels a little less, and carrots from six to eight.

All the different departments of the Farm appeared to be in creditable condition. The grapes—a magnificent crop—were just being secured. The apple orchard showed the effects of the northern location. The poultry was in fine form, while the cattle and hogs were all in vigorous condition.

Among the dairy cows are a number of Quebec Canadians, which are being crossed with other dairy breeds to secure more size. This breed is highly thought of as butter producers, and they are very vigorous.

The chemical laboratory, which was almost gutted with fire some time ago, is now in working order. Prof. Shutt regrets the loss of a great amount of data regarding important experiments.

Moderation in Swine Feeding.

Overfeeding pigs is a fruitful source of disease and waste. Many think it makes no difference if pigs do leave a lot of food at one meal; that they will return and eat it up when hungry, so that there is nothing wasted. If pigs are overfed it knocks them off their regular feed for a time, and this is always a loss; besides, it renders the inception of disease much easier. It is best to feed regularly, at stated times, and when fattening, all that they will eat up clean. They will keep healthier and thrive better than is possible by keeping feed before them all the time. It is what the animals digest and assimilate, and not what amount they eat, that determines the gain in proportion to the amount of food eaten.

The Victoria (Australia) Minister of Agriculture is to have a careful test officially made of milk aerators to determine which is best for the dairy-men of that colony to use.

STOCK.

New Brunswick Breeding Stock.

As our readers will remember, extensive purchases of pure-bred swine were made last spring in Ontario by representatives of the New Brunswick Government, and it was expected that this fall an extensive importation of dairy cattle, and sheep, was to be made, but owing to the drought in some sections this has been deferred for a time, though, as pointed out in another column, those who have adhered to dairying now find themselves in better spirits owing to the revival in the price of cheese. The same might be said of Ontario. New Brunswick is singularly well adapted in many parts for sheep husbandry, and the little delay in the importation is quite as much to be regretted as of the cattle. Sheep of several breeds are certainly required there. What with low prices and dogs, breeding stocks have been allowed to run down, which is so often the case, and a general infusion of new blood is badly needed. This being done, and proper attention paid, the industry will no doubt undergo a very decided revival down by the sea.

We were glad to learn recently, from Mr. Julius L. Inches, the efficient Secretary of Agriculture in that Province, that the importation of pure-bred swine (Berkshires, Yorkshires, and Chester Whites) was very successful and has made a very favorable impression throughout the country. No doubt once their advantage begins to be felt other and perhaps larger importations will follow, until breeding herds sufficient for local needs at least are established. The plan adopted by the Government is to send the pigs to different localities, in charge of the agricultural societies, by which they are sold to the highest bidder, who gives bonds to retain them for breeding purposes for two years at least. The prices might be less than first cost, the Province losing whatever might be short in cost and expenses; but in view of the design of improving the standard of the swine in the Province, such an expenditure of public money is deemed entirely legitimate. The loss at first is small, but the benefits are large in the future. Once a proper start has been made, it is expected that breeders there will enlarge their own herds so as to meet the increasing requirements.

A Judge's Suggestion to Exhibitors of Dairy Cattle.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—It was my good fortune to be in attendance at the great Industrial Exhibition recently held at Toronto, and I am free to acknowledge that I was more than pleased with the elegant display of cattle on exhibition. The dairy breeds were all largely represented and showed skillful selection and breeding. I am satisfied that Ontario breeders are fully alive to the importance of using only the finest and most perfect type of foundation stock, and when you come to the showing no people bring out their animals in more excellent condition. It would hardly be proper to select one or more breeders and mention them as having achieved merited success in breeding when the animals of all the exhibitors were so highly meritorious. [NOTE.—Mr. Langworthy judged the Holstein-Friesian cattle.—ED.]

The officers and managers of the Exhibition are kind and courteous—thorough gentlemen. A degree of success has been obtained by the Toronto Association second to none found upon the American Continent. It has been my privilege to attend many of the leading agricultural fairs held in the States, both as an exhibitor and as a judge, during the last fifteen years, including the great St. Louis Exposition, Kansas City, St. Joseph, Minneapolis, Kansas State, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and our own New York State, and from personal knowledge of the workings of these various agricultural fairs I am warranted in saying that the Toronto Industrial, in point of merit, all things considered, compares favorably with any of them.

I would, in this connection, gladly offer your breeders a word of caution lest in their eagerness to excel in the showing they fall into the pernicious habit of *overfeeding*. Young animals should never be fed in excess of a good thriving condition, or the chances are that an undesirable coarseness will be developed; and milch cows should never be fed to induce the laying on of flesh, or garget and the more dangerous milk fever will claim the flower of the herd. The requirements of each and every animal should be carefully studied and then fed to develop the highest standard of excellence belonging to each particular animal of each particular breed.

N. Y. State.

H. LANGWORTHY.

With the privilege of shipping cattle via United States Atlantic ports, not only should the Canadian export trade be distributed more evenly over the year, but much lower freight rates be secured.

There can be no profit in lambs or sheep where you are feeding a lot of ticks, not because the latter require so much to keep them, but because they prevent the former from profiting by their food. They worry the appetite away from them.