

Toronto Fat Stock Show.

Immediately following the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair held at Guelph came the annual Toronto Fat Stock Show, Friday and Saturday December 7 and 8. It was a very successful show and evidence of the high quality of the stock in all classes was found in the prices obtained generally at the Saturday auction following the judging. Jas. Leask's Guelph champion "Black George" repeated and was made grand champion at Toronto where he afterwards sold for \$1 per pound to the Harris abattoir. This junior yearling weighed 1,360 lbs. The heaviest steer of the show, a two-year-old, weighed 1,950 lbs., a grade Angus, fed by D. Ferguson & Son, R. R. 6, St. Thomas. He sold at 18 1/2 cents per lb. Campbell Bros. of Shedden had a two-year-old pure-bred which weighed 1,900 lbs. and sold for 18 cents per lb. Thirty cents per lb. was paid by The T. Eaton Company for the first-prize 990-lb. calf, exhibited by W. H. Guthrie, New Dundee. Price range on prize-winning cattle ran from 11 1/2 cents up to \$1 per lb., the bulk selling at from 16 cents to 25 cents per lb. Fat wethers brought up to 24 1/2 cents per lb., and lambs up to 36 cents per lb. Prize-winning hogs sold as high as 28 cents per lb. Following is a list of prize-winners:

Pure-breds.—Steer, 2 years and under 3: 1, J. D. Ferguson & Sons, St. Thomas; 2, Campbell Bros., Shedden; 3, A. L. McNeil, Woodbridge; 4, J. D. Ferguson & Sons. Steer, 1 year and under 2: 1, A. Barber, Guelph; 2, John Brown & Sons, Galt; 3, James Bowman, Guelph. Steer, under 1 year: 1, Campbell Bros., Shedden; 2, John Brown & Sons; 3, A. Elcoat, Seaford; 4, Jacob Lerch, Preston. Heifer, 2 years and under 3: 1, H. Wade, Pickering; 2, W. S. Hair, Watford. Heifer, 1 year and under 2: 1, Jos. Stone, Seagrave; 2, John Brown & Sons. Heifer, under 1 year: 1, Jacob Lerch; 2, A. Elcoat; 3, W. Batty, West Hill. Champion pure-bred steer or heifer: A. Barber, Guelph; also winner of the Walker House Cup.

Grades and Crosses.—Steer, 2 years and under 3: 1, D. Ferguson & Son, St. Thomas; 2, B. E. Hicks, Centralia; 3, James Leask & Sons, Seagrave; 4 and 5, J. D. Ferguson & Sons, St. Thomas. Steer, 1 year and under 2: 1, Jas. Leask & Sons, 2, Jos. Stone, Seagrave; 3, 4 and 5, A. Barber, Guelph. Steer, under one year: 1, Jas. Leask & Sons; 2, W. H. Guthrie; 3, R. D. Hunter, Exeter; 4, A. White, Guelph; 5, John Brown & Sons, Galt. Cow, 3 years and over: 1, A. Paul, Kirkton; 2, A. Barber, Guelph; 3, W. H. Coates, Centralia. Heifer, 2 years and under 3: 1 and 2, J. Leask & Sons; 3, F. G. Moffat, Teeswater; 4, J. Delbridge, Woodham. Heifer, 1 year and under 2: 1, Jos. Stone; 2, Wm. Marquis & Son, Sunderland; 3 and 4, James Leask & Sons. Heifer under 1 year: 1 and 2, Jos. Stone; 3, T. A. Russell, Downsview; 4, James Leask.

Boys' Steer Feeding Competition: 1, Edward F. Mundle, Owen Sound; 2, Ford I. Willson, Kitchener; 3, Irwin T. McMahon, Hawkestone.

T. Eaton Co. Special, for the best dehorned butcher steer any breed under 1 year: W. H. Guthrie, New Dundee.

Harris Abattoir Company Limited Special, for the best dehorned butcher steer any breed under 1 year: James Leask & Sons, Seagrave.

Carloads.—15 dehorned steers, 1,250 lbs. and over: 1, John Brown & Sons; 2, J. H. Simonton, Chatham; 3, J. D. Ferguson & Sons. 15 dehorned steers under 1,250 lbs.: 1, A. White; 2, James Cameron Co., Ferguson; 3, J. E. Gallagher, Flamboro Center.

Hartord Fire Insurance Co. Special: A. White, Armour & Company Special, carload 15 butcher steers without horns each 1,100 lbs. and under: A. White. Swift Canadian Company Special, carload 15 butcher cattle, steers or heifers or mixed steers and heifers without horns, 1,100 lbs. and under: 1, A. White; 2, James Cameron Co.; 3, W. J. Taylor, Varna. Harris Co., Ltd., Special, for best carload lot 15 dehorned steers under 15 months and under 1,000 lbs.: A. White.

Lot of 15 heifers average weight: 1, Short Bros., Elora; 2, Michael Thompson, Chesley; 3, A. White, Gunns Limited special, carload 15 butcher heifers without horns, each 1,100 lbs. and under: Short Bros.

Grand Champion "Black George," owned by James Leask & Sons, Seagrave, also winner of the following prizes: Champion grade or cross-bred steer or heifer. First prize grade or cross-bred steer, 1 year and under 2; added prize for being sired by Aberdeen-Angus bull; Exchange Hotel Cup; Gunns Limited Special, and Toronto World Gold Watch.

Sheep and Lambs, Long Wools.—3 wethers or ewes, 1 year and under 2: 1, J. D. Ferguson & Sons. 3 wethers or ewes, under 1 year: 1, The Dunrobin Farms, Beaverton; 2, J. D. Ferguson & Sons; 3, A. Elcoat. Carload, 50 lambs, wethers or ewes: 1, J. D. Ferguson & Sons. Swift Canadian Company Special, 10 lambs under 100 lbs. bred, fed and owned by exhibitor: 1, The Dunrobin Farms, Beaverton; 2, J. D. Ferguson & Sons; 3, John Houston, Chatham.

Short Wools.—Three wethers or ewes, 1 year and under 2: 1, C. J. Brodie, Stouffville; 2, J. D. Ferguson & Sons; 3, J. S. Baker, Burford. Three wethers or ewes under 1 year: 1, J. E. Brethour & Nephews, R. R. No. 2, Burford; 2, John Houston, 3, C. J. Brodie.

Carload of 50 lambs, wethers or ewes: 1, Campbell Bros., Shedden; 2, J. D. Ferguson & Sons; 3, Hanley & Miggs, Cainsville. Swift Canadian Co., Ltd. Special for farmers, 10 lambs under 100 lbs. bred, fed and owned by exhibitor: 1, A. A. Armstrong, Ferguson; 2, C. J. Brodie; 3, Robt. E. Cowan, Galt. Swift Canadian Co., Ltd., Farmers' Special, 6 lambs under 90 lbs. each, bred, fed and owned by exhibitor: 1, C. J. Brodie; 2, Hanley & Miggs; 3, John Houston.

Hogs.—Pen 3 barrows bacon type 170-225 lbs.: 1, Oscar Lerch, Preston; 2, C. B. Boynton, Dollar; 3, John Duck, Port Credit; 4, Jos. Stone, Seagrave. Boy's Hog Feeding Competition, limited to boys under 21 years.—Pen 3 barrows bacon type, 170-225 lbs.: 1, Oscar Lerch; 2, J. A. P. Helmkey, Richmond Hill; 3, Thos. Chard, Lambton Mills. Swift Canadian Co., Ltd., Special.—Best pen of three bacon type hogs, 170-225 lbs.: 1, Oscar Lerch; 2, C. B. Boynton. Gunns Limited Special.—Pen of 3 barrows range 170-225 lbs.: 1, John Duck, Swift Canadian Co., Limited, Farmers' Special.—Pen of 10 hogs, bred, fed and owned by exhibitor, 170-225 lbs.: 1, A. L. McNeil, Woodbridge; 2, Jos. Stone; 3, John Duck.

Wm. Davies Co., Ltd., Special.—Pen of 5 barrows individual weights 170-225, must have been fed since weaned at six weeks old by exhibitor. Judged from the standpoint of long side and general suitability for bacon for the English market: 1, Jos. Stone; 2, J. E. Brethour & Nephews; 3, Murdoch Bros., Palmerston. William Davies Co. Ltd. Annual.—Limited to young men under 25 years of age, pen containing litter of one brood, entire litter must be shown, irrespective of number, and must be fed, bred and owned by exhibitor, individual weights 170-200 lbs., to be judged from the standpoint of long side, and general suitability for bacon for the English market: 1, C. B. Boynton; 2, Thos. Chard, Lambton Mills; 3, Russell Templar, Burford. Carload 50 bacon hogs, 170-225 lbs.: 1, Jos. Stone; 2, I. N. Armstrong, Clarksburg; 3, Hanley & Miggs; Gunns Limited Special—Carload 50 bacon hogs, range 170-225 lbs.: 1, Jos. Stone.



The Heaviest Steer at Toronto Fat Stock Show.
This grade Angus two-year-old steer, fed and exhibited by D. Ferguson & Son, St. Thomas, won his class and sold for 18 1/2 cents per pound. He weighed 1,950 pounds.

Pure-bred Sheep Sales in Quebec.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

In the past two years the pure-bred requirements of the local Wool Growers' and Sheep Breeders' Associations in Quebec had been partially met by the holding of four pure-bred sales in 1915 and two in 1916. These sales were very successful but it was felt that there was room for a larger number, and accordingly this year a more extensive program was planned with the object of affording better opportunities for individual selections within the province as well as to provide better facilities for outside purchasers.

The pure-bred sheep auction sales car was decided upon as the most convenient, cheapest and most expedient means of transportation for stock consigned to the sales, and in consequence thereof arrangements were made with the Canadian Pacific Railway to run a palace horse car from Waltham to Megantic, making twelve stops, inclusive, each of which an auction sale was held. The route leads directly through or borders all of the ten Associations already organized so that each stop on the four hundred and sixty mile circuit was within the territory of one or other of these Associations.

The palace horse car with slight reconstruction and some additional equipment proved to be entirely satisfactory from every standpoint. It provided ample accommodation for eighty to one hundred head of sheep, allowing sufficient space for feeding and watering during

transit. The pens were so arranged that intending purchasers could see and handle the stock previous to the hour of sale.

The car was placed at Lennoxville when some eighty head of the Shropshire, Oxford, Leicester, Cheviot, Hampshire and Southdown breeds were consigned for sale. The car was then moved to Waltham where the first sale was held at Chapeau. Succeeding sales were held at Campbell's Bay, Shawville, Low, Lachute, Cowansville, Magog, Lennoxville, Cookshire, Scottstown, and Megantic. At each stop animals of desirable conformation, quality and breeding were consigned for sale, and if not sold were carried to the following sales. In this way a full quota of animals, both male and female, was maintained in the car at all times.

Aside from the advantage of individual selection which the sales afforded to intending purchasers, they have had the effect of giving a general impetus to pure-bred breeding by stimulating interest in pure-bred stock among farmers in the various communities. The small and uninitiated breeders were also benefited not only by securing a larger number of sales but as well by their actual association with other breeders. The exchange and sale of older rams which was effected in a large number of cases has been one of the greatest benefits of the sales, as many excellent sires which would otherwise have gone to the block are now doing good service at the head of other flocks. The avenue of sale for the older rams at breeding value, thus eliminating the usual loss which previously occurred when they were sold for the block after one to two years of service, has tended to make the farmer more liberal, particularly when purchasing a good individual.

The sales were on a cash basis and entirely self-sustaining. No capital was provided except in certain cases where Associations wished to bring in special stock. Each contributor consigned his flock subject to a reserve bid, and a fee of seven per cent. of all sales was deducted to cover expenses incidental to sale.

As was anticipated a number of outside purchasers took advantage of the sales to make their selections. A representative of the New Brunswick Government purchased seventy-three head. Thirty head went to the Prince Edward Island Government, thirty head were sold to parties in Alberta and several head went to Ontario, the balance being sold to farmers and farmers' clubs in Quebec. A much larger number of pure-bred ewes could have been sold had they been available. In all two hundred and thirty-five head were sold.

Below is a statement of the numbers, average selling price and total value of sales for each breed.

Shropshires.—56 Rams Ave. price \$28.24.....	\$1,581.50
36 Ewes Ave. price \$33.15.....	1,193.50
Oxfords.—42 Rams Ave. price \$28.06.....	\$1,178.50
20 Ewes Ave. price 27.27.....	545.50
Lecesters.—12 Rams Ave. price \$24.71.....	296.50
Cheviots.—35 Rams Ave. price \$26.01.....	910.50
3 Ewes Ave. price 34.16.....	102.60
Hampshires.—10 Rams Ave. price \$33.62.....	336.20
1 Ewe Ave. price 26.50.....	26.50
Southdowns.—4 Rams Ave. price \$23.75.....	95.00
Dorsethorns.—6 Ewes Ave. price \$20.00.....	120.00
Total value	\$6,386.20
Total number sold 235; average selling price \$27.17.	
A. A. McMILLAN.	

From 1901 to 1911 the urban population of Canada increased from 1,771,435 to 2,845,073 for cities, towns and villages of 1,500 or over—an increase of 1,073,638. In the same time the rural increase, including many villages under the 1,500 mark, was 761,690, or over 311,000 less than the urban increase. Cities are built-up at the expense of the rural population. From 1911, the last census year, from the report of which these figures were taken, up to the outbreak of the war the increasingly rapid growth of cities was even more in evidence. The war has further stripped the farms, and returned soldiers do not show a preference for agriculture. A period of fewer farmers and more consumers is likely to continue after the war. Unless a change comes there may be more urgent need of a greater production cry. Economical living for all in the interests of the Dominion can only come when the country districts have a fair proportion of the population.

Saves His "Advocates."

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

If you will look up when I subscribed for the Advocate first you can find out how many copies I have on hand as I have all that have come to the house since the first one. If your travels visits these parts I will tell him what a benefit the Advocate has been to me.

P. Q. WILLIAM HAY.

Don't take any risks with the bull, use a strong staff when leading him from his stall. The most quiet are the ones which frequently do the damage.