

EXHIBITION UNDER WAY

Yesterday, the Best in History of Provincial Fair First Days

JUDGING HAS COMMENCED

Field of Entries Larger Than Before—Good Crowds Attend

(From Wednesday's Daily)

Victoria's annual exhibition opened yesterday. At an early hour in the forenoon the entrance gates were thrown wide and the crowd which had begun to arrive, thronged the grounds. Among those thus soon on the scene of the week's festivities were local exhibitors, the proprietors of the numerous stands which form the attractions of the "pike," introduced in connection with the local fair for the first time this year, those in charge of the stock in competition and a few horsemen who had come to inspect the thoroughbreds entered for the race meet. Later on visitors, in ever-increasing numbers, came until, before the afternoon was far gone, there was a bigger gate receipt than has ever before been the case on the initial day of the exhibition. When this was apparent the countenance of the secretary beamed with satisfaction. What he and those associated with him had expected themselves to have attained—the show had been inaugurated under circumstances which augur unprecedented success.

Formal Opening. It was shortly after two o'clock when his honor the lieutenant-governor, accompanied by his private secretary, arrived to pronounce the words which would formally set the ball rolling. He was greeted appropriately. The interior of the main building decorated tastefully; every atom of floor space occupied by becomingly arranged exhibits representative of various industries, of the work of school children, of the product of the farms or the orchards of British Columbia, or of the beautiful fancy work of the women of Victoria; the aisles crowded with an eager expectant throng, and the City hall extending a fitting musical welcome, his introduction was most impressive.

As the lieutenant-governor stepped from his carriage he was received by His Worship Mayor Hall, president of the B. C. Agricultural association, and members of the executive of that body. In a brief speech the mayor thanked his honor for his attendance. In two particulars, he said, this year's exhibition was unique—the opening of the new buildings and the inauguration of the first Vancouver Island show. Reference was made to the increased number of exhibits and the demonstration of interest in the show by the merchants and the demand for space in the main and auxiliary structures. He expressed the opinion that it would be found next year that the present accommodation was inadequate, which would necessitate an addition to that available.

Governor's Address. In replying his honor said: "Mr. President and Gentlemen—I have today a pleasant duty to perform in declaring open our 43rd annual exhibition, which I am glad to learn is the most successful ever held here was swept away by fire early this morning in Victoria.

"Although the old exhibition structure, it has been replaced by buildings which accommodate a far more, nearly double the number of exhibits of last year, every inch of space, set apart for that purpose being taken up by exhibits, many of which testify to the agricultural and manufacturing progress of this part of the province. "A new feature this year is the horse show, which I am sure will be very popular and receive a large amount of patronage. I think, sir, every credit is due to those responsible for carrying out the arrangements for this year's fair, and I sincerely hope you will enjoy the gratifying display which you have the honor of beholding.

"I now, Mr. President, have the honor and the pleasure of declaring open the Victoria Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition of 1908."

Before leaving the grounds, His Honor inspected the various interior displays besides viewing and admiring the stock.

The Judging. At about 10 o'clock in the morning the judging of all classes commenced, and it was prosecuted throughout the day without interruption. The distribution of blue ribbons among stock owners and the award of cards representative of premier places in the fruit and other such competitions were unmarked by unpleasantness. Although the light for the day was warm and those concerned watched the officials, as quietly and composedly they went about their business, no sign of any uneasiness or anxiety of their judgment was never questioned. The victors, naturally, showed their gratification, while the others took the verdict in a sportsmanlike manner.

The judging went on at different points and, whenever it was underway, there gathered the people. If they were interested in heavy horses they thronged about George W. Grey, of Newcastle, Ont., who had charge of that department and they witnessed some fine contests. "There are some splendid animals being shown," commented a critic who had been scrutinizing a number of beautiful Clydesdales as they pranced about chaffing under the restraint of the halter.

Off in another corner the light horses were being examined by W. Stanley Parks, of Berks, Hampshire, England. Nearby, F. M. Logan, former provincial live stock commissioner, was presiding over the standard breed horses. Judging by the throngs of spectators this was the most popular class. Certain

ly some classy horses were placed under the critical eye of Mr. Logan, and his task in placing the ribbons was no sinecure. Often he was confronted with two or three particularly evenly-matched horses, and then the competitors would be put through their paces again and again before the die was cast, and one owner sent away happy, while the other had only the cheering reflection that they had made a close run for the coveted prize.

Beef Cattle. Beef cattle, of which there is a large and varied display, were in the charge

of J. G. Barron, of Calgary, while R. W. Hodson, B. S. A., live stock commissioner, B. C., was in charge of the inspection of dairy cattle and sheep. During the progress of their work they were watched by a large-sized group of the classes. It was remarked, the greatest improvement was apparent. In some instances as many as twenty head were placed against each other, while in the majority of cases the entry did not go below half that figure. And what was deemed even more significant, as illustrating the advancement being made in the breeding of high class stock in this province, was the quality of the most of the animals shown. Both judges and the spectators were outspoken in their commendation.

Triumph for Saanich. While the judging went merrily along on the grounds similarly it was underway within the main building. Here the struggles were none the less strenuous. Perhaps the most notable was that in fruit, a class over which J. R. Shepherd, of Salem, Ore., presided. Mr. Shepherd afterwards said that the display was exceedingly good. He thought the fruit shown outshined the much-valued product of the Hood River valley. His decision was followed with the closest attention by a large number of horticulturists, and one Vancouver Island grower, T. A. Brydon, of Saanich, left the exhibition last night with the satisfaction of having achieved a notable triumph. Mr. Brydon, after the judge had made his decision, came up to the stand and asked pertinent questions as to the methods pursued in their development.

Vegetables and grain are being judged by L. H. Newham, of Ottawa, while the poultry is in the hands of Dr. Bell, of Winnipeg, and the pigeons in the hands of T. Wilkinson, of Nanaimo. The two latter features are worthy of special mention. Through the assistance of the local Poultry and Pet Stock association, the exhibit has been made comprehensive and high class and the fight in every class was witnessed in past years in a marked degree.

Other displays which are being judged are: School drawing and brush work by W. H. Burns, map drawing and penmanship by E. W. Chase and S. J. Willis, B.A.; manual training, by A. Smith, M.A., and Harry Dunnell.

Successful Ascension. Great interest was evinced in the work of the balloon ascension by Prof. Sylvan. This was carried through as advertised. With the assistance of a number of the city's best mechanics, the curiosity, crowded about the huge piece of canvas while it was being inflated, the preliminary arrangements for the ascent, the ascent itself, the word was given and the aeronaut, clinging to a tapez bar, shot far into the air, ascending with such rapidity that soon he appeared but a speck. He waved his arms jauntily at the people, who, craning their necks in the eagerness of the moment, soon he pulled the parachute drop. For just the fraction of a second he came towards earth with the velocity of a cannon ball, and then, very prettily, the canvas broke out in umbrella shape and he descended slowly and gracefully, alighting unharmed, in full view of the throng. There was absolutely no wind, the scene was spectacular in the extreme, and the professor reached the ground within one hundred yards of the spot he had left but a few minutes before.

The space allotted in the main building at the exhibition for school work this year is not large. As a consequence much that had been selected by the teachers cannot be shown. Most of the available space is devoted to the brush drawing which is a new feature of the work in the Victoria schools. It is about a half and a half since brush drawing was introduced into all the schools and Miss Mills, principal of the Victoria school, has been in the city under the guidance of Miss Mills is giving lessons in brush drawing and from the tiny tot of six to the girl or boy preparing for admission to the entrance classes; all the pupils are using colors to reproduce the objects they have observed or have been led to see.

The work has so far been confined chiefly to the primary and secondary schools. There has been a time to do much mixing of the colors to any great extent. Yet it is wonderful what a short time has been accomplished. At first the little ones are taught to hold the brush. This control of the brush is the beginning of all manual work. At the same time they learn to distinguish the colors and to mix them. They are led to reproduce the colors of the sky, the grass and the earth, to notice such facts as the yellow of the sun, the green of a yellow flower, that grow in the brown earth.

It is surprising how the little ones in their first year at school have been taught to mix colors. They are set sky, vegetables, grasses and other things they see in the world around them. Though the plan is the same, each teacher has free scope to exercise her own individuality and the little pictures by the tiny tots, in separate expeditions, are quite different. Even the little ones learn that things must be placed in order. The next step is to learn the children to see that things at a distance look different from those near and we have fences, mountains, trees and things being away into the distance. It is to the credit of the teachers that these little people of seven or eight have mastered this first principle of perspective.

Drawing. In the lessons in drawing things as they are, articles of every day use are brought into the schoolroom and scissors, pen knives, brooms, rackets, glass pegs, hatchets and a number of things are shown. The reason for this is to make the child see in such a way is impressed on the child and it is surprising how correctly, for instance the rivets in a pen knife are placed in the handle, the rivets in a screw are placed in the head, and so on, to make a pretty picture, but to reproduce as truly as possible what is seen.

The brush is a great assistance in nature work and the children of the intermediate grades do very pretty pictures of the things they see. The growth of the flower is shown in the buttercup, the little vetch and the lupine, the growth of the blossoms were used to show how the pollen is carried by the wind and

to give an idea of the wonderful way in which the seed is fertilized. The youngest children get an idea of proportion and while painting their lemons, apples and oranges and working in their triangles and by the time they apply their knowledge in original designs. It was quite surprising how good some of these little pictures were. In a few instances were children considering the age of the children and the short time they had been in a few instances were such children allowed to show work beyond that of their schoolmates. In the measurements were shown in the cylinder and ellipse forms by the second reader classes. Among the figures chosen were flower pots and tumblers partially filled with water.

In one of the classes in Victoria a child's wagon had been chosen to illustrate the use of the wheel and a little fellow had made his wheels so round that they could be rolled over the floor. Another class used a bicycle for the same purpose.

In the older classes greater exactness and devotion to perspective was required and in the girl's school some excellent scroll work was shown and books arranged in various ways were well drawn.

In this grade the pictures of flowers and plants done by some of the scholars in almost all the schools were very good. Some of the students. Here, perhaps, South Park school excelled. There is however a known in the opinion of the judges that the display was exceedingly good. North Ward. But these were drawn before being painted which is considered a fault. From the time Miss Pussly Wilton, of the Victoria school, drew the picture of a flower, grey till the ragged rose hedges grow with berries, bright eyes are on the mark the changing season and the fingers are trying to copy their grace and beauty. At Spring Ridge much time is devoted to this work as the pretty sheets show.

At Rock Bay there were delicate clover blossoms, tiny shamrock leaves and Pet Stock, and many other pretty blossoms. At Kingston street a nest built in a shoe afforded a very interesting but a model for the little painters. Work by W. H. Burns, on a nest had been illustrated by a window and a wooden shoe. In another room, a display of lining was noticeable as well as a careful Stock Farm, Barton from the Central school showed a pretty collection of wild flowers.

At the little Hillside school the good work of the children was shown. It proved that both teachers and pupils had worked hard and successfully. This work was not prepared for the exhibition but was selected from the work done during the year by the children. Few of the parents know how much effort on the part of the teaching staff, whom had no special training for the work, this special class represents. But Miss Mills, who is herself devoted to her work, fully appreciates the co-operation of the staff. The work of the children have a table display of clay models and other work and a number of ingenious little people turned milliners and dress makers. There is a display of clay models, the various grades, which is more remarkable for legibility and uniformity than for its beauty. It will be the last exhibition of specimens of the system as by the order of the council of public instruction it has been abandoned and henceforth the system in use will be that known as the natural system.

There is a good display of map drawing. Some of the specimens from the North Ward of the usual line and very well executed. Mr. Fung shows a map of the world, showing the kinds of vegetation and the ocean currents. Mr. Ledingham, her map indicates the different regions, the position of earth, sun and moon and the phases of the moon. Mr. Fung is a beautiful piece of work. A world clock and the maps of Canada are other features. The children found where minerals are to be found are other features. A map of the tides by Arnold Newbigging is another fine piece of work. Among the outside schools very creditable manual work is shown by the Tolmie school.

The Sewing. The exhibition of the sewing done in the various classes of the public schools is most creditable. This work has been done under the supervision of Miss Boorman, the teacher of the various grades giving credit and regularity. In the first hour a week complete control of the classes, Mr. Fung, Miss Boorman began her work and she has preserved some specimens of what some of the older girls were able to do when she took charge. It is only fair, however, to say that there were some teachers, Miss Blake of Central school, Miss Gardner in Victoria, West of North Ward and some others whose children could sew very well. But now all the girls in the city are learning to sew and the things that grow in the hands of the domestic science pupils. In the primary classes the little ones learn to hem and specimens of their work is shown on their practice pieces as well as on the finished work. The pupils of the domestic science classes in the intermediate grade, however, where sewing is added to the other work, the finished work is small. The dainty lace bordered handkerchiefs and the carefully made aprons show that ease and skill are being acquired. In the senior grades all the ordinary stitches are shown and the diploma cards of June, 1908, are exhibited to show what had been learned. The next step is to learn the work of sewing that all the children in plain sewing have been learned. These include darning, feather stitching, hemming, putting on band and herding boning done by Marie Doan, Central school, Victoria, and a number of other things. The work of the pupils of the Victoria school, Frances Johnson, North Ward, is also shown and very excellent it is. The exhibition is button-holding and patching. The excellence of the work done is surprising. There are not many button holes or put on a neat patch these children.

The Prize Winners. The following prize winners in the

appended classes were announced yesterday:

Class 1, Clydesdales. Stallion, three years or over—1, F. Maitland-Dougall, Cornfield, Pemberton stock farm, Port Guichon; 2, Geo. Sangster, Sidney, B.C.; 3, L. and M. Miller, Mount Tolleme; 4, French Bros., Vernon.

Stallion, three years—1, W. E. Butler, Ingersoll, Ont. Stallion, two years—1, G. L. Watson, Cariboo Road; 2, Pemberton stock farm, Port Guichon; 3, Inverholme stock farm, Ladner.

Brood mare with foal by side—1, Pemberton stock farm, Port Guichon; 2, S. R. O'Neil, Vernon; 3, Pemberton stock farm, Port Guichon.

Yearling filly—1, Inverholme stock farm, Ladner; 2, S. R. O'Neil, Vernon; 3, Pemberton stock farm, Port Guichon.

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also of Vancouver, drew forth great applause. The ladies showed a disposition to walk their mounts at the hinders end of the line, but withal did not do so. The jumps were made in a clean and effective manner, the riders bringing the horses over in a highly capable manner. Miss Violet Foster was to have ridden "Bosch," a horse shown by C. N. Merritt, of Vancouver, but did not do so at the last moment to the regret of her friends.

The last event of the evening, open also to hunters, was also one of the best displaying not only exceptional horse quality but also remarkably good horsemanship on the part of the riders. "Do D. Ross, of Golden, took more than fifty went the first honors for horsemanship. His mount at first showed a disposition to balk at the hurdles, but after one or two tries redeemed itself by its jumping, in this particular outdressing the other entries. But to Mrs. Smith on "Don Pedro" was awarded the first prize, her performance certainly proving the most acceptable to the judges, while in her mount she possessed the most notable superior of the other entries.

In the other entries, the heavy horses (high soppers), saddle horses, trotting horses and the delivery class, the entries were exceptionally good, the appointments of the best and the winners so near a parity that it took more than ordinary examination to satisfy the judges before the awards were made. Dixie Ross & Co., in the delivery class, scored two wins, taking the blue and white ribbons with "Prince" and "Duke" and in the saddle horses "Prince" exhibited by David Spencer, was awarded the first prize. "Duke" exhibited by R. R. Ricketts, of Vancouver, and "Jackie" exhibited by Capt. Macdonald.

The Results. Following are the results of the first night's events:

Class 131—Four horse teams of draught horses, each horse to weigh 1500 lbs. or over. Mares or geldings, 3 years and over, to be shown to an appropriate vehicle. First prize, silver cup presented by J. H. Todd & Sons, much liked, and second, Bess, Bells, Nan, exhibited by S. R. O'Neil, Vernon; B.C.; second, Bess, Bells, Chubb and Shorty, exhibited by Fredrick & Nelson, Seattle; third, Prince Sandy, Prince and Punch, exhibited by James Richards, Victoria, B.C.

Class 132—Pair of draught horses, each horse to weigh 1600 lbs. and over, mares or geldings, three years and over, to be shown to appropriate vehicle. First prize, silver cup presented by Alderman Henderson, First, Sir William and Thos. Rhodes, exhibited by S. R. O'Neil, Vernon, B.C.; second, Charles and Sir Thomas, exhibited by S. R. O'Neil, Vernon, B.C.; third, team, unnamed, exhibited by Pemberton Stock farm, Port Guichon, B.C.

Class 133—Ladies' hunters, mares or geldings, 15 hands one inch and over, to be ridden by ladies over six jumps, each horse to weigh 1200 lbs. and over, to be shown to appropriate vehicle. First prize, silver cup presented by Alderman Henderson, First, Sir William and Thos. Rhodes, exhibited by S. R. O'Neil, Vernon, B.C.; second, Charles and Sir Thomas, exhibited by S. R. O'Neil, Vernon, B.C.; third, team, unnamed, exhibited by Pemberton Stock farm, Port Guichon, B.C.

Class 134—Horses in heavy harness, 15 hands one inch and over, to be shown to appropriate vehicle, horses to count 80 per cent, appointments 20 per cent. First prize, silver cup presented by B. C. Hardware company, First, Madcap, b.m., 5 years, exhibited by W. S. Holland and H. S. Rolston, Vancouver; second, Merry Widow, b.m., 5 years, exhibited by Maplewood farm, Renton, Wash.; third, Lord Grey, grey, 5 years, exhibited by Victor S. Spencer, Vancouver.

Class 135—Horse or gelding to be shown in single harness to butchers or grocers' delivery. Must be bona fide property of exhibitor at the time of entry. Horses to count 75 per cent, vehicles and appointments 25 per cent. First prize, silver cup presented by W. H. Wilkinson, First, Prince, Ross & Co., Victoria; second, Doc, b.m., 6 years, exhibited by Dixie H. Ross & Co., Victoria; third, unnamed, exhibited by L. Goodacre and company.

Class 136—Saddle horses, mares or geldings, 14 hands and over not over 15.1, to be shown to appropriate vehicle in conformation and quality, 75 per cent, paces and manners, 25 per cent. First prize, silver cup presented by Charles H. Redfern, First, Prince, Ross & Co., Victoria; second, Doc, b.m., 6 years, exhibited by Dixie H. Ross & Co., Victoria; third, unnamed, exhibited by L. Goodacre and company.

Class 137—Hunters, mares or geldings, 14 hands and over, to be shown to appropriate vehicle. Horses to count 75 per cent, vehicles and appointments 25 per cent. First prize, silver cup presented by W. H. Wilkinson, First, Prince, Ross & Co., Victoria; second, Doc, b.m., 6 years, exhibited by Dixie H. Ross & Co., Victoria; third, unnamed, exhibited by L. Goodacre and company.

Class 138—Horse or gelding to be shown in single harness to butchers or grocers' delivery. Must be bona fide property of exhibitor at the time of entry. Horses to count 75 per cent, vehicles and appointments 25 per cent. First prize, silver cup presented by W. H. Wilkinson, First, Prince, Ross & Co., Victoria; second, Doc, b.m., 6 years, exhibited by Dixie H. Ross & Co., Victoria; third, unnamed, exhibited by L. Goodacre and company.

Class 139—Horse or gelding to be shown in single harness to butchers or grocers' delivery. Must be bona fide property of exhibitor at the time of entry. Horses to count 75 per cent, vehicles and appointments 25 per cent. First prize, silver cup presented by W. H. Wilkinson, First, Prince, Ross & Co., Victoria; second, Doc, b.m., 6 years, exhibited by Dixie H. Ross & Co., Victoria; third, unnamed, exhibited by L. Goodacre and company.

Class 140—Horse or gelding to be shown in single harness to butchers or grocers' delivery. Must be bona fide property of exhibitor at the time of entry. Horses to count 75 per cent, vehicles and appointments 25 per cent. First prize, silver cup presented by W. H. Wilkinson, First, Prince, Ross & Co., Victoria; second, Doc, b.m., 6 years, exhibited by Dixie H. Ross & Co., Victoria; third, unnamed, exhibited by L. Goodacre and company.

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Class 144—Horse or gelding to be shown in single harness to butchers or grocers' delivery. Must be bona fide property of exhibitor at the time of entry. Horses to count 75 per cent, vehicles and appointments 25 per cent. First prize, silver cup presented by W. H. Wilkinson, First, Prince, Ross & Co., Victoria; second, Doc, b.m., 6 years, exhibited by Dixie H. Ross & Co., Victoria; third, unnamed, exhibited by L. Goodacre and company.

Class 145—Horse or gelding to be shown in single harness to butchers or grocers' delivery. Must be bona fide property of exhibitor at the time of entry. Horses to count 75 per cent, vehicles and appointments 25 per cent. First prize, silver cup presented by W. H. Wilkinson, First, Prince, Ross & Co., Victoria; second, Doc, b.m., 6 years, exhibited by Dixie H. Ross & Co., Victoria; third, unnamed, exhibited by L. Goodacre and company.

Class 146—Horse or gelding to be shown in single harness to butchers or grocers' delivery. Must be bona fide property of exhibitor at the time of entry. Horses to count 75 per cent, vehicles and appointments 25 per cent. First prize, silver cup presented by W. H. Wilkinson, First, Prince, Ross & Co., Victoria; second, Doc, b.m., 6 years, exhibited by Dixie H. Ross & Co., Victoria; third, unnamed, exhibited by L. Goodacre and company.

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