

boar, and boar under a year, also for aged sow and for herd. Conroy had the 1st-prize sow under six months, 1st-prize yearling sow, and 1st-prize sow under a year, and 2nd-prize aged boar, aged sow, and sow and litter. Richardson secured 1st-prize for sow and litter, and 2nd for boar under a year, for boar under six months, and for sow under six months. Louis Simpson, Hull, won 5 prizes in this class, including 1st for boar under 6 months and 2nd for litter.

CHESTER WHITES

were shown by H. George & Sons, Crampton, to whom the bulk of the prizes were awarded.

DUROC-JERSEYS

were entered by W. N. Tape, Bentpath, and W. M. Smith, Fairfield Plains. The prizes all went to Tape, except 3rd on aged boar, 2nd on aged sow, and 3rd on yearling sow to Smith.

The Fall Dairy Calf.

Apart from the advantage of having fresh cows in the winter, the *Jersey Hustler* contends that there are some good reasons why the calf should come in the fall. Under any circumstances it has to be grown mainly on skim milk, supplemented with flaxseed jelly and meal for two or three months. The spring calf makes comparatively little use of pasture the first year, none to speak of till August or September, and the skim milk and meal which it consumes are worth little more in the fall than in the spring. The fall calf, fed as above suggested, learns to eat hay in the latter months of the winter, and the difference between the value of the hay and the value of the grass is about the difference there is between the cost of the fall calf and the spring. When both are turned out to pasture the next year the fall calf can make as good use of that grass as its brother six months older, and sell for very little less when both are turned into the feed lot, the one at eighteen or thirty months old and the other at twelve or twenty-four. The question, therefore, as to whether the calf should come in the fall or in the spring, is to be determined by the comparative profits of the summer's or winter's market. The winter's milk costs more money, but it brings more. It costs more in feed, in shelter, and about the same in labor, and the relative price of milk fed must determine whether the calf shall come in the fall or in the spring. As farmers settle down to dairying as a business they will more and more aim to make it an all the year round business, and hence have calves coming all the year round, with a greater proportion of fall calves than heretofore. This will give creameries permanent work, which is essential to their profit, and will bring dairying down more and more to a legitimate and profitable business all the year round.

FARM.

The Future of the Western and Other Fairs.

Elsewhere in this issue Mr. T. B. Millar, one of the leading dairymen of Ontario Province, commends the attitude of the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* regarding the Toronto Exhibition, and he demands that public attention be drawn to the need for reform in connection also with the Western Fair.

With reasonably sound management and favorable weather, the continued success of the Western Fair is certain. Held in a beautiful and thrifty city and completely surrounded by a populous and prosperous agricultural country, with numerous towns and villages, all of easy access to London, nothing but carelessness or mismanagement could kill this annual exhibition. On the other hand, wisely directed and improved in agricultural, industrial and artistic directions, it may be made a still greater boon to the community than ever before, proving an incentive to advancement, affording a wholesome outing to the people, with a reasonable amount of first-class, clean entertainment, and proving of inestimable advantage to the mercantile and manufacturing interests of the city, as well as to agriculture and stock-rearing.

But if the directors have their eyes and ears open, as we presume they have, they must know that the public are growing restive over the want of industrial features, the seeming dominance of grand-stand attractions in the efforts of the management, the lack of restraint upon fakers, and the increasing blatancy and prominence of side shows. If the directors are wise they will profit by the warnings and not run the risk of destroying public faith in the institution. Once that happens, one substantial exhibitor after another will drop out, public attendance will wane, and financial failure that the revenues derived from wheel-of-fortune gamblers and "palaces of mystery" will not avert will inevitably follow.

Through the activity of the city police authorities early in the week, and through the prompting of the Secretary of the Young Men's Association (Mr. Sayer) in his capacity as a private citizen, some of the gamblers who appeared on the grounds were stopped, one of them being brought before the Police Magistrate, whose ruling was sound and righteous. Certain grand privileges had, for a substantial cash consideration, been granted these gentry, with the injunction that there was to be "no

gambling," but at a meeting of the directors after the police interference, instead of the effort being endorsed and backed up, there was a kick on the part of some about outside meddling, loss of revenue, etc.; and on Thursday, the great day of the Fair, one of our editors saw half a dozen of these gaming wheels and other like devices, such as drawing envelopes containing numbers, running full blast, openly, in the center of the grounds, with what appeared to be confederates or decoys in the crowds working with the operators of the wheels, and by drawing large prizes pulling in an occasional sucker from among the unwary. So far as we could observe, no director nor police officer attempted to interfere with them in any way. And yet the Ontario Act of 1888 expressly prohibits, under heavy penalties, any games of chance or gambling at these exhibitions. If this open disregard of law continues, it may yet be necessary for the Provincial authorities to send out officers who will do their duty and bring recalcitrant agricultural societies to their senses by withholding their grants, as well as prosecuting the offenders. We are not referring to trifling trials of skill or strength, such as throwing a ring over a cane or striking a weight up with a mallet, but gaming boards or wheels. The Western Fair has no doubt greatly increased the cost of management by spreading its dates over eight or ten days, but it continues, as of old, to draw its big paying crowds on Wednesday and Thursday of the second week. Hence the effort to get more revenue.

The side shows continue to be thrust into a very prominent position, as if to intercept the people going to the exhibits of live stock or carriages, or the few exhibits scattered over the space once occupied by the magnificent display of agricultural implements, which has been withdrawn from our exhibitions for a five-year period unless the manufacturers annul their ironclad compact. One of these side shows was of the lowest character; in fact, the most degrading ever tolerated at any of our exhibitions. In vulgar parlance, it was styled a "leg show," and large numbers of indignant protests have reached us, so that it was very generally regarded as the disgrace of the Western Fair. The show within the tent was perhaps not so much worse than that suggestively given by the brazen hussies at the door, but the language and conduct of the gang running the show, and of the more grossly immoral habitués, was scandalously bad. Scores of young lads, and even girls, fresh from pure homes (and even mothers with babes in their arms), were drawn into it to see and hear what would brush away perhaps forever the early bloom of virtue and destroy their ideals of noble womanhood. Better a thousand times that the Western Fair should come short financially than to profit by the debasement of the youth. The attention of at least one director was called to this indecent show, and he had no better excuse to offer than ignorance of its nature, or helplessness to keep such things out. Hereafter filth and gaming fakers must be kept out or run out.

The article entitled "After the Exhibition," published in our last issue, appears to have arrested very general attention, and from all quarters have come words commending the position we have taken in regard to the conduct of the Toronto Industrial. That it voiced the best judgment of the country, we have not the slightest doubt. The newspaper press of Toronto, almost without exception, admits the force of the solid public impeachment of the tendencies of the exhibition. Outside newspapers take a similar stand. Officers and directors heard it at their afternoon luncheon on the grounds. Mr. A. F. MacLaren, M. P., the well-known Perth dairyman, emphatically declared there for a new order of things, with more careful attention to industrial features, and giving the dairy department a decent show.

T. H. Race, editor of the *Mitchell Recorder*, says: "The once great Industrial is fast degenerating into a modern Donnybrook. If the handsome city of Toronto does not want to jeopardize its fair name, and the fame of the Exhibition, it had better take a note of warning from the common voice."

Geo. Wilson, editor of the *Port Hope Guide*, says: "It lacks industrial and educational features."

A piano man endorsed the remark that all the roads at the Fair lead past the side shows to the grand stand.

Mr. Burk, of the Montreal Royal Electric Co., in reply to a representative of the *Toronto Star*, which interviewed a large number of prominent men on the subject, said: "The management should make special efforts to preserve the more substantial features."

McLaughlin Carriage Co. representative replied: "We do not see the crowds away off in this corner where the carriage display is pushed. The Exhibition as now run does not pay us."

Mr. S. Brown, another carriage exhibitor: "The people are all taken away from us. The fair is being turned into a huge bazaar. A change has got to come, and the sooner the better."

Mr. Stevenson, another carriage exhibitor: "This Exhibition will go the way the Buffalo Exhibition went years ago—gradually turned into a fake show and all went to pot."

Mr. A. F. Rutter, of Warwick Bros. & Rutter, Toronto: "In all fairness to Canadian manufacturers, the main building should be given up entirely to their exhibits, and not to two-penny half penny shows and candy stalls."

Mr. Richard Brown, of Brown Bros., Toronto:

"An alteration should be made in the main building, so that the many visitors who will run over to Toronto next year from Buffalo may have a good chance to see what Canada can do in the manufacture of really first-class goods."

Mr. W. W. Argyle, Toronto:—"People go to the Fair to see what progress manufacturers have made. More encouragement should be given exhibitors."

Mr. John Catto:—"An exhibition of industries and manufacturing processes is what we want to see built up."

Mr. Wm. Dineen, Toronto:—"Side shows are given altogether too much prominence. The industrial and educational part should be placed in the van, and not be made secondary to the circus feature."

A. S. Irving, Toronto *News* Co.:—"Too much circus about the Exhibition. It pays now, but how long will it last? Exhibitors must be given a square deal, or discontent will increase and the whole Fair be in danger of falling flat."

S. H. Janes:—"The entertainment feature is very essential, but the visitor wants to see something instructive also. I am interested in stock, but there is no place where I can get a respectable view of horses and cattle."

A. E. Huestis, Toronto:—"Every effort should be made to make the Fair of 1901 an industrial one, and not merely a place of amusement. The main building should be used for what it was originally intended—an exhibition of the industry and first-class work of Canada."

Rev. Dr. Briggs, manager Methodist Book Room:—"The Exhibition should be an educational factor first, and a place of amusement afterwards. The attention of the people is not sufficiently attracted to the great strides made every year by Canadian manufacturers."

Testimony like the foregoing in support of our contention is simply overwhelming!

Can people be interested in useful exhibits? They were at Toronto when such displays had half a chance, and at London and Ottawa ditto. In the London main building a young woman was running a machine, making common straw hats, and in the old machinery hall the McClary Mfg. Co. had a couple of hands running machines making little tin cups. Both these simple exhibits were surrounded continuously by thronging crowds eager to see and learn something. Why not take a cue from that? As the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* has already suggested, let our fair boards devote some of their constructive energies to providing exhibits of that character, and improving the facilities for the display of all agricultural, industrial, scientific and artistic products, and our exhibitions will be kept worthy the name which they have, but which they are in great danger of losing. For years they have been educating the people up to the circus and fake idea, and it will take some time and trouble to educate them back, but it has got to be done, if we read the signs of the times aright, and we generally do.

The "Midway" Must Go.

From end to end of this Dominion, wherever the faker and the "Midway" has been introduced at industrial or agricultural exhibitions, the better class of the community is awakening to the danger that lies in this modern "feature" that is allowed admission to fair grounds under the plea of "revenue." The managers are apt to use the argument that the fact that they pay is evidence that the public patronize these shows and therefore they must cater to the public; but we do not believe any directorate is relieved of its responsibility to its patrons when it permits "shows" that cannot be stopped simply because they don't come under the police court interpretations of the law against immorality and obscenity. Not only in Canada is this Midway business being condemned, but by the better classes across the line. The following is from the *Wallace Farmer*, an American agricultural journal of high standing:

"Ever since the World's Fair of 1893 there has flowed through the Western States a stream of pollution which no other word perhaps expresses so well as the 'Midway.' Why it should be called the Midway, we can form no possible conception. It is not midway between civilization and barbarism, but barbarism itself. If it showed us the good side of barbarism as well as the vice, thoughtful men might take a philosophic interest in it. The preferred vehicle, or rather sewer, for spreading these vices of barbarism among plain, honest, sober-minded people of the type of the Western granger has been the state and county agricultural fairs and what is known as street fairs. It is a shame that such exhibitions have been permitted in a single instance among such a people as the Western farmers."

We were very sorry to learn that the management of the Iowa Agricultural Society permitted the Midway this year, even on one corner of the grounds devoted to improvement in agriculture, live stock, and agricultural life and manners. While it was guaranteed, and no doubt in the best faith, that this show would be decent, we think that the management saw, this time at least, that neither decency nor honesty is possible in a Midway. The only way to reform it is to take Shakespeare's advice to players and "reform it altogether" that is, do away with it completely. The Midway as at present conducted is altogether evil, incapable of reform, and should not be tolerated by any association that has claims to decency or to the patronage of decent people.