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A Great Fair at Guelph

Never since the Guelph Winter Fair was first inaugurated have the exhibits been so numerous or of such high quality, as they were at the fair held last week. And never before has the public showed such an interest in the fair. The attendance exceeded all records. At times it was almost impossible to move around in the fair buildings. The hotels in the city were full before the fair even started and the reception committee had difficulty in finding sleeping accommodation for the visitors.

The buildings have been greatly extended since the last Winter Fair, a large new horse barn being placed to the south of the tracks. But even with this additional room there was difficulty in housing the exhibits. If the fair is to continue to grow in the future as it has in the last few years, the buildings will have to be greatly extended before another year.

The new buildings to the south of the Grand Trunk Railway tracks are not looked on with favor by the horsemen who were obliged to house their stock there. Being separated from the rest of the exhibits visitors do not readily find their way to the new department and the exhibitors therefore had not the same opportunity for advertising their stock and for making sales.

DAIRY CATTLE

The centre of interest for dairymen visiting the Fair was the dairy cattle stable. Old exhibitors and fair goers were unanimous in their decision that never before in the history of the fair have the dairy cattle entries been of such uniform high quality. Again the exhibitors were cramped for lack of room and five animals had to be housed in another part of the building. The most pleasing feature of the dairy test was the large number of new exhibitors of both Ayrshires and Holsteins.

BEEF CATTLE

Although of uniformly high quality the number of beef cattle entries was decidedly below last year, perhaps 25 per cent. less. The fact that the Toronto Fat Stock Show came before the Guelph Winter Fair seriously interfered with the success of the latter. One breeder stated that he had left 17 head in Toronto that he had intended for Guelph. The addition of the horse classes to the fair has also tended to detract from the value of the fair from the beef man's standpoint.

In both pure bred and grade classes, Shorthorn blood strongly predominated. Among the exhibitors were Jas. Leask, Greenbank; John Brown & Sons, Galt; J. Watt & Sons, Salford; Geo. Amos & Sons, Moffatt, and several others. One of the strongest classes was for heifers, one year and under two. There were 12 entries. The winner was Queen Mildred, a blocky well fleshed, low set heifer, owned by Peter Stewart, Everton. The championship for best steer went to Joe Dandy, the second best steer at the Chicago exhibition. He is owned by Jos. Stone, Sainfield, Ont.

Aberdeen Angus cattle were shown by James Bowman, Guelph, and Herefords by L. O. Clifford, of Oshawa, Henry Reid, Mimosa, and H. D. Smith, Hamilton. Guelph had a numerous class and of unusually good quality.

HOBBS

The horse classes are rapidly assuming the place of first importance at the Guelph Winter Fair. The entries this year in every class were much more numerous than last and the general complaint was "not enough room." Clydesdales predominated some of the principal exhibitors being Graham and Renfrew, Bedford Park; Smith and Richardson, Columbus; T. Hassard, Markham, and J. A. Boag & Son, Queensville.

"B-dand," a stallion owned by Gra-

ham and Renfrew, was awarded the grand championship over Hyacinthus, exhibited by Smith and Richardson. So close was the competition that the two judges could not agree, and a referee had to be called in. Smith and Richardson captured the championship for Clydesdale mare and Canadian bred stallion. A very fine Canadian bred mare was shown by A. G. Gormly of Unionville. This mare was Smith and Richardson's imported "Iron Duchess," a close run for the female championship.

Porter Bros., of Appleby, were the largest exhibitors of Shires and got the most of the prize money. John Gardhouse & Sons also had a few on hand and secured the male championship. The show of light horses was a record breaker. Hackneys predominated, but there was also a good showing of thoroughbreds, standard breeds and ponies.

SHEEP

There were nearly 500 sheep on exhibition, many of them being Chicago winners. All of the leading breeds were well represented, and there was scarcely an inferior animal in the building. J. Lloyd Jones of the Chicago champion, was again grand champion wether at Guelph. The Drummond Cup, donated for the best five lambs, was won by Peter Arkell, Teeswater, with his Oxford. Quebec province was represented by a string of Southdowns shown by the Drummond estate. The Huntley Wood farm at Baconfield, Que., also had an exhibit. As usual, John Campbell was strong in Shropshires.

SWINE

Yorkshires, Tamworths and Berkshires were all strongly represented in the swine classes. Yorkshires made the largest exhibit. J. E. Brethour, of Burford, and James Featherstone, of Streetsville, being the largest winners. Tamworths attracted particular attention because of the uniform high quality of the exhibits. Charles Curry, Morrison, A. A. Colvill, Newmarket, being the largest winners. A nice string of Berkshires were shown by J. S. Cowan, Donagay.

POULTRY

Over 50 different breeds of poultry were on exhibition on the second floor of the Fair Building. The utility breeds, such as Rocks, Orpingtons and Wyandottes, predominated. The heavy meat breeds, such as Brahmas and Cochins, were also a larger showing than usual, and these heavy breeds seem to be gaining in popularity, with fanciers at least.

The show of dressed poultry was particularly attractive. The boxes of 12 chickens in each shipment were particularly good, the birds being packed in most attractive style. The pairs of Barred Rock cockerels was a splendid class. Turkeys only were shown in number of exhibits, and probably in quality as well. An educational exhibit was made by the Poultry Department of the Ontario Agricultural College, at which were exhibited small models of houses, feeders, hoppers and so forth, and information given on poultry problems.

SEEDS

In spite of the dry weather last year the seed exhibit was one of the best yet. Some of the oats were a little immature; otherwise their worst defect was that the varieties were somewhat mixed. Corn also was a little soft in some cases. The potato exhibit was the best ever seen in Guelph, several of the awards going to Win. McChesney of Peterboro, and New Ontario. The Ontario Corn Growers' Association and the Canadian Seed Growers' Association had fine exhibits. The exhibit in connection with the standing Field Crops Competition

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