

Calgary Horse Show

Horse was king at the Tenth Annual Horse Show, held under the auspices of the Alberta Horse Breeders' Association, at Calgary, April 18 to 21. At the same time there was in progress the Seventh Annual Fatstock show, held under the auspices of the department of agriculture, and the Eleventh Annual Auction sale of bulls, held under the auspices of the Cattle Breeders' Association.

The weather was anything but favorable on Monday morning, which was gathering in day, but before noon the clouds lifted and Sunny Alberta indeed nothing short of ideal. The official program called for the formal opening of the Horse Show on Tuesday evening by His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Bolyen and this was adhered to. The risk when, in lieu of a proper horse show building, the show was held was well filled. Society indeed turned out in force and the management must have been well satisfied with the reception accorded them. As usual at exhibitions in the West the crowd was a very enthusiastic one and the many exhibits received marked attention, the favorites being warmly applauded.

Nine Hundred Entries

With over nine hundred entries, the horse show resulted in one of the greatest gatherings ever seen in the West, and in fact it would be hard to find an equal for the quality displayed anywhere on the American continent. The citizens of Alberta may well be proud of this exhibition, and as it now is assured of permanent headquarters in the shape of a fine building which will be erected during the present year we may easily look forward to the show rapidly increasing in importance and value. As befitting a provincial exhibition, the exhibits were drawn from all over the province and very few sections were unrepresented.

The judges were given some very heavy work right from the start, many of the classes being exceedingly difficult to judge, but they gave general satisfaction in their work and their awards generally met with approval.

As usual, the draft classes were very heavy, as many as seventeen facing the judges in some cases, while certain sections of the lighter classes were also well filled. The result was that the judging did not come off according to program and the classes were being brought into the ring several hours late. This was especially true in the evenings for program, which should have been concluded at eleven-thirty, was not completed till nearly two o'clock. On the whole the exhibition was in advance of any previously held and the list of winners was so large that it is impossible to give the full returns here.

Clydes Predominate

Dealing with the various breeds the Clydes were, of course, predominant, and many splendid animals were on exhibition. The principal exhibitors were John A. Turner, Calgary; John Graham, Carberry; Duncan Clark, Gleichen; J. W. Hayes, Calgary; John Clark, Crowfoot; Bryce Wright, De Winton; while many breeders from all parts of the province were present with one, two or three entries. Over one hundred animals were on exhibition to represent this particular breed.

Possibly the next class in importance, and where some of the keenest rivalry was shown, was the Percheron. Here George Lane's famous horses were entered in large numbers and they met with strong competition from other notable importers and breeders, among them being John C. Dreary, Cowley; W. W. Hunter, Olds; Robert Hamilton & Sons, Simcoe, Ont., and several others. In all, this breed was represented by about fifty very choice animals, and from the remarks made at the ringside it will be a very short time until they are crowding the Clydes out of first place in point of numbers.

The Sires are not yet in prominence to any great extent, and this breed was represented by about twenty splendid animals, the majority of the entries being in the class for stallions three years old and over.

The Belgians are another class which are gaining in prominence, and seem to be

finding favor with many. Although the entries are not yet very numerous still one or two firms are looking after this breed and they will be heard from in the future. At this exhibition about ten animals were shown, belonging principally to two firms, the Belgian Horse Ranch, Parmes Creek, and W. W. Hunter, Olds.

Suffolk Punches are another breed rapidly being pushed to the front, and where a few years ago they were practically unknown now some are on exhibition at almost every show held in the West. The principal exhibitor at Calgary was A. Jacques, of Lamerton, and the breed was represented by about a dozen entries. As was to be expected the draught horse classes were extra heavy, every class being well filled and the competition being keen in almost every instance. Needless to say the judges breathed a sigh of relief when this important class was finally judged. In all about sixty fine horses were shown in this class.

Light Horses

For style and action the light horse men put in a strong bid with many fine exhibits and the audience was not disappointed, for throughout the show these fine animals were high stepping and

The citizens of Calgary were prominent in many of these classes and the business men especially had done much to make their exhibits attractive. It was surprising indeed to see so many of the good outfits which were shown by many of the firms having headquarters in that city. In all, the Horse Show can be summed up as a huge success, and the tenth annual show will go down into history as the best yet under the auspices of the Alberta Horse Breeders' Association.

Splendid Cattle Show

Although on account of the many entries the horse show was predominant, still the cattle show and sale at Victoria Park must not be forgotten. Here many splendid animals were on exhibition and sale, and truth to tell there were some very poor ones also. This is true of every year, however, although the buyers at the sale now show their discrimination in very marked style, and the number of poor or unfitted bulls on sale is therefore decreasing each year. The number of cattle shown was not so large as in previous years; possibly the scarcity of feed was responsible for many of the breeders remaining at home this year, but the judge, Duncan Anderson, one

judge stated he could notice a vast improvement over conditions at the first fat stock show. One of the great features of this part of the show was the block competition and the awards in this class were not made public as we go to press. It is always interesting to note whether the judge's decision when the animal was alive will be sustained by the butcher on the greatest of all tests, the block.

Sheep and Swine

The fat sheep and swine classes brought out about the usual number of entries and the same exhibitors as in previous years. It is surprising that greater interest is not taken in this part of the show, and possibly as the time for the next show comes round it will be found that more people will realize the value and importance of a fat stock show and will prepare part of their stock for the competition.

Auction Sale

The next part of the show was the auction sale. A fair sized crowd faced the auctioneer in the judging pavilion, and the animals were run through in the usual expeditious manner. For the first time in the history of the show, Mr. Markle, Indian Agent, was not in attendance, and possibly for this reason bidding was not so brisk as usual, the result being a falling off in prices. This year the buyers were very cautious and the bidding was never very brisk, although in a few instances when good animals from well known herds were in the ring. Auctioneer Paisley was able to stir up a little enthusiasm. The buyers demanded quality throughout, and as soon as a poorly fitted animal appeared in the ring there was a noticeable falling off in the bidding, and in several instances the auctioneer had a hard job getting the bid past the low reserve price fixed by the association. The top price of the sale was \$185, secured by Mr. Wm. Sharp, of Lacombe, for his champion bull, Jasper. Mr. Sharp also secured the best average of the sale, his five bulls bringing him an average of \$163 each.

Twenty-three Herefords were offered for sale and twenty-two were sold, the highest price being for the two-year-old owned by S. M. Mace, Pekisko, which realized \$145. The average price for those sold was a trifle over \$87 each.

Nine Aberdeen-Angus bulls faced the auctioneer and all were sold, the average being about \$109 each. The highest price for this breed was realized by the two-year-old owned by W. T. G. McClure, Innisfail, which brought \$140.

One Galloway bull was sold, the price realized being \$95.

Fifty-one Shorthorns were brought into the ring and 49 found purchasers, the highest price realized being that above mentioned. The average price for the number sold was about \$104.30.

The sale of dairy bulls was not a success, the buyers having seemingly got tired. Only one Holstein was offered and he failed to find a purchaser. Four Ayrshires were offered and sold, the average price being \$53.75, which will not be very great encouragement for the dairy men to patronize this sale in the future. It almost seems as if the buyers have got into the habit of attending this sale for beef cattle, and that they do not want to have anything to do with dairy stock at the same time. On the whole, the bull sale can be said to have been very successful, and while some of the breeders may possibly have gone home disgruntled and sore at the small prices received others who had the fitted animal got good attention from the bidders.

Horse Breeders Meet

Held in conjunction with the show was the annual meeting of the various Breeders' Associations, which are held at various times during the week.

The Horse Breeders' Association was called to order by the president, Mr. George Lane, and possibly the feature of this meeting was his address in which he recited experiences he had had in investigating the question as to whether the horse is being supplanted to any great extent by the motor. He stated he had come to the conclusion that the horse is not only not being crowded out, but that on the contrary the introduction of

Continued on Page 32

OFFICERS FOR 1911-12

President, George Lane, Calgary, re-elected; first vice-president, C. J. Robert, Edmonton; second vice-president, Dr. Hargreaves, Medicine Hat. Breed Directors—Clydes, J. A. Turner, Calgary; Shires, G. A. Headley, Okotoks; Percherons, W. B. Thorne, Aldersyde; Thoroughbreds, B. A. Critchley, Cochrane; Coach breeds, G. E. Goddard, Cochrane; Standard bred, I. G. Rottle, Calgary; Hackneys, W. Moodie, De Winton; Ponies, O. E. Brown, Calgary; Suffolk Punch, Geo. Jacques, Lamerton; Belgians, Baron G. Roaldes, Parmes Creek; Heavy Draft, E. D. Adams, Calgary; Carriage horses, F. Johnson, Calgary; Roadsters, Geo. T. Haag, Calgary; Carriage horses, C. Riddick, Calgary; Agricultural horses, H. Bannister, Davisburg; Delivery horses, N. J. Christie, Calgary; Saddle horses, Count de Roaldes, Kew; Shetland Ponies, D. Thorburn, Davisburg; General directors, D. Clark, Gleichen; Colonel J. Walker, Calgary; P. D. McDonald, Cochrane; T. McMillan, Okotoks; F. N. Bedingfield, Pekisko.

Auditor—F. R. Exham, Calgary.

Cattle Breeders

Hon. president, J. A. Turner, Calgary; president, J. L. Walters, Clive; first vice-president, W. Sharpe, Lacombe; second vice-president, Bryce Wright, De Winton.

Breed directors—Shorthorns, A. F. McGill, Lacombe; Hereford, P. F. Huntley, Onion Lake; Aberdeen Angus, L. Hutchinson, Duhamel; Galloway, W. E. Tees, Holstons; T. Laycock, Calgary; Ayrshire, A. H. Trimble, Red Deer; Jersey, C. A. J. Sharman, Red Deer. General directors, T. Baird, Red Willow; S. M. Mace, Pekisko; W. T. G. McClure, Innisfail; W. F. Williams, Fort Saskatchewan; W. J. Elliott, Strathmore.

Auditor—F. R. Exham, Calgary.

showing off generally in a way to please the most fastidious. Anyone that took in the show and went away disappointed must have been hard indeed to satisfy.

As to what was the most popular breed it is hard to say, possibly the Thoroughbreds came in for as much attention as any, and nearly fifty of this breed faced the judges in the various classes, some of the larger exhibitors being, Walter Spore, Jr., Edmonton; G. K. Allen, Edmonton; and W. A. MacKenzie, Calgary, while the Canadian Bureau of Breeding also a nice horse on exhibition.

The Standard breeds made a nice exhibition, and as the bulk of the classes called for the exhibits to be shown in harness to an appropriate rig they made a splendid showing. About fifty entries were made to represent this breed also. Wm. Padeslow, Calgary; Jas. Farris, Grenville; and G. T. Haag, Calgary, being large exhibitors.

The Hackneys were, of course, prominent, and their high stepping evoked many rounds of applause. Unfortunately the number on exhibition was not as large as some of the other classes, but twenty-seven entered were good and are worthy of all praise. Possibly the largest entry list was that of F. C. Robert, of Edmonton, while J. J. Richards, of Red Deer, also had some very fine animals on exhibition. The Coach breeds were represented by a few good animals and are a class which will possibly grow in the future.

So much for the purebreds, but besides these there were many more classes where registration conditions were not required, and here the judges were indeed busy. In some instances over twenty exhibits lined up for decision, while from ten to twenty were no uncommon number.

of the best known and most popular in Western Canada, stated that those shown were good and were representative of the breeds.

In the Shorthorns the principle exhibitors were Wm. Sharp, Lacombe; J. L. Walters, Clive; J. Sharp, Lacombe, and A. F. McGill, Clive. Fifty-five entries were made in this class.

In Herefords thirty-three were entered, and it was possibly in this class where the extremes were shown, some being exceedingly well-fitted and others being, well—not. Oswald Palmer, Lacombe, was the principle exhibitor and had some fine animals.

The Aberdeen-Angus are slowly gaining in favor and nine fine animals were on exhibition. All the breeders in this class had recognized the importance of fitting, with the result that although the number was small the competition was keen. Other classes represented by small exhibits were Galloways, Ayrshires and Holsteins, and some very choice animals were shown.

Fat Stock

The third section of the fair was the fat stock show, and unfortunately it was in this section where the greatest falling off was apparent. No doubt the reason was the one previously referred to, shortage of feed, and it is kept many from preparing the animals for exhibition. The competition in the different classes was very keen, however, and this was especially true in the carload lots, no less than five carloads being on exhibition. Possibly on the whole none of the exhibits showed the fineness and finish of previous years, although there were a greater evenness among the exhibits, and the