

STOCK.

The Provincial Exhibition of British Columbia.

The Royal Agricultural and Industrial Society of British Columbia held their annual exhibition at New Westminster, Oct. 5th to 13th, when \$18,000 was offered in prizes. Extraordinary efforts had been made to render the exhibition truly representative of the different sections of the Province by Commissioner W. H. Keary and the Board of Directors, with very gratifying results both to the officials and the public generally. The disastrous conflagration which recently wiped out of existence almost the entire business portion of the City of New Westminster delayed the necessary work on the new buildings required to display the exhibits, but the ruins themselves were probably an additional attraction for visitors. The weather was very fine and warm during the first week of the fair, but, unfortunately, turned stormy and wet on the 9th and continued so until its close. A new feature, and what proved to be one of the most attractive of the fair, was a competition for three prizes, aggregating \$600, open to all the agricultural associations of the Province, for district exhibits of fruit, grain, grasses, roots and vegetables, artistically arranged. Handsome collections were sent in by the Chilliwack, Spallumcheen and Okanagan, Kelowna, Kamloops, Cowichan, and Langley Agricultural Associations. The prizes were awarded to the three first mentioned in the order stated. Collections of fruit of great excellence formed very attractive portions of the exhibits from all the districts competing. Hops from the Okanagan valley, of fine color and quality, and tobacco, cured and green, also manufactured into cigars, from Kelowna, are worthy of special mention, it being amply demonstrated that these sections are exceptionally well adapted to the growth of the special crops referred to, and their products fetching high prices in the open markets. Kelowna also made a fine showing of hams and bacon, somewhat higher cured than that usually offered for sale. The show of stock was very good in quality, but deficient in numbers in some classes. Complaints were made that the length of the exhibition was too great, and resulted in many good animals being kept at home. There is room for improvement in the preparation of much of the stock shown for exhibition purposes, a good many animals appearing to disadvantage on this account. Horses were judged by Mr. F. Torrance, V. S., of Winnipeg, and cattle, sheep and hogs by Mr. Jas. Bray, of Portage la Prairie, and their rulings gave general satisfaction.

CATTLE.

A though some very fine animals were shown, the beef breeds were not so well represented as they should be, and the competition was confined to a few individuals. In *Shorthorns*, Mr. Price Ellison, of Vernon, showed a well-grown two-year-old bull of great merit, 24th Duke of Grafton 28169, bred by Steele Bros., Salmon River Valley, B. C. He is rich roan in color, well proportioned, handled well, and showed the result of good care and feeding, and is a decided improvement on other animals in his class. Mr. W. H. Ludner, of Ludner's Landing, was a heavy prize-winner in this class, and also took the herd prize. He showed some very promising young stock, especially in two-year-old heifers, besides some nice level cows of good type, with better milking development than is customary nowadays with this breed.

Herefords.—All of the prizes in this class fell to the Kirkland Estate, who showed a herd of excellent animals, headed by their bull Nicola, a grand, massive specimen of the breed who would score well in competition anywhere. A two-year-old bull of his get, Rustler, showed all his sire's quality, and the cows and young stock too were all good specimens, showing fine quality. This herd was in good show condition, in pleasing contrast to others on the ground.

In the dairy breeds the competition was much keener, and a number of really first-class animals were shown. A tendency to coarseness was noticed in some of the younger stock, especially in Holsteins, although the Jerseys were not altogether free from the same tendency.

Jerseys.—The chief honors fell to the herd of magnificent animals shown by Mr. A. J. Street, of Chilliwack, who took 1st and sweepstakes prizes for bull of any age, 1st and 2nd in cows, and the herd prize, repeating victories gained at Chilliwack the preceding week. Mr. Street's herd was headed by the grand bull Liverpool Boy, a fine, vigorous animal, with first-rate lung and stomach development, coupled with good form and dairy points. This bull would class high in competition anywhere. In cows, Essie Gay, Kittie Gay, Leah of Sumas, and Wanda S., a daughter of the first named, by Belle's Rioter, made up a quartette difficult to match. Their fine dairy form and development, coupled with vigorous constitutions, demanded the highest encomiums. The two leading cows were freshly calved, and, of course, their udder and teat development showed to great advantage. Mr. A. C. Wells took 2nd for bull of any age, showing a fine animal, with good coloring and fine skin—perhaps somewhat heavy in the neck and shoulders. Messrs. T. Shannon & Sons took 1st for two-year-old bull with Premier Laurier, a well-developed animal, with fine quality. Mr. J. S. Smith, of Chilliwack, also made an excellent showing of Jerseys, capturing 1st prizes for one-year-old heifer and heifer calf; also 1st for bull and four of his get. Altogether the Jerseys were the finest class of cattle exhibited, and their popularity in the Province is firmly established.

Holsteins were a strong class, the honors being divided amongst Messrs. H. F. Page, R. McLeod, and W. Newlands. In aged bulls Mr. Page showed a very good animal, and also took 1st for bull calf, sweepstakes prize for best bull any age, and Governor-General's gold medal for the best bull. In females Mr. McLeod took 1st for aged cow and one- and two-year-old heifers with good animals, of heavy milking strains. Mr. Newlands took 2nd for aged bull and 1st for bull with four of his get. It is quite possible that good preparation of the animals exhibited in this class would have resulted in some changes in their relative positions on the prize list.

In *Ayrshires* some good animals were shown, Mr. A. C. Wells showing a fine bull in good condition, winning 1st prize and sweepstakes, but being dehorned his appearance was detracted from considerably. In cows the same breeder took 2nd and 3rd, and 1st for bull calves. Mr. J. McCulloch showed a very fine herd, winning 1st in all classes for females and the herd prize. His cows were fine specimens of the breed, with good udder development and well-placed teats.

In *Guernseys* Messrs. H. Kipp & Sons showed a good bull, having a soft, mellow skin and rich coloring. Mr. Beebe showed a nice two-year-old bull of good quality. Mr. E. A. Kipp was the largest exhibitor, capturing three 1sts for females, the herd prize, and sweepstakes for best bull any age with a very choice animal, Excelsior Duke, a prizewinner at the Toronto Industrial.

In graded dairy stock many fine cows were shown. W. Newlands took 1st and J. McCulloch second; the latter also took 1st in the competition for cow giving most milk. For cow giving most butter-fat in 24 hours during the exhibition, Mr. J. S. Smith took 1st honors and Mr. J. A. Street 2nd, both with Jerseys.

HORSES.

The show of horses was not large, and in some classes there was very little competition. *Roadsters* were an exception, and a capital lot were shown in the single drivers class, J. W. Hollingshead taking first, also winning special prizes for roadster mare with three of her produce and best exhibition of roadsters. In Standard-bred trotters J. T. Wilkinson took 1st with Colloquy, winning the championship open to Roadsters, Standard-breds, Thoroughbreds, and Coach horses, with the same horse, also taking special prize for the best trio of Standard-bred horses, stallion and two mares. These horses were all shown in excellent condition and were well handled.

In *Clydesdales* Mr. J. A. Evans showed a capital stallion, McRae 6057 (imported), tracing back to the well-known Breadalbane, a very active horse, dark bay in color, with first-rate bone. He took 1st in his class, also championship for best draft stallion, and silver cup for best draft horse on exhibition, any breed, age, or sex. In *Clydesdale* brood mares B. Russell took 1st with a capital mare of good weight and substance, with Jas. Bryce a close second. In the championship class for stallion with five of his get the honors fell to the same exhibitor, who showed King Fergus and a grand lot of his colts. Mr. Bryce also showed a fine team of heavy draft mares.

In *Suffolk Punches*, J. M. Steves was the largest exhibitor, showing two stallions, also brood mares and young stock; very fair representatives of the breed.

Percherons were few in number, H. F. Page showing a fairly good stallion, somewhat out of condition, and a good brood mare. H. D. Benson showed a fine coach stallion, and J. W. Hollingshead a good mare of the same class which drew considerable attention. The Tolmie Estate showed their fine stallions, Midgard and Lollard, well-known throughout the Province, and offered them for sale at the close of the exhibition.

SHEEP.

Some very good specimens of *Oxfords*, *Shropshires*, and *Southdowns* were exhibited, but competition was light in most classes. T. Shannon & Sons showed a nice, level lot of *Oxfords*, winning many prizes, including 1st for pen of ram and five ewes. Mr. J. Richardson was also a large exhibitor and prizewinner. His aged ram was a fine specimen of the breed.

In *Shropshires* E. A. Kipp showed fine stock. His imported ram, Chancellor, is a grand specimen of the breed—level and compact. His sire was a winner at the World's Fair, Chicago. In ewes and young stock also animals were shown of good quality and size.

In *Southdowns* J. T. Wilkinson was by far the largest exhibitor. His imported ram lamb, Babram Beau, from the Webb Farm, Cambridgeshire, England, would be an acquisition to any flock in Canada. He took 1st in his class and the silver cup for best animal on the ground in sheep. A capital lot of ewes and lambs were also shown from the same flock.

Cotswolds were shown by J. Richardson, of Plumper Pass, a very useful lot.

Lincolns were a good class, A. C. Wells & Son showing pens of well-bred sheep, symmetrical, and having good fleeces of fine lustrous quality.

J. T. Maynard showed some good Dorset Horns, and J. Richardson some capital representatives of Norfolk Downs, with good substance and quality.

SWINE.

Berkshires were largely shown and competition was keen. Mr. J. A. Evans took 1st for two-year-old boar with Berkshire Pride, imported by J. T. Wilkinson, winning sweepstakes for best boar any age or breed with him also, and 1st for sow one year old. T. Shannon & Sons, Cloverdale, were large exhibitors and prizewinners, taking 1st for one-year-old boar, 1st for boar over six and under twelve months, 1st for boar under six months, 1st and 2nd for sows two years old and over, 1st for sows under one year and for sows under six months, and 1st for boar and two sows. Other prominent exhibitors were A. C. Wells & Son and H. Kipp & Sons.

A splendid lot of *Poland-Chinas* were shown by Geo. Binford, of Chilliwack. His breeding stock were from the firm of T. V. Purcell & Co., Polo, Illinois. A young sow, Purcell's Model, showed extra fine quality and substance.

E. A. Kipp, of Chilliwack, showed a grand lot of breeding *Duroc-Jerseys*. The foundation stock was imported from Tape Bros., of Ridgetown, Ontario.

In *Chester Whites* Mr. W. R. Austin and J. Thompson were the principal prizewinners.

Suffolds were shown by A. M. Sturdy, and *Yorkshires* by Messrs. H. F. Page and E. A. Kipp.

GRAIN.

The grain exhibits were large and generally of excellent quality. In wheat-growing the Okanagan Valley asserted

its superiority, carrying off the premiums for both fall and spring grain with very choice samples of *Fife* wheat. In oats the honor fell to the coast district, the first-prize sample going 48 pounds to the bushel. Five samples of peas were shown from the same locality. H. Kipp & Sons were large exhibitors in nearly all classes and won the special prize for the largest and best exhibit.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

In dairy produce the competition was very keen. Cowichan Creamery took 1st in creamery butter and silver cup offered by the Dairymen's Association. J. McCallum exhibited largely and won a number of prizes, including first for butter in 10-pound lots in rolls. The butter was scored and judged by Mr. Marker, of the Dominion dairy staff, and his work was highly appreciated.

FRUIT.

The display of fruit was the finest ever gathered together in the Province, and representative of all the fruit-growing districts. Apples formed the largest and most prominent feature, collections of varieties from Cowichan, Lytton, Chilliwack, Kamloops, and Kelowna being especially good. In single plate exhibits of varieties, perfect specimens of Gravensteins, Kings, Benheim and Ribston Pippins, Baldwins, Northern Spies, Rhode Island Greenings, Wealthys, Golden Russets, Canada Reinettes, besides many of the newer varieties, such as Ontario, Grimes' Golden, and Shackelford, were shown. Mr. Thos. G. Earl, of Lytton, was a heavy prizewinner, taking the silver cup offered for the largest number of winning plates. Other large exhibitors and prizetakers were: G. W. Beebe, of Agassiz; A. McLennan, of Kelowna; H. Kipp & Sons, Chilliwack; W. Fortune, Kamloops; and F. Lickman, Chilliwack. A fine showing was made in pears of fall and winter varieties, *Flemish Beauty*, *Anjou*, *Louise Bonne de Jersey*, *Fall Butter*, *Boussacks*, and many other kinds were exhibited, perfect in form, coloring and flavor. Some plates of quinces grown on Salt Spring Island by Messrs. Beddis Bros. were remarkably large and handsome. Choice grapes were shown both from the coast and interior districts—well ripened and of good flavor. In plums and peaches there was not much competition, most varieties being past their season, but fine specimens of Italian prunes were shown.

Superintendent Sharpe, of the Experimental Farm, had on view an immense collection of fruit in apples, pears, grapes, etc., besides walnuts, chestnuts, and medlars, despite the fact that a number of plates intended for the exhibition were lost in the big fire which swept away so much of the city, showing plates of more than 300 varieties.

ROOTS AND VEGETABLES.

In the classes for field roots and vegetables there was a smaller showing than last year, partly owing to the dry season, but in a large measure because the finest specimens were reserved for the district exhibits previously referred to. Eastern visitors were astonished at the size and quality of the roots shown, and in regard to the fruit the opinion was freely expressed that it surpassed in size and appearance that seen at prominent eastern exhibitions.

MINERALS.

By many the display shown in the Mineral Hall was considered the best thing of the fair. It included specimens of ore from the mining camps of the Slokan, Ainsworth, and Lardeau Districts, all classified and labelled, sent down by the Kaslo Board of Trade. East Kootenay, R. Island, Kamloops, Lillooet, the mining districts of Pitt Lake, Tuxada, and Vancouver Island all contributed their quota and helped to make the exhibit a leading feature of the fair. The results of assays made and attached to the samples rendered them especially interesting.

The Live Stock Exhibit at the Omaha International Exposition.

On the whole, the display was disappointing, not that there was a lack of quality, but a lack of competition. This will appear more clearly when the various classes are under review. There are several causes tending to this end, the combination of which prevented a large exhibit. For instance, the first published report was to the effect that only medals or diplomas would be awarded; then when some \$35,000 was set aside for premiums, the grant was apparently so grudgingly made that some exhibitors, having the Chicago Fat Stock Show fiasco in their mind's eye, became suspicious that the prize money might not be forthcoming. Again, the \$25 per car "terminal charges" savored so much of extortion that others said, "Have me excused." Can you blame them, when after reaching Omaha it cost as much to be hauled within the gates as it did in freight from London to Chicago. It did seem as though the fair was not all confined to the Midway. Another reason, most of the herds and flocks of the U. S. had met at one or more of the State Fairs. Some had taken their medicine and gone home, and others declined out of policy. The quality all round was phenomenal, if the competition was often weak.

HORSES.

were, perhaps, the weakest of the stock exhibit, both as regards quality and numbers. N. P. Clark, Minn., showed a strong string of *Clydesdales*. They were brought out in the pink of condition, and great praise is due the stud groom. First in aged class went to The Abbot, by Goldenbury, dam a McGregor mare, a big fellow, with plenty of bone and quality of feather, not quite so nicely turned as Broad Arrow 2nd, a son of McGregor, but with better action. Three-year-olds—Senator was properly placed ahead of the lately imp. Masher, a son of Scottish Prince (9673) and Sunflower (10815). This was not set down on the cards by the talent, but the judge, "Joe" Watson, was right. Standing Masher is a beautiful horse, with a better and more evenly balanced top than his conqueror, though lacking in feather at this time, as he has shed whatever he carried. He crosses the Atlantic with Royal and Highland honors upon his bridle, yet in the far West is found one to beat him on his merits—for Senator, by Baron's Pride (9122), dam Flossie of Scotland (10496), had not only more bone and feather, but with size was combined quality enough for a draft horse; but it was when put in motion that his right to first was