

Farming for Profit

A Department Devoted to the
Practical Problems of Farmer and Stockman

BRANDON FAIR BOARD ASKS GOVERNMENT GRANT

A deputation representing the Brandon Winter Fair Board waited on the members of the provincial cabinet a couple of weeks ago, and asked for a provincial grant of \$5,000 towards the expenses of the fair.

The deputation was addressed both by Premier Roblin and Hon. Geo. Lawrence, Minister of Agriculture, and their request was favorably received, and the deputation appeared satisfied that it would probably be granted.

The Brandon deputation included W. I. Smale, secretary of the Brandon winter fair board; James Duthie, president of the Cattle Breeders' association; William McCurdy, president of the Horse Breeders' association; Andrew Graham, president of the Swine Breeders' association; A. J. McKay, president of the Sheep Breeders' association; W. H. English, A. C. McPhail, Brandon; John Graham, Carberry; Joseph Washington, Ninga; Joseph Cornell, Brandon; Alderman Coleman, Brandon, and Jos. Donaldson, Brandon.

WESTERN AGRICULTURAL AND ARTS ASSOCIATION Shareholders' Meeting

At a meeting of the shareholders of the above association held at Brandon lately Manager Smale presented his report, in which special mention was made of the Dominion exhibition held this summer, with comments on the success of the educational, fine arts, horticultural and dairy exhibits, which showed great improvement. Though the live stock and display space was doubled, every available inch had been filled up. The operating account amounted to \$94,239, receipts \$160,866.05, leaving a balance of \$78,937.39 to the capital account.

The directors' report and the financial statement showed the association to be on the right side by \$322,178.04, when the assets in September were taken into consideration.

The meeting complimented Mr. Smale on his successful management, and the fine showing of the funds of the association, and gave him great credit for the able manner in which he had carried through the Dominion Exhibition of 1913.

More Stock Parades

J. D. McGregor was of the opinion that horseracing at the summer fair was a little overdone, and thought that a stock parade every afternoon in place of one, or even two, of the racing events would be a better attraction.

Great pleasure was expressed by A. C. McPhail at the wonderful growth of the fair. He remembered when the premiums, 18 years ago, amounted to \$750, and now they were somewhere in the neighborhood of \$22,000.

The directors' report was carried without dissent, and the following were elected on the new board: Dr. Cox, L. J. Clement, Wm. Dowling, W. Ferguson, A. D. Gamley, J. S. Gibson, Sheriff Henderson, A. C. McPhail, R. M. Matheson, J. D. McGregor, J. H. McGregor, Wm. McKelvie, Wm. Nichol and Peter Payne.

BRANDON BULL SALE

At the meeting of the Manitoba Cattle Breeders' Association, held at Winnipeg on November 14, it was decided to hold the next annual bull sale at Brandon, on March 14, during the Winter Fair week, limiting the number of the animals to 50. The association, instead of charging 5 per cent. on all sales, as formerly, will make a straight charge of \$7 per head, whether sold or not, in addition to the entry fee of \$3, limiting the price at which the animal can be sold to \$75. The association also passed a recommendation to the minister of agriculture to the effect that any scrub or grade bull, or of a different breed to the females, breaking into a breeders'

herd, that the owner of such bull should be held responsible for any damage arising.

The annual meetings of all the associations of live stock, will be held in the city hall, Brandon, during the Winter Fair week.

Speakers were appointed for all the different meetings.

CANADIAN JUDGES AT THE CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL

Quite a number of the prominent stockmen of both Eastern and Western Canada will this year act as judges at the International Live Stock Show at Chicago. A well-known Manitoba horseman, Wm. McKirdy, of Napinka, Man., who is rapidly coming to the forefront as a judge will place the awards in the Clydesdale classes, along with Wm. Smith, of Columbus, Ont., who is equally well known in Eastern Canada as a breeder and horseman. With the aforementioned will be Jas. Z. McLay, of Janesville, Wis., who is a well-known figure in Canadian show rings.

Robt. Graham, of Toronto, will judge in the Percheron classes. T. E. Robson, of London, Ont., will judge in the Shorthorn classes. Prof. Geo. E. Day, of Guelph, Ont., will judge Yorkshire hogs. A. J. McKay, of Macdonald,

up to between \$10,000 and \$11,000, the cows ranging all the way up from \$70 to \$167.50 apiece. T. C. Norris, of Griswold, Man., conducted the sale in his usual efficient manner.

The object of the Moose Creek Farming Company is to supply good stock to farmers, on a commission basis, and there is still a large number of all classes of stock, horses, cattle and hogs on the farm, which can be procured by anyone wishing stock, either singly or in pairs, up to car load lots, at reasonable prices.

Mr. Williamson, the manager, wishes to express his thanks to those who attended the sale, and to assure anyone who purchases stock from this company of a square deal, or their money will be refunded if dissatisfied. The sale which has just taken place is the first of a series to be held at the farms, at regular intervals during the year.

CULL THE POULTRY STOCK

The profitable flock must be carefully culled at times to rid it of the worthless individuals—old roosters and hens that have passed their prime and young stock that is not making a satisfactory growth. These birds do not pay their own way, and they consume the profits from the others. It is unprofitable to keep them through the summer, but it is

growing and putting on weight, therefore his presence in the flock is a clear loss. The old hen that is through laying for the season is also in the star-boarder class, if she is not worth keeping through the winter as a spring breeder.

Get rid of the surplus roosters— young and old. The cull pullets and old hens may be kept for the table and disposed of from time to time without being the actual detriment to the flock that the roosters are, and besides, they are better table birds. In addition to the old proverb, relating to the killing of the goose that lays the golden egg, we need a new one about killing the rooster that spoils the golden egg; that is another count against keeping him out of season. Cull the flock and "swat" the rooster.

MARKETING DRESSED POULTRY

Dressed poultry pays a good profit. With these, as with eggs, appearance goes a long way in securing top prices and the best market is direct to a retailer. The following rules should control your shipments:

1. Starve the birds at least twenty-four hours before killing. This leaves the crop empty and the flesh in better shape.

2. Always dry pick your birds, never scald them. Dry plucked birds will sell at from two to three cents per pound more than scalded. Scalding discolors the flesh.

3. It is not necessary to draw chickens or turkeys, but ducks and geese should always be drawn before shipping. Leave on the head and feet.

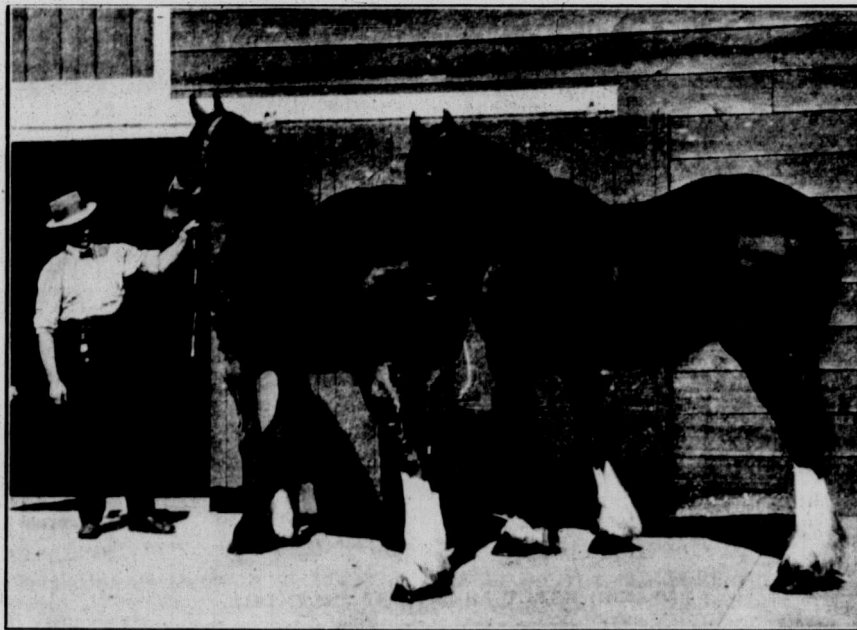
4. Get in touch with a retail dealer in the city nearest you and ascertain his desires as to how he wishes shipments trussed, number in box, etc.

5. Get new, clean boxes that will just hold the number the dealer wishes. Line the box with white paper, leaving enough to fold over from each side. Cut neat scalloped edges on the edges of the paper. Place your birds in carefully. Do everything that you can think of that will make the shipment attractive and be sure that your name shows conspicuously on the side of the box or elsewhere. Shipments of this kind the dealer will display in your shipping cases, and you will get the advertising. Soon customers will be demanding your poultry. The dealer will return your shipping cases when empty.

MARKET CLASSES FOR HORSES

(J. H. S. Johnstone, in "The Horse Book")

Demand for draft geldings of great weight is a development of modern commercial conditions. The congestion of the streets of the great cities and the increase in the bulk and weight of the goods to be hauled preclude speed in transit in urban thoroughfares. Therefore came the call for horses of sufficient weight and strength to move very heavy loads. So great a factor has the big draft horse become in American commerce during the last ten years that if he should be suddenly extinguished the railroads would be, temporarily at least, forced out of business for lack of power to transport freight from warehouse or factory to the cars. Of still later years the desire of the great mercantile firms to advertise their business by putting good teams of drafters on the streets to make a fine show, as well as to haul their heavy loads, and their rivalry to win in the show ring ever since the International Live Stock Exposition was established in Chicago in 1900, has created an insistent and never satisfied demand for these big horses and forced prices skyward to heights little dreamed of in the trade. Consistently, year after year the heavy drafter holds his pride of place as the horse commanding the most ready sale at prices relatively higher than are brought by any other sort. A farmer can make a larger profit



Team of Prize-Winning Registered Mares, Imported and Owned by Sutherland Bros., Prince Albert, Sask.

Man., will judge Leicester sheep. Mr. McKay is president of the Manitoba Sheep Breeders' Association, and one of the most successful breeders of sheep in the province. H. M. Kirkham, of London, Eng., will be referee in the Shorthorn classes and J. R. Campbell, of Shinness, Lairg, Scotland, will judge the steer classes. In all there will be two British and five Canadian judges, two of whom are from the west.

Canada will thus be well represented both by good live stock and good judges at the largest live stock show on the American continent and will doubtless achieve her full share of honor and awards, both from her judges and from her exhibitors.

SALE OF DAIRY CATTLE AT CARLYLE

The Moose Creek Farming Company, of Carlyle, Sask., of which George Williamson is manager, held a very successful cash sale of dairy cattle and Yorkshire brood sows on the 12th and 13th of this month. The cattle were high class grade Holsteins, and a large crowd of buyers from all over the three provinces soon made it apparent that the class of stock offered was to be keenly sought after. Around 125 head of dairy cows, some calves and about 20 brood sows brought the proceeds of the sale

an actual loss to keep them until cold weather cuts down the supply of green feed and insects and makes them regular grain boarders.

For profit, the old rooster should be disposed of when the hatching season is over—about June 1. Let us suppose that he has been kept until October 1 and that he eats a pint of grain a day. That means nearly two bushels of grain from June 1 to October 1. At the present price of grain, is his crowing and company worth that to you or to the flock? And what of the staggy young cockerel that has been kept for the table among many others, and has not yet fulfilled his destiny? Had he been sold when his weight was two pounds or a little less, he would have brought from 40 to 60 cents.

It costs less to grow the first two pounds than to put on subsequent weight, therefore the most profit can be obtained by marketing him at that weight. Now he weighs four or five pounds and those two or three extra pounds have cost double what the first two pounds did, and the price per pound is so much lower that he will not bring more than 40 cents. There isn't any profit in that kind of poultry raising, but that is the way poultry is kept on a great many farms. The stunted young fowl eats just as much as the one that is

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