

### Toronto's Next Exhibition.

In less than three months we shall once more be in the midst of the annual fall shows. Toronto, as usual, will be in front, opening on August 30th and ending September 11th. Although great and special effort will be made in fact, are being made—to make this year's exhibition a memorable one, the directors, always mindful that it is possible to climb up with popular approval and never to descend, have wisely determined to adhere to the old term of duration, but acting on the suggestion of the manager, Mr. H. J. Hill, they have adopted the appropriate and happy title for this year's exhibition of Canada's Great Victorian Era Exposition and Industrial Fair. Although nothing definite has been decided upon as yet, negotiations are under way for an alteration that will set all Canada's tongues wagging and make the rush to Toronto to see it greater than ever. The various committees have completed their work of revising the prize list, which, with a number of specials, will be issued in a day or two. While the list will be found much the same as last year, some judicial changes have been made in order to encourage the breeds at present most in vogue. Among other specials that will be announced is one of \$50 from Mr. John Holderness, of the Albion Hotel, Toronto, for the best Hackney of any age, and two medals from the English Hackney Society.

Entries for live stock close on Saturday, August 7th, with the secretary-manager, Mr. H. J. Hill, at 82 King street east. An extra feature in connection with the live stock branch will be an auction sale of exhibits to be held on Friday in the second week. For this sale entries must be made at the same time as entries of exhibits are sent in, accompanied by one dollar, which will be refunded on the sale being made and a general charge of five per cent. commission, which will cover all and every cost substituted. This sale should be greatly appreciated by farmers and breeders, as it will enable them to compete for prizes and sell their stock at the same time and on the one expenditure, and at a time when buyers will be gathered together in exceptional numbers. The provision is an excellent one.

Among the improvements to the grounds and buildings that are being made are the erection of entirely new pigpens, the erection of two large new stables the making of an entirely new ring one-eighth of a mile in circumference, for the better judging and exhibiting of light harness horses, and the thorough overhauling of machinery hall, which will also be extended.

### THE BOOK TABLE.

#### Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland.

Vol. IX. of Transactions of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland is a specially valuable number. It contains some twenty capital articles by eminent men, possessing a wide practical and scientific knowledge of the subjects dealt with, as well as eighty-five illustrations, etc. Almost all phases of farm practice are dealt with by the various contributors. The book very fittingly commences with a masterful contribution by James Macdonald, F. R. S. E., on "Queen and Farmer." "Germ Life in Relation to Agriculture" is treated of by Dr. C. M. Aikman, who also writes exhaustively upon his analyses of swedes.

The sanitation of farm buildings is practically covered by Prof. John Scott, who says: "The completeness of the ventilation will depend upon the distribution and diffusion of the incoming air, and the situation and form of the inlets and outlets. In farm buildings these cannot be too simple."

The power which moves the air so as to make it go out by the openings provided is partly the wind, but much more the difference of the temperature between the inside and outside air. If, therefore, we simply remove obstructions to the movements of the air, we shall in most cases do all that is wanted to accomplish our end.

**Inlets.**—As much as possible of the fresh air should enter in front of the animals, which then get the benefit of it before it mixes with the vitiated air. Part of the air coming in should also do so at or near the floor level, to sweep out the lower stratum of air in the building; but this can only be done in front of the animals where there is a feeding passage in front of them. And to minimize drafts and gain the greatest advantage from diffusion, the inlet openings should be small and numerous rather than few and large." Prof. Scott says regarding outlets, they should be at the top and corresponding in capacity with the inlets.

"Famous Clydesdale Sires," by A. Chibald MacNeillage, is an excellent contribution. "The Effects of Food on Milk and Butter," by John Speir, is written at the conclusion of extensive experimental effort. A number of stock articles, also veterinary, are worthy of careful perusal. Dr. A. P. Aitken's article on "Nitragin" is decidedly up-to-date and exhaustive. The following practical article is quoted:

**Nitragin.**—"A very striking proof of the practical value of growing leguminous crops as a means of increasing the fertility of poor, light land was furnished by Schultz Lupitz, in Altmark, North Germany. About forty years ago he introduced a system of farming founded upon the theory that leguminous crops and cereals had two entirely different functions to perform in the economy of the farm. The former he regarded as *nitrogen collectors*, and the latter as *nitrogen consumers*; and he resolved to make the one supply the wants of the other. He applied to his sandy land mineral manures only, viz., phosphates, potash, salts, and lime, and he found that leguminous crops grew very well under such treatment. These he sometimes plowed in as green manures, and he sometimes reaped them. He alternated his leguminous crops with rye at first, but afterwards, as his soil became richer, he grew oats and other cereals. The result was that after a number of years he converted a poor, barren soil into a rich one, capable of growing abundantly a great variety of crops. His soil became gradually richer in nitrogen, and when asked where this

store of nitrogen came from, he answered that it was brought into the land by his leguminous crops, and he presumed that these must have got it from the air. He, as a practical agriculturist, had proved the fact, and he left it to scientists to discover the reason."

### MARKETS.

#### Toronto Markets.

The cattle market was firmer on lighter receipts; all stock left over was cleared to-day, June 26th. Distillery stock is being shipped out weekly on good cable reports. Prices are no higher. Buying for Montreal was brisk. Buffalo buyers are not so keen, but are still anxious to take stock as they fear a speedy closing of that market for our cattle.

**Export Cattle.**—The feeling was better; trade more brisk; all on offer sold easily. The ruling price was 35c. to 45c. per lb. One load of 45 head, average 1,200 lbs., choice stuff, sold at top price, \$4.50 per cwt. One load, 5 cattle, 1,350 lbs., at 35c. per lb. A fair demand for next week; good export cattle wanted; some of the dealers had to fill space contracted for early in the season, and this accounted for the price quoted in the daily papers as \$4.50; our last quotation may be taken as the top price, \$4.75 per cwt.

The shipments of cattle from this market by the C. P. R. for export were: T. Crawford, M. P. P., 3 cars; W. Lavack, 3 cars; R. Ironside, 4 cars; B. Halligan, 2 cars. Messrs. Vincent, Montreal, Maybes & Taylor, shipped 21 carloads for Montreal.

There was a better demand from shippers, and all offerings of cattle met with a ready sale at 45c. to 45c. per lb. Messrs. Thompson and Eskins were the principal operators.

Messrs. Wilson and Mullens have returned from the Northwest, and report prospects encouraging.

**Butcher's Cattle.**—The feeling was better for choice butcher's stock. The quality of stock must be the best to fetch top price. The ruling price for good to choice was from 35c. to 35c. per lb.; one or two loads fetched 40c. One carload of 1,000 lbs. average sold at \$3.30 per cwt. Good butcher's cattle are wanted; market firm and steady.

**Bulls.**—About a dozen export bulls were bought to-day at 35c. to 40c. per lb. One extra choice sold at 45c. per lb. Common stock bulls are not in demand and sell slowly at 30c. to \$3.10 per cwt. Telegrams arrived at the close of the day reporting that prices were lower, so that this branch is likely to be dull and easier next week.

**Feeders.**—Farmers were in looking for choice feeders. Mr. Pickering, of Mount Forest, picked out three loads to put on grass. He wanted good cattle weighing from 1,150 to 1,200, for which he was willing to pay 35c. per lb.

The ruling price was 35c. to 35c. per lb.; the Buffalo market dropped about 10c., but real good feeders would bring the top price.

**Calves.**—There is a good demand for calves of the right sort, and they are worth from 35c. to 45c. for a picked lot as high as \$3 was paid. Common calves are not in demand, sold down to \$2 per head.

**Sheep.**—Messrs. Dunn Bros. shipped four double decked loads of sheep for the Old Country market, the first for this season. Mr. Verrall shipped two carloads double decks to the Liverpool market. Prices ruling from 35c. to 35c. per lb., a trifle higher for choice stuff.

**Lambs.**—The offerings very light; all on offer sold readily at 50c.

**Spring Lambs.**—Scarce and wanted; supply not equal to demand; ruling figures were \$3.50 to \$4.50 each; one or two choice fetched \$5.

**Milk Cows and Springers.**—The market barely steady; general run of prices from \$20 to \$35 each; choice dairy cows in demand.

**Hogs.**—As foretold in my last, hogs advanced 10c.; offerings very heavy, over 7,000 this week; price is now at the top for a little time. Choice sows sold at \$5.65 weighed off cars, but must be selected. Cable reports the Old Country market as a little slack, but if supplies are not rushed, likely to hold. Light hogs, 55c. per lb.; heavy fat, 45c. to 50c. per lb. Hamilton market reports a shortage, and Ingersoll took quite a few from this market, so that prices are likely to hold for next week.

**Dressed Hogs.**—Offerings continue scarce; prices are steady at \$5.50 to \$6.65; for choice light weights as high as \$6.75 was paid.

**Receipts of Grain on the street markets to-day were fairly liberal.** Wheat 350 bushels of red wheat selling at 70c.; white, at 72c., and 61c. for goose.

**Oats.**—Steady; 500 bushels selling at 25c. per bushel. Hay—Supply large, 20 loads selling at \$10 to \$12 per ton. Ten loads per day selling at \$10 to \$11 per ton. Market easier.

**Straw.**—Selling at \$6 to \$7 per ton. Four loads per day sold at \$6 to \$7 per ton.

**Hides.**—The receipts of hides are small, the demand good at the advance. Steer hides, 85c.; green quoted at 8c. The stocks of cured are about cleared up here; cars are quoted at 85c. to 90c.

**Wool.**—The receipts of new clip wool continue liberal. Local dealers are preparing to make shipments to the United States; the situation is unchanged; prices are firm at 18c. for farmers' lots and 18c. for jobbers' lots in the country. On Monday, 10 carloads of wool were shipped to the U.S. per C. P. R. The total value of the wool this year to date is \$154,300 from Toronto.

**Butter.**—The prospects are that the supply of butter will get lighter now that the export trade is well started; quoted at 12c. to 14c. for dairy rolls.

#### Chatty Stock Letter from Chicago.

(BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Following are the current and comparative prices for the various grades of live stock:—

|                           | Present        | Two weeks ago | 1896   | 1895   |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------|--------|
| <b>CATTLE.</b>            |                |               |        |        |
| 1500 lbs. up.....         | \$4.40 to 5.15 | \$3.30        | \$4.50 | \$5.95 |
| 1350 @ 1500.....          | 4.00 to 5.20   | 5.20          | 4.45   | 5.95   |
| 1200 @ 1350.....          | 3.90 to 5.20   | 5.10          | 4.45   | 5.85   |
| 1050 @ 1200.....          | 3.80 to 5.00   | 4.90          | 4.40   | 5.50   |
| 900 @ 1050.....           | 3.60 to 4.75   | 4.85          | 4.35   | 5.45   |
| 750 @ 900.....            | 4.45 to 4.75   | 4.85          | 4.40   | 5.65   |
| Sticks and F.....         | 2.90 to 4.20   | 4.50          | 3.75   | 4.25   |
| Fat cows and heifers..... | 3.25 to 4.25   | 4.45          | 4.00   | 4.80   |
| Canning cows.....         | 1.60 to 2.60   | 2.65          | 2.25   | 2.50   |
| Bulls.....                | 2.25 to 3.75   | 4.25          | 3.25   | 3.50   |
| Calves.....               | 2.00 to 6.25   | 6.25          | 5.25   | 5.90   |
| Texas steers.....         | 2.85 to 4.40   | 4.70          | 4.07   | 5.25   |
| Texas C. & H.....         | 2.25 to 2.80   | 4.00          | 3.00   | 3.50   |

|              | Present      | Two weeks ago | 1896 | 1895 |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|------|------|
| <b>HOGS.</b> |              |               |      |      |
| Mixed.....   | 3.35 to 3.60 | 3.60          | 3.40 | 4.85 |
| Heavy.....   | 3.15 to 3.55 | 3.59          | 3.35 | 4.97 |
| Light.....   | 3.35 to 3.60 | 3.60          | 3.55 | 4.75 |
| Pigs.....    | 2.00 to 3.60 | 3.60          | 3.55 | 4.50 |

|               | Present      | Two weeks ago | 1896 | 1895 |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|------|------|
| <b>SHEEP.</b> |              |               |      |      |
| Natives.....  | 1.50 to 4.10 | 5.00          | 4.50 | 4.15 |
| Western.....  | 2.15 to 3.70 | 4.40          | 4.10 | 3.20 |
| Texas.....    | 2.25 to 3.75 | 4.35          | 3.65 | 3.00 |
| Lambs.....    | 2.75 to 5.80 | 6.25          | 6.50 | 6.15 |

The cattle exporters had rushing orders on account of the Jubilee, and they undoubtedly reaped quite a harvest, as prices in English markets were a good deal higher for awhile.

The famous steer, Jumbo, which had attained the enormous weight of 5,000 pounds, was killed at Wichita, Kansas, recently. Jumbo was 4 years old, 8 feet tall, and 12 feet long. He had horns 15 inches in circumference and 6 feet across,

with perfect curve. His owner decided to kill him and have him mounted while his hide was in good condition.

Western range cattle are expected to be a couple of weeks later this year, though some will doubtless be in by the middle of July.

The highest price paid for range cattle in the Concho Country, Texas, since 1884 was paid by Thorp Andrews, of Fort Worth, as follows: From C. B. Metcalfe, manager of the X Q Z Cattle Company, 18 cows at \$30, 2 bulls at \$30, 25 steers at \$32.50, 2 steers at \$35, 10 steers at \$30, 10 steers at \$35; from G. B. Ketchum, 25 steers at \$27.

Range cattle are being fed much more generally than they used to be.

Standard Cattle Co., Ames, Neb., marketed 180 1,360 lb. fed Westerns at \$4.55.

T. B. Ford, Central City, Neb., marketed 189 Texas cattle, 1,238 lbs., at \$4.40.

There is a lull in the market for stockers and feeders cattle. A trader in speaking of the market said: "Country buyers come in and look around, but don't buy anything. They say that prices are too high and claim that prospects are too uncertain. The result is a decided stagnation in the trade."

There is more activity in the cattle trade than for a dozen years past.

The live stock exhibit at Nashville, Tenn., is expected to be a creditable feature of the Tennessee Centennial. At the Trans-Mississippi Exposition next year at Omaha, President Dinwiddie, of the State Board of Agriculture, has recommended that cash prizes in the sum of \$40,000, or the maximum sum of \$80,000, be offered, divided as follows: Horses, 25 per cent; cattle, 25 per cent; swine, 25 per cent; sheep, 15 per cent; poultry, 10 per cent.

Texas sheep are still coming freely and are of good quality. Prices for all kinds of sheep and lambs are from 50c. to 75c. lower than the best time of the season, but are selling at comparatively good prices.

There has lately been quite a slump in prices for export sheep. The exporters were driven away from the markets temporarily by the Government order to dip all sheep sent out and the break in prices at market centers caused by their withdrawal enabled them to buy up some very large lots of heavy sheep at interior feeding points at prices that seemed very low. The dipping order has been rescinded as regards export sheep, as sheep, even when exposed to scab, do not develop the disease inside of 30 days, and, of course, they are slaughtered in much less time than that when sent abroad.

In the meantime the exporters have been buying some good heavy sheep at way down prices.

A hog salesman says: "The quality continues good, and there are signs of a let-up in the supply in the near future at nearly all markets. The provision market continues strong, and prices for hogs and hog products are more favorably adjusted than they have been for a good many months. The demand for provisions of all kinds is considerably larger than last year, and with a reduction in the supplies of foreign grown hogs we think the demand for American product will continue large all summer. The hogs in this country at the present time are almost entirely free from disease, and with an abundance of cheap feed in the country, we do not think it wise for anyone to figure on anything like a famine. But old hogs are comparatively scarce, and during the next two or three months we look for the usual reduction in the receipts. The packers are still free buyers of hogs to the extent of the supply."

There must be plenty of young pigs in the country. One stockman reported that his 39 sows had an average of a dozen pigs to the litter, and they are all small and growing rapidly.

Hogs are selling at about the lowest point of the year, and yet dealers all testify that producers are getting more money for corn fed hogs than to any other class of live stock at present.

Combined receipts of hogs at Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, and St. Louis last month were 200,000 larger than any previous May receipts, and the total for the present month, estimating the balance of the month, will reach 1,400,000, the largest June receipts on record, 150,000 more than a year ago and 500,000 more than the four points received in June, 1895. Allowing 1,400,000 for this month, the four points will receive 7,495,000 the first six months of 1897, or 700,000 more than the first half of last year, 385,000 more than two years ago, and over 400,000 more than ever arrived before at like period in any former year. For the twelve months of 1896 the four markets received 13,100,000, but from present indications the total for the twelve months of 1897 will be at least a million larger than last year, and of course the largest on record.

#### Canadian Live Stock Export.

The following are the live stock reports for the week ending Wednesday, June 23rd, as prepared by F. Bickerdike, of the Live Stock Exchange, Montreal:

|                                  | June 18. | Boston City. | London | 210 cattle..... | sheep..... |
|----------------------------------|----------|--------------|--------|-----------------|------------|
| " 19.—Montezuma.....             | 544      | "            | .....  | .....           | .....      |
| " 20.—Fremont.....               | 372      | "            | .....  | .....           | .....      |
| " 21.—Cervona.....               | 400      | "            | .....  | .....           | .....      |
| " 22.—Oakmore.....               | 647      | "            | .....  | .....           | .....      |
| " 23.—Lake Ontario.....          | 473      | "            | .....  | .....           | .....      |
| " 17.—Ashanti.....               | 386      | "            | .....  | .....           | .....      |
| " 24.—Sarmatin.....              | 415      | "            | .....  | .....           | .....      |
| " 21.—Lord Gough, Newcastle..... | 261      | "            | .....  | .....           | .....      |
| Total.....                       | 3,738    | cattle.      | 1,415  | sheep.          | .....      |

#### Weeds.

There has been, speaking generally, throughout the country, a wet and somewhat cold spring, and with the opening of warmer weather, which cannot long be delayed, weeds will come on very rapidly. With a great many of the most troublesome weeds cool weather early in the season is quite favorable to their development. The roots get a chance to spread, and while they do not make so much top growth, perhaps, they become thoroughly prepared to make it as soon as the growing weather sets in in earnest. It is, therefore, a matter of importance that the farmer gets after the weeds at the earliest possible moment. The harrow and cultivator should be at work whenever the ground will permit. If it can be done on bright, warm days, so much the better, for then they will wilt instead of taking hold again. But no pains will be too great to take to thoroughly clean the fields at the first cultivation, and as soon as possible. When they have once been cleaned, the task of keeping them so is not so very difficult, but if the weeds get to chasing the farmer instead of the farmer chasing the weeds, as should be the case, the task is one of great difficulty the season through. A weed in time makes nine, if permitted, and the only safety is in not permitting it. To open up the soil as early as possible with the cultivator increases the decomposition of its vegetable matter and at the same time increases the warmth and fertility, a matter of no little importance in order that growing conditions may be secured in a spring such as we have had this year.

—Iowa Homestead.