

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

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List of Principal Fairs to be Held in Canada.

Table with columns: Location, Dates, Secretary. Includes Stanstead, Que., Industrial, Toronto, Sherbrooke, Que., Quebec Provincial, Quebec, Western Fair, London, Midland Central, Kingston, Ontario and Durham, Whitby, Central, Guelph, Belleville Exhibition, Central, Ottawa, Great North-Western, Goderich, Woodstock Show, Great Northern, Col., Lingwood, Central, Lindsay, Southern, Brantford, Peninsular, Chatham, Nophtern, Walkerton, Markham, Woodbridge, Ontario, and Shaw, Godfrey.

Timely Notes for August—No. 2.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE EXHIBITION.

Agreeably surprised, seemed to be the universal verdict. In everything, except, perhaps, the main hall and some of the grain, the exhibits were very good, the weather splendid, and less objectionable features, such as high-kicking women, etc., etc. (?) The horses, especially the Shires and Clydes, were grand; the second prize Clyde was a wonderful mover for such a big chap. The Shires were, if anything, even superior. They seem to be coming into more favor, as they appear to be easier kept, requiring less grain to keep them up to the mark. The grand Yorkshire Coach horse, Knight of the Vale, was far and away the best horse of the breed on the ground, and was deservedly first. In Hackneys, the first prize winner was a fine, big fellow, but without the fine, easy action of the second horse, but is rather undersized. The other Hackneys were simply nowhere. In driving teams, the best team was undoubtedly the pair of well-matched Hackney geldings that took first prize in the Roadster class. I have seldom seen as fine a team anywhere. They were the "beau-ideal" of a serviceable road pair—easy, fine movers, with plenty of muscle and staying power. I understood they came from the Eastern Townships, and had cost \$1,000 down there. Why can we not rear such horses here, instead of so many useless weedy animals? The cattle classes were good, especially the Shorthorns and the Holsteins. These two breeds seemed to be the favorites, especially the first. The first prize cow was a wonder in size and fatness, but was overdone—far too fat—she seemed to be the only helpless one in all the show. The two-year-old roan heifer of the same exhibitor was a beauty. Lister was again deservedly first with Gravesend's Heir, with Ayearst's President a good second. I don't think the calves were as good as last year, with, perhaps, one exception. The need of a catalogue was sadly felt in the stock exhibits, as many of them had no name or age, and we had to guess as to what they were shown as. The imported stock seems to keep several notches above the home-bred, mainly, I think, due to superior skill in feeding and breeding. The home-bred were just as well bred, but not as well finished nor as well developed. The Holsteins were good. The fat stock all were of the Shorthorn type; no other seems to be able to attain the great size and early maturity of the "Durham" cattle. In sheep, the Shrops and Cotswolds were good, especially some of the Shrops. In pigs, the Berkshires of Coxworth, like the other imported stock, were easy winners, and were very fine. It was a decided novelty to see Mr. Coxworth tell his huge Berkshire boar to open his mouth and allow him to put his hand in; the brute was as biddable as a collie; no need of a fence picket to interview that boar. The poultry exhibit, especially the Plymouth Rocks, Brahmas, Langshans, and Wyandottes, were very good. The Andalusians were a novelty, and so were the Sandhill Orans and a bantam hen with thirteen tiny chicks. The stock parade in the evening was alone well worth going to see. With such fine animals in the country we only need skill and care in mating and feeding to produce animals equal to any in the world. It was a revelation to many to see the rations fed to some of these cattle. "It don't pay a farmer to feed like that," was often heard. But, friends, that's just where you and I are wrong. If we could only once screw up our courage to such a point as would allow us to part with half our stock, and feed the other half better, we would make more profit, with less labor and less risk. Separators were advertised at \$90 each for a No. 8 Alexandra. This is coming down to the \$80 I wrote as being somewhere near the correct figure. A little more competition in separators and we shall get it down to that figure. The Pure-bred Cattle Breeders' Association meeting, on the evening of the 25th, was well attended. A new secretary was appointed and a new board of officers appointed. Several new lines of action were decided, and it is to be hoped the Association will soon do something to justify its existence.

IN AND AROUND WINNIPEG.

Winnipeg is to be congratulated on having at last disposed of the antiquated horse cars, the tracks are torn up, and the cars skinned off into obscure corners. Time and wire are both on the down grade in Winnipeg, and I only wish we could get goods somewhere near these prices, the only smaller and neater towns, where the lowest prices are 30c. per lb. and twice as high for Red Cap and 83c. for Blue Ribbon machinery, does it come down, and what the competition won't affect, the security of money will, and when the prices are ones down, it will be hard even for implement dealers to put them up once more. The double-belted force pump of Anderson of Aylmer, Ont., was a notable feature of the display. A round Winnipeg in every direction the thistles, French weed, and mustard flourish exceedingly. The richness of the ground and the laziness of the people help them to perpetrate their kind till fearful extent. I came on about an acre of mustard, which was a fearful sight for a farmer to look upon. The possibilities of harm in that patch were almost incalculable. While the city fathers proclaim holidays for the purpose of seeing the exhibition, planting trees, etc., they ought, at least, to also

proclaim days of penance for taking off weeds. Let them cast out the "beams in their own eyes" before they dare to preach to us country dwellers about weed extermination.

GENERAL.

I hear that twenty cattle were shot on the Brandon Farm for tuberculosis, and also that the Provincial Government is prepared to supply tuberculin to those of us who will use it. Well, while I acknowledge that consumptive animals are a menace to the community, I am not yet convinced that the tuberculin is always infallible; neither do I consider that farmers should be obliged to slaughter their stock until they are sure they are so far gone in the disease as to be undeniably consumptive, and they should also be compensated for the loss of their cattle.

Mr. McKellar, at Brandon, advised us to keep on growing hogs on an extended and extending scale, saying that a Chicago firm would erect a packing house. We have heard this tale before now. There was competition before between the smaller packing houses. Now they are apparently all over-awed by the big firm. Would it not be worse if there were another bigger one here? No, no, Mr. McKellar; let the packers compete for our pigs, not the farmers compete for the miserable price paid by the packers when there are too many pigs in the country, as at present. What do we want more for? "INVICTA."

Portage Summer Fair.

The first summer fair held by the Portage and Lakeside Agricultural Society was a pronounced success. It is the oldest society in the Province, this being their 20th annual exhibition, but it has always been held in the fall of the year, and of late years has been homeless, and making a hard struggle for existence. The directors this year, however, determined to make a move in a new direction, and joined with the Turf Club in the purchase of grounds on the "Island," making the most beautiful exhibition grounds we know of in the Province, and with some additional improvements in the way of new and improved buildings, etc., the Portage Fair will have a home worthy of the magnificent country which it represents.

The competition was, in most classes, spirited, and the judging, done by local men, gave general satisfaction.

The Secretary, Capt. Shepherd; President Wallace, and all the Directors, worked hard to make the fair a success.

In light horses the display was good, Dr. Rutherford, M. P. P., and Adams and Jackson being among the leading exhibitors, Dr. Rutherford having the diploma for Thoroughbred stallion, any age, on "Kilburn," several of whose colts also won honors.

Jas. McKenzie showed a good team of General Purpose horses.

In Shorthorn cattle, K. McKenzie was the principal exhibitor, and had forward some useful stock, a bull calf from his string being specially worthy of mention, as was the first prize yearling bull, bred and shown by J. S. Telfer, this being the first prize calf of the 1893 show.

Walter Lynch's Pioneer Herd of Shorthorns was not represented.

Jas. Bray, Longburn, had things pretty much to himself in the Jersey class, also exhibiting Oxford Down sheep and Yorkshire swine.

In Holsteins, R. McKenzie, High Bluff, and Glennie, Longburn, were the principal competitors, both herds being shipped on to the Winnipeg Industrial.

S. Coxworth, Claremont, Ont., showed Cotswold sheep and Berkshire swine of excellent quality.

K. McKenzie, Burnside, also showed some good sheep.

Thos. McCartney showed Shropshire, Tamworth hogs were shown by E. H. Carter and R. McCowan, and Duroc Jerseys by W. Cowan, Drumconnor.

The Poultry show was good, with James Austin, having a large display, and capturing many prizes. C. S. Matheson, E. H. Carter, Robt. McKenzie, and Mellon Bros. were among the leading exhibitors.

The display in the main building was far superior to that seen at most local fairs. The ladies certainly deserve credit for the part taken by them in making this department a success. In course, the names of Robt McCowan, Thos. Sissons, H. Ogletree, Mellon Bros. and Wm. McCowan appear most frequently in the prize list, and the samples of Red Fife shown were well worth the reputation of No. 1 hard.

Tuberculosis at Experimental Farm, Brandon.

It is with regret that we chronicle the slaughter of nearly the entire herd of cattle on the Brandon Experimental Farm, upon the herd being subjected to the tuberculin test. The animals showed the reaction, and were consequently destroyed. Upon post-mortem examination showed more or less signs of the disease. All breeds were alike affected. Twelve of the number killed were Ontario bred, nine bred in Manitoba, nineteen pure bred, two grades. The inspection was made during the recent visit of Prof. Saunders to the farm. A list of