

### Cattle Show and Sale at Calgary.

The show and sale of pure-bred stock, held at Calgary, Alta., May 16th, 17th and 18th, under the auspices of the Territorial Cattle-breeders' Association, did not prove very remunerative for those who consigned bulls. The low price of cattle last fall, the unsettled condition of the cattle-raising industry, owing to the dividing up of the range, and the very inferior quality of many of the bulls offered, all tended to keep down prices. From the first it was evident that the three hundred and fifty odd bulls in the sale, and the fifty odd offered at the Alberta Stock-yards, would be more than enough to supply the demand, hence there was no mad rush to fill orders. Large numbers, however, while they kept down the average, were not responsible for the low prices of the best; this was due, almost wholly, to the depressed condition of the cattle trade. Really good bulls were not plentiful, and while the bidding upon them was at times animated, they did not bring prices commensurate with their intrinsic value. The buying public were not unusually discriminating. On the second last day of the sale, one of the newer class of ranchers asked if the sale would continue the next day, and on being assured that it would, assumed a bored expression and remarked, "That reminds me, I have to get a few bulls this year." This, of course, was an extreme case, but the indifference to the stuff on offer is much too common. On the whole, the character of the bulls was an improvement on other years, and the fact that many were sent out unsold may result in a very great improvement in the future.

On the first day judging was done in all classes by Mr. Duncan Anderson, Rugby, Ont., who had associated with him in the ring Hon. John Dryden, ex-Minister of Agriculture for Ontario. Herefords were judged first, the classes being fairly well filled. The championship for best Hereford bull bred in the Territories was won by the two-year-old, Bonny Brae Hesiod 16th, owned by Mr. Oswald Palmer, Lacombe. He afterwards sold for \$175. The first-prize bull in the aged class, King of the Cedar, also brought \$175. He belonged to P. F. Huntley, Lacombe. Mr. O. Palmer had eight bulls in the sale, which made an average of \$122. Another good average was made by Mr. Robert Sinton, of Regina, who had seventeen, which totalled \$1,720. Mr. J. Tough, of Edmonton, also had seventeen, most of them imported from the States last year, which averaged \$75. The Mossom Boyd Co., of Prince Albert, had entered some thirty-five bulls and thirteen females.

Only a few Angus and Galloway cattle were out, and brought only fair prices.

Most of the prizewinning Shorthorns came from the country north of Calgary, the open championship going to D. Sinclair, Innisfail, on Alberta Prince, a bull bred by W. G. Pettit, Freeman, Ont., and the championship for best bull bred in the Territories also went to Innisfail, on Monarch, owned by H. J. Scott. When the grand champion came into the sale ring bidding got quite lively until the \$150 mark was reached, after which H. McPherson, Calgary, and Shantz, from the north, advanced him to over \$200; then A. Sullivan, of Olds, took a hand in the bidding, finally landing the victor, at \$225. The Territorial champion afterwards went for \$160. Some very good averages were made with Shorthorns by breeders from the north, where mixed farming and close breeding is followed. John Ramsay, of Priddis, made \$112 on seven; J. & W. Sharp, Lacombe, \$123 on eleven; Henry Talbot, Lacombe, \$88 on nine; P. Talbot & Son, \$70 on eight; J. L. Walters, Lacombe, \$91 on nine, and C. W. Peterson, Calgary, \$60 on six.

#### Stockmen's Meeting.

On the evening of May 15th, the Territorial stockmen met at Calgary, to listen to addresses from the Hon. John Dryden, ex-Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, and Mr. F. W. Hodson, Live-stock Commissioner for the Dominion. Mr. Hodson first addressed the meeting, placing before the stockmen the details of the arrangements entered into by the different breed associations of Canada, with the object of consolidating the many different records into one central body, with one separate book for each breed of stock in the Dominion.

Hon. John Dryden said that in studying

the conditions in the British ports, he found that three classes of beef were put upon the Old Country market — fresh beef from European ports, frozen beef from the southern countries, and chilled beef from the States. Over there there is no sentiment in the beef trade, but beef sells solely on its merit. If our beef does not bring the best prices in Britain, it is simply because it is not of the best quality; therefore, our aim should be to produce the best, and the fellow who would not try to produce this must be crowded out of the business.

In order to produce this best quality of beef only beef breeds should be used. He did not know where the dairy-bred yearlings from Ontario had gone, but he had been told they were going out West; if so, the people here probably had some experience with such stuff. Having decided to use beef breeds, Mr. Dryden begged his hearers not to use beef bulls simply because they were registered. Too many bulls are being used

meat is crowded into poorly-ventilated rooms, becomes tainted, loses in value, and eventually results in false reputation and loss to the producers of the West.

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TERRITORIAL CATTLE-BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

On May 16th, the Territorial Cattle-breeders' Association held its annual meeting in Alexander Hall, Calgary. The President, Mr. Peter Talbot, of Lacombe, not being present, Vice-President John A. Turner occupied the chair. The Secretary Mr. C. W. Peterson, read his annual report, and submitted his financial statement, which showed a balance on hand of \$590.48. This report and statement was adopted.

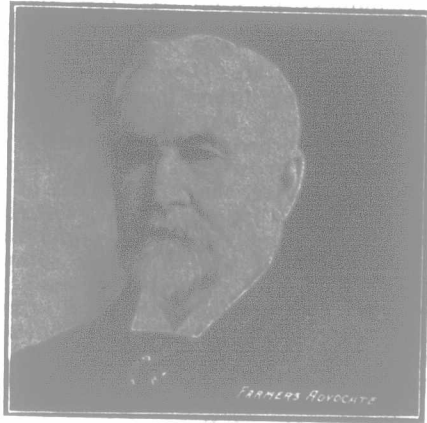
The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—Hon. President, Mr. Peter Talbot, Lacombe; President, John A. Turner, Calgary; First Vice-President, Hon. Wm. Beresford, Calgary; Second Vice-President, Mr. Jas. Sharp, Lacombe. Directors—Shorthorns, J. McKay Andrews, Davisburg; Herefords, J. Palmer, Lacombe; Aberdeen-Angus, J. Morton, Lacombe; Galloways, E. D. Adams, Calgary; General Director, R. K. Bennet, Pine Creek.

#### Our Scottish Letter.

The British Board of Agriculture and Fisheries has become a very vigorous and aggressive institution. It has embarked on an investigation of the causes of epizootic abortion in cows, and there is every prospect of a lengthened and exhaustive enquiry being the result. In connection with this, the Highland & Agricultural Society has come to the aid of the Government, and while the Government is prepared to spend £5,000 on the project, the Scottish National Society spends £1,000, if need be. The Government experts will, first of all, endeavor, by independent enquiry, to test the findings of Professor Bang, the eminent Danish expert, as to the identity of the bacillus causing abortion. For this purpose it will not be needful at the outset to kill any cows—only to deal with the ejected foetus. There after the work will be more exhaustive, and a farm will likely be secured, at which the investigations will be carried through to a successful issue. This is, perhaps, the most ambitious scheme yet put forth by the Government Department, which, under Dr. Stockman, its new veterinary head, is destined to become a real live institution, doing great good to the country.

The Government is also being pressed to take up seriously the question of glanders in horses. This disease is, unhappily, pretty prevalent in Glasgow, and this very day (12th of May) a deputation from the city has waited upon the Board of Agriculture, urging that steps be forthwith taken to stamp out the loathsome disease, which, like swine fever and sheep scab, should never be permitted to gain a footing in a clean country. The hotbeds of glanders in cities are old, worn-out stables in which sufficient light and heat are not found, and hence the abundance of disease germs lurking within them. The country outside of these town stables, has no record of this disease, and farmers are being warned not to encourage the introduction of horses from the towns into the country at the present juncture. Glanders may be long latent in an animal and do no injury. It is these latent cases, however, which provide centers of infection and do all the mischief. By means of the mallein test glanders in horses can be kept under control very much as tuberculosis has been kept under control in Denmark by means of tuberculin. The aim of reformers here is to have the mallein test made compulsory.

The agitation in favor of amendment of the Act, 1896, so as to admit store cattle for feeding purposes from Canada proceeds apace. Demonstrations have this week been held in London, urging the Board of Agriculture to take Parliamentary action along this line. So far as the commercial interests involved are concerned, the demonstration was imposing enough, but the



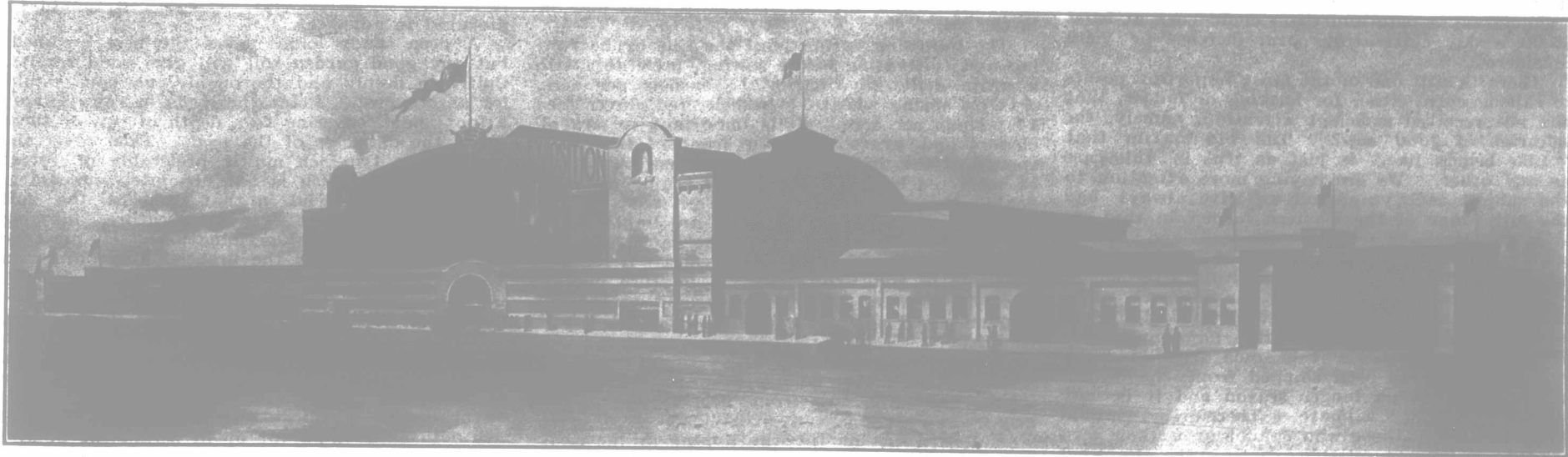
A. B. Macdonald, New Oxley, Alta.

Manager Glengarry Ranch, and ex-president of Western Stock-growers' Association.

both here and in Ontario that should have been castrated. Using bulls simply because they are pure-bred is like trying to build without a plan. It is all chance. Then in order to get the best out of cattle they must never lose flesh from calfhood to market. As an example of what might be done he cited a case of a two-year-old steer which sold for six cents per pound, and totalled \$102. Another animal, a bull that he had, tipped the scale at 22 hundred at 18 months. These were animals that had been kept going right along, and never allowed to stop gaining. Formerly, when tallow was worth more than meat, a big, coarse, fat animal was popular; now things are changed—it is meat we want, not fat. Applying this principle to range conditions, Mr. Dryden believed that the practice of putting cattle out to rough it would eventually develop a class of cattle coarse in frame, but not early maturing, and the meat would not be tender and juicy.

With regard to shipping alive or dead, it was the speaker's opinion that we should have facilities for both, but he believed it would be more profitable to kill here, as it would save the shrinkage which always results from shipping alive. As a comparative stranger, Mr. Dryden hesitated to tell the stock-growers of the West how they should do, but he believed they should finish their cattle better; they should endeavor to make 300 cattle into six-cent beef, rather than 600 cattle into three-cent beef.

The embargo, Mr. Dryden believed, should be removed, not that all cattle might be shipped, but simply that everyone might be at liberty to ship as he liked, and to buy where he liked, so that one could get what he wanted no matter where. Should the embargo not be removed, something ought to be done at the port of slaughter. Out of Liverpool, where Canadian cattle are killed, the appliances for killing and storing beef are thirty years behind the times. When large numbers are landed and must be slaughtered in a given time, the



The New Home of the International Live-Stock Exposition, Chicago.

Dimensions, 310x600 feet; seating capacity of amphitheatre, 10,000. To be finished Oct. 15, 1905. Total cost, \$300,000.