

with simple and satisfactory treatments. If so we shall be glad to hear from them.

The Royal Show

OUR ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE.

The last two days of the Royal Show—the popular shilling days—were harassed by rain and mud, but in spite of the handicaps about 40,000 people paid for admission on each day. All hope of breaking Newcastle's wonderful attendance record was abandoned, but the total attendance for the five days reached the excellent figure of 137,812. It is satisfactory to note that the society will have a profit on the show of about £6,000 or £7,000.

The finest feature of the last day was the parade of 200 heavy draft horses in years. Liverpool has long been proud of her magnificent heavy horses, and rightly so. A well-known judge remarked as the horses passed: "I did not believe the country contained so many team horses of such average high value. I would not hesitate to pay £100 each for the first eighty which I could select as they passed."

The Liverpool corporation and Messrs. Jarvis carried off the first honors. There was a close contest for the "Venture" Challenge Cup, for best tandem, and some pretty driving was seen. Miss Dora Schintz, of Liverpool, was the winner with her grand chestnuts, "Catalina" and "Morocco." Another good competition was for the "Viking" Challenge Cup for best pair of harness mares or geldings. John Kerr's bays, "Loudwater Diana Vernon" and "Loudwater Rob Roy," were the winners.

Some capital prices were paid for bulls at the auction sale during the show. Many foreign buyers were present, and bidding was keen for anything of high quality. The highest price was 1,050 guineas for Lord Middleton's roan Short-horn "Birdsall Croesus," second in his class. He was bought by Mr. Rodgers for South America. The same buyer also bought Lord Middleton's "Birdsall Claudius" for 450 guineas, and paid 450 guineas, 400 guineas and 305 guineas respectively for three bulls offered by Messrs. Garne.

An offer was made for the champion bull of the show, "Duke of Kingston 2nd," but the owner would not sell, though the offer was a high one.

Some good prices were attained at the sheep sale. The highest was £236, 5s. 0d., paid by Mr. Chandler for a two shear Shropshire ram from T. S. Minton's flock. Mr. Harding, of U. S. A., paid £210 for a Shropshire two shear ram from T. A. Buttar's flock.

At the pig sales the best price was £50 for a large black boar for New Zealand.

FIRST SHOW OF POULTRY.

The finest collection of poultry yet seen at the Royal Show was penned. There were 1,195 entries in 109 classes. The competition was so keen in some of the classes that the judges had no easy task in deciding on the awards.

A most interesting section was one devoted to bees and a honey display. Each day at noon there was a demonstration of bee-driving, and there were frequent lectures by an expert on bee management.

How shall one deal with machinery and implements when there were miles of shedding all filled and many acres set apart for machinery in motion? It is only possible to deal with what is new, and only part of that. The Royal Show is so vast that no one man can adequately cover it. Agricultural motors and oil engines of various types were a strong feature. One very fine oil motor was shown by Messrs. Marshall & Sons, and a petrol motor pump of simple construction capable of pumping 15,000 gallons an hour was on Messrs. Merryweather's stand. Portable farm fire engines were quite a useful feature. Several turnip cleaners and cutters were shown in operation, and some up-to-date potato diggers with vertical forks working in an almost horizontal plane were of interest. These seem to be displacing the rotary diggers. A giant plow was shown by Messrs. McLaren, and needed an 80-horse power engine to operate it.

The Massey-Harris Company and the Ince-

national Harvester Company were both represented by very fine displays. There were several easily emptied devices for feed cooking at one stand.

Feeding cakes, meals, cooked cattle foods, condiments, medicines, etc., were in almost riotous profusion. It was interesting to note how much use is already made of the soja bean in feeding cakes. The importation and crushing of soja beans has become a big British industry in the last two or three years.

All the leading seed houses had fine booths. Messrs. Garton were showing a new oat "Record"—a record yielder they say. Messrs. Webb had a new "Binder" barley, a high yielder and with good straw, and Messrs. Carter claimed an improved Red Fyfe wheat to have weighed near London 70 lbs. to the bushel. There were several exhibits of the early maturing French wheats, which are exciting much interest in England at present. They are fine, plump berries at any rate.

The C. P. R. had a model of one of their cottages on the new "ready-made" farms, and the lecturer was certainly a voluble man. Amongst many reliable statements one claim was made which the writer thought questionable:

"That wheat in the Northwest averaged 45 bushels to the acre last year. The Dominion government had a small, but good display, and Rhodesia and Australia were also displaying their advantages to the British settler."

The home people were not behind. The Department of Agriculture and the Royal Agricultural Society, both had comprehensive exhibits, and the county councils are promoting nature study in various excellent ways. Dr. Jas. Robertson, of Canadian fame, in a capital address at a conference on "Nature Study" asserted that "Agriculture, the care of old mother earth, was real culture, being dominion by power, intelligence and goodwill."

One of the best meetings during the show was that of the Agricultural Organization Society. England is far behind Ireland and most continental countries in co-operation in agricultural pursuits, but this society is endeavoring to make up the leeway, and is making encouraging progress. Fifty-four new societies were formed last year, and there are now 321 societies affiliated. Last year the turnover was £860,000. So far the promoters have found that farmers are far more ready to co-operate in purchasing articles for their business than they are in combining for purposes of sale, but it is pleasing to note that they are slowly overcoming their conservatism in regard to co-operative marketing. Such marketing is a decided factor in the success of the small holdings now being instituted in various counties.

F. DEWHIRST.

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Don't forget to cultivate the summerfallow frequently enough to avoid undue loss of water by evaporation and to help keep down weeds. Weeds pull out moisture rapidly and in addition let her infest the soil if seeds mature.

FARM

Topics for Discussion

In recognition of the fact that valuable hints always are obtained from men engaged in actual farm work THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE has adopted the "Topics for Discussion" column in order that our readers may see an open channel through which they may inform their brother farmers as to practices that are worth adopting and warn them against methods that prove unprofitable. Not only do we wish our readers to discuss the topics announced for the various issues, but also we desire that they suggest practical subjects on which it would be well to have discussion.

This notice appears under the "Farm" department, but the questions dealt with cover all branches of the farming industry. Letters should not exceed 600 words and should reach this office 10 days previous to the date of issue. They are read carefully and a first prize of \$3.00 and a second prize of \$2.00 awarded each week. Other letters used will be paid for at regular rates to contributors.

July 27.—Describe what you consider a satisfactory poultry house for a farm flock of from 50 to 100 birds. Explain how this building is ventilated, how roosts and nests are arranged, what conveniences there are for feeding or handling the birds; in short, everything a farmer building a poultry house would like to know.

August 3.—What suggestions have you to offer regarding treatment of cropped fields after the harvest is removed? How can weed seeds best be induced to germinate, and also how can provision for conserving soil moisture be made?

August 10.—Discuss disc plows, giving advantages and disadvantages for use in soils of different kinds. In what soil would you advocate their use?

August 17.—The raising of fall colts is sometimes recommended in this country. It is said that mares are worked little during the winter months and could better raise a colt than in summer, also that fall colts could be raised with no more trouble than spring colts. What do you think of it? Have you ever tried raising fall colts? Would you consider it advisable in this country to have foals come between October 1 and December 1 and wean some time in March?

Manure on Summerfallow

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Following is our plan of summerfallowing: We disc in the fall, plow as soon after seeding as possible and pack right after the plow. As soon as weeds are well started we disc again and disc as often as necessary, never allowing weeds to get more than two inches high (and a two-inch weed is a pretty short one when you come to measure it). We use a wheel disc, running it across the dead furrows. We find it best to give a single



FIRST PRIZE SHEARLING EWES AT THE ROYAL