

The Ontario Agricultural Gazette

The Official Bulletin of the Dominion Cattle, Sheep, and Swine Breeders' Associations, and of the Farmers' Institute System of the Province of Ontario.

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THE DOMINION CATTLE, SHEEP, AND SWINE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

Annual Membership Fees:—Cattle Breeders' \$1; Sheep Breeders' \$1; Swine Breeders' 2.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP.

Each member receives a free copy of each publication issued by the Association to which he belongs, during the year in which he is a member. In the case of the Swine Breeders' Association this includes a copy of the Swine Record.

A member of the Swine Breeders' Association is allowed to register pigs at 50c. per head; non-members are charged \$1.00 per head.

A member of the Sheep Breeders' Association is allowed to register sheep at 50c. per head, while non-members are charged \$1.00.

The name and address of each member, and the stock he has for sale, are published once a month. Over 10,000 copies of this directory are mailed monthly. Copies are sent to each Agricultural College and each Experiment Station in Canada and the United States, also to prominent breeders and probable buyers resident in Canada, the United States and elsewhere.

A member of an Association will only be allowed to advertise stock corresponding to the Association to which he belongs; that is, to advertise cattle he must be a member of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association, to advertise sheep he must be a member of the Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association, and to advertise swine he must be a member of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association.

The list of cattle, sheep, and swine for sale will be published in the third issue of each month. Members having stock for sale, in order that they may be included in the Gazette, are required to notify the undersigned by letter on or before the 9th of each month, of the number, breed, age, and sex of the animals. Should a member fail to do this his name will not appear in that issue. The data will be published in the most condensed form.

F. W. HODSON, Secretary.
Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ont

Institute Membership.

The following is a list of the members received since the last list published:

Addington	1
Bruce South	2
Bruce West	1
Durham West	6
Elgin West	2
Frontenac	8
Haldimand	1
Huron South	3
Huron West	10
Kent East	21
Lambton East	1
Lanark North	3
Lincoln	2
Manitoulin East	14
Ontario North	103
Ontario South	14
Parry Sound West	3
Union	2
York West	55

Annual Reports.

Annual Reports have been received from the following Institutes during the past week:

Addington.
Brockville.
Essex South.
Frontenac.
Glengarry.
Huron West.
Kent East.
Lambton East.
Lanark North.
Leeds N. and Grenville N.
Lincoln.
Manitoulin East.
Monck.
Muskoka South.
Parry Sound West.
Port Carling and Bala.
Renfrew South.
St. Joseph Island.
Union.
Waterloo North.
Waterloo South.

English Southdowns at Auction.

DISPERSION OF THE CELEBRATED AND EXTENSIVE FLOCK OF SOUTHDOWN SHEEP BRED BY THE LATE

J. J. COLMAN, ESQ.

John Thornton & Co., will sell by auction, without reserve, on Wednesday, August 9, 1899, one o'clock, at Easton Lodge Farm, six miles from the city of Norwich, England, the late Mr. J. J. Colman's extensive and first-class flock of purebred Southdown sheep, numbering about one thousand head, No. 69 in the flock book, in consequence of the farm being given up at Michaelmas.

This celebrated flock was established in 1869, soon after the poor light land farm at Easton Lodge was occupied in connection with the shooting. Under the superintendence of Mr. Garrett Taylor, it has been carefully bred from the purest strains, and so judiciously managed that for many years past, even to the present day, it has maintained an unrivalled position in the show yards, and is acknowledged to be one of the purest and best breeding flocks in the kingdom.

The original ewes were selected from Elmham, Buckland, Streetly and Hove; rams were used from these famous old flocks as well as from the Duke of Richmond's, at Goodwood. Exhibiting commenced in 1870, and in 1873 a small portion of the flock was sold. To show its great merits at that early time it may be mentioned that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Lord Sondes, Sir Wm. Throckmorton, Bart., and other eminent breeders, purchased rams.

After this the flock was gradually increased until it comprised about 400 breeding ewes, 100 of the best yearlings being annually selected and put into the flock before any sheep were offered for sale. By careful selection and liberal drafting the flock has been kept pure to the old Throckmorton, Rigden, and Webb strains, and with this purity of blood not only good size, but excel-

lent quality, with a remarkably close fleece of fine wool, have been maintained. At the dispersion of the late Mr. William Rigden's flock at Hove, Brighton, some of whose best rams had previously been hired, a large number of ewes were obtained, selected old ewes having been purchased for some years previously. Until the dispersion of Mr. Henry Webb's famous flocks, rams were annually hired from him, most of which had been used in his own flock at Streetly before going to Easton. Prize rams bred at Easton have always been retained; among them may be mentioned "Kilburn," first at the R.A.S.E. International Show at Kilburn, 1879, in one of the largest classes (47) of aged rams ever exhibited, this sheep having the year before been a winner at the Paris Show; "Jubilee," first and champion at the Royal Counties Show at Reading, 1887; "Plymouth," first and champion ram at the R.A.S.E. at Plymouth; "Yarmouth," first at the R.A.S.E. at Windsor, as well as the first prize sheep at Doncaster, Warwick, and Chester. Finally first and second prizes for yearling rams and second for two-shear rams were awarded last year at the Royal at Birmingham, all three of which were used in the flock last season. At the Norwich, the Birmingham, and the Smithfield Club Shows at Christmas innumerable prizes have been won. As evidence of the continued general excellence of the Easton Flock, it should be mentioned that at the Smithfield Centenary Show, 1898, the first prize was won for wethers, with the silver medals, both as exhibitor and breeder; also first prize for wether lambs, with the silver medals as exhibitor and breeder; the wethers also won the £15 prize for the best pen of Southdowns, with the silver medal as exhibitor and gold medal as breeder; whilst the previous year first prize was won for wethers and second prize for lambs. The wethers also won the £15 prize for the best pen of Southdowns as well as the champion plate of £50 for the best pen of short-woolled sheep or lambs in the show, with the gold medal as breeder. It will thus be seen that the flock has since its commencement upheld an unrivalled position in the show yards, and, moreover, it has been closely bred to those old pure strains that made the Buckland, Hove, and Streetly flocks so famous.

The unreserved dispersion of these valuable sheep is one of the most important events that has occurred for several years, one, indeed, of the greatest interest to Southdown breeders, both in England and America and home counties, as well as to those eminent colonial and continental breeders to whom a large number of rams have for many years been exported.