

The "Bonnie" Ayrshires at Toronto

THREE old time exhibitors, whose names are linked inseparably with the development of the Ayrshire on this continent, provided most of the competition in the Ayrshire classes at the Toronto National, they were R. N. Ness, Howick, Que.; Wm. Stewart & Sons, and Alex. Hume & Co., both of Menie. At last year's fair these three exhibitors were the only ones represented. Last week two new exhibitors made their first appearance at the Canadian National, Jas. Begg & Son, St. Thomas, and Laurie Bros., Malvern, Ont. Mr. Begg was an exhibitor at the National Live Stock Show last November. Laurie Bros. made their first appearance in the ring last week. Their's is a herd of recent origin, the two Laurie boys, both of whom are not yet past their twenties, started to purchase a foundation for their herd only two years ago. And they are off to a good start, making a most creditable showing as new exhibitors. Farm and Dairy remarked on the courage of these young men in coming right into conflict with the best the Dominion affords. "We don't believe in winning until we feel down we have the choicest stock," answered one of the brothers. "In starting in to exhibit now we will learn more rapidly than any other way, and when we get the best of stock we will have the experience and know how to show it."

WHY NOT MORE AYRSHIRES?

The Ayrshire breed stands in need of many more exhibitions of such spirit. Altogether there were 73 head of Ayrshire cattle on exhibition. There are enough splendid herds in Ontario and Quebec to double and treble this number without the average quality of exhibits suffering appreciably. Competition this year was not so keen as at the fair last November, several exhibitors who made a good start then staying at home last week. Doubtless the breeders who stayed away had good reasons for so doing. Shortage of feed for fitting and, worse still, shortage of help, are just as great problems to the breeder of pure bred cattle as to any class, and work is more pressing now than in winter fair time. But larger exhibits of the high-class stock that our Ayrshire breeders have would be a splendid advertisement for the breed and the breeders.

Many of the winning animals in the various classes are well known in the Canadian showing. Hobland Masterpiece and Auchinbrain Fannie 9th both returned to their old places as male and female champions, respectively. Masterpiece is just reaching his best development; old Fannie is beginning to show her age somewhat when she does retire, it will be with a show year record that has been seldom equalled.

In the division of awards the Burnside herd captured the major portion of the prize money. But it was not a clean sweep by any means, several firsts and a good large proportion of seconds and thirds going to the other competitors. Hume was particularly successful in the younger classes, with growthy animals of merit. Stewart had some particularly nice females in that the opinion of some might have gone higher and no mistake was made. But there was room for difference of opinions. Jas. Bryson, of Brysonville, Que., placed the awards quite acceptably. His placings were as follows:

AYRSHIRE AWARDS—Male.

New 1, Burnside, Hobland Masterpiece, Ness; 2, Springfield, Oakier, Stewart; 3, Bull, Hume. 2 yrs.-1, Hillside Peter Pan, Hume. Bull, 1 yr.-4, Humshaugh White Prince, Stewart; 5, Brown Prince of Gladden Hill, Laurie Bros.; 6, Senator, Begg. Bull, senior calf-1, Burnside Masterpiece, Ness; 2, Humshaugh Perfect Prince, Hume; 3, Lochiel of Menie, Stewart; 4, Bull, junior calf-1, Humshaugh Imper-

lal, Hume; 2, Jock Todd of Menie, Stewart; 3, Burnside Dairymaid's Masterpiece, Ness; 4, Melcar of City View, Begg. Masterpiece, Ness. Junior Champion—Burnside Masterpiece, Ness.

Female Awards.

Cow, 4 yrs. and over, in milk-1, Beuchan Spottie 4th, Ness; 2, June Morning, Hume; 3, Joan Armour 3rd, Stewart; 4, Rate of Menie, Hume. Cow, 3 yrs. old, in milk-1, Burnside Lady Luck, Ness; 2, Spicy Eva, Hume; 3, Spiritly of Menie 2nd, Stewart; 4, Topsy of Gladden Hill, Laurie Bros. Cow, 3 yrs. and over, in calf not milk-1, 2, and 3, Auchinbrain Fannie 9th, Burnside; 4, Flora 2nd, and B. Maggie Finlaystone 3rd, Ness; 4, Dewdrop of Menie, Stewart.

Heifer, 3 yrs. old-1, B. Maggie Finlaystone 4th, Ness; Humshaugh Kate, Hume; 2, Stewart; 4, Pride of City View, Begg. Heifer, senior yearling-1, Humshaugh Spicy Kate, Hume; 2, Belle of Menie 2nd, Stewart; 3, 4, Hobland Rosie 4th and B. Miss Mary, Ness.

HOLSTEIN AWARDS—Male.

Bull, mature-1, Homestead Colantha Prince Canora, Watson; 2, King Fayne, Segis, Clouthier, Holby; 3, Prince Abbecker Mercora, Ness; 4, Prince Schilling, Wood; 5, Summerhill Sir Maida, Manning.

Bull, 2 yrs.-1, Sir Belle Fayne, Haley Bros.; 2, Findrine King May Fayne, Lipsett; 3, Buttermilk Prince, Schilling; 4, Grace Fayne 2nd Sir Mercora, Kiefer. 3 yrs. old-1, Sunnyside Prince Mercora Ormsby, Clarkson.

Bull, senior calf-1, Smithdale Sir Ormsby, Schilling, Smith; 2, King Colantha Prince, Hume; 3, Baron Abbecker Prince, Chapman; 4, Baron Abbecker Prince, Chapman; 5, Prince Mercora Baron, Snyder.

Bull, junior calf-1, Prince Canora Prince, Schilling, Smith; 2, 4, Baron Mercora Prince, Schilling, Smith; 3, Canora Prince Kordyke Segis, Haley; 4, Hanna Kordyke Abbecker, Schilling; 5, Abbecker Prince, Schilling. Senior and Grand Champion—Homestead Colantha Prince Canora, Watson. Junior Champion—Dot's Bull Dot, Kelly.

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Too Old for Butter

Is it possible that a cow can be too old to make good butter? At present, she gives from eight to 12 pounds at a milking. The cream has been carefully worked. Different well water and even rain water have been used for washing the butter. In any case the butter is never good after it is a week old, and in two weeks time it is not fit to eat. We have tried every kind of salt we can get. As she is a bought cow, we have no idea of her age. She is well fed on the best of hay, some oats and two human mashes every day—W. P., Muskoka Dist., Ont.

It might be possible, but not altogether probable, that a cow would be too old to make butter. If this were the case, the milk itself would be defective when drawn from the cow, and present the same characteristics as the butter. There are cases on record where individual cows have produced milk of very pronounced undesirable odors, so much so that the milk or its product could not be used, but I am doubtful if this is the cause of its trouble in the present instance. The fact that the butter apparently is of good quality just after being made, but goes bad in a week, would lead me to believe that the trouble is caused by the introduction of some bacterial growths, which cause the undesirable results, and as the probable sources of these are very many, it would be impossible to indicate a remedy without a personal investigation.

The cause of the trouble may be traced to contamination from outside sources, or where during the milking of the cow and the churning of the cream. I would suggest for the benefit of your subscriber that they take every precaution to keep the milk free of all germs, life, and as an added precaution to see that all the utensils used in the handling of the cream are thoroughly clean and scalded.

FARM HELP

To the Farmers of Ontario:

For the past few years farm help has been scarce and expensive. As a consequence many farmers have been unable to get as much done in the way of cultivation and improvements as they desired. I therefore beg to bring to your attention the fact that one of the first effects of the unfortunate war in which the Empire is now engaged has been the dislocation of industry, and it is expected there will be a considerable increase in the number of unemployed in the industrial centres of the Province this winter. Many of these men, no doubt, have had experience in farm work, while others, inexperienced, are willing to learn and could be of considerable assistance in the meantime. It is expected that much of this labor will be available for farmers at a small wage, including board. In times of war it becomes an act of high patriotism, aside altogether from the fact that it is also profitable, to assure an adequate supply of food stuffs, and I trust Ontario farmers will bend every effort to this end. With the feeling of patriotism there might well be mingled a feeling of gratitude that our lands have been spared from the ruin which the devastating hand of war has caused in other countries. It has seemed to me that many of the unemployed in the cities, if available at a reasonable wage, should be used on the farms during the Fall and Winter preparing land for cultivation, making repairs, taking care of stock, and in other ways. This Department will be glad to receive applications for labor on this basis. All applications should be addressed to H. A. Macdonnell, Director of Colonization, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ont., and should state class of help required, wages, length of service, etc.

JAS. S. DUFF

Minister of Agriculture

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