

The Inter-Provincial Fair, Brandon July 25th to 29th, 1910

THE Brandon Inter-Provincial Fair is essentially an agricultural exhibition. Elaborate preparations are being made by the management to make the fair of 1910 the best ever held by the Western Agricultural and Arts Association of Brandon. The fair of 1909 was a splendid success and a credit to the Great West. The machinery exhibit was undoubtedly one of the largest collections of machinery and farm implements ever seen on any exhibition ground in Western Canada. Manufacturers regard the Brandon Fair as an excellent opportunity to display their manufactures. It's there they meet their customers, the farmers. Manufacturers from all parts of Canada have written for space and the indications are that big as the machinery exhibit of 1909 was, this year will be bigger.

The premium list for this year is the most attractive ever offered by the Board. In the live stock sections alone over \$2,000 has been added in premiums over 1909, making it the largest premium list for live stock in the West. Canadian bred Clydesdales have received recognition by the addition of a class for Canadian Breds, for which liberal prizes are offered. The local or smaller breeders of Shorthorns have also been provided for, which enables them to exhibit without competing against the larger breeders and importers. A special feature for this year is a 6-horse tandem team in wagon. This competition is open to municipalities for which valuable prizes are offered the four winning teams. For this event, J. D. McGregor, Esq., offers a challenge cup value \$100.00, to the municipality winning first place. This competition promises to bring out a strong field, and will be a feature in front of the grand stand each day.

Additional stables for horses, cattle and sheep are being erected; a new judging ring has been provided which will be appreciated by exhibitors. The object of fairs and especially the Inter-Provincial is to get together, "The best of the flock" and the field, and articles the result of skill, for friendly competition and mutual advantage.

The officials of the fair are determined to make it an interesting exhibition in every particular, recognizing that the spirit of competition in various exhibits of live stock and farm products stimulates local pride and ambition and is an important factor in the progress of the west.

Amusement Provided.

The Inter-Provincial does not overlook the fact that the people demand a certain amount of amusement along with their instruction, and the amusement features of the fair this year are distinctive and in proportion to the magnitude of the other departments. The races will be as animating and enjoyable as any part of the fair. Under proper restrictions speed contests are acknowledged as a legitimate accessory to fairs, the prizes offered being a matter of importance to the public as it stimulates breeding of better stock.

The A. G. Barnes animal show of 200 trained wild animals has been secured by the management and will be on the ground every day of the great fair. A large number of other special features will make up the mid-way attractions. The people may arrange to visit the fair with every assurance that all that is possible will be done for their convenience, entertainment and pleasure. To accomplish this purpose attractions that are chaste, refined and meritorious have been secured and it will be the endeavor of the management to exclude all that is undesirable or offensive.

Splendid Fair Grounds.

The fair grounds are the pride of Brandon citizens. It is unquestionably the most beautiful exhibition park in the west, and it is doubtful if there is a more beautiful exhibition park in Canada. A brief description is here given which may prove interesting to our readers.

The grounds of the Western Agricultural and Arts Association of Manitoba, are situated in the southern part of the city of Brandon, about one mile and a half from the business centre, and contain about eighty-six acres. It is noted for its well wooded driveways which give it a park-like appearance not to be found in any other exhibition grounds in Western Canada.

Passing through the handsome gateway composed of stone pillars with iron railings, you are reminded of the entrance to an English or Scottish country seat.

On the right you see the Lodge which is occupied by the gardener. Beyond that, to the right, is one of the best and fastest half-mile tracks in Canada, with a grand-stand accommodation of 2,500, while 2,500 more can be accommodated on the uncovered "bleachers." It is the intention of the Directors to supercede this with an iron and steel structure in the near future.

To the left is the experimental plot under the care of the Forestry Department of the Federal Government, and the Dominion Building.

We then pass the building of the Women's Hospital Aid Association, presided over by the ladies of Brandon who cater to the wants of the many visitors to the Exhibition, and show their philanthropy by turning over the entire proceeds to Brandon General Hospital.

The next in order comes the Poultry building; then the Horticultural building, and Band Stand. Strolling further we pass the dairy, machinery building and the cold storage building, to the Palace or Main Building.

There are about two and a half miles of nicely shaded drive-ways, and being of such easy access from the centre of the city, it is practically made use of as a public park. Crowds of people visit it every evening during the summer months, and on Sunday afternoons thousands of visitors stroll through its cool and shady avenues, and pay a visit to the Zoological collection which is growing rapidly, and the birds and water fowl that disport themselves upon the pretty little artificial lake which occupies a position about the centre of the grounds.

In the Zoo.

There are three Elk (one was born on the grounds), a pair of timber wolves and a cute cub born a few weeks ago, a pair of Badgers, a pair of Canadian Black Bears, a pair of Horned owls, Wack Squirrels, a pair of Foxes, a herd of Buffalo (two born on the premises), Mexican Cattle and Highland cattle. The names of the buffaloes being in the order of size from the largest down: Major, Bob, Coxie, President, Archie.

A fine collection of Pheasants is next visited, containing one pair each of the following varieties: Hybred, Golden, Lady Amherst, Hebra. The luxuriant coloring of the Lophura or "Fire Back" and the Golden are exceedingly striking. Bantam Pheasants and a pair of Reeves, too, are interesting.

Roomy Barns

Excellent accommodation for all classes of live stock is provided. Three barns for cattle, 150 feet, 100 feet and 100 feet respectively in length; building for sheep, 100 feet long; for swine, 100 feet long; a barn exclusively for stallions, and a horse barn 150 feet in length and containing seven rows of stalls; another 210 feet in length with five rows of stalls; two horse barns 150 and 125 feet respectively, each with five rows of stalls.

To guard against fire, a station is located in the centre of the grounds supplied with the necessary fire equipment during the Exhibition—by the city of Brandon.

There is also a small Botanical Garden amply provided with sitting accommodation, and it makes a cool, shady and restful spot for the tired visitors.

One more attraction to the grounds lies in the different varieties of water fowl that are to be found disporting themselves on the pretty little artificial lakes before referred to. Among these are White Guinea fowls, seventeen common Guinea fowls, forty one wild geese, three Chinese geese, twenty Mallard Ducks, four Black Ducks, three Aylesbury Ducks, two common ducks, and their movements in the lake are a great source of amusement to the children and young folk.

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THE Inter-Provincial Fair BRANDON, MAN.

1910 July 25th to 29th 1910

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