

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

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Address—
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Rainfall Records.

Mr. Clement Wragge, the Queensland meteorologist, claims for his colony the credit of having put up there record in rainfall for the whole world. He first gives a few of the most remarkable rainfalls in the world:—At Joyeuse, in France, 31.17 in. in 22 hours; at Genoa, 30 in. in 24 hours; at Gibraltar, 33 in. in 26 hours; on the hills above Bombay, 24 in. in one night; and on Khasia hills, to the northward of Calcutta, 30 in. on each of five successive days. Crohamhurst, therefore, in South-eastern Queensland, with its 35.71 in. in 24 hours, has beaten the world's record for that period. The gauge at Crohamhurst is a standard instrument of the large pattern, standing about one ft. above ground at an altitude of about 1,400 feet above sea.

The immense weight, eleven tons, made it difficult to handle, and several days were consumed in installing it on the truck built for the purpose, on which it is to be transported through Britain by the purchaser, Mr. Lipton, previous to being cut up for consumption. The Canadian Mite, as it was christened, immediately became a centre of attraction; it was photographed and caricatured and written about, and no single object in the entire Canadian exhibit has attracted more attention. The spot chosen for the cheese to rest in the Agricultural Building was very prominent, but on account of the direct rays of the sun beating down through a glass roof, was not an ideal place to develop flavor or preserve the texture of cheese. However, this was perhaps no great detriment, for it affords the very best chance to show the keeping qualities of Canadian cheese under unfavorable conditions. Surrounding the mammoth were a hundred or more cheeses of various sorts and sizes, from half-a-dozen thousand pounders to little Stiltons of a hundredth part the weight. None of these were shown for competition, but they were tested by the judges, Messrs. Hodgson, of New York, and MacLaren, of Windsor, Ont., as well as by the Dairy Commissioners from all the cheese-producing states, and the entire lot was endorsed as excellent. It was not expected that the big cheese, made as it was in a dozen factories, and pressed into the steel hoop at the central factory at Perth, would be a gilt-edged article, but the verdict was unanimous that, everything taken into consideration, the result was surprising. An expert could detect variations in flavor as the different strata of curd were encountered in the plug of two feet or more brought out by the tryer, but both Mr. Hodgson and Mr. MacLaren assured me they were surprised how good it was.

For competition 67 single exhibits were made, of which 162 were sent by Canada, (69 being from Ontario, 52 from Quebec, and the rest from the Lower Provinces. A standard of 100 points was set up, and all scoring over 90 were to be entitled to awards. When the cards were footed up, it was found that 135 exhibits were over the 90 mark, and of these 126 were from Canada. Of the Canadian cheese thirty-one lots scored higher than the highest American. Such a triumph is unprecedented in the history of international exhibitions in any class. Not very much butter was shown from Canada, and most of that from Quebec, but out of some forty prizes thirteen came our way.

It was decided by Prof. Robertson not to make any exhibit of cheese and butter during June, July and August, owing to the difficulties in the way of shipment, and the uncertainty as to the conditions for maintaining the proper temperature in the room where the goods were to be shown. The next Canadian exhibits will therefore be made in September, when I have every confidence that our previous successes will be repeated in a large degree.

FORESTRY.

A very unique and appropriate building is that devoted to forestry, being constructed of wood in the rough in peculiarly artistic design. Almost all the countries of the world are represented, the most beautiful woods being shown with plain and varnished surfaces. Ontario exhibit is not very large, but is excellent as regards quality.

MANUFACTURES.

Canada occupies a good deal of space in the huge Manufactures Building, and very creditably she does it, her leading manufacturers having vied with each other in making interesting and attractive displays. All the provinces are well represented, but the space now at my disposal precludes even a passing mention.

EDUCATION.

The Liberal Arts Gallery of the Manufactures Building is largely given over to education, almost every state and foreign country illustrating its method for the instruction of the young. A comparison of the various school systems is interesting, and it is with no little pride we learn that Ontario stands in the front rank here, as she did at Philadelphia and other international exhibitions. The exhibit includes large photographs of the school buildings in the leading towns and cities, samples of the work in all the departments, from the primary classes to the collegiate institutes, including much that is of high merit from the art schools. The Provincial institutions for deaf and dumb, blind, feeble-minded, etc., are also represented, and strangers can see at a glance how thoroughly Ontario provides for those who are afflicted, and how large a proportion of her revenue is given back directly to the people. Busts of leading Canadian statesmen are mounted on brackets throughout the court, and the arrangement throughout is most artistic. The Educational Exhibit is in charge of Dr. S. P. May, of Toronto, assisted by Mr. Roach, formerly of Hamilton.

ARCHAEOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

These departments are installed in the Anthropological Building, which is situated at the extreme south of the grounds. The former is devoted mostly to Indian relics, and the latter to stuffed birds and animals. In each Ontario is well represented. The contents of this building are not specially interesting to the general visitor, but those who are fond of looking a little below the surface and studying the history of aboriginal man, and the progress of civilization, can spend many an hour there with profit and pleasure.

Preparing for Canada's Favorite Exposition.

The advertisement of the Western Fair, which appears on another page of this journal, contains the closing dates of entries in all departments. Intending exhibitors should note them particularly, so as to be in time. Every breeder or farmer who has raised or come into possession of an animal or article which in his judgment is first-class and worthy of notice, should exhibit the same. By doing so, the owner will not only be benefitted by this means of advertising, but will encourage the directors and committeemen to continue in their untiring efforts to keep the Western Fair in the van of live stock and agricultural expositions.

The several committees have met and finished their duties in relation to the prize list and the appointing of judges. Some changes have been made for the purpose of benefitting the live stock breeder and also of increasing the number of exhibits at the fair.

In the horse department, a class has been opened for colts in harness as an introduction for advancement next year; the general purpose class has been opened up again, and sections for teams and three-year-old and two-year-old fillies. The cattle classes have been improved by opening a section for four-year-old cows and upwards, thus giving the three-year-olds, which had formerly to couple with the aged cows, a section for themselves; this is as it should be. The prizes heretofore given to the Merino sheep have been divided between them and the Hampshire Downs, this being the first time the latter class have figured at this fair. The Southdown Association have offered a special prize for the two best recorded lambs (ram and ewe), consisting of 10 volumes of the Southdown Register. A similar prize is also offered by the American Berkshire Record for the best registered sow and litter of five.

The Canadian Packing Company, of London, are lending their assistance in the hog department by donating \$10 for an exhibit of Yorkshires, which will materially add to the number of exhibitors in this class.

The Duroc-Jersey Red Hogs are to compete with or against the Tamworths, and should there be a sufficient number exhibited to warrant a class being opened for each breed, no doubt next year additions will be made. A slight addition has been made in the poultry—that of Rosecomb Leghorns in the old and young sections, also Magpie pigeons in the ornamental class.

In the Agricultural and Horticultural classes some acceptable changes have been made by cutting out some of the old and now worthless varieties of grains, vegetables and fruits, and adding those of more recent date. In the plums and peaches six new varieties are added to each, and will call out a larger display than heretofore. Mr. J. S. Pearce has donated \$25.00 as a special for 25 cannas, which will add materially to the beauty of the Horticultural Hall. Larger prizes are offered in the dairy department. We expect Western Ontario's best effort to maintain the high honors already obtained from the World's Fair, by the most elaborate display of cheese and butter ever collected in Canada. The honey will be more attractive than it has ever been in past years, and in all other departments big things are expected.

The plan adopted by the Western Fair Association of selecting their judges from the gentlemen nominated by the several live stock and industrial associations, and their adherence to the one judge system has, and will give, the best of satisfaction, and insure for them the principal breeders and manufacturers of the country as exhibitors. The mode of allotting the stables and space in the order entries are received is also the proper thing to do; it gives "the early bird the worm," and lessens the press of business in the Secretary's office at a time when every minute is fully employed.

Three of the stake races are already closed, and the three-minute stake for trotters closes on the 15th of this month, all others during the month of September.

Special attractions, entirely different from those of preceding years, are being arranged for, and the present outlook indicates a decided improvement on past fairs.

Secretary Browne hustles around, pen in hand, attending to the many details of his office, and on the whole he is a very busy man, but he has more time just now for receiving entries and answering enquiries than will be his a month hence; he would consider it a favor if intending exhibitors would act at once. The dates of the Western Fair of 1893 are September 14th to 23rd.

When putting away tools such as hoes, scufflers, plows, etc., carefully oil the bright parts. Do not allow tools to become rusty. When bright they "clean well," and not only work easier but do the work much better. Frequently hoes are hung on the fence, and scufflers and plows left in the field after being used. Here they become rusty. A little machine oil or axle grease rubbed on the blades, and occasionally a little linseed oil applied to the wooden handles of spades and hoes, gives very satisfactory results. Harness, as a rule, is not oiled half often enough nor cleaned well enough. For boots nothing is better than a frequent application of raw linseed oil. The wearing parts of all farm machinery should be kept well oiled.