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A Record Bull Sale

Calgary Bull Sale greatest yet in Numbers and Prices—Unlimited Money

Never before in Western Canada has such an enormous amount of money been represented at one sales ring as was under the new Sales Pavilion at the Calgary Bull Sale on August 11 and 12. On these days 454 bulls sold for $134,972, an average of $297.30 per head. This was the largest auction sale of bulls ever held in America. A large number were purchased by ranchers and big farmers throughout South and Central Alberta; in fact, the larger number of bulls went to that part of the country. The two big wheat crops have made these farmers determined never again to run the same risks as those of 1914. Never has there been a sale in Canada where such enthusiasm and such rapid bidding were evident. Indeed this was too evident at times, a good many buyers undoubtedly being carried away and paying prices for the medium quality or poorer bulls which they were not justified in doing. Though the prices were high for the best bulls these were better worth the money than were some of the poorer ones. Generally speaking, however, the bulls were worth the money paid for them. The top bull of the bull sale brought $1,500. This was Frank Collicut's, Willow Spring, Barish, a yearling Hereford. Another yearling from the same herd sold for $800 and another for $700. These three bulls went to Mr. McIntyre of McGrath. Collicut sold 10 bulls for $6,510. The top Shorthorn bull, Kinnel Prince, a yearling, bred by T. B. Ralphs, of Elnora, brought $1,350 from Wm. Sharpe of Lacombe. The first bid on this bull was $600. Three bulls of Mr. Ralphs' breeding averaged $745.

A. W. Latimer of Bowden sold the highest priced bull on the first day of the sale, Gainsford Reliance, for $825. He was by Gainsford of Saskatoon, that was sired by the famous Gainsford Marquis. Mr. Latimer only three years ago last fall paid over $1,100 for Gainsford of Saskatoon and we cannot recall any more outstanding case in Western Canada of the value of buying only a first class sire. While his cows were good ones they were outstanding in no way. Yet in three years he sold at this sale alone, four calves the get of this bull, for $2,725, an average of $681. They were probably the most outstanding bunch of Shorthorns at the show.

As usual Herefords topped the averages, 152 averaging $365.50. 252 Shorthorns averaged $258.23 and 38 Angus averaged $304.60. Six Galloways averaged $184.16. One Red Polled bull brought $345 and five Polled Herefords, the first of the last mentioned breed to be disposed of at this sale averaged $243. A number of polled bulls were sold on the last day. This made the total number of 468 bulls for $136,412, of an average of $293.61. The following table gives the comparative averages for this year and last at this sale:

Breed	1917		1916
Herefords	$365.50	(82)	$310
Shorthorns	258.23	(187)	221
Aberdeen-Angus	304.60	(34)	175
Galloways	184.16	(1)	105

The Show Preliminary

Many of the bulls were shown in competition the day previous to the opening of the sale. The Shorthorn show bulls were a strong bunch but rather out of condition except the younger bulls. There were some very good ones, indeed, among the younger ones, including the champion and reserve. The former was won by A. W. Latimer and the reserve by G. Davidson, Calgary. These were the two bulls mentioned above the latter of which was bred by T. B. Ralphs. Strange to say that in both the Shorthorn and Hereford classes, the reserve champion bulls brought considerably more money than the champions. Among the Shorthorns, there were many better bulls that stood in the barn than a good many of those shown in the ring.

The Hereford classes all through except the aged bull class was a very even good lot in nice condition. The young ones were extra good. The yearling class contained both the champion and reserve. The former was three or four days less than a year old, viz., the $1,500 bull, while the reserve was only 13 months old.

The Angus bulls were best in the yearling classes and the best amongst these was a very good smooth bull, owned by C. H. Richardson, Bowden. The young stuff was not nearly so good and was out of condition. With the exception of the Herefords and a few young Shorthorns, the whole lot of bulls could hardly be said to be in show condition. Buyers, however, do not put as great a premium on condition in Calgary as at some of the other shows. There were bulls bought at this sale by big cattlemen to go on to ranches and if these men get the kind of bull that, with good grass, will put on flesh, they do not care such a great deal if they are a little thin. Some of the big averages received were as follows:

Sir Lad 49th, the undefeated junior champion Hereford bull of America, recently imported by Frank Collicut, Calgary, and on exhibition at the Horse Show. He cost $11,000 and is the second highest priced bull of the breed on this continent.

Shorthorns

	Bulls Sold	Average Price
C. F. Lyall, Strome	10	$297.00
Senator Talbot, Lacombe	6	330.00
F. A. Switzer, Lacombe	3	583.00
Jas. Sharpe, Lacombe	4	375.00
Wm. Sharpe, Lacombe	8	298.00
W. C. Rickard, Airdrie	16	302.00
Magee Bros., Stettler	5	244.50
A. S. Fowler, Mazeppa	9	187.00
C. P. R. (6 to 7 years old)	27	175.00

Herefords

Pym Bros., Mirror	8	$321.00
A. Roberts, Westcott	10	358.00
Geo. Shaw, Mundare, Alta.	4	344.00