

feet. Bothwell came next, with a horse very little behind him in all-round quality.

The three-year-old section was nicely represented. A. Blackie, White Oak, won first place with a handsome colt, by Imp. Storm Signal. Amos Agar carried second and third, with two well-developed colts. The sweepstakes for best stallion in the class of any age went to Amos Agar.

Seven brood mares, of uniformly good quality and large scale, proved an interesting ring, in which competition was strong. J. H. McCully, St. Mary's; Jas. Smilie, Inwood, and Geo. Spearin, St. Mary's, were the fortunate contestants.

Three-year-old fillies and geldings formed a capital ring, no less than twelve exceptionally good things coming to the call. Chas. C. Brick, Folden's Cor.; Jas. Beattie, Kirkton, and Simon Hunter, Exeter, were the fortunate exhibitors, the latter winning second and third.

Five exceedingly fine teams were forwarded in the harness class. All these had the desired weight for draft work, and made a most interesting display. D. A. Murray, Bennington; John McIntosh, Maplewood, and Wm. Kerwick, Exeter, were the successful ones.

PERCHERONS.—This French draft breed was forward in large numbers. Some of the prominent importers brought out as many as eight or ten head in single sections; that for stallions over four years proving the most strongly contested. Hamilton & Hawthorne, Simcoe, won first and second in this ring, with a pair of horses that were much admired; E. C. At-trill, Goderich, coming third on a very good individual. Hamilton & Hawthorne again won first and second on three-year-old stallions, and in two-year-olds Truman's Pioneer Stud carried the two firsts.

#### SHEEP.

The exhibit of sheep at the Western Fair is, as usual, an important feature of the live-stock department, but on account of the pressure made upon the Toronto exhibitors to go to Ottawa, Guelph and Syracuse, N.Y., the exhibit here was scarcely as large as usual, but in point of merit is about equal to former exhibits, strong competition being met in every class except Oxfords, Lincolns and Hampshires. If the Fair Association could see its way clear to increase the prize-list from 10 to 20 per cent. in each class, we think there would be no classes without plenty of competitors, and if a majority of the board knew the expense attached to bringing out live stock in the pink of condition, the list would not long remain in its present form. Live stock is bound to be the sheet anchor of an exhibition located in such an agricultural centre as is the Western Fair, and should receive greater encouragement. It might also be well to add interest to this department by introducing sheep-dog trials and sheep-shearing contests.

SHERPSHIRE.—The contest in this class was between Lloyd-Jones Bros., W. E. Wright and W. H. Beattie, who won in the order named. While this exhibit was not equal to that at Toronto, it was mostly Canadian bred (this could not be said of the Toronto exhibit), which should be more encouraged in all our exhibitions.

COTSWOLDS.—The Cotswold exhibit was a very interesting one, the contest being between J. C. Ross, Jarvis, and T. Hardy Shore, Glanworth. The Glanworth flock, coming fresh from their home, had the advantage of freshness that the Jarvis flock could not be expected to have after a two weeks' sojourn at Toronto in close confinement, and, consequently, won a good share of the firsts in the ewe sections, while Ross had decidedly the best of it in the ram sections. Both exhibits were well brought out.

IN LEICESTERS only one flock from Toronto put in an appearance, that of Chas. F. Maw, Omagh, who won the majority of the firsts on a well-fitted lot. Jas. Snell, Clinton, brought out a very uniform bunch without special fitting, and landed some important ribbons. The other competitor in this class was J. J. Woolacott, Kennicott, whose bunch included some Toronto winners (in other owner's hands). This exhibit won several ribbons, among them first on aged ewe, and sweepstakes for ewe any age on the same, with a five-year-old ewe of remarkable vigor and quality. The Leicester exhibit throughout was very creditable.

LINCOLNS.—The Lincoln exhibit, in the hands of J. T. Gibson, Denfield, was quite up to the standard in point of quality, and Mr. Gibson is to be congratulated upon the general excellence of his exhibit from year to year.

OXFORDS.—The same may be said of the Oxfords, in the hands of Henry Arkell, of Arkell, who was the sole exhibitor in this class.

HAMPSHIRE.—A pen of typical Hampshires were shown by Freeborn Bros., Denfield, who, although new beginners, brought out their flock in good form. We might say right here that if the Western Fair Association want an increased entry in this class in future, it will be necessary for them to increase their chances of winning by offering a better prize-list.

BORSETS were out in greater numbers than for some years, the contest being between J. Robertson & Sons, Milton, a new exhibitor here, and R. H. Harding, Thorndale, an old-timer, who succeeded in landing most of the firsts and champions, his opponent being a good second. The sheep in this class were in fair shape, but not highly fitted.

SOUTHDOWNS made a good showing in the hands

of Teller Bros., Paris; Col. R. McEwen, Byron, and Thos. W. Smith, each of whom put up a creditable showing mostly with home-bred stuff, the former winning the lion's share. Col. McEwen captured some first and second premiums, with Smith close after, winning seconds and thirds.

FAT SHEEP were brought out in goodly numbers, and of good quality; some of them splendidly fitted. To the writer's mind this class is no educator so long as the long-wooled and short-wooled breeds are classed together. They are too far apart as to type and weight for judges to satisfy themselves, to say nothing about satisfying the different breed fanciers. The prizes were divided between the compact Southdowns and the stately Lincolns, a choice yearling wether of the latter breed having to be satisfied with second place, against a lamb of the former, both of which had attained to a high state of perfection, without being at all flabby. This pair was very close, and the placing might have been reversed without any injustice being done. In the fat ewe class Lincolns were placed first, Southdowns second and Shropshires third. The shipping class was composed altogether of Shropshires.

#### SWINE.

The swine exhibit at the Western Fair was scarcely up to former years in point of numbers, but the quality of the exhibits was quite equal to the average of years, and, judging from the crowds that thronged the pens, the interest in bacon producing is certainly not waning. The contest in the different classes was almost the same as that at Toronto, as nothing appeared in competition that had not met the week previous at the Canadian National, excepting that of H. J. Davis, Woodstock, who showed a bunch of home-bred young Yorkshires of nice quality, not highly fitted, on which he won among other premiums, first on sow under twelve months, with a choice-quality individual, that will make something choice when fully developed. He also won second on a very smooth boar, under six months, that crowded Mr. Platt's Toronto winner closely for first. The Summerhill herd of D. C. Platt & Son repeated its victories of the week previous at Toronto, making a strong showing in nearly every section, winning nearly all the first prizes. Jos. Featherston & Son were present with a carload of Yorkshires and Essex, and won out well. It is not necessary to further particularize upon the exhibit, as the report of the Toronto exhibit, which appeared in last week's issue, covers the entire lot pretty thoroughly in all the different breed classes.

The Tamworth exhibit was in the hands of Colwill Bros., Newcastle, and D. Douglas & Son, Mitchell.

Chester Whites were shown by W. E. Wright, Glanworth, and D. DeCoursey, Bornholm; while W. H. Durham had the Berkshire class all to himself.

For further particulars as to the winnings, see detailed prize-list in this issue.

### Great Eastern Exhibition.

Sherbrooke Exhibition of 1905 gave promise to eclipse all efforts of previous years in numbers of exhibits in nearly all classes, and more especially in the quality a distinct advance was evident.

It may be that the clerk of the weather was too busy answering the prayers of Toronto the Good, or it may be that the people of Sherbrooke neglected to pray, but however it be, the first three or four days of the exhibition at Sherbrooke were completely marred by continuous dull and rainy weather, which deterred hundreds from visiting the fair, and very materially reduced the gate receipts. The weather cleared towards the end of the week, but increased "gates" on the last two days scarcely brought the total receipts on a level with last year. The directors are to be congratulated on their pluck and perseverance in spite of the disappointing weather, which alone prevented a record attendance.

Trotting was virtually out of the question for the first few days, and several events were finished on Saturday.

In all departments entries were more numerous than former years. The horse exhibit was away ahead of last year, which was a banner year. Sherbrooke seems to be drawing a better class of horses into competition, and more accommodation will be required before long.

In the cattle department a distinct advance over last year was noticeable, both as regards quality and number of entries, Shorthorns being out in larger numbers than ever and of better quality. Of special mention are the fine exhibits in this class of Mr. Jas. A. Cochrane, Hillhurst Farm, whose beautiful female, Lovely of Pinegrove 3rd, was placed before the competitors in the stock-judging competition as typical of as near perfection in the beef breeds as can be produced. Burton's grand three-year-old bull (white) out of Imp. Cicely, by Joy of Morning, last year's Toronto winner, also deserves special mention, and could hold his own in any company.

Herefords were neither numerous nor well finished, and the same can be said of the Polled Angus, although both classes were better represented than they were in 1904.

Holsteins seem to be coming in larger numbers to Sherbrooke year by year, and some very fine

animals were seen in the ring last week, the exhibit of Logan Bros., from Nova Scotia, being especially good.

Ayrshires were well represented, as they always are at Sherbrooke, the pick of a lot of good things being seen probably in Mr. Green-shields' herd.

Jerseys and Guernseys might be said to be of only average quality, although out in fair numbers, and Canadians were not only well represented in numbers, but the quality of the winners was irreproachable.

Sheep and swine, always a strong department, were in large numbers, and for the most part well shown.

The judges in the dairy department expressed themselves as specially pleased with the quality of both butter and cheese exhibits. It is worthy of notice that J. W. Evans, Kingsey, Que., repeated at Sherbrooke the success attained the week before at the Canadian National Exposition, Toronto.

The women's and children's department was well filled with a very fine display, and the exhibit of agricultural and horticultural produce was the best on record, as was to be expected in this favorable season. The same may be said of the poultry.

### The Profitable Sheep.

By J. C. Duncan.

Every breeder interested in the improved mutation or fine wool breeds will advocate the breed he is directly interested in as being the most profitable sheep. This must be conceded to a certain extent, as certainly no breeder of the present day would engage in and continue in breeding a sheep that was unprofitable to him as a business. So we will not take up the point of which is the most profitable breed, but for a moment discuss the profitable sheep. In my experience in feeding both cattle and sheep, I have always found that I could produce mutton much cheaper than I could produce beef for the amount of food consumed. Notwithstanding this fact, high-class lamb and mutton usually sell at a higher market value than beef of the same grade. But, allowing them to sell for the same price pound for pound, we have still a handsome balance in favor of the profitable sheep from the revenue from the fleece of wool, and, considering the very limited amount of care they require, these are some of the facts we must credit to the profitable sheep.

Continuing, Mr. Duncan said it is an all-important fact in every branch of industry to consider the source of income, and, as related above, sheep usually afford two annual incomes, namely, lambs and wool. But to keep in touch with our subject, the profitable sheep, we must first consider it in a pure-bred standard flock, the progeny of which is usually sold to small breeders and farmers who make a business of producing butchers' sheep. We must start on sound fundamental principles, those of breeding an animal that will produce the largest amount of valuable meat for a given quantity of food, with the smallest amount of waste to the consumer. These should be the governing facts in the breeding of all animals for the production of high-class meat, which must end up with the final test on the block, where the profit is calculated in shillings and pence. Now, to breed a profitable, pure-bred sheep, if our aim be to breed the highest class of sires of any of the approved breeds for use on the standard flocks of the country, we must have an ideal equal to what we expect to attain. And in forming this ideal: First, it is absolutely necessary to have a healthy, vigorous animal showing a strong constitution, as we must always bear in mind that the constitution of any animal is the foundation of all improvement. If we have an animal with all the fancy and fantastic points of our ideal, with a poor constitution, what profit can we expect from the progeny of such an animal? In the case of a sire it would prove utter ruin to a whole flock to tolerate any such animal in our flocks and herds.

Therefore, if we wish to make a name for ourselves as breeders of high-class profitable sires, we must see that we never lose sight of the utility parts of the kind of animals we are interested in. Hence, I would urge all breeders of high-class sires expected to reproduce and improve our standard flocks, to guard against being carried away with the fancy points instead of the utility parts, as the latter are essential in the line of improvement to make profitable sheep. But to make a profitable sheep we must do more than get a sheep of superior breeding and constitutional vigor. In conjunction with the above, it must be properly cared for from birth until it is either sold as a sire to head a pure-bred flock, or to the butcher for consumption as meat. The care of that animal should be so that it is developed in as rapid a way as nature has provided, in order that the development may be done with the least possible waste. This means the most generous and judicious feeding and care carried out in every part of the