

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

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SOUTHDOWNS.

With Jackson at Montreal, Douglass captured nearly all the prizes,—the other exhibitors being Telfer, Baker, and Bridges. Douglass' aged ewes were especially good—also ram. This has been a good season for Southdowns. Instead of seeing a few sensational animals, we find a general uniformity of very true-made, typical sheep, showing that the breeders have agreed upon the points to be sought after and those to be bred out, and are succeeding in breeding to a type perhaps more successfully than any other sort.

SHROPSHIRE.

Of the Toronto exhibitors, Hanmer, Cooper, and Beattie came west—Miller, Campbell, Davies, etc., going to Montreal. Cooper did not do so well here as at Toronto, nearly all his winners being "pegged" back, while Hanmer worked up several notches, being first and second with shearlings, beating Cooper's imp. Minton ewes, with which he

was third at Toronto. Hanmer also won seconds in all the ram classes; first aged, and first and second shearing ewes; second ewe lambs; and all the flock prizes. J. Cooper & Son showed seventeen head. Five shearing rams bred by J. S. Minton, and lately imported by Mr. Cooper, were a serviceable lot; also a two-shear ram (second in Toronto, commended here) shows lots of quality, and ought to make his mark in the flock. W. Wright showed seventeen head, winning first on fat ewe; first on six shipping sheep; second on two fat ewes; second on two shearing wethers; fourth on ram lamb. Four shearlings are especially worthy of mention—big, strong, wealthy breeding ewes—and as Mr. Wright purchased the first-prize aged ram he ought to nick well with the flock, as he was a ram of great quality, on very short legs. W. H. Beattie showed sixteen head. He won second with aged ewes; third on ram lamb; first on fat wethers. His ewes were especially nice, showing lots of quality, combined with grand backs. Richard Gibson showed two aged rams and some lambs, winning first and third on aged sheep. The first was a wonderfully thick sheep on short legs, showing lots of quality. He was the best aged ram brought out this year, and could have won all along the line. Also first with a ram lamb very evenly made, and teeming with quality. If he goes on well he will be a dangerous customer next year. Also fourth on ewe lambs.

COTSWOLDS.

Rawlings, Weeks, and Jackson were the principal competitors. When the "tricks" were counted at the end of the game, Rawlings was the winner—leaving Jackson first on aged ram, and Weeks third on shearlings and second on ewes. It was not as good an exhibit as usual.

LINCOLNS.

made a very creditable showing. Gibson & Walker showed three head, the plums of the flock having gone to Montreal. However, he captured second on aged ram; first on shearing rams; first on ram lamb. The aged ram was sent to London to try conclusions again with Mr. Oliver, but the judges again decided in favor of the Toronto sheep. They are of a different type—the Oliver ram being fresher on his legs, and has a better leg and thigh, but is a little short. T. E. Robson showed eighteen head, winning second and third on shearing rams; third and fourth on ram lambs; third on aged; second on shearing; and fourth on ewe lambs. W. Oliver, who, with twenty-three head, including his Toronto winners, was on his way to Springfield (Ills.) and St. Louis, won all the prizes not previously mentioned. They were in good trim, and Ontario's credit will not suffer, no matter whether they capture all the owner expects or not.

LEICESTERS.

Never have the Leicesters come so strong to the front as this season. With John Kelly and Whitlaw away, still the breed was better represented than for years. Jas. S. Smith & Son, Maple Lodge, won every first except for shearing rams and ram lambs, showing twelve head. A great pair of ewes were the aged ones, and equally good the shearlings. No four better ewes of any breed have been shown this year from one flock, and Messrs. Smith are to be very highly complimented upon their success in breeding and fitting such creditable specimens. E. Gaunt & Sons (15 head) showed a capital pair of ewes, winning second; they are mother and daughter, winning first at Toronto two years ago; again last year. They have this year been better employed, as they each raised lambs, consequently are not in the bloom of barren ewes. Shearing rams, first, second and fourth. These rams each won the recognition they were entitled to, cards being attached to their pens, and a capital show they made, having size, substance and quality. The winning lamb was indeed a gem, and well-deserved his position. Messrs. Gaunt are breeding on true principles, and we expect to see this flock take a very high position.

OXFORDS.

require but little comment, as Smith Evans was the only one who showed fitted sheep. He had 13 head and won right through in classes and in flocks. We must particularly mention a big, good old ram, bred by Adams, and a good shearing lately imported. This flock deserves special notice for being the only one in the West this year to maintain the reputation of these popular sheep. Mr. James Talton showed twenty head of field sheep, amongst them quite a promising Brassey ram lamb.

DORSETS.

R. H. Harding won pretty much everything in sight.

SWINE.

The swine classes were, perhaps, as well filled as any, and while most of the pigs shown were not highly fitted, they were in good breeding order.

BERKSHIRES.

This class was well filled, and some capital specimens were brought out; H. J. Davis taking all the first prizes except the herd prize and that for sow and her produce, both of which went to T. A. Cox, of Brantford, who showed thirteen head selected from his herd of sixty, and mostly sired by a son of the famous Enterprise, out of a Royal winner,—a nice, smooth lot, showing evidence of careful breeding. The other exhibitors were John Ackland, J. Shipley, Geo. Hill, and D. A. Graham, who showed fifteen head of a very useful type, all bred from stock imported by himself.

POLAND-CHINAS.

Only two exhibitors came out here—Messrs. W. & H. Jones, who showed eight head and carried off four firsts, three seconds, and a third, as well as the herd prize and that for sow and her produce, and F. Row, who won two firsts, two seconds and a third, with five head. But what these herds lacked in quantity they made up in quality—the animals shown being in grand fit, and particularly true to type. Messrs. Jones, we may add, also showed in Montreal, where a large part of their herd went.

CHESTER WHITES.

In this class the herd prize went to D. DeCoursey, who showed sixteen head of very useful pigs, all his own breeding except the aged boar, which was bred by N. G. Alexander, Delavan, Ills. R. H. Harding also showed some twelve head from his well-known herd, mostly sired by the Columbian sweepstakes winner, Washington; while J. H. Chalk, of Calton, Ont.—a new exhibitor—was fortunate enough to win two prizes, one for his aged boar and one for boar under one year.

YORKSHIRES.

Here most of the prize money went to H. J. Davis, of Woodstock, who showed fourteen head and won both the herd prize and that for sow and her produce; Jos. Featherston, M. P., winning three prizes with three head, most of his herd having gone to Montreal; while Messrs. John Ackland and Wm. Goodger won two prizes each, the first getting two seconds on a pair of young boars under one year going to Wm. Goodger, who also won first place in aged sows, on a fine, deep, lengthy sow, imp. in dam from the well-known herd of Geo. Charnock. In the class for sows under one year, Richard Gibson took an easy first on a very handsome sow, bred from an imported Spencer sow. This sow looks like making a really good one, showing plenty of quality, together with the length and depth that the points of the breed call for.

TAMWORTHS.

were out in full force and certainly attracted a full share of attention, the prizes being about equally divided between Messrs. W. H. Elliott, F. Row, and J. C. Nicholls,—the last named gentleman, who showed eighteen head, bred principally from Messrs. J. & L. Grant's importation, winning the prize for sow and her produce, while the herd prize went to W. H. Elliott, who showed thirteen head, headed by a boar weighing 917 pounds. This pig was only in medium flesh, and could easily be made to weigh 1,100 pounds. This gentleman showed some youngsters that struck us as being very promising. F. Row, who sold a number of his pigs at Toronto, won four prizes with six head. Altogether, perhaps the Tamworths were as even a lot as we saw; and certainly the breed seems to be pushing its way to the front.

DUROC-JERSEYS.

In this class Messrs. Tape Bros. made a clean sweep, and a wonderfully nice lot of pigs they showed.

SUFFOLKS.

Messrs. Frank & Sons and Jos. Featherstone divided the money evenly, there being no other competitors.

ESSEX.

The only prizes in this class were for boar and two sows, and here Jos. Featherstone won first, second and third with nine pigs, all of one litter, the first three being well worthy of mention. They struck us as being excellent specimens of the breed.

DAIRY EXHIBIT.

The display of cheese and butter at the Western Fair was equal to that of other years in outside appearance; but, like the Toronto display, the quality was, on the whole, not as good, both the cheese and butter lacking the one essential quality—a perfect flavor. There appeared to be a wider variation in this regard between the butter exhibits of this year and last year than between the cheese exhibits of the same periods. It was a noticeable fact this year that very much of the creamery butter, which is usually of a good quality, was weak in texture and grain, and very much lacking in flavor. It is claimed that the extremely hot weather a few days before the Fair prevented the making of fine butter.

There was a larger number of cheese on exhibition than last year;—270 boxes were shown. The extreme heat during the Fair caused the cheese to show a weaker body than they would had the weather been cooler. There was considerable improvement over last year's exhibit in point of finish and neatness, though some exhibitors could improve the appearance of their exhibits considerably in this regard.

The cheese were judged by A. F. McLaren, Stratford, and were scored the same as last year, in accordance with the following arrangement: Flavor, 45; texture, 30; color, 15; and finish, 10. The highest score made by any exhibit of cheese was 96 points, and the lowest, 70; the average being about 90.

W. P. Hibbard, Esq., Stratford, was judge on butter, which was judged by points, in accordance with the following score-card: Flavor, 45; grain, 25; color, 15; salting, 10; packing, 5. The highest score made by any exhibit of creamery butter was 97½, and the lowest, 81½; the average being 92.36. The highest score made by any exhibit of dairy butter was 96, and the lowest, 88; the average being a shade higher than the creamery; or, 92.38.