

CANADIAN HORSE SHOW.

A GREAT SUCCESS—A SPLENDID EXHIBIT.

The fifth annual Canadian Horse Show took place at the Toronto Armories on April 13th, 14th and 15th, and proved to be one of the most successful ever held. Not only were the total entries some fifty in excess of any previous show but the breeding classes showed an especial increase, much larger in proportion than other classes of the show. The quality of the stock was generally good, a decided improvement in many classes over previous years. There were in some sections a few weedy animals but these were but few, and the general tone of the exhibits was decidedly above the average. The educational feature of these shows has been so marked that a visitor from year to year who carefully compares can see the steady though gradual advance made in the different classes. In some classes this advance has been so great and evident as to change the whole appearance of the exhibit. In others no such marked advance has been made, but on the whole the lessons learned from the good judging have neither been neglected nor unprofitable.

And to speak of good judging does not mean that no mistakes have been made; these will occur under the most careful management, and with the most conscientious awarders, but these mistakes often tend to emphasize certain points and to call very special attention to things which might otherwise be easily passed over. Not the least in the educational features of such a show is the comparison and careful criticism of the outsiders over some apparent inconsistency in the judge's decision.

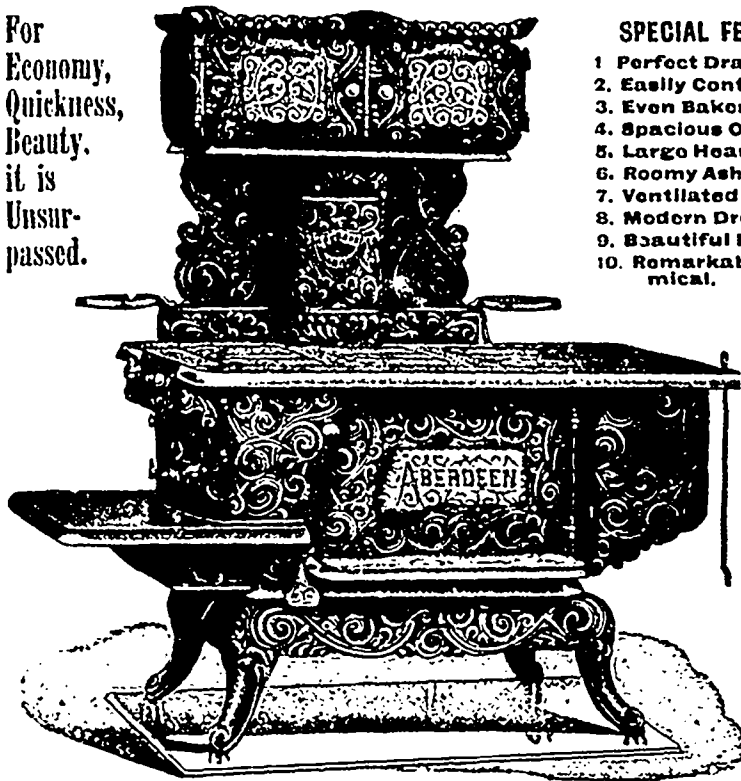
The judging was well and carefully done. Major-General Hutton, general in command of the Canadian militia, made a most excellent judge of saddle horses and it was a happy idea of the directors to secure such an able and distinguished horseman as one of their judges. He was well seconded by Charles McEachran, V. S., of Montreal, and it was the general opinion that these classes were never better or more carefully judged.

The attendance was large and varied. The society people of Toronto turned out well, and, aided by a few lovers of a good horse from the other Canadian cities, contributed largely to the enjoyable features of the show. A pleasant crowd and the people one meets add much to any exhibition, and were specially prominent in Toronto. Many farmers and breeders were present. A particularly late spring, with no farm work pressing, gave a greater opportunity than usual for farmers to visit this show, and more than usual they availed themselves of the opportunity. Our circumstances in Canada are such that when the spring work begins it taxes the energy and demands the closest attention of every farmer. So much is this the case that few can be got to visit a show held at a time when spring seeding is being done, and those who do go can not shake off the feeling that they should be at home at work. This year the case was quite different—spring work had not begun, and the show profited by the backwardness of the season.

From the farmer's standpoint there was one feature that calls for a change. To arrange a programme to suit all classes is not easy. In this case it has been modelled after the New York style to arrange the various classes fairly and evenly throughout the whole three days of the show. A breeder or farmer coming to the show to see any one class has to remain the whole three days. What many of the farmers would like is such an arrangement as would permit the various breeds to be shown more together, grouped in such a way as would bring on the Clyde classes in one day, Shires on another and standard bred and Hackneys on another, so that a visitor who came specially to see his favorite breeds and had only one day to spare, could be able to see the bulk of the whole exhibit in that breed. Grouping the breeds this way, while not detracting from the variety of the exhibitors, would meet the wishes of the farmers in this respect. Our Canadian farmers are so situated that few can breed with profit more than one class of animals. His whole energies have to be given to that one favorite breed and he wants in coming a day to the show to see as much of the favorite breed as

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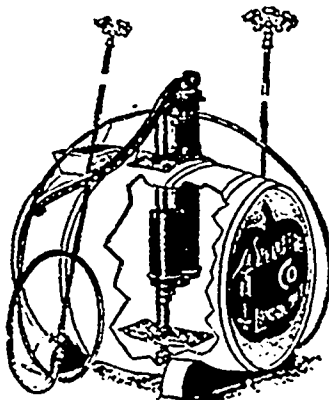
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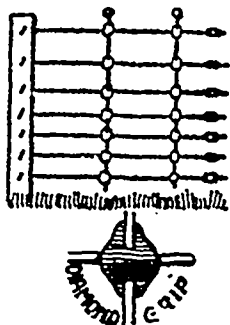
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