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As far back as one living to-day can remember, it was possible to see at an odd time and on a very small scale a patch of land as carefully plowed as much of what was on view at Portage la Prairie as the result of its great two days' plowing match, but not until recent date was it possible to see so much of such uniformly superb quality turned out in two short days.

To anyone who did not see it, it is impossible to convey any fair idea of the impressive transformation scene: a half-section of thickly matted land becoming in something like twelve hours as black and level as a billiard table—not so much as a stick of last year's stubble left to break the monotony.

The match was essentially a plowing contest—with horses on the first and tractors on the second day, and was held on the farm of Tom Wishart, two miles north of the town.

The weather was good but somewhat threatening which no doubt affected the attendance, although the numbers seemed (especially on the second day) to break last year's record.

The arrangements made by the board of directors were perfect, alike for the contestants and the visiting public, and to them the highest credit is due. This is the natal atmosphere of the true sportsman and kindliness, enthusiasm and unanimity was in evidence in every face and every group that conferred on one phase or another of the big job that was in progress.

As an evidence of the fine neighborly spirit abroad, the writer happened to witness a very pretty little incident towards the close of the horse plowing match. One of the most likely champions was just about to make his "finish" when his next door competitor (who was running him very closely indeed) stepped up and said: "If I were you, George, I would"—do so and so.

It was a small thing, but there was a big heart and a broad soul

THE FINE ART OF PLOWING

As Demonstrated on the Portage Plains

in it and it showed what really prevailed on the field, that the competitors were intent solely on seeing the very best work done regardless of who did it. This man had no need to proffer his advice.

Following is the result of the first day's horse plowing contest:

Class 1, walking plows, 14-inch, open—1st, D. Little, 86; 2nd, J. Brown, 85; 3rd, W. Rogers, Edwin, 76; 4th, J. Sutherland, Bran-

67; 4th, H. Wishart, 66; 5th, C. R. Wilson, 61; 6th, A. Pirie, Strathclair, 48.

Best 4-horse team—H. Wishart.

Class 3, gang plows, 14-inch, open to men who have not won a first prize previous to 1919 in men's class—1st, J. A. Beam, 76; 2nd, G. Wood, 71; 3rd, W. Lang, 70; 4th, W. J. Moffatt, 69; 5th, H. E. Batters, 67; 6th, J. W. Brydon, 65; 7th, N. McMaster, 63; 8th, N. M. Caskey, 54.

Highest score except for feering and finish—J. A. Beam.

Best feering, classes 2 and 3—G. Wood.

Best finish, classes 2 and 3—G. MacVicar.

Class 4, boys' gang, 14-inch, open to all boys under 18 years, resident in Manitoba — 1st, A. Wishart, 72; 2nd, Harold Tomlin, 68; 3rd, L. Hughes; 4th, R. R. Caskey.

Highest score except finish and feering—A. Wishart.

Highest score, residents outside municipality, on gangs — Mr. Pirie; walking, W. Rogers and J. Sutherland.

Judges — James Henderson, Brandon; John Henderson, Bird's Hill; Mr. Turner, Carroll.

It will be seen from the foregoing that Dave Little, of Portage, heads the list. Dave held the Manitoba championship until two years ago when J. Sutherland, of Brandon, "lifted the cup" from the Portage Plains. Last year, however, Mr. Little brought it back, and this year he has again made good his right to the custody of this great trophy.

Officially there were three judges on the ground, but there were more than three hundred keen plowmen among the spectators all prepared to give a post-judgment upon the work done. The quality was so uniformly excellent it was one of the hottest jobs ever given to men to adjudicate upon.

Following hard on the heels of Little was John Brown (also of Portage), and while these two men were at work it was next to impossible to say who was going



The Youngest Champion of the Portage Plowing Contest—Clarence Yuill—14 years of age, who took first place in his class and won the cup donated by the Hon. Arthur Meighen

He was as "near as a toucher" to winning first place himself, and to actually get it all he needed to do was to let "George" alone.

The kindly hint was taken in the spirit in which it was given, and "George" came out right on top.

don, 72; 5th, A. MacVicar, 71; 6th, Floyd Bradley, 70.

Best feering and finish — D. Little.

Best team—F. Bradley.

Class 2, gang plows, 14 inch, open—1st, G. McVicar, 79; 2nd, C. Wishart, 78; 3rd, C. R. James,