

Eastern Ontario Live-stock and Poultry Show.

In Howick Pavilion, on the Exhibition Grounds, Ottawa, the Eastern Ontario Live-stock and Poultry Show was held, January 21st to 25th. Attendance was fairly good; quite up to that of former years. In every way possible the committee in charge used their best efforts to carry to a successful issue the aims and objects of the association, as an educational institution for the people generally, and particularly to those of Eastern Ontario, by bringing together the better class of pure-bred breeding cattle of the beef breeds, sheep, swine and dairy cattle, and by a series of lectures by men proficient in the breeding, feeding and care of these animals.

At a very large expense a mammoth building—which, by the way, is a model of its kind—has been erected, in which every facility has been provided for light, comfort, and cleanliness in inspecting the animals and poultry, and it was the hope of the promoters of this show that a steady annual improvement in number and quality of exhibits would in a few years bring it up to the one held in Western Ontario at Guelph. Time has shown the Eastern breeders to be tardy in making entries, and bringing out their animals for competition, the plea being often heard that Eastern breeders could not compete with Western competitors in the beef classes. For this year's show the directors decided to depart from the usual custom of open entries, and receive only entries from the County of Hastings eastward. It proved an unfortunate year to make the change, and the result was certainly disappointing, inasmuch as in the best classes of any pure breed, grade or cross, there were very few entries; and had it not been for a carload of fats from the noted herd of Mr. James Leask, of Greenbank, brought down at the last moment for exhibition purposes only, the exhibit would have been a poor one. To a somewhat lesser extent the same condition existed in the dairy classes, several pure-bred Holsteins being entered in the test, but not an Ayrshire.

In conversation with a number of Ayrshire breeders as to why they had made no entries, their explanation was that last year's show being held in March, their cows were bred to freshen for a March show, and the date this year being two months earlier, they, of course, were not prepared for it; all of which is very disappointing to the men who have worked so hard and faithfully to make the show a success. However, let next year's show be a record breaker, and the Eastern Ontario Live-stock and Poultry Show take a place among the best that has been.

THE LIVE-STOCK DEPARTMENT.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.—Cow or heifer, three years or over, brought out a really representative lot, first prize going to the grand thick heifer, Gloster Queen, the property of Peter White, Pembroke; second to Tiddiewink, the entry of E. Baker, Winchester; third to Archie Foster, Twin Elm; fourth to W. A. Wallace, Kars, and fifth to Reid & Co., Hintonburg.

In heifers two years and under three, the leading honors again went to the Belmar herd of Peter White—first to Mina Lass 14th (the Toronto junior champion), second to Mina Lass 13th; third to E. Baker, Winchester; fourth to W. A. Wallace, Kars.

In heifers under two years, Peter White again brought out the first and second prize winners, in Mina Lass 16th and Rosa Hope 17th; third and fifth going to Reid & Co., and fourth to W. A. Wallace.

In the class for grade or cross of any breed, only two sections were represented, the entries of Reid & Co. and W. A. Wallace, and these of a very ordinary sort, with scarcely a semblance of fitting.

The judges were John Gardhouse, Highfield, and John Campbell, Woodville.

SHEEP.

The sheep exhibit was a very small one in point of numbers, only one pure-bred class (Shropshires) being out, but these were representative of the breed, and a fair good lot.

In the class for ewe under one year, A. N. Stewart, Dalmeny, Ont., produced the first, third and fifth prize-winners, and W. A. Wallace, Kars, the second and fourth. Three ewes under one year were shown by the same two exhibitors, but the order of awarding the honors was reversed, Wallace getting first and Stewart second.

The class grades or crosses, numerically, was a little stronger, and the quality really good. For wether under one year, first went to A. Dynes, Hintonburg; second and third to H. Hillard, Kirk's Ferry. In three wethers under one year, the same two exhibitors were represented by one entry each, Dynes getting first and Hillard second. In three ewes under one year the order of award was reversed, Hillard getting first and Dynes second. The judge was Mr. John Campbell, Woodville.

SWINE.

The swine exhibit was par excellence, away the best of any branch of the live-stock exhibit, some 175 head



Howick Pavilion.

In the Annex of which the Eastern Live-stock and Poultry Show is held.

being out. Yorkshires were shown by David Barr, Renfrew; W. H. McNish, Lyn; Reid & Co., Hintonburg; A. Foster, Twin Elm, and A. Dynes, Hintonburg. The exhibit was a really creditable one, from a type and quality standpoint, and to the credit of the exhibitors be it said, that in every case the pigs shown were of a size commensurate with the age the class called for.

In export bacon hogs (three pure-breds) there were fifteen entries, many of them of a quality and type fit to go up against the best shown at Guelph. First went to A. Foster; second, third and seventh to D. Barr; fourth, fifth and sixth to W. H. McNish.

In export bacon hogs (three grades or crosses), first and third went to W. H. McNish; second and fourth to D. Barr. Sweepstakes for best three export bacon hogs—first, A. Foster; second, W. H. McNish; third, D. Barr. The judges were Prof. J. H. Gridale and W. E. Matthews, Hull.

YORKSHIRES.—Barrow, six months and under nine, D. Barr cleaned up the board, with first, second, third and fourth. Barrow under six months, W. H. McNish first, third and fourth; A. Dynes second; D. Barr fifth and sixth. Sow, six and under nine months, Barr first, third and fourth; Foster second, fifth and sixth. Sow under six months, McNish first, second and fifth; Barr third, fourth and sixth.

BERKSHIRES were shown by Reid & Co., Hintonburg, and R. M. Wallace, Kars, who brought out some exceptionally choice things. In barrow, six and under nine months, Wallace won a straight first, second, third, fourth. Sow, six and under nine months, Reid & Co. first; Wallace second. Sow under 6 months, Reid & Co. first; Wallace second and third.

TAMWORTHS were exhibited by W. H. McNish, Reid & Co., and A. N. Stewart; the exhibit was one highly creditable to the breed and breeders. Barrow, six and under nine months, A. N. Stewart first; McNish second and fourth; Reid & Co. third and fifth. Barrow under six months, McNish first, second, fourth; Reid & Co. third, fifth and sixth. Sow, six and under nine months, McNish first; Reid & Co. second and third. Sow under six months, McNish first, second and fourth; Reid & Co. third and fifth.

GRADES OR CROSSES.—Barrow, six and under nine months, Reid & Co. first; H. Hillard second; D. Barr third; W. H. McNish fourth and fifth. Barrow under six months, McNish first and third; Reid & Co. second; D. Barr fourth, fifth and sixth. Sow, six and under nine months, McNish first, fourth and fifth; Reid & Co. second and third. Sow under six months, Reid & Co. first and second; McNish third, fourth and fifth. The judge, Mr. R. H. Harding, of Thorndale, gave universal satisfaction.

DAIRY TEST.

The entries in the dairy-test competition, numerically and by breed representation, were far from satisfactory, due, no doubt, to a very large extent, at any rate, to the change in the dates of holding the show. There were entered for competition some three or four pure-bred Holsteins, and about the same number of grades. The usual two-day test was the order of proceedings. An outstanding winner came out in the Holstein heifer, Franci 3rd, under 42 months of age, owned by J. H. McLean, Inkerman, Ont.; her test for the two days showing: Milk 129.5 lbs., butter-fat test 3.66%, lbs. fat 4.74; number points, 137.28; award, first.

Holstein cow, 42 months and over—Hasken Bell; owner, J. H. Caldwell, Fallowfield, Ont.; lbs. milk 121.3, butter-fat test 3%, lbs. fat 3.64; points, 111.28; award, first.

In the same class, and winner of second place, was Maude De Kol, owned by T. A. Spratt, Billing's Bridge. Lbs. milk 122.8, butter-fat test 2.66%, lbs. fat 3.27; points, 104.

Grade cow, 42 months and over—Rose, owned by Robt. Heron; lbs. milk 119, butter-fat test 3.6%, lbs. fat 4.28; points, 124.76; award, first.

Same class, winner of second place, was Roan, owned by Reid & Co.; lbs. milk 109.1, butter-fat test 3.53%, lbs. fat 3.85; points, 113.25.

Grade heifer, under 42 months—Blacky, owned by

Reid & Co.; lbs. milk 79.7, butter-fat test 3.56%, lbs. fat 2.837; points, 83.61; award, first.

For exhibition purposes a number of Holsteins from the herd of Mr. G. W. Clemons, of St. George, Ont., were brought down, and proved the center of attraction in the live-stock department.

DRESSED CARCASSES.

In the dressed-carcass competition for pure-bred hogs, A. Foster was awarded first and sweepstakes on the pair that won sweepstakes alive; D. Barr second, fourth, fifth and sixth—the second-prize pair being the same that won second prize alive—third went to A. W. Stewart on a pair of Tamworths.

Dressed carcass, grades or crosses, first and fourth went to D. Barr; W. H. McNish second and third. The first-prize pair dressed was second alive, and the second-prize pair was first alive, remarkably uniform judging, and a tribute to the skill of the judges, Prof. Gridale and W. H. Matthews for the alive classes, and Prof. Day for the dressed-carcass class.

POULTRY EXHIBIT.

Better than ever before, with an entry of considerably over the two thousand, making an increase of over two hundred over any preceding year, the poultry exhibit was second only to that held at Guelph in connection with the Winter Fair.

The entry list represented practically the whole of Ontario and a good sprinkling from Quebec, very many of the Western Ontario breeders being out very strong. The interest displayed in the poultry department by the visiting public, as characterized by the crowds to be seen wending their way up one aisle and down another at all hours of the day, shows that the public are taking a deep interest in this—one of the greatest sources of revenue for the farmer of modest means. Practically all breeds known to the poultry fancier were on exhibition, from the tiny strutting Bantam to the big, clumsy Buff Cochins. The awarding of prizes was done by the well-known expert, Mr. Wm. McNeil, of London.

THE LECTURE PROGRAMME.

The first session of the lecture programme was fairly well attended. An address of welcome was delivered by Mayor Scott, of Ottawa. He advocated an abattoir for the city. President Creelman, of the Ontario Agricultural College, said: "The individual in farming is the all-important factor." He gave six reasons why the farmer should be better educated for his work:

First.—One-quarter of our cows in Ontario are unprofitable, and are actually not paying for their food.

Second.—The average yield of our staple crops, grains, grasses and forage and roots is less than one-third of the maximum. The average farmer is not getting more than one-third of the crop that the best farmers are getting.

Third.—Our soils, in many parts of the country, are being worn out, because there has not been proper rotation, or because they are not conserving the energy, and are selling the life rent of the farms.

Fourth.—Patent stock foods at big prices are a mistake when just as good foods, with practically the same ingredients, might be mixed on a farm.

Fifth.—Small seed and broken seed in the seed as sown on the farm reduces the crops one-half.

Sixth.—Every stone pile, every stump, every wet place reduces this average, but not their labor.

Doctor James Mills said that in intellectual power and moral stability the farming section of the community would compare favorably with any other section; the learned professions were recruited from the farming community.

Hon. Colonel Matheson, Provincial Treasurer, said the Poultry Show compared favorably with that of Guelph, if it does not equal it. He advocated better education for the farmers of the Province.

At the Wednesday morning session, Hon. Nelson Monteith, Minister of Agriculture, occupied the chair. The first speaker was W. F. Stephen, of Huntingdon, Que., on "Breeding and Care of Dairy Cows, from Birth to Maturity." He gave two reasons why our cows are not producing more milk:

First.—The dairymen have not given the breeding of dairy cows proper consideration; and, second, they have been running the business haphazard. Breeding from scrub sires because they are cheap is a great mistake. The herds that were giving good returns had been bred along proper lines, and had always had a pure-bred bull at the head. Our dairymen have mixed up the breeds too much.

When we go to a herd that has a high standing and is doing well, we find a pure-bred sire at its head, and they have been bred along proper lines. If you want a breed for beef, you must have animals of the beefy type, and if you want milk production, you must have a breed of that type.