

THE FOREMEN'S REPORTS.

(1) "I might say in regard to the sheep purchased at the Provincial Fat Stock Show, that although the quality was A1, they would be very unprofitable for us to handle, being altogether too fat for our trade."

(2) "In reply to your letter asking for report on the prize mutton received. I would say that the public do not seem to appreciate it on account of the abundance of fat. The few who have tried it, speak in high praise of its quality."

"It is useless trying to sell it without trimming, fully 40 per cent. being fat. This brings the cost of the whole up to about 8c. a pound, buying price."

(3) "In regard to the show sheep received by us before Christmas, I beg to report that the quality was all that could be desired."

"We found, however, that it was hard to realize a reasonable price, and think that stock of this description would be unsuitable for this locality."

(4) "The sheep received by us from London Fat Stock Show, we found much too fat to be of any use for our local trade. The public simply refused to buy at any price. The only way I was able to dispose of it was by cutting it upon the counter, after trimming 45 per cent. of fat from it. The breast and flank were only fit for the fat box, and there was altogether too small a proportion of lean meat for it even to be of any use for our retail trade in Parkdale."

Report on Dairy Department of Provincial Winter Fair, February, 1899.

By J. Stonehouse.

The Dairy Show held at London in connection with the Provincial Winter Fair has been the most interesting dairy test ever held in Canada from the fact that the world's record for a butter-producing cow has been broken and the standard raised a notch or two higher than it has ever been before and that by a cow which has entered the public arena for the first time.

The test this year discarded every side issue and the awards were made solely on the butter-fat and other solids in the milk, a few points only being given for time of lactation—20 points being allowed for each pound of fat, 4 points for each pound of solids not fat, and 1 point for every 10 days in milk, over 30 days, up to 10 points, and no cow was awarded a first prize which was not producing at the rate of 10 pounds of butter per week.

A RECORD-BREAKING HOLSTEIN.

Last year at Brantford the Holstein cow, Calamity Jane, owned by A. & G. Rice, made the wonderful record of 21½ pounds of butter per week by the

Chicago World's Fair standard of 80 per cent. butter-fat, but the Holstein cow, Aaltje Posch 4th, owned by Rettie Bros., Norwich, has made the phenomenal record of nearly 4¼ pounds of butter per day or 29.6 pounds per week according to the World's Fair standard; but, figuring it on a basis of 85 per cent. butter-fat, which is our Canadian standard, her record would be nearly 28 pounds per week, which, at the higher standard, leaves all other records in the shade.

As soon as it became known that a record breaker was in the show the dairy stables at once became the centre of attraction and the number of visitors who were constantly around the cow began to tell injuriously upon her before the test was over, and caused a shrinkage in both quantity and quality in her last milking. She was milked three times per day—5.30 a.m., 1.30 p.m., and 9.30 p.m. The first two milkings weighed 49 lbs. 6 ozs., and tested 4.5 per cent. fat,



Aaltje Posch 4th, the phenomenal milker and sweepstakes winner in the Dairy Department of the Provincial Winter Fair, 1899. Owned by Rettie Bros., Norwich, Ont.

the next three milkings 74 lbs. 2 ozs., testing 4.8 per cent. fat, and the last milking 23 lbs. 6 oz., testing 4.3 per cent. fat, making a total of 6.785 lbs. of butter-fat produced in 48 hours. This great record may be better understood when it is remembered that the average cow on the ordinary farm does not produce more than 4 lbs. of butter per week, or 130 lbs. per year, but here is a phenomenon which is as good as seven ordinary cows.

The same exhibitor had two other pure-bred cows and a heifer in the test, all of which are great milk producers. "Woodland Josco," over two months in milk, gave 127 lbs. of milk producing 4.3 lbs. of fat equal to 18½ lbs. of butter per week; Fanny F. 134 lbs. of milk with 3.4 lbs. of fat or 14 lbs. of butter per week and a heifer under three years making 14½ lbs. of butter per week.

Rettie Bros. won 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, on Holstein cow over three years old, \$45; 1st on heifer under three years, \$20; 1st and 3rd for Canadian Hol-

stein, special, \$35; 1st and 2nd for American Holstein special, \$40; 1st for grade cow, \$20; 1st for best three cows or heifers of one breed, a Melotte separator, \$100; and an extra special of a \$50 silver cup for best dairy cow on the ground.

OTHER BREEDS.

Jerseys, which are supposed to be pre-eminently butter cows, were very conspicuous by their absence, and why? The prizes were the same as in Holstein class except in the specials, yet there were thirteen Holsteins and only one Jersey. The Jersey Association has not heretofore given special prizes at the show as the Canadian and American Holstein Breeders' Associations have done for a number of years past. This may or may not have had something to do with the slim showing. Had this one Jersey been in better hands she would undoubtedly have made a better showing. Even though she had been carted in to the show

by waggon five miles on the day the test commenced and was put under the care of a stranger to be fed and milked, yet she gave at the rate of 16½ lbs. of butter per week, her highest test being seven per cent. butter fat.

The Shorthorns were well represented, there being twelve in this class and some of them made a very creditable record, the best giving 81 lbs. of milk with 3 lbs. of fat, equal to 12½ lbs. of butter per week.

The Ayrshires were represented by three cows owned by N. Dymont, Clappison's Corners. The 1st prize cow gave 81 lbs. milk with 3.4 lbs. fat, equal to 14 lbs. of butter per week.

There were four good grades, the lowest making at the rate of 15 lbs. of butter per week and the highest 16½ lbs. and here again Rettie Bros. stood at the head with a fine grade Holstein.

The Fat Stock Association took charge of the milk given by the cows during the show. The milk was run through a Melotte separator donated