

The Canadian National Exhibition

A Great Success—The Attendance Breaks All Records

The 25th annual Toronto Fair, now known as the Canadian National Exhibition, and held this year from Aug. 27th to Sept. 8th, will go down to history as a record breaking event. With cool weather for the most part and free from rain, the aggregate attendance was about \$600,000 ahead of any previous year. In fact, every day excepting, perhaps, the last two, were recording breaking in this particular. The Board of Directors, the general manager and citizens generally wear a pleasing smile as the result. And why should they not. Instead of \$30,000, as was the case in 1905, \$400,000 will find its way into the city's treasury.

The exhibition itself seems to be becoming a better drawing card every year. The new process and press buildings were added to the equipment this year. These are substantial brick buildings, very well suited for the purpose. Whole stock arena, agricultural hall, promised for next year, is completed, the housing of all the main exhibits in suitable buildings will be well on towards completion. A new poultry building is badly needed, and it is time that a live stock arena, if one is needed, should be provided. With weather such as has prevailed this year, a structure of this nature would hardly be necessary, but good weather cannot always be counted upon. The special attractions provided, including the 2nd Life Guards' Band, the loan pictures and the fireworks, were excellent, though many expressed disappointment with the spectacular representation from Iowa. Nothing is so attractive in connection with a fireworks display as a military turn out.

The live stock and agricultural exhibits were of the usual high character, exceeding previous years in many cases and falling behind in others. Many who had made entries were prevented from bringing their animals out because of the scarcity of suitable help. On the whole, however, the Canadian National Exhibition has its reputation as the greatest all round live stock and agricultural exhibition on this continent. Detailed reports prepared by experts follow. Owing to lack of space we are unable to publish the official prize list in this issue:

HEAVY HORSES

The draft horse exhibit was a feature of this year's show. Both in number and in quality the exhibit excelled any previous display at Toronto, and in some classes ahead of anything yet seen on this continent.

SHIRES

Unusually strong all round was the character of the classes of the Englishman's draft horse at the Industrial this year. Several of Ontario's horsemen had made importations of goods of a superior order, and the management of the show had "flared" the coming of the King's and Baron Rothschild's string of Shire world-toppers in a sensational way. The result of all this was at least to attract a great deal of unaccustomed attention to this breed of horses, and while the fact was as well demonstrated as it is possible to do, that the Shire has an undisputed place and an

unquestioned value in the improvement in the draft horse of Canada, it is probable that it has been equally emphasized in the minds of most horsemen present that this breed can never steal anything from the popularity of the smoother and handsomer Clyde.

In the class for aged stallions, four drafty looking fellows were to the front, and the ribbons were awarded by Mr. J. C. Bell, of Chicago. First prize went to the entry of J. B. Hogate, of Weston, Ont., on Eskham Waggoner, a thick and drafty bay with white markings, a son of the celebrated English sire Gunthorpe Advance. He is a smooth, well turned and thick horse with the right kind of coupling and middle, good bone and handles himself well. Second place was filled by a big, heavy and thick chestnut, Merrie Andrew, sire Harold, and shown by Joseph Jacobs of Montreal. This fellow exemplified the type of Shire which is very objectionable to Clydesdale fanciers, being very coarse in his underpinning and plain at the ground, and there were very few horsemen at Toronto show who would have concurred with the judge's decision in electing him for the honor. Third place went to another big, drafty looking horse, of nice, pleasing lines and style, in General Favorite, black with white markings, sire Locking Harold, and shown by Joseph Fletcher, of Oxford Mills, Ont. This horse is himself a little on the coarse side in quality of feather, though his bones are broad and flat, his pasterns well sprung and his ankles clean, with good feet, and though he also lacks something in size of forearm and gaskin, yet taken all through, he was a very seemingly candidate for second place in this class. Fourth place went to Porter Bros., of Appleby, on their Baron Kitchener, a very smooth gray, sire Wenona Mark. This horse was perhaps the lightest horse in the field, but he was

also the evenest and smoothest thing out, of pleasing appearance all over, and a horse that would have found lots of ringside supporters for any honor that might have been offered him. In the three-year-olds a single entry came forward for the honor, and though alone he was a right good one, of the kind that will do more to advertise the Shires than many that have been shown. This was Natchy King, sire Gunthorpe Advance, shown by J. M. Gardhouse, of Weston, Ont., and an exceptionally smooth-finished, well turned colt. The call for two-year-olds brought out a single entry in Birdsall King, owned by Hamilton & Hawthorne, a fine, thick, drafty black, well turned and with plenty of bone of a good quality.

The classes for mares were not lacking in fine goods, first prize going to Morris & Wellington. Lady Penzance, a mare of their own breeding, being sired by their fine breeding stallion Mares. Second place was won by another exhibit of the same firm, by Grave Queen, sired by Blythwood Conqueror, the first place being filled by two good mares shown by J. Fletcher, of Oxford Mills, Ont. In two and one-year-olds the Morris & Wellington firm had out one in each, the only exhibits to the front.

Sweepstake for best mare any age went to Morris & Wellington's fine three-year filly, Lady Penzance, and in stallions, after a hard tussle, the ribbon was awarded to the firm of Hamilton & Hawthorne, of Simcoe, Ont., on their two-year Birdsall King, but it was against the opinion of the ringside, who were strongly in favor of the smoother, better coupled, if not quite so drafty looking, exhibit of J. M. Gardhouse's Natchy King, who was certainly a good pair to fight for the honor, and a credit to the breed. In the

CLYDESDALES

the interest and enthusiasm has never been preceded, and this is saying a great deal. The largest classes of the best goods ever shown together on this continent is without any doubt the kind of a treat which was offered to the lovers of the draft horse at Toronto this year. Every one of Ontario's leading importers went after the best goods they could find, determined to win the honors, and the result was to be seen at Toronto show in a succession of the grandest classes which have ever graced the ring, and the results of which should not fail to be of lasting benefit to the horse breeding interests of Canada in the years to come. The judges in these classes were Mr. Alex. Galbraith, of Jamesville, Wis.; Prof. W. L. Carlyle and Mr. J. C. Bell, of Chicago, and although around the Clydesdale ring are ever to be found a host of talented critics, whose decisions seem to be gradually acquiring added weight and importance, there was, take it all through, perhaps less adverse opinion in evidence than is usually the case.

The entries in the class for aged stallions footed up to thirty head, for the most part new importations, and out of this number many a horse went unplaced that would have been outstanding champion in former years. The judges in this class were Alex. Galbraith and J. C. Bell, and after the preliminary work of the day was over the finish was fought out between Graham Bros' Prince of the Sea, five-year-old, Right Forward, won first



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