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Fourth War Year at the Canadian National Agriculture Well Represented in Many Classes, However, Due to Shortage of Labor

THE fourth war year at the Canadian National Exhibition was observed as a celebration of Canadian Confederation. At the time of writing, the attendance has established new records on several days and chances look good to pass the million mark, the number aimed at by the management. On all sides the opinion was expressed, however, that the crowds that filled the grounds had a smaller proportion of rural people than ever before. Their absence was particularly marked in the live stock section and around the judging ring. Evidently farmers felt that they had more important business at home attending to their crops. The same factor had a tendency to reduce the entries in the live stock classes. Horses, dairy cattle and hogs were all down in numbers. Beef cattle and sheep, however, were just about up to the standard.

Agricultural exhibits were as attractive as usual, with a great extension in one department—farm implements. The work of the Ontario Government and the difficulty of getting farm work done with the help on hand has turned the attention of farmers more and more to the wide-working implement and the tractor, exhibitors were almost a dozen tractors demonstrating on the grounds instead of the one or two of previous years. They were of all types and sizes, caterpillars and Bang and wheel tread, rein drive and self-steering, and from the little 5-10 to the powerful 12-25 machines. To demonstrate their usefulness as a source of belt power, they were bolted to threshing machines, ensilage blowers, limestone crushers, and feed grinders. A tractor attachment for the Ford car attracted much attention, and many sales of this tractor device were made right on the grounds.

The Standing Field Crops Competition exhibit, and the display of the Vegetable Growers' Compositions, were leading features of the Ontario exhibit in the Government Building. The prosperity that comes with dairying on the prairies was symbolized in the Alberta exhibit by some fine sculpturing in butter, depicting the log shack of the settler, with his cow on the side, the modern farm home on the other, with the connecting link between adversity and prosperity, a cream can. The attractive exhibits usually staged by the other three Western provinces were missing this year. The work of the Ontario Department of Agriculture at Ottawa was extended to take in one whole wing of the Government Building, and was the finest exhibit of its kind ever seen in Canada.

The Horses.

The outstanding feature of the horse exhibit was the increase in the proportion of Percherons, this breed now occupying the Clydesdale class for primary place in point of numbers. A splendid advertisement for the breed was the world-famous six-horse team owned by Swift & Co., of Chicago, which were shown in front of the grand stand twice each day. This is admitted to be the most beautiful heavy draft six-horse team in the world, and their presence was a decided addition to the horse sections. At time of writing, the horse judging has not commenced. The names of the exhibitors are an index to the quality of the classes. In Clydesdales the largest strings are those of Graham Bros., Clarendon; Sir H. M. Pellatt, King; W. W. Hogg, Thamesford; L. J. C. Bull, Brampton; Geo. Clayton & Son, Grand Valley, and many others with fewer entries. The principal exhibitors of Percherons are J. B. Hogue, Weston; T. D. Elliott, Bolton; Wm. Pears, Toronto; Wm. G. Hill &

Sons, Queensville; and Arthur W. Dobson, Weston. Light horses were less numerous than for several years, but were representative of all breeds and types.

Beef cattlemen held up their end of the show in great style, and Shorthorns, if grades and steers are considered, were more numerous than any other breed on the grounds. Barron, of Carberry, Man., who was expected, did not arrive. The principal Ontario exhibitors are Wm. Marquis & Son, Sunderland, Ont.; J. A. Watt, Elora; Jas. Lesak & Son, Seagrave; K. W. Bros. Drumbo; W. C. Edwards & Co., Rockland; Geo. Amos & Sons, Moffat; Jno. Gardhouse & Sons, Weston; and J. J. Elliott, Guelph. All of the usual exhibitors of Herefords were on hand: W. H. & J. S. Hunter, Orangeville; L. O. Clifford, Oshawa; G. E. Reynolds, Elora; Jas. Page, Wallace-town; and W. Heathhead, Milton. Aberdeen-Angus are unusually strong, with the following contestants: Jno. D. Larkin, Queenston; Jas. Bowman, Guelph; Wm. Channon & Son, Oakwood; Jno. Lowe, Elora; and T. B. Broadfoot, Ferguson. All beef classes are to be judged in the second week of the Fair.

Dairy cattle, fully reported elsewhere in this issue, were not as strong numerically as usual. Scarcity of labor and the high price of feed were both contributing factors to the decrease. Holsteins and Ayrshires led the most in point of numbers. R. J. Fleming was absent from the Jersey lists, but a couple of new exhibitors evened the balance, and Jersey was as strong as in most previous years. A small string of Guernseys were exhibited by Curtis Healey & Son, Fenwick, Ont. For another part they were a poor advertisement for the breed.

Sheep and Swine.

The sheep pens were full, with all breeds well represented; high prices for mutton and wool are evidently exerting a stimulating influence on the breeding of superior stock. Competition in Cotswolds was limited to Norman Park, of Norwich, and G. H. Mark & Son, Little Britain. Leicester were exhibited by John Packham & Sons, Caledon Centre, A. & W. Whitlaw, Guelph; John Kelly & Sons, Shakespeare, and Jas. Snell & Sons, Clinton. Lincolns brought out only one exhibitor, H. M. Lee, of Highgate, Shropshire. Angus were most numerous, with the following competitors: John R. Kelsey, Woodville; John D. Larkin, Queenston; A. Shields & Son, Canfield; George D. Bretzner, Copetown, and individual entries. Oxford Downs brought out A. A. Armstrong, Ferguson; E. Barbour & Son, Hillsburg, and Peter Arkell & Sons, Teeswater. Southdowns were represented by the Rocks of W. W. Springstead & Sons, Caledon Centre; John D. Larkin; Hampton Bros., Ferguson, and Robt. McEwan, London. Dorset Horned classes were well filled by James Robertson & Sons, Fenwick; W. S. Wright & Sons, Glanworth; Cecil Stobbs, Leamington, and John A. Orchard, Shedden. Hampshire Downs: A. S. Wilson, Milton; Telford Bros., Paris, and John Kelly & Sons, Shropshire. Least numerous of all, brought out the flocks of Jas. Bowman and Hampton Bros.

Swine were few in number compared with any of the past five years. Here the recent high prices and great demand for breeding stock was a full and sufficient explanation of the shortage. Yorkshires were most numerous, with the following well-known breeders represented: John Duck, R.

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