

CATTLE AND OTHER LIVE STOCK.

Indications are not wanting that gradually but surely Canada is becoming a great cattle producing country—great not only in the number of head bred, but in quality. The efforts of such men as Mr. Battye, of Manitoulin Island, referred to last week, are deserving of encouragement, for not only do they result in direct benefit in a limited way to our stock of cattle, but they draw the attention of Canadian farmers and ranchmen to a higher idea of what is wanted in the matters of quality and breed. These remarks are preliminary to a report of the result of the competition which has been taking place between Canada and all-America at the Buffalo Fair. Of all the prizes awarded for cattle exhibits, this country gained 60 per cent., which is a more than satisfactory showing, seeing the difference between the population of Canada and the United States, and the fact that our exhibits of cattle were not much more than 35 per cent. of the total entries, which were, all told, about 1,500. Our stock made a good showing in all classes, while in those classes in which Canadians were on an equal footing, they practically swept the board. One notable example is an exhibitor from St. George, who with ten head of Holsteins, captured ten prizes. In Shorthorns, Canadians took over \$1,000 in prizes, as against \$418 taken by the Americans; in Ayrshires we took \$430, as against \$130; in French-Canadians, \$402, as against \$157; in fat cattle, \$310, as against nothing; in Herefords, \$355, as against \$740; in Aberdeen Angus, \$72, as against \$480; in Galloways, \$197, as against \$247; in Guernseys, \$130, as against \$710, and in Holsteins, \$412, as against \$930. All told, Canadian stock captured over \$3,100 in prizes.

It is interesting to note that the largest single shipment of export cattle to leave Toronto was made on Tuesday last, when 1,000 head of choice steers, collected from various points in Ontario, were sent to Boston en route to Liverpool by the Dominion line steamship "Northman." They averaged 1,400 pounds each, and cost in Toronto from 4¼ to 5c. per pound. Referring to the local Toronto market, receipts this week have been extra heavy owing to large arrivals from the Northwest of cattle intended for export to England. The offerings consisted in all of 1,655 head of cattle, 2,370 sheep, 687 hogs and 50 calves. There would have been quick sales for choice qualities of export and butchers' cattle, but unfortunately these were not in the ascendant. The demand for sheep was dull, while lambs dropped in price about 25c. per cwt. The following quotations will show the average range of prices obtaining just now: Export cattle, choice, per cwt., \$4.75 to 5; do. medium, per cwt., \$3.75 to 4.25; do. cows, per cwt., \$3 to 3.75; butchers' cattle, picked lots, \$4.25 to 4.50; do. choice, \$3.75 to 4.25; do. fair, \$3.50 to 4; do. common, \$3 to 3.50; do. cows, \$3 to 3.75; do. bulls, \$2.75 to 3.25. Bulls export, heavy, per cwt., \$3.50 to 4; do. light, per cwt., \$3 to 3.50; feeding bulls, \$2.50 to 3.25; feeders, short-keep, \$3.75 to \$4; do. medium, \$3.50 to 3.75; do. light, \$3 to 3.50; stockers, 1,000 to 1,100 lbs., \$3.75 to \$4; do. off-colors and bulls, \$2 to 3.25; milch cows, each, \$45 to 47; sheep, export, ewes, per cwt., \$3 to 3.25; do. bucks, per cwt., \$2.50 to 2.75; do. culls, each, \$2 to 3; lambs, each, \$3.50 to 3.80; calves, per head, \$2 to 10; hogs, choice, per cwt., \$7.25 to 7.37½; hogs, corn-fed, \$7 to \$7.25; hogs, light, per cwt., \$7; hogs, fat, per cwt., \$7.

THE HALIFAX EXHIBITION.

The Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition, held in Halifax last week, began with excellent prospects, but the attendance was much interfered with by rain on several days. However, the number of visitors was very large, Cape Breton sending an especially good proportion, and it may truly be said that an excellent display rewarded them. The main building was well filled with manufactured goods; agricultural hall and horticultural hall contained specimens from the rich fields and orchards of the Eastern provinces; the array of cattle was even better than usual, and the show of poultry was excellent. At the opening, Hon. J. W. Longley, one of the commissioners, spoke thus broadly and sensibly of the possibility of a deficit in the receipts: "The fact that each year has seen a deficit does not in any way affect the merits of the case.

No great industrial fair is likely to be self-supporting. Experience has shown that the expense of running an exhibition will always amount to about \$25,000. It is scarcely reasonable to expect that this sum can, under ordinary circumstances, be taken at the entrance gates or upon the grand stand. The deficits have not been large, and so far as the Government is concerned, their share of the deficit has been less than the \$4,000 always voted by the Legislature for a Provincial Exhibition." And he agreed in the opinion of his fellow-commissioners that the Provincial Exhibition is one of the most important steps that has been taken in connection with the agricultural and industrial life of the country.

Among the displays made by manufacturers from Quebec and Ontario we notice the produce of the Laing Provision Co., of Montreal; flour from the two provinces; Dominion pianos and organs from Bowmanville; pianos from Newcombe & Co., and others in Toronto; starch from Brantford; Christie, Brown & Co.'s biscuits in a handsome pyramid; Bell organs and pianos from Guelph. Maritime manufacturers were well represented. Not least interesting was the display of skates and a variety of hardware from the Starr Manufacturing Co., of Dartmouth; there were woollens from the St. Croix mills; footwear and harness from the Standard Co., of Sackville; candy was manufactured in the building by an enterprising Halifax concern; Dunlap, Cooke & Co. showed fine fur garments; the Nova Scotia Furnishing Co. showed furniture; Henderson & Potts showed paints. In the Engineering building the Government had a cold storage exhibit, and the Robb Engineering Co. showed some of their engines. An attractive feature was the display of West Indian products, arranged by C. S. Pickford, while the Halifax and Bermuda Cable Co. exhibited instruments and appliances used in cable transmission, and object lessons in cable repairing, which were very interesting. The show of work done at the McDonald Manual Training School, at Truro, was very creditable. Into particulars of the horticultural or agricultural departments we cannot enter, nor can we do more than mention the cattle and other features of the occasion. But it was distinctly a good Exhibition; and this is the more pleasing because of the absence of a St. John Exhibition this year, an event towards which many look forward year by year.

DOMINION IRON AND STEEL COMPANY.

The Dominion Iron and Steel Co. held a meeting on the 20th inst., and declared their first dividend of 3½ per cent., payable on 1st prox. The reports of the president and vice-president showed that while the company had to grapple with the initial difficulties which are to be expected at the outset of so large an organization, they had now successfully overcome them all and were producing pig iron most successfully, the same being disposed of all over Canada. A good market had also been secured in Glasgow. It is highly satisfactory to learn that ore can be laid down at the mouth of the furnaces at a considerable less cost than was originally estimated, and that the total cost of the product will now be at a figure somewhat less than that mentioned in the company's prospectus. Every effort is being made to push forward the construction of the plant in order to work at its fullest capacity, taking advantage of the Government's bounties, which are now at their maximum. It is expected that the three furnaces will be in blast by the beginning of the month, and it was stated that the Hearth plant would be rushed ahead, so that steel making will probably begin by November, and the whole plant be in operation by January. Much was expected for the development of Cape Breton at the inauguration of this gigantic new industry, and it is certainly very pleasing to see that these hopes, according to later manifestations and fuller experience, seem to be in a very fair way towards realization.

FUTURE OF THE NORTHWEST.

That the Territories are by no means backward in their ideas of present and future needs may be gathered from a perusal of a summary of a "platform" formulated by the Prince Albert Advocate. The chief desiderata of that important and rapidly advancing section of the country are given as follows: