

we are having I catch myself wondering whether it is June or October. The constant rains of the summer kept the grass and foliage as fresh and green as at the beginning of the season, but instead the song of mating birds that usually goes with these aspects of nature, we have constant "chirr-chirr" of autumnal insects. The noonday heat has all the steamy, vibrant quality of the earlier season, but the ripening fruit peeping between the still fresh and glistening leaves, betrays the secret of the aging year. There are still plenty of flowers to cheat the eye with the luxuriance of June, but they are the scentless varieties of the late fall. But though the breezes may not bring us any hint of phlox or violets, they are laden with odors of ripening fruit. On other years the passage of time shows early on the drouth-scorched pastures and trees, but in this little September summer—not Indian summer by any means—we seem to be having the beauties and bounties of spring, summer and fall jumbled together. Why, there are half-ripe strawberries in the garden, and if we have a few days more of this weather we can be having strawberries and cream, or peaches and cream, according to our fancy. But, alas, every good thing seems to be accompanied by some evil. This hot weather has brought the mosquitoes swarming from the ponds and damp places left by the wet months that are past. It is some years since mosquitoes were known in this thoroughly drained district, but they are with us again and acting as if they were trying to appease the hunger of years. I must not dwell on this point, however, for the beauty of nature in flower and fruit, in foliage and sunlight, and balmy breezes is so overwhelming, that every man with a soul above a clod is bound to

enjoy it, even though he may be driven to regarding it through a screened window. If I could remember any quotation of poetry that described spring, summer and fall all in the same breath, I would quote it right here, but as my memory seems blank on the point I can only hope that there are others like myself, full of the satisfaction of having the oats harvested, who are loafing around and steeping their senses in today's fullness and beauty.

Poultry at London.

The poultry awards list at the Western Fair was plentifully besprinkled with old familiar names of fanciers, along with a liberal infusion of addresses of young lads and other suburbanites who catch the "chicken fever" and take a whirl at the exhibition game. With these, of course, are a certain proportion of farmers and their wives and children. Barred Plymouth Rocks had a pretty full entry list as usual, some of the prizewinners being Wm. McLeod, J. A. Nash, Hockin & Marsh, Harris Karn and Oscar Thorne. F. C. Dulmage had the White Rocks almost to himself. W. W. Hilborn & Son, of Leamington, exhibited quite successfully in Buff Rocks, with some competition from Dr. J. McArthur, Wm. Moore and L. Tozer. White Wyandotte prizewinners were Carroll & Bartlett, of Hopedale; F. D. Smoothly; Jas. Cridge; Brakendale Farms, of Fonthill; J. F. Erskine, of Ealing; D. B. Porter, of Wingham, and M. Wray. Buff Wyandottes were displayed by the Hatchwell Poultry-yards, of Leamington; Golden Wyandottes by R. Sanders, Ealing; Mrs. G. Benbow, Byron; W. P. Burns and R. Sanders. A. Flawn and Jas.

Arthur showed Silver Wyandottes. In S. C. Black Minorcas the money was divided between Geo. Young, London, and J. R. Kerr, Milverton; in White Minorcas between J. V. Crandall and E. A. Bock.

The increasingly popular Rhode Island Reds (Single Comb) were shown by Reddick Bros., London; Wm. Macdonald & Son, Delaware; H. H. Pickel, Leamington; Mrs. R. B. Beamish, London, and J. Ashton, London. The process of espousing breeds goes merrily on, and we now find Rosecomb Rhode Island Reds figuring prominently in the prize-list. Winners at London were: Geo. F. Corder, Rodney, Ont.; Wm. Macdonald & Son, and Mrs. Beamish. Winners in some of the other prominent utility breeds were as follows:

S.-C. White Leghorns—F. Wales, D. Douglas & Son, C. H. Johnson, King & Johnston, and F. Lindsay.

S.-C. Brown Leghorns—J. E. Taylor, J. A. Elgie and Wm. Moore.

Buff Orpingtons—Kemp & Waterman, F. W. Angus, Douglas Thompson, H. A. Crawford, Wm. Macdonald & Son, and A. Wright.

White Orpingtons—Rawnsley Poultry Farm, Hamilton & Smith, Geo. F. Spicer.

Bronze turkeys—W. H. Beattie, Wilton Grove; A. H. Switzer, Woodham; Angus Beattie, Pond Mills; R. G. Rose, Glanworth.

Toulouse geese—M. Shantz, Ayr; D. Douglas & Sons.

Bremen geese—Shantz and Switzer.

Aylesbury ducks—Shantz and G. J. Bogue.

Rouen ducks—Geo. J. Bogue, Shantz and H. Smith.

Pekin ducks—Douglas & Sons, Shantz, Smith and Switzer.

Ottawa Exhibition Worthy of the Name "Dominion."

The seed from which all Canada's autumn exhibitions sprang in the beginning was live stock and the products of the soil. These were the first attractions which drew the pioneers of the country to the small village or town in the earlier days to witness what was then a purely agricultural show. Some went to see and be educated to better methods of breeding through seeing the right kind; others went to purchase prizewinners to improve their stock at home, and altogether live stock was the corner-stone upon which the fair, whatever its dimensions, stood, the pivot upon which it all swung, the crowning glory of it all. Gradually Canada has grown until we have very diversified industrial interests. All these must have a place, and rightly they should. There must be also "sport and amusement" to break the monotony and lighten the burdens of a hard-worked people, by relieving the mind for a short time at least of the strain resulting from the problems of life. Ottawa Exhibition had all these, but it was very gratifying to note that the live-stock end of the show, despite a "howling midway," daily saddle and sulky races, balloon ascensions, and special attractions, and the grand displays of the products of urban industry, was truly an outstanding feature. Such may not be said of all our exhibitions.

No lover of dairy cattle could come away from the Dominion Exhibition disappointed. Such Ayrshires, Holsteins, Jerseys, Guernseys, and even French-Canadians, are seldom seen anywhere. The beef classes, while not furnishing so keen competition, were represented by some of the best in the world. Pigs of all breeds and in great numbers upheld the swine-breeders' end, and sheep in quality and numbers were away in advance of any previous Ottawa exhibition. No wonder live stock had its admirers in force at Ottawa.

The exhibition is badly in need of a new building to accommodate the grain, fruit and vegetables. Very few of the large crowds present, for, despite bad weather and mud, this year's fair was a record-breaker in point of numbers, one day alone seeing 50,000 on the grounds, ever saw the wonderful educative display, which was crowded into a small building in a very remote part of the grounds. A new building is urgently needed, and it should be placed in a prominent position, where it will not be missed by so many people making the rounds of the fair.

The new machinery hall, which when completed will cost \$90,000, sheltered from the elements, by means of a canvas roof, thousands of dollars' worth of all kinds of machines intended to make work easier on the farm. This is a commendable feature, and should be given prominence at every large show. Machinery is an essential of every farm.

Howick Pavilion and the Main Building were resplendent with the polished goods from the various manufacturers. British Columbia was the only Province with a special exhibit, and it might be well for other Provinces to take note of the fact that this is a good publicity agent.

The management of the fair are courteous to all. The people are permitted to crowd around the judging-ring and see the stock placed, and the press get all the privileges they desire, for which

many appreciative utterances were heard. Like all large exhibitions, improvements are ever necessary. The heavy rains convinced all that cement walks from one building to another would be a good move. A judging arena is also needed. These will come in time, and the great advances made each year prove that as an agricultural exhibition Ottawa is permanent and progressive.

Horses.

Every year shows a big entry of horses at Ottawa, but this year easily outclassed any former exhibitions in point of numbers, the biggest increase being in the light-harness classes, which totally eclipsed anything seen at the Capital City show for many years, and would appear to be an evidence that the fancy harness horse is rapidly coming back to his own as the ideal for pleasure driving, automobiles not excepted. In some of the heavier breeding classes the entry was scarcely up to that of past years numerically, but quality and breed type were never better. The method of the horse-ring management and the courtesy of the officers in charge has many times called forth a pleasant reminder through the columns of the agricultural press. This year, as usual, left nothing to be desired, other than a suggestion that the new innovation at Toronto this year, whereby the various classes of a particular breed were all run off on one day, be taken up for consideration for the show of 1913.

CLYDESDALES.—Some former years have seen a bigger entry of Clydesdales than this year, but among the 1912 entry were some of the grandest representatives of the breed ever seen in a Canadian show-ring; representatives that have won the highest honors in the land of the breed's origin, and the marked improvement that year after year is shown in the Canadian-bred classes is certainly satisfactory to the breeders and admirers of the great Scotch drafters. The principal exhibitors were T. B. Macaulay, Hudson Heights, Que.; R. Ness & Son, Howick, Que.; B. Rothwell, Ottawa; James Leask & Sons, Greenbank, Ont.; Smith & Richardson, Columbus, Ont.; colony farm, Coquitlam, B. C.; W. H. Mancell, Fletcher, Ont.; A. Scarf, Cumming's Bridge, Ont.; W. A. Morrow, Russell, Ont.; R. W. Whitford, Allan's Corners, Que.; J. Tierney, Twin Elm, Ont.; R. Henry, City View, Ont.; T. L. Fairburn, Billing's Bridge, and D. G. Boyd, Kars, Ont.

Stallion, imported or Canadian-bred, 4 years old and over—This class, as is always the case, was the most interesting to the ring-side. At the call of time there were seven lined up for comparison: Sir Spencer (imp.), the big, flashy son of Sir Hugo, exhibited by R. Ness & Son, Howick, Que.; Bowhill Baron (imp.), by Baron's Pride, exhibited by the Colony Farm, B.C.; Lord Aberdeen (imp.), by Netherlea, exhibited by T. B. Macaulay, Hudson Heights; Peter the Great (imp.), by Hiawatha, exhibited by J. B. Hogate, Weston; Majestic Baron (imp.), by Baron's Pride, exhibited by Smith & Richardson, Columbus, Ont.; Baron Cuthbert (imp.), by Baron's Pride, exhibited by Wm. Meharey, Russell, Ont., and Lascar (imp.) by Craigend Prince, exhibited by Smith & Richardson. Sir Spencer came out in fine bloom. His splendid finish and superb action has brought him

to the front in many a show-ring, both in Scotland and since coming to Canada, and again he was placed at the top, winning what was probably his premier honors, through heading such a high-class ring. Bowhill Baron although having to take second place, was out at his best. He has fought it out in the same ring before, and came to the top. He shows sensational action, has a remarkable top, but is a bit weak of stifle. Lord Aberdeen, the hero of many a contest, was never in nicer bloom, and carries his great weight over the ground with a true stride. His being placed third was no indication of weakness, as he is every inch a great horse. Peter the Great, although getting only fourth place, had many admirers who thought it would have been fitting to have placed him away higher up. He has size and lots of character, and is particularly good at the ground, but with so many good ones all could not get to the top. Majestic Baron, is a horse of great draftiness from the ground up, he moves straight and true, his late arrival placed him on a big handicap owing to lack of condition, and he only reached fifth place. Baron Cuthbert, is one of the best horses both at the top and bottom that formed the line-up, but being a little off in action kept him down to sixth place. Lascar, like his stable mate, is a new comer and not in show condition. His splendid top and faultless underpinning, will make him one of the best when conditioned.

Stallion, three years old, had an entry of five. Royal Cup (imp.), by Silver Cup, exhibited by R. Ness & Son, is a horse of outstanding merit with abundance of size and quality, and moves nice and true. He was placed first. Second was the entry of Adam Scarf. He was not catalogued so we cannot give his name or breeding. He is a colt of beautiful quality but not so much scale as his conqueror. Scalpsie Hero (imp.), by Ruby Pride, exhibited by Smith & Richardson, was third and he like his stable mates of the aged class is a new arrival handicapped by the lack of condition. Viscount Kinnaird (imp.), by Viscount Seaton, exhibited by the same firm, had considerably more scale than any of the others and was equally good at the ground. He was placed fourth but should have been higher up. General Hood (imp.), by Robin Hood, exhibited by W. H. Mancell, was fifth.

Stallion two years old had three entries. Ben-volio (imp.), by Baron Fergus and Scottish Ring (imp.), by Scottish Crest, were exhibited by R. Ness & Son, Corinthian (imp.), by Memento, exhibited by Smith & Richardson. They were placed in the order named.

Stallion one year old, had three entries. Anagram (imp.), by Benedict, came from the Columbus stables. Blenheim (imp.), by Benedict, came from the Howick stables. Aberdeen's Pride by Lord Aberdeen (imp.), was exhibited by T. B. Macaulay. They too were placed in the order named.

The Mare and Filly classes were remarkable for their high-class standard of excellence; never before at this show was so high a quality main-