

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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DOMINION.

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2. It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
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THE FAIR CIRCUIT.

The 1908 list of dates of principal agricultural, live-stock and industrial exhibitions has for some time been published in the weekly issues of "The Farmer's Advocate." Several of these have materialized, with fair success, and are numbered with events of the past. Some of the most prominent are yet to come, and it is gratifying to know that the dates have been wisely selected so as to avoid clashing. This arrangement will be much more satisfactory to exhibitors desiring to make a circuit of a number of the shows; and it is also advantageous to Fair Boards to have a clear field, in order that visitors, as well as exhibitors, from greater distances may plan to attend as many of these fixtures as they deem advisable. The varied classification and liberal prize-lists provided by the directorate of the leading shows in Canada, though certainly not more generous than the importance to the country of the live-stock and other agricultural industries deserves, are gradually being made more attractive and encouraging to ambitious exhibitors. First, in order of date, of the leading shows to come is the Canadian National, at Toronto, August 29th to September 14th, for which entries close Aug. 5th for the live stock, and Aug. 12th for agricultural products. Sherbrooke, Que., August 29th to September 5th. Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition, Halifax, September 2nd to 10th; entries close for manufactures July 15th; for live stock, poultry and dairy products, August 24th; roots, fruit and grain, August 26th. Western Fair, London, September 11th to 19th; entries close Sept. 10th. Canada Central, Ottawa, September 18th to 26th; entries close September 16th. British Columbia Provincial Exhibition, at New Westminster, September 29th to October 3rd.

OUR MARITIME LETTER. THE CROP OUTLOOK.

As circumstances have afforded us unusual opportunities of noting the conditions under which the field crops of this section of the country are growing, it may be as well to use the space at our disposal to-day in giving a sort of report on this subject, important as it is alike to us and to the whole Dominion, whose prosperity is so intimately bound up in the agricultural situation.

Seldom did the month of June in any year, within the lifetime of the average Maritimer, look out on a more promising picture of agricultural wealth than that which has so recently joined the great majority. In Prince Edward Island, in New Brunswick, and in Nova Scotia, the meadows were never better filled up with luxuriantly-growing clover and grasses. The scant snowfall of the winter did not adversely affect the grass, as it is so confidently believed to do, and there was no frost underneath to snap the clover root when the changing weather of spring gave us alternate rains and freezings. The catch of clover, which, on account of the very wet season passed through, did not appear extraordinary in the fall, this spring showed up everywhere, the public roads, even, being white and crimson with its fragrant flowers. In New Brunswick, the same conditions, with regard to the grasses, are noticeable, and Nova Scotia's uplands and marshlands, too, are full of fodder. In the case of worn-out dykelands, there is evidence, along the line of railway in Westmoreland and Cumberland Counties, that the ice has lain upon them with detrimental effect, but the return of hay will be large all over the Maritime Provinces, and the prices have already been almost cut in two because of this extraordinary promise. Still, the dry early July weeks, with the extreme heat for this part of the world, will, without doubt, reduce the hay crop considerably. Men who refused to sell old hay at \$14 per ton, are now gladly shipping it in many places for \$7.00. It will hardly reach the normal figures of \$10 this fall.

The grain outlook is of the very brightest, also. The wheat, oats, barley and buckwheat are now covering the ground everywhere, late as it went in. Growth seems to have been exceedingly rapid this year. But, of course, the weather for the rest of this month and the next will determine the result in grains. 'It is dry now—very dry, indeed—and, whilst it is natural to expect that sufficient rain will be vouchsafed in good season, still it is also observable that, when an especially dry period is experienced, the tendency is to its prolongation, rather than to have the days of refreshing showers so ardently hoped for ushered in speedily. As we say, vulgarly, "It is hard to get back to rain once the dry season gets a hold on things." Of course, whilst we expect great crops of grain, a prolonged period of drouth, such as we have been describing, might very materially change things.

The roots look good. The potato crop is up in splendid shape; not a set has missed germination. There will be a good return of tubers, or all signs fail. Then, the bugs are scarce, and that will give the poor, hard-pushed farmer a welcome respite, for there is nothing he likes less than the process of bug-poisoning, which is in ordinary years a constant and troublesome task. The turnips have gone into the ground in dry weather, for the most part, and it is too soon to say to what extent they may fail us.

All will admit that this has been a year of abundant pasturage. The cows were turned into the pastures early, and found a rank stand of grass. They have satisfied their needs easily, and to-day the feed is better in the paddocks than at any time last year. The milk flow is, therefore, abundant, and as cheese is likely to maintain the exalted position it has occupied lately, there should be plenty of money in the wallets of dairymen this autumn. As other produce is likely to range low this fall, this will not prove an undesirable feature of farming. The price of flour is already falling; coarse grains cannot command the extreme prices of last year; forage will be cheap; so that dairying is the business to be engaged in for profit. The factories of our Island are doing well. They want reorganizing in New Brunswick, with the general agricultural reorganization which seems to be imperatively demanded; and in Nova Scotia there is certainly room for much extension of the industry.

With full and plenty, though, all through the land, the depreciation in farm products is not likely to affect very adversely the prosperity of Maritime Canada.

A. F. BURKE.

HORSES.

THE INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW.

The International Horse Show of 1908, held at Olympia, in Old London, while largely a society event, and composed principally of light-horse classes, fills an important place in advertising and encouraging the business of breeding high-class types of the equine species, and greatly helps to maintain the popularity of the horse as a means of locomotion and general usefulness. This great show differs from all others in the breadth of its conception, the cleverness of its arrangements, and the prodigality of its prize offerings. The main features were harness steppers of all sizes and classes, from many countries, over twenty prizes being given in some classes, the first, in many classes, being up to \$500. One of the most pleasing and encouraging features was the general success of horses of pure Hackney breeding, many of the classes being open to any pure-bred horses from any country in the world. Though the expenses of the Show were enormous, and fears were at one time entertained for the financial success of the venture, when the Olympia closed its doors it was found that the receipts were beyond the most sanguine expectations of the directorate, the total attendance being estimated at over 300,000 people, and a profit was assured, most of which will be devoted to the furtherance and encouragement of horse-breeding generally.

In the class for Hackney stallions 14 hands and not exceeding 15.2, Mr. Tubbs' four-year-old chestnut horse, Leopard (9783), by Leopold, was placed first, the second award going to Mr. J. K. Ford's Lord Kimberley (7536), a brown nine-year-old son of the multi-champion Rosador, and third to R. P. Evans' Evarthius (8463), a 6-year-old chestnut son of Polonius. In the class for stallions foaled in or before 1904, over 15.1, the first place was given to Hopwood Viceroy (9280), a four-year-old chestnut son of Royal Danegelt, owned by Mr. de Host, and sold to go to the Argentine. This horse is said to be generally voted the best goer in Britain to-day. Although his victory was outstanding, his rival, Mr. de Mancha's Elevator, a fourteen-year-old son of Danegelt, from Cactus, by Cadet, placed second, made an extraordinary showing for his years. In a strong class of three-year-old stallions, the free-going King of the West, a chestnut son of Garton Duke of Connaught, shown by Mr. Andrew McKerrow, of Glasgow, was a clean winner over Mr. R. Whitworth's Burgomaster, a bay, by Edensnag, which was second, and Mr. Batchelor's Admiral, a chestnut son of Royal Danegelt. In a nice class of two-year-old stallions was found the male champion of the breed, Sir Walter Gilbey's bay, Flash Cadet, by His Majesty, dam Lady Cadet. He is a wonderfully-developed colt, going in a gay and stylish manner. Second to him was placed Mr. R. G. Heaton's International, a chestnut son of Garton Duke of Connaught, and third was Dr. Bowie's brown Mathias A 1. In brood mares, 4 years old and over, Countess Clio, owned by Miss Dora Schintz, was the winner; second was Dr. Bowie's Commodity, and third Mr. C. E. Galbraith's noted Queen of the West, now fifteen years old, a roan, by Garton Duke of Connaught. In a strong class of three-year-old mares, Sir Walter Gilbey won with Lively Birthday, by Polonius, second being Mr. Henrichsen's Ophelia's Daughter Grace, by Royal Danegelt. In the two-year-old filly section, Sir Walter had again a popular winner in Flash Clara. The champion female was Countess Clio, and the reserve, Lively Birthday.

In the harness classes, wealthy American exhibitors won a large share of the principal prizes, and added greatly to the interest of the show.

In the class for heavy-draft horses, prizes were provided for only geldings and mares in harness, of which there was a good display of Shires and Suffolks, the former winning singly and in pairs, the first prize for pairs going to Lord Calthorpe's Chieftain and Garton Hazard, a grand bay and brown team, with white feet and face. In the single-cart-horse competition, Garton Hazard was first over Midland's Extraordinary, a massive bay gelding, standing 17½ hands, shown by Peter Davis. Teams of four horses were limited to two entries, a Shire and a Suffolk, the former being represented by a gray team, which included the ex-London champion, Sussex Blue-gown, but the Suffolks, a team of grand, weighty geldings, were more typical of their breed, and secured the premier award.

PREMIUM PICTURE OF BARON'S PRIDE.

A splendid photo-engraving of the celebrated Clydesdale stallion, Baron's Pride, may be obtained by any present subscriber of "The Farmer's Advocate" who will send us the name of one new yearly subscriber, accompanied by \$1.50. The engraving is 7½ x 11 inches in size, and is printed with a soft tone, combined with much clearness of detail, on a card of finest coated stock. It is a beautiful picture to frame and hang in the library or sitting-room of any horseman's home. Copies may be purchased from "The Farmer's Advocate" at 50 cents each.