

great deal of interest, and the quality of the samples of the young girls' skill in buttermaking was in every exhibit a credit to those who took part in it. Miss Ethel M. Gorrell, Carberry, took first prize with a total of 94½ points, the second place being taken by Miss Edd Bewell, Rosser, whose total amounted to 93½ points. The dairy prints were a great feature of the dairying exhibition. The prints were in splendid shape and in rich color, showing at a glance that a very high quality constituted its beauty of form and color. This part of the exhibit was kept in cold storage, and the hot days of fair week did not get a chance to effect it. The most successful exhibitor was Mrs. John Gorrell, Carberry, whose butter scored 94 points; Mrs. W. Jones, Atwell, came in a close second with a total of 93½ points, Mrs. R. Coats, Silver Plains, coming up a notch less with 93¼, and Miss Maggie J. King ably defending the rear with a total of 93¼.

The award of merit was given to W. B. Gilroy, of the Copenhagen Creamery, for the best general exhibit of butter.

The buttermaking contest was one of the features, not only of the dairying section, but an outstanding one of the exhibition. Ten competitors took part in the contest, which was engaged in for four days—Tuesday to Friday, inclusive. The scale of points was, for perfection: Preparation of utensils, 5; straining and coloring of cream, 5; granular butter, 5; washing and salting, 5; working butter, 5; neatness and cleanliness (person and work), 20; quality of butter, 25; cleaning utensils, 5; exhaustiveness of churning, 10; time, 15; total, 100. Each competitor got sixty pounds of cream, from the same vat, at the same temperature. The temperature at which it was churned was 52° Fahrenheit. The butter-fat, by Babcock test, was 22%, and the acidity .7. The utensils were all alike. The churns used were No. 3 Favorite and the butter-worker was No. 1 "Lever Butter-worker." The results were very thoroughly examined. The shortest time in which the complete process was accomplished was one hour and twenty-five minutes, and the longest time taken was one hour and fifty minutes. The washing-up constituted quite a considerable portion of the work. The buttermilk was tested from every churn to determine the quantity of butter-fat left in it.

THE AWARDS.—The prizes in the contest were: first, \$30; second, \$20; third, \$15, and fourth, \$8. Most of the competitors were experienced buttermakers, some of them being students in the dairy schools. The results and prizes were: First prize, W. V. Edwards, Souris; score, 97½. His work was good all through, and he lost very little fat. Second prize, J. D. Munroe, Winnipeg; 96½. His methods were good and his work well done, but he lost more fat. Third prize, Henry Kirkwood; 95½. His work was also well done and his time was good.

In the female separating and churning class, Mrs. N. Scott, Winnipeg, took first prize with a score of 96½ points. Her work was uniformly good and she made the best time, finishing in one hour and twenty-five minutes. Mrs. A. Baxter, of Suthwyn, followed with a score 96. Maggie J. King, Dominion City, was third with a score of 95½. The work was good all through in both cases, and all of the competitors do credit to the dairy school where they have been instructed. The work of the unsuccessful competitors was highly creditable. Annie Lawrence, of Westbourne, a native of England, lately arrived here, worked on different methods from that of the Manitoba school. Her score was 90½. Helen Taylor, Headingly, made a score of 93¼ in one churning. Having been overcome with the heat, she was unable to continue to a finish in her second trial. Mrs. John Taylor, Headingly, made her score up to 89½, and Mrs. Nicholls, Meadowlea, finished with 89½ points.

The dairy hall also contained the exhibit of homemade bread. This was a highly-creditable display. Miss Mary Bushel, River Avenue, took the first prize, and also the special of \$25 given by the Ogilvie Milling Co. Mrs. D. R. McPhail, 713 Ross Ave., Winnipeg, was second, and Mrs. A. D. Wheeler, Melita, Man., took third. There was a very good show of cakes, buns and biscuits, and a very creditable exhibition of homemade soap.

Cutting Rye Grass.

We have a quantity of Western rye grass to cut. At what stage of its growth should it be cut, so as to secure the best results? A. J. Keyes, Man.

Ans.—Western rye grass should be cut for hay just as soon as it is in full head. If allowed to ripen its seed, stock do not relish it. This applies particularly to horses. S. A. BEDFORD.

The United States census of 1900 shows that the total number of pounds of cheese made in the United States was 298,344,654, and that 130,010,584 pounds were made in New York State, approximately one-half of the total make.

Wawanesa Fair.

The sixth annual exhibition of the South Brandon Agricultural Society was held at Wawanesa on July 16th, and was a decided success. The entries were about double of last year, and, the weather being fine, everybody was well pleased. The exhibits of horses on the grounds were good; in fact, some entries could hold their own with the same class at any show in the Province. There was an extra good turnout of general-purpose teams, also single drivers. Some very good mares with foals were also on the grounds.

In cattle, there was a large turnout—about twice as many as in former years. Wm. Chalmers, of Hayfield, made a fine exhibit of cattle, and won most of the prizes. Holsteins were there belonging to W. T. Dorsey, who captured most of the prize money. A good exhibit of Polled Angus cattle was made by John Turner, of Carroll. This is the first time this herd has been at Wawanesa, and we hope they will come again. There was a good turnout of grade cattle, and the prizes were pretty well scattered. The class for beef grades was well filled with good animals.

In swine, there were several good specimens of the four breeds. In Berkshires, Noble Lang was the only exhibitor. Yorkshires were shown by King Bros., who showed twenty head. Tamworths and Chester Whites were shown by Bunting and A. M. Rogers, respectively.

In poultry, there was only a fair-sized exhibit. Some very good Leghorns were shown by G. Nunn, and Barred Rocks by Mrs. H. Cooper. Turkeys, geese and ducks were also shown.

In the hall, there was a good exhibit of grains. For wheat, W. T. Britton got the first prize, with P. Elder second. There was a good display of barley, oats, peas and flax, both threshed and in the sheaf. Garden vegetables made a very fair exhibit, considering the dry season. Some good heads of cabbage and cauliflower were shown by A. G. Scott. In other sections of the prize list of this class, C. Leachman made a successful exhibit.

Ladies' work, as usual, claimed the most attention from the crowd of sight-seers, and was very fine. There was a good showing of preserves, with the prizes well distributed.

There were also some sports on the programme which afforded amusement to the crowd of people present. About a thousand were on the grounds in the afternoon, and the gate receipts were the largest ever taken at Wawanesa. The Wawanesa band was in attendance, and everybody went home well pleased with the day's outing. Mr. Blain's speedy trotter, Democracy, gave an exhibition mile trot in the fast time of 2.12, breaking the local track record.

The fair, all through, was a great success, and we trust the next one will be still better.

At Manitoba's Experimental Farm.

A visit to Manitoba's Experimental Farm during the Brandon fair found Superintendent S. A. Bedford busy entertaining a large number of farmers, who found it convenient and profitable to examine the work that is being carried on under his direction on the well-tilled section on the south bank of the Assiniboine. Perhaps since that institution was established it never looked better. The system of cultivation, the arrangement and rotation of the crops, the proportion of each cereal grown, and the general management of the farm could not well be improved upon. Everywhere there is evidence that this Provincial Experimental Farm is being managed for some purpose, and that that purpose is being in a large degree attained.

Going by way of the wheat plots, of which many varieties are being tested, a new Hungarian variety was pointed out. This, Mr. Bedford remarked had been secured to ascertain if Hungary, the country in which originated the famous Hungarian system of milling, possessed any better variety of wheat for this country than Red Fyfe. According to appearances when seen, the imported seed will fall far short of our standard when the yield is estimated. Nearly all the wheat plots were in good condition, and the same could be said of the oats. One field of the latter was seen, that under favorable ripening weather will produce not less than one hundred bushels per acre. A great many different varieties of peas are being tried this year as usual, and most of the plots were most unusually well podded. Mr. Bedford is of opinion that more of this grain might be grown to advantage by Manitoba farmers. The work of harvesting and threshing is, of course, the great difficulty, but where the most modern machinery is used these difficulties may be very largely overcome. Over sixty bushels per acre have been grown at the farm, and the Superintendent declares that they leave the soil in ideal condition for a wheat crop.

The clover plots have more than demonstrated this year that this great nitrogen-gatherer can be successfully grown in some sections at least of Manitoba. The red clover presented an imposing sight. At least two feet high it stood,

without one break, a solid mass of blossoms. By its side a good crop of alfalfa had just been cut, and was ready to be raked up. Next came the alsike with its blossoms of pink and white, among which the honey-bee energetically buzzed. Realizing the immense value of the clover plant to the farmers of the great south and east, and remembering the opinions which have been so often expressed, that it would never be a success in this country, one could not fail to be impressed with the success which is being achieved at this Western Experiment Station, the superintendent of which declares that he has now no difficulty in getting it to grow. "It is necessary," he says, "to sow it without a nurse crop," and so far he has used about twenty pounds of seed per acre.

The corn crop was also looking beautiful. About twelve acres have been sown this year for the silo, and under favorable conditions a heavy tonnage will be cut.

In the orchard there were many interesting things to be seen, most of which, however, have been brought to the attention of "Advocate" readers in previous issues by the Superintendent of Horticulture, Mr. Harry Brown. The success which is being achieved in crossing the native Siberian crab with the Martha, Wealthy, Tallman Sweet and other standard apples, greatly increases the hope that we may yet, under ordinarily favorable conditions, be able to grow the luscious fruit to some extent in this country. The grafts from several of these crosses are producing fruit this year, and if the small boy and other enemies of the young orchard can only be thwarted, the report of this year's experience at Brandon will prove gratifying reading. In plums, the native varieties are bearing so heavily that in many cases branches have broken with the weight of fruit before they could be propped. One or two standard trees that are new to this country are fruiting this year for the first time, and whether they will mature before frost arrives is the question of some moment at present with the Superintendent.

All about the farm similar features of interest were to be seen, all being cared for according to the most approved methods suitable to our climate and soil, and although the writer has visited several similar institutions, none have been inspected that showed greater reason for existence, nor a stronger claim for the support and sympathy of the farmers of the State or Province in which it existed.

Brandon Fair.

The Big Fair of Western Manitoba, that closed at Brandon on Friday, July 31st, has added another successful year to its record. On the afternoon of the opening day rain fell copiously, but for the balance of the show the sun shone brightly. The attendance was large, even greater than ever before, and the lodging accommodation of the city, after being taxed to its utmost, was unequal to the crowd. From the standpoint of exhibits the show could not be said to be much improvement on last year. The horse barns were filled to overflowing, but in cattle the entries showed a slight falling off, while in sheep and hogs the exhibit was about as usual. In the agricultural hall there was a splendid show of grains and grasses, the best that has been placed on exhibition at any show this year. The horticultural department was equally good, and reflected much credit on those who had it in charge.

The main building was well filled, a number of the exhibits being made by merchants of the city, whose efforts in this direction is worthy of commendation. Outside the main hall the machinery department, as usual, was well patronized by the farmers and threshers. There was a large exhibit of threshing machinery, including gasoline engines.

The Darby Steam Land-digger, a new machine, intended to take the place of the common plow, and manufactured in England, was exhibited for the first time in this country at Brandon Fair, and was investigated with unusual interest by prairie farmers who were enjoying a holiday within Exhibition Park.

Brandon has undoubtedly one of the finest locations for a fair ground in Western Canada, and with an expenditure of a few hundred dollars, it may rank as the most beautiful. What has been done to improve it during the last few years was well done. At this year's show the manager and directors worked hard, and they are to be congratulated upon the financial success of the show. Inasmuch as it failed at any point, it was due to lack of system rather than from lack of energy on the part of those in charge. In the horse department there appeared to be no well-defined plan for getting the animals out, and as a result no one knew for sure what was coming next. The same thing existed in the cattle department. The order of classification to be found in the catalogue was not followed, and exhibitors found it necessary to constantly interview the directors, or run the risk of losing an opportunity of competing for a prize. Moreover, visitors had no opportunity of knowing what animals were being