

The Fifth War-time Canadian National.

Emphasis Placed Upon Production and Conservation at Canada's Largest Exhibition.

The Canadian National Exhibition has long been one of the greatest educational institutions in America always leading in the exposition of those products which manifest progress in agriculture, art, science and the crafts. The four years of war which have brought sadness to so many homes and individuals have fired the spirit of the nation and prompted greater effort in those lines which lead to victory and complete subjugation of the common enemy of mankind. This great Exhibition has always endeavored to interpret the spirit and purpose of the Canadian people, and this year production and conservation were emphasized with all the power vested in this wonderful organization. For two weeks following August 26, when Baron Shaughnessy declared the Canadian National officially open for its 40th year, things went on apace, event following event, and all exemplifying what Canada should do and think in these times when so much is at stake. Live stock, field crops, fruit and vegetables were well displayed as the products of agriculture which will play a prominent part in the campaign now headed towards Berlin. The Canada Food Board occupied one building, and here lectures were given in domestic work and cooking, the aim being to educate all classes in the use of things commonly wasted. The Process Exhibit by the returned soldiers, who have been re-educated into civilian pursuits, was another interesting feature which has a very intimate relation to the present and future duty of Canada in regard to the absorption and re-establishment of returned men.

When considerable space is given over to the report of the agricultural features of this great Exposition, little room is left to describe with any degree of satisfaction all the other departments which make up the Canadian National Exhibition. The most important buildings and what they contain have been mentioned in previous years, so on this occasion we shall simply draw the readers' attention to those exhibits which have a direct bearing on agriculture.

First of all, perhaps, the Government Building demands recognition, for in it were found the manifestations of Ontario's great agricultural resources. These were grouped under the banner of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and divided into Ontario Agricultural College, Live Stock Branch, Fruit Branch and a combined display of products from the Standing Field Crop Competitions of grain and vegetables. In the centre of the wing occupied by the Department was another display revealing what Ontario has and can do, while above this towered a large model of a ship representing the ocean shipping which carries our product to market. The College exhibit was smaller than usual, but some departments of the Institution had their stands in other buildings where they might come into closer touch with their clientele. The small space at the disposal of the O. A. C. seemingly stifled enthusiasm, which unfortunate condition found expression in their exhibit. The Live Stock Branch emphasized the importance and value of the work being done in regard to wool, and fleeces sent in for competitions were displayed and judged there. The Fruit Branch also suffered from a diminution of space and their display was not so large as usual, but of good quality. A splendid sample of grain and vegetables was sent in from the winning fields of the Standing Field Crop Competitions and these were arranged in a very attractive manner. Space was also found in the agricultural wing of the building for an elaborate display of instructive material arranged by the Canadian Fertilizer Association. Other features of the Government Building were the flax exhibit, natural history and botanical exhibit, Food Board fish exhibit, as well as the exhibits arranged by the Provincial Institutions, Board of Health, and Bureau of Lands, Forests and Mines.

The Horticultural Building was a treat to all lovers of flowers, fruits and vegetables, but especially worthy of mention was the magnificent exhibit of fruits prepared and erected by the Dominion Fruit Branch. Much of the product was preserved and displayed in capacious glass containers, while fresh products, of various kinds and varieties, were tastily arranged on plates.

The Dairy Building is always an interesting resort, and this year was no exception. The dairy produce, inspected meats, butter-making competitions and educational exhibit put up by the Dairy Branch all added to the attraction.

Many of the other buildings and exhibits of different characters will be discussed in this and future issues, and suffice it at present to say that all combined to make the 1918 National one of the most instructive of recent years.

Not the least important of the exhibits relating to agriculture were the splendid displays of agricultural implements and machinery, back of the grandstand. Here one might find all manner of useful items of farm equipment, displayed with particular reference to the saving of labor, and several makes of the same piece of machinery afforded one opportunity to consider individual points of excellence.

Down in the live-stock end of the grounds there were some surprises and many evidences of a healthy industry in Canada. Dairy cattle made progress, the beef breeds were strong, horses responded well, while sheep and swine did not reveal the shortage of feed and labor required to fit them for such a show.

In this issue and the one following will be found a



Main Entrance to the Exhibition.

detailed description and report of what happened at the Canadian National this year, and with these few preliminaries we shall proceed to report the results of the judging in the various departments.

Dairy Cattle.

It is an interesting thing to note the somewhat curious effect which a certain combination of circumstances may have upon an industry. Such an instance is apparently afforded by the dairy industry at this time, and it is made evident by the effect upon the exhibits of dairy cattle at our more important shows and exhibitions. Dairying at this time is peculiarly called upon as a result of the great reduction in productive man-power to do its best in the way of production. Handicapped as they are by the widespread lack of labor, dairymen have responded well, and not only the industry itself, but the cause of the Allies is bound to profit thereby. It is becoming more generally recognized, as the work of herd improvement goes on, that the basis of all successful development of the dairy industry rests almost solely upon the proper fostering of the various good breeds and their pure individuals. The effect of pure blood in the grade herd is too noticeable to be considered an unimportant factor in dairy development, and the performance tests of individuals, whether of male or female, are receiving an ever-increasing amount of attention. It is perhaps not so surprising therefore, but not always obvious to the casual observer, to note a sudden increase in show entries of certain classes of live stock, especially since exhibiting requires a degree of time and labor not appreciated by the uninitiated, at a time when labor is at a premium and difficult to obtain.

The breeds of dairy cattle this year at the National were exceptionally well represented. This is particularly true of the Holstein and Jersey breeds, classes in each being exceptionally heavy. Ayrshires were good and the various classes brought out animals of real merit all through, but the total weight of entries was not proportionately as heavy as in the two other principal breeds. Guernseys were again represented by only one exhibitor with about the same class of material as in 1917, but there were in addition to the four breeds already enumerated, some entries of Brown Swiss, a breed comparatively new to Canadian dairying except for certain sections in the extreme East and West.

Notwithstanding the remarkable increase in exhibits, there is no doubt that lack of available help to fit animals for the show prevented some men with good show material from making entries. The time required to ship and care for animals during the exhibition is considerable, but much more time and attention is necessary to put these animals in show condition. Months of careful feeding and special attention are well spent in this work when labor is available, and every dairy cattle breeder of any prominence realizes that it is better to stay out of the ring than to enter it with animals that by their condition are apt to prejudice possible buyers against the excellencies of their stock. The effect of a judgment in a show-ring is too evident and too far-reaching for any breeder to trifle with his reputation. The pace is set in the ring, so to speak, for dairy type and conformation, and it may be truly said of this year's showing of dairy cattle that quality was decidedly in evidence. There were many classes this year where it was no disgrace whatever to accept a third or fourth or even a fifth place, and this it has not always been possible to say.

Holsteins.—There is no doubt of the splendid showing made by Holstein cattle at the National this year. A total of 294 entries testify to the strength of this showing, and the number of animals appearing in the ring in most of the classes came well up to the number of entries. In other years some fault might have been found in several of the Black and White classes,

because of the lack of uniformity in type and conformation. Doubtless, fault could still be found on this score, but certainly there was less disparity in type and build in evidence this year than last year. This is a sign of progress, and there is every reason to believe that if a fairly close standard regarding the relative importance of what might be termed fineness and ruggedness could be determined for the breed, it would be to the advantage of all breeders and the popularity of the breed. Some of the younger classes were particularly worthy of mention, their quality and splendid promise marking them as features of the dairy cattle exhibit.

The judging was ably performed by W. S. Moscrip, of Minnesota. Large classes were no deterrent to his judgment, and it was a pleasure to watch the business-like way by which the successive classes were disposed of.

The aged-bull class was a good one, five animals competing for the coveted honor. Bonerges Hartog, second prize bull last year, won first position with strong constitution and a full, deep body. His quality enabled him to carry away both the senior and grand championships. Next came Prince Colantha Abbekerk, a bull of the type which is recognized as true dairy conformation. He is perhaps not so strong constitutionally as the winner. Smith Dale King Colantha, winner of the third prize, is a bull of good size but lacking a little in smoothness, although he is certainly a good representative of the breed, while Plus Inka Artia, winner of the two-year-old class in 1917 and a very stylish bull and smooth, might be faulted for being a little too round bodied.

The two-year-old bulls were headed by Prince Bonheur Abbekerk, a marvelously strong bull of great size and quality. He stood very close to the senior championship, was an all-round great bull and hard to beat. Annette's Prince Abbekerk stood second in this class of six, and was closely followed by Butter Baron Hengerveld, both being animals of individuality. Major Sylvius Colantha and King De Kol Ormsby were third and fourth, respectively, the latter lacking somewhat in capacity, but of sufficient quality to have won a good place as a yearling in 1917 and top place in a special class for junior yearlings.

Manor Segis Echo, a bull of strength and rugged constitution, headed a class of five senior yearlings. His general excellence overcame a noticeable lack of condition and entitled him to take first position. Pontiac Paul, a longer-bodied bull, with less depth came second, while Lady Pauline's Sir Sylvia, a bull of somewhat smaller size and finer type, took third place, with King Fayne Alcartra, winner of the senior calf class in 1917, following.

In the junior yearling class seven worthy prize-winners faced judge Moscrip and were headed by Count Paul C. Posch, a bull of fine quality and well fitted, but not possessing too much size. Second prize was awarded to Raycroft Segis Spofford, a clean-cut bull of good size and growthiness. A longer-barrelled bull, not in the best of fit but of a rather fine type, was Lowland's Prince Segis, who stood in third place, followed by Manor Segis Posch.

The bull calf classes were strong, eleven growthy individuals lining up for senior calf positions, led by Fayne Segis Echo, a well-balanced calf with a particularly strong back. Twelve youngsters faced the judge for the junior calf decision, and among a line-up of several weighty good ones Sir Fancy Netherland Abbekerk, a January calf of undeniable excellence, easily took the lead, later annexing the junior championship.

A splendid showing of 17 aged cows constituted the line-up for cows four years or over, in milk. There were some particularly favorable remarks passed on the evenness of the first three prize winners, the first of which was Beauty Pietertje Mechthilde. She is a very strong cow with splendid veining and an udder which carried well up and forward, the teats being well placed. She had freshened the day previous to showing and consequently her udder did not show to best advantage after milking out. Second prize went to Pauline Colantha Posch, a splendid 12-year-old matron whose show days are past their rosiness. She has gone off somewhat in the shoulders and does not show her earlier bloom. Aaggie Toitilla, a seven-year-old cow with a marvellous udder took third position, but she, at an earlier age, showed much the same defect as the second-prize winner.

Ten cows three years old in milk made a fine class, and provided close competition. Woodcrest Ormsby M., a cow with an udder very unusual in a Holstein, well balanced teats and splendid width behind, was placed first. V. A. Inka Sylvia, second prize winner, was not in as good condition and showed an udder less well balanced, but she was of splendid type and conformation. Helena Pietertje Beets, of third position, was perhaps broader over the hooks than V. A. Inka Sylvia, but showed an udder less well developed behind.

Eleven individuals made a strong class of two-year-old heifers in milk, keen competition existing between Dutchland Gretqui Tensen and Ivy Lodge Rose 2nd for first place, the former finally winning out. She is a deep, full-bodied heifer with a strong topline while Ivy Lodge Rose 2nd shows a better balanced udder, perhaps, but lacked sufficient depth and constitution to win.