



Victor's Favorite, yearling Grade Shorthorn steer, grand champion Winter Fair, 1906. Shown by I. & A. Groff, Alma, Ont.

The Ontario Provincial Fair

Large Attendance—Strong Classes—Fine Quality

The Ontario Provincial Winter Fair of 1906 can now be recorded as history. With moderate weather, attendance up to the standard of preceding occasions at least, and with exhibits in several classes far in advance, both in numbers and quality, it can fairly be said that the fat stock show is moving in the right direction. As usual, the poultry show was of immense proportions, one of the best on the continent, and something for the poultry fancier worth coming a long way to see. In the sheep pens were the champions of the continent, and they did not stand out against a background which showed them up in strong contrast either. Long and strong classes were the order all round, and conservative salesmen meeting with throngs of eager buyers was the order of things. Among the swine the same order prevailed, and the show was particularly brilliant in the Yorkshire, Berkshire and bacon hog classes. Other breeds represented, if not by long classes, at least by goods of a very high order, were the Tamworth and Chester Whites. In the cattle ring the classes in the grades and crosses were very fine, a few being very strong all through, with some goods of the sensational kind at the top, but in those representing the pure-breds there was to

be noticed a very sharp falling off. In Shorthorns every class was at least graced with one or two good animals at the top, but too often degenerating into a collection of "runtts" as one went farther down the line. Both in Polled Angus and Herefords there were a number of creditable animals out, but the number was not big enough, and there were rather too many of the other kind. Cows in milk, cows heavy in calf, could and did get inside the money, and win in classes which called for fat steer or heifer. In one case a Shorthorn cow heavy in calf got first place in the class. Acrobatic performances of this kind may be credited to the versatility of the management, or judges, or both, but it can scarcely be held to be of a character beneficially educative to the visitors who come to the show to learn, if possible, a little more about the possibilities of the fat stock business. Exhibits of the kind in the pure-bred classes such as we have this year been treated to at Canada's representative fat stock show, make very poor arguments indeed for the superiority which breeders claim for their respective animals, and it is right up to them to do a little more to prove their claims in a visible, practical manner. Sheep and swine breeders, on the contrary, are fully alive to

this matter, and the majority of Ontario's leading breeders are always on the ground with flocks and pens of their best. In the

CATTLE RING

the officiating judges were Mr. John T. Gibson, of Denbeld, Ont., assisted by Mr. John Gosling, of Kansas City, Mo., U.S.A. The first call for Shorthorn steer, two years of age and under three, brought out one very good and two very fair animals, not quite enough to claim all the money. First went to Mr. Jos. Stone, of Saintfield, South Ontario, for his big, smooth, well-finished Champion, a son of a Collynie Archer bull of Dryden breeding. Next came General White, shown by John Brown & Sons, Galt, Ont., which, with the third prize steer, shown by James Rennie, of Blackwater, also bore credit for Ontario county's breeders, the first being sired by Crimson Victor, the latter by Crimson Prince, both of John and Birrell, of Greenwood Crimson Flower pedigree. Shorthorn steer, one year and under two, had out enough to claim all the money and places at least, there being five entries. The firm of I. & A. Groff, of Alma, carried off the honors in this class, their fine roan steer King Edward proving an easy winner, although the second prize animal was a creditable entry, being a son of the Crimson Flower bull Crimson Ribbon, and shown by the well-known feeders, Brown & Sons, of Galt. James Reulle had another of the same strain, a son of Crimson Duke, to the front for third place. First place for Shorthorn steer under one year went to H. Smith, of Exeter, on a fine white calf of grand character, and it was not by any means a thin white line which came to the front in this class, though that was the color which showed up strongly. Alex. McKinnon, of Coningsby, ranked second with another fine white one, sired by Crimson Ribbon. Elliott & Sons, of Galt, were third with White Star, sire Wanderer's Star, while Kyle Bros. of Ayr, got fourth place on White Heather, sire Bapton Chancellor. Shorthorn cow, three years or over, was as usual a class creditable enough, but without much to lead to the conclusion that the \$55 purse and honor was looked on with envious eyes by Ontario's breeders, as there were only five entries. First went to J. Brown & Sons on Crystal Belle, sired by Jas. Cramer's Capt. Mayfly, with second to Geo. Amos, of Mof-fat, on Martha 4th, a get of Spicy King. J. McNab, of Rockwood, Brien & Sons, of Ridgeway, and A. Stringer, of Kingarig, followed in order. G. & W. Parkinson, of Eramosa, were the only breeders in Ontario who wanted the first prize for two-year Shorthorn heifer, and they got



The 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners in the 2-year-old Grade class, Winter Fair, 1906. Owned by James Leask, Greenbank, Ont.