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MONTREAL PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.

The 11th Annual Exhibition, under the management of the Montreal Exposition Co, will be held from the 11th to the 19th of next September.

All the exhibitors of previous years have been notified, and from the numerous enquiries received the Directors confidently hope that the forthcoming fair of 1896 will be a worthy successor to the previous exhibitions.

The chief desire of the Company has been to promote the development of manufactures and industries, to stimulate the progress of Agriculture, and to make the exhibition a valuable medium of education by providing a display of the most recent improvements in Industrial and Mechanical Art.

The great interest felt in the Montreal Exhibition by Farmers, Stock-breeders, Fruit growers, and others was shown last year by the magnificent display of Live Stock and the splendid collections of Horses, Sheep and Swine, while the Poultry Show was a perfect gem.

Many well known American experts and prominent Canadian Breeders expressed the opinion that a finer display of Ayrshire Cattle had never been seen on the continent.

It has been a source of great satisfaction to the management to know that since the inception of the Annual Exhibitions in 1891, the standard of excellence in all exhibits has been perceptibly raised and a great impetus given to the development and extension of the various branches of Agriculture.

The syndicate competition of the important Dairy centres of the Province of Quebec proved a valuable adjunct in stimulating the skill and energy of each individual engaged in the manufacture of Butter and Cheese, while the results as shown in the extensive display at last year's exhibition, were most gratifying.

The prospects for the next fall Exhibition are most assuring. A greater number of special prizes have already been voluntarily offered, and there is reason to believe that many more will shortly be received.

A prominent feature in the Horse Department next fall will be an exhibit of valuable animals from the famous Stock farm at Burlington Vt., owned by Dr. W. Leward Webb, President of the Wagner Car Co.

The classes in the Cattle Department have been altered from having a large number of sections, and greater prominence is given to the Exhibitors' Herds and young herds, thus giving breeders more encouragement in the displaying of their stock.

Many new and interesting features are proposed to be introduced which will doubtless be appreciated by the visitors.

The greatest care and attention will be paid to provide for the accommodation and comfort of exhibitors and every facility will be afforded them.

The Railway and Steamboat Companies will supply the means of transportation at the usual low rates and the

regular concessions and privileges will be readily granted.

Exhibitors and others wishing for information connected with the exhibition can obtain the same by applying to S. C. Stevenson, the manager and secretary.

EFFECT OF FOOD UPON THE COMPOSITION OF MILK.

Though much has already been written upon this subject, it will still be of interest to note the results obtained by the veteran experimenters, Lawes and Gilbert, of Rothamsted; nor is the interest lessened from the fact that their results seem to be somewhat in opposition to those of American stations. Sir J. H. Gilbert is quoted as follows:

"Exercising such care and reservation in regard to the numerous results of ourselves and others which are at command, it may be taken as clearly indicated that, within certain limits, high feeding, and especially high nitrogenous feeding, does increase both the yield and the richness of the milk. But it is evident that when high feeding is pushed beyond a comparatively limited range, the tendency is to increase the weight of the animal; that is, to favor the development of the individual, rather than to enhance the activity of the functions connected with the reproductive system.

"It may be observed that direct experiments at Rothamsted confirm the view arrived at by common experience, that roots, and especially mangels have a favorable effect on the flow of milk. Further, the Rothamsted experiments have shown that a higher percentage of butter-fat, of other solids, and of total solids, was obtained with mangels than with silage as the succulent food. The yield of milk was, however, in a much greater degree increased by grazing than by any other change in the food, and with us, at any rate, the influence of roots comes next in order to that of grass, though far behind it in this respect. But with grazing, as has been shown, the percentage composition of the milk is considerably reduced, though, owing to the greatly increased quantity yielded, the amount of constituents removed in the milk while grazing may, nevertheless be greater per head per day than under any other conditions."

RAISING AND FATTENING OF SWINE.

Breed only of relative importance—Medium breed—Selection of stock—Deaf pigs—Protection for the suckers—Raising and fattening—Feeding pigs for market—Experiment on feeding—Boiled roots—rations.

FIRST PRIZE, EX. 1895

Centre, Ontario, 1895.

In considering the first division of our topic we find that it is rather broad to discuss without further dividing as many important points are to be considered as breed-selection, cross-breeding etc.

The breed is an important point indirectly, but unimportant directly. What I mean is that one man may take

a superior strain of pigs and another may take an inferior strain, and the latter, through care in selection, will excel the former in a short time. The wide variation of individuals in breed does not allow the breed to be taken as a standard. It is said that individuals in breeds vary more than breeds, and there is no doubt but this is the case, that the difference between the worst and the best in any breed is at greater variance than the difference in the average of different breeds, therefore, indirectly, breed is unimportant.

In no business should a person be more particular in selecting well bred animals than in selecting them for feeding.

In raising stock entirely for the market, the aim should be to obtain stock which will produce the most in the least time on the least feed.

The fact that the better bred an animal is, the easier it is fed, is an accepted fact.

The reason of this is that every point is paid particular attention to, in breeding well bred stock where they have to enter into competition one with the other.

An instance of this. Two pigs of equally the same size and shape came into competition. The one being a little deficient in his hams was awarded 2nd, also less in weight, because it had not the capacity for laying on pork that the one had which was perfectly formed.

Then, again, when a record is kept of the breeding of stock for generation no intercrossing occurs or reoccurs as often: proves disastrous to grade stock. Therefore, breeding is an important factor to consider but the breed is no guide in selection.

Whatever breed a person selects, let him think it is the best, and stick to it as long as he wants stock.

Attention should be paid not to go to extreme in selection; a long lean animal indicates a hard feeder; or yet the reverse of this; that is, a compact short stubby one will not prove satisfactory.

The medium breed by selection, the point we shall next consider, will give better satisfaction, and more pleasure than a short stubby one, or the model of a fence rail.

As we have touched on the selection of the breed we shall now consider the selection of the animal.

"Selection" has done more for the improvement of live stock than all other methods combined. Some think cross-breeding is a rapid road to the improvement of stock. If live stock had been combined in the place of selected during the past century, we should not have had the magnificent breeds we have to day. In selecting breed, the disposition should not be overlooked. Pigs that are wild, seldom produce and rear as good and as easily fed litters, as those which are tractable.

A sluggish disposition is not desirable; they are apt to be careless mothers and subjects to crippling more or less. A pig that is always moving about is the one that knows where the holes are in the farmyard fence.

A pig should have good action, not necessarily full action, nor yet be a racer; but it should move freely, easily, and gracefully.

Sows of this character make better mothers, as they are not so liable to injure their pigs by their wildness. Pigs of this strain feed better and easier, and stand confinement well although this may seem an unimportant point to some