

Swine.

The pens allotted to the porcine tribe at the Western Fair were not as well filled in numbers as one would have expected, in view of the liberal market prices prevailing for hogs, but the quality of the exhibits in all the classes was well up to the standard of excellence, and the exhibitors report an active and growing demand for good breeding stock. Yorkshires were shown by D. C. Flatt & Son, Hamilton, and J. E. Brethour & Nephews, Burford. Berkshires—H. A. Dolson, Alloa; J. S. Cowan, Donegal; Adam Thompson, Shakespeare; J. A. Orchard, Shedden. Tamworths—D. Douglas & Sons, Mitchell. Chester Whites by W. E. Wright & Son, Glanworth; D. DeCourcy, Bornholm, and James Page, Tyrconnell, and Hampshires by Hastings Bros., Crosshill; Porter Bros., Appleby, and A. O'Neil & Son, Birr.

Following is the list of awards:—

YORKSHIRES.—Aged Boar—1 and 2, D. C. Flatt & Son, Hamilton. Boar, 1 year and under 2—1, and 2, Flatt & Son; 3, John S. Cowan, Donegal. Boar, 6 months and under 1 year—1 and 2, Flatt & Son; 3, J. E. Brethour & Nephews, Burford. Boar, under 6 months—1, 2 and 3, Brethour & Nephews. Aged Sow, 2 years and over—1, 2 and 3, Flatt & Son. Sow, 1 year and under 2—1, and 2, Flatt & Son. Sow, 6 months and under 1 year—1, Flatt & Son; 2 and 3, Brethour & Nephews. Sow, under 6 months—1, 2 and 3, Brethour & Nephews. 4 pigs, offspring of one sow—1 and 2, Brethour & Nephews; 3, Flatt & Son. Boar and 3 Sows—1, 2 and 3, Flatt & Son. 4 pigs, under 6 months—1 and 2, Brethour & Nephews; 3, Flatt & Son. Boar, any age—1, Flatt & Son. Sow, any age—1, Flatt & Son. Judges—G. B. Hood, Guelph, J. D. Brien, Ridgeway.

TAMWORTHS.—Aged Boar—1, D. Douglas & Sons, Mitchell. Boar, 1 year and under 2—1 year—1 and 2, Douglas & Sons. Boar, under 6 months—1 and 2, Douglas & Sons. Aged Sow—1 and 2, Douglas & Sons. Sow, 1 year and under—1, 2 and 3, Douglas & Sons. Sow, 6 months and under 1 year—1 and 2, Douglas & Sons. Sow, under 6 months—1, 2 and 3, Douglas & Sons. 4 pigs, offspring of 1 sow—1 and 2, Douglas & Sons. Boar and 3 Sows—1 and 2, Douglas & Sons. Boar, any age—Douglas & Sons. Sow, any age—Douglas & Sons. Judges—G. B. Hood, J. D. Brien.

BERKSHIRES.—Aged Boar—1, J. S. Cowan, Donegal; 2, Adam Thompson, Shakespeare; 3, H. A. Dolson, Alloa. Boar, 1 year and under 2—1, H. A. Dolson; 2, A. Thompson; 3, Cowan. Boar, 6 months and under 1 year—1, Dolson; 2, Thompson; 3, J. A. Orchard, Shedden. Boar, under 6 months—1 and 2, Adam Thompson; 3, Dolson. Aged Sow—1, Cowan; 2, Thompson; 3, Dolson. Sow, 1 year and under 2—1, Dolson; 2, Cowan; 3, Thompson. Sow, 6 months and under 1 year—1, Dolson; 2, Cowan; 3, Thompson. Sow, under 6 months—1 and 2, Dolson; 3, Thompson. 4 Pigs, offspring of 1 Sow—1, Thompson; 2, Dolson; 3, Cowan. Boar, any age, and 3 Sows—1, Dolson; 2, Cowan; 3, Thompson. 4 Pigs, under 6 months—1, Thompson; 2, Dolson; 3, Cowan. 1 Boar, any age—1, Dolson. Sow, any age—Cowan. Judges—J. D. Brien, G. B. Hood.

CHESTER WHITES.—1, D. De Courcy Bornholm; 2, W. E. Wright & Son, Glanworth. Boar, 1 year and under 2—1, James Page, Tyrconnell; 2, Wright & Son; 3, De Courcy. Boar, 6 months and under 1 year—1 and 3, De Courcy; 2, Wright & Son. Boar, under 6 months—1, De Courcy; 2 and 3, Wright & Son. Aged Sow—1 and 2, Wright & Son; 3, De Courcy. Sow, 1 year and under—1 and 3, Wright & Son; 2, De Courcy. Sow, 6 months and under 1 year—1, W. E. Wright & Son; 2, De Courcy. Sow, under 6 months—1, De Courcy; 2 and 3, Wright & Son. 4 Pigs under 6 months—1, De Courcy; 2, Wright & Son. Boar and 3 Sows—1, Wright & Son; 2, De Courcy. Boar, any age—1, James Page. Sow, any age—Wright & Son. G. B. Hood, J. D. Brien, Judges.

HAMPSHIRE.—Aged Boar—1, Hastings Bros., Crosshill; 2, Porter Bros., Appleby. Boar, 1 year and under 2—1 and 2, Hastings Bros. Boar, under 6 months—1, A. O'Neil & Son, Birr; 2 and 3, Hastings Bros. Boar, 6 months and under 1 year—1, 2 and 3, Hastings Bros. Aged Sow—1 and 2, Hastings Bros. Sow, 1 year and under 2—1, and 3, Hastings Bros.; 2, A. O'Neil & Son. Sow, 6 months and under 1 year—1, A. O'Neil & Son; 2 and 3, Hastings Bros. Sow, under 6 months—1, 2 and 3, Hastings Bros. 4 Pigs under 6 months—1, Hastings Bros. Boar, and 3 Sows—1, Hastings Bros. Boar, any age—Hastings Bros. Sow any age—Hastings Bros. Judges—J. D. Brien, G. B. Hood.

High-scoring Butter and Cheese.

Entries of butter and cheese were of exceptional quality. The June and July cheese were probably the finest ever exhibited, owing in part to very favorable weather at time of making. The August cheese was also fully up to the mark, while in butter the extraordinary score of 100% or perfect was awarded by Judge J. B. Muir to a package of creamery solids, shown by J. H. Martin, St. Valentine, Que. In cheese the veteran exhibitor, John Cuthbertson, succeeded in winning two cups, the A. M. Smith cup and the Canadian Salt Co.'s silver trophy.

There is need for a change in the premium list of the cheese department. The classification at present calls for the showing of June and July cheese together, one of each to an entry. This reduces the competition and tends to keep the scores down. It may and often does happen that a certain exhibitor has a good June cheese but not an exhibition July to mate with it; or perhaps he has a first-class July but has omitted to make a June cheese for competition, and is thus debarred from entering his July cheese. The Western Dairyman's Association, in its winter dairy exhibition, is providing separate classes for June's and July's, and if the Western Fair management could see its way clear to do likewise, it would be a welcome improvement. Only one hundred and forty dollars extra prize money would need to be offered, and this year, with coffers filled by a most successful fair, the directorate would seem warranted in making the desired departure. Scores follow:

CHEESE.

August, Colored—1, John Cuthbertson, Sebringville, score 97 points; 2, C. J. Donnelly, Scottsville, 96.6 (won on flavor); 3, H. M. Donnelly, Straffordville, 96.6; 4, F. E. Eastman, Arkona, 96.6.

August, White—1, J. Cuthbertson, 97.33; 2, C. A. Barber, Woodstock, 96.5 (won on flavor); 3, Wm. Morse, Trowbridge, 96.5; 4, C. J. Donnelly, 96.33.

June and July, Colored—1, C. J. Donnelly, 96.33; 2, B. F. Howes, Atwood, 96.16; 3, C. A. Barber, 95.98; 4, E. S. Phelps, Birnam, 95.91.

June and July, White—1, B. F. Howes, 96.34; 2, C. J. Donnelly, 96.15; 3, C. C. Klockman, Atwood, 95.99; 4, George Empey, Newry, 95.65.

Best collection—1, C. J. Donnelly; 2, Connolly Bros., Thamesford; 3, E. S. Phelps.

Dairy instructors. Prizes for most points won in their respective groups—1, A. E. Gracey, Woodstock, 16 points; 2, R. A. Thompson, Atwood, 12 points; 3, George McKenzie, Rayside, 8 points.

Special prize by Bank of British N. America—1, C. J. Donnelly; 2, B. F. Howes.

Silver cup, by A. M. Smith & Co.—John Cuthbertson.

Silver trophy, by the Canadian Salt Co., Windsor—John Cuthbertson.

BUTTER.

Creamery Solids—1, J. H. Martin, St. Valentine, Que., score 100; 2, J. H. LaClerc, Foster, Que., 96.5; 3, J. B. Vincent, Racine, 96.; 4, John Anderson, Renfrew, 95.5; 5, J. A. Logie, Paisley, 95.

Creamery Prints—1, J. H. LaClerc, 96.5; 2, J. B. Vincent, 96.; 3, J. H. Martin, 95.5; 4, W. H. Patrick, St. Thomas, 95.; 5, Paul Doig, London, 94.5.

Farm Dairy—1, Miss L. B. Gregory, Poplar Hill, 96.; 2, Mrs. C. S. Sutton, Scottsville, 95.5; 3, Miss J. H. Robertson, Vankleek, 95.; 4, Mrs. Wm. Armstrong, Brussels, 94.75.

Farm Dairy Prints—1, Mrs. Wm. Armstrong, 95.; 2, L. H. Pugh, Milverton, 94.; 3, Miss L. B. Gregory, Poplar Hill, 93.5; 4, Mrs. C. S. Sutton, 93.

Special—1, Miss L. B. Gregory, 94.5; 2, Mrs. Wm. Armstrong, 93.; 3, Mrs. J. B. King, Lambeth, 92.; 4, Mrs. C. S. Sutton, 91.5.

Milking machine trials during April or May in the county of Durham, will be a feature of the Royal Agricultural Society Show of England in 1913. The prizes are £25, and £10, with gold and silver medals respectively, for 1st and 2nd. The exhibition itself is to be held at Bristol.

H. M. Cottrell, agricultural commissioner on the Rock Island Railway Line, states that this season 10,000 new silos have been built in Iowa, 3,000 in Kansas, and large numbers in Oklahoma.

The annual sheep returns of New Zealand for 1912, gave the totals as 23,464,132 (approximately), a decrease compared with 1911, the shortage being in breeding ewes and lambs.

A overload of beef cattle topped the Chicago market on September 11th at \$10.90.

Harvest Home.

By Peter McArthur.

To-day I have been wishing that I had a copy of Disraeli's story, "The Infernal Marriage." There is a passage in it that I should like to quote, for it expresses my feelings exactly. When Pluto, King of the Infernal Regions, war married, he declared a public holiday, much to the surprise of those who were undergoing punishment. Finding that their troubles had suddenly ended, a number of mythological characters got together to talk matters over, and wonder whether the new state of affairs was going to last. Among those was Sisyphus, who had been condemned to roll a great stone uphill. Every time he got it to the top it would immediately roll back to the bottom, and it was his fate to roll it up again. He had been doing this steadily since the time his sentence had been pronounced, and this was his first moment of relief. As I remember the story, Ixion, Tantalus and Sisyphus were discussing the situation in "the large utterance of the early gods." Their remarks were all couched in the most hifalutin language, but presently Sisyphus stopped, looked over the bank of the Styx at the point where his stone had fallen in, and exclaimed in the most up-to-date way imaginable: "I wonder if that — stone is really gone forever?"

When I look at the oat stacks I cannot help wondering if the harvest is really over. It is something over two months since we began the haying, and ever since there has been something out in the field that needed attention, but whenever we were ready to start, it would rain, and everything had to be done over again. Harvesting this year has been a good deal like the labor of Sisyphus, all uphill work, and very little results. Now that it is over, I think I understand exactly how he felt when that stone of his disappeared into the waters of the Styx.

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I wish to thank the readers of "The Farmer's Advocate" for their prompt response to my request that they should send me evidence of the neglect of the railways to blow whistles and ring bells when approaching level crossings. The information they gave came very handy yesterday afternoon, when Mr. Nixon, chief operating officer of the Board of Railway Commissioners, came to talk the matter over. The Board is entirely awake to the importance of having the law in this matter strictly obeyed, but, as might be expected, there are many difficulties in the way of having it enforced. Before this campaign was started the only evidence in the hands of the authorities about whistling at crossings was the wholly unsatisfactory conflicting testimony given at court trials when the heirs of those who had been killed tried to recover damages. In a great number of these cases train crews swore that the signals had been given, while witnesses produced by the complainants swore that they had not. There was no evidence as to what was the custom of the engineers in regard to whistling at ordinary times. After watching the railways for a while I contended, and you have enabled me to prove, that many trains go through the country every day without giving the signals, and in some cases only a small percentage of the trains passing a country crossing that was under observation obeyed the law. As eighty per cent. of the accidents occur at such crossings, it seemed quite just to infer that many of the accidents were due to this neglect. Yet the prevailing opinion in official circles, and the constant contention of the railways, was that the signals were habitually given as prescribed by law, though an occasional engineer might be neglectful at times. That dangerous idea has now been dissipated. Officials of the Board have been watching, with the result that a convincing amount of testimony has been gathered. The Board warned the railways that the law in this respect must be obeyed, but the result has been far from satisfactory. Trains still continued to cross the country roads without giving warning of their approach. Now, however, such action has been taken that the law will undoubtedly be obeyed. Still, it will be just as well to keep on watching for a while yet. If anyone who sees a train pass a level crossing without giving the signals will report it, he will be doing a public service. Mr. Nixon assured me that work of this kind is thoroughly appreciated. In his opinion a large percentage of the deaths have been due to the neglect to give signals. He also assured me that the cases where you have reported on dangerous level crossings are all being taken up as rapidly as possible, and, as some of you no doubt know, protection has already been given in many places, either by placing electric bells, watchmen or gates, subways or overhead bridges. Since this campaign started about forty level crossings that had gates that were operated only in the daytime, now have watchmen both day and night. This is surely encouraging enough to justify us in keeping on until all the death-traps are done away with, and the danger of accidents at level crossings made as small as is humanly possible.

A hot September seems to develop new and unexpected charms in nature. In the joyous days