

front, well up in the neck, girthing well through the heart, standing well on his legs, and showing good legs of mutton.

DORSETS.—Jno. A. McGillivray, Uxbridge; R. H. Harding, Thorndale, and A. G. H. Luxton, Milton West, were the three breeders who had entered Dorset Horned sheep, but only the first two named were in the prize lists. The competition was never better, and though some of the sheep were not heavily fitted, yet in every instance, the prizewinners were quite fleshy enough for all purposes.

SWINE.

While in respect to quality the exhibit of swine was quite as good, and in number as strong as usual, it is passing strange, considering the importance of the bacon industry, the active demand and steady run of good prices prevailing for hogs, and a considerably improved prize-list, that there were less than three hundred entries all told at the Dominion Exhibition, and but two to five exhibitors in any of the classes.

YORKSHIRES.—This grand breed, which is now enjoying its era of popularity, was well represented as to quality of the exhibits, but when we reflect that the catalogue shows less than fifty entries, outside of those of herds and family groups, which were made up of the same animals that competed in the other sections of the class, the representation must be regarded as absurdly limited in numbers.

The noted Summerhill herd of Messrs. D. C. Flatt & Son, Millgrove, Ont., as usual made a grand display, numbering over twenty head, and of uniformly good character and quality, true to type, and a strong, healthy, vigorous selection, winning eleven out of the twelve first prizes offered, and ten of the second prizes, also the sweepstakes silver medals for the best boar and the best sow of the breed, any age, and the first and second sweepstakes awards for pens of four pure-bred export bacon hogs, and for the best four hogs of any breed, cross or grade, most suitable for export bacon; the first time, it is claimed, that this record has been made by one exhibitor here. This should certainly be regarded as glory enough for one man for once, if not for a lifetime, but it should not be a possible achievement, and would not if the breeders of Yorkshires more generally would prepare their stock and enter the list for competition.

R. F. Duck & Son, Port Credit, also made an excellent showing from their herd, winning first in the yearling boar class with Lakeview Billy, a boar of their own breeding, that fills the bill for a first-class representative of the breed, standing on the best of legs and feet, and having all the quality and trueness of type one could wish for. He was the strongest competitor for the sweepstakes, and it was thought by the ring-side talent that no injustice would have been done had he been decorated with that honor. The splendid two-year-old sow shown by this firm winning third award, was not in her best show condition, having the heavy charge of nursing a round dozen youngsters of the litter of seventeen she produced, fourteen of which are still living.

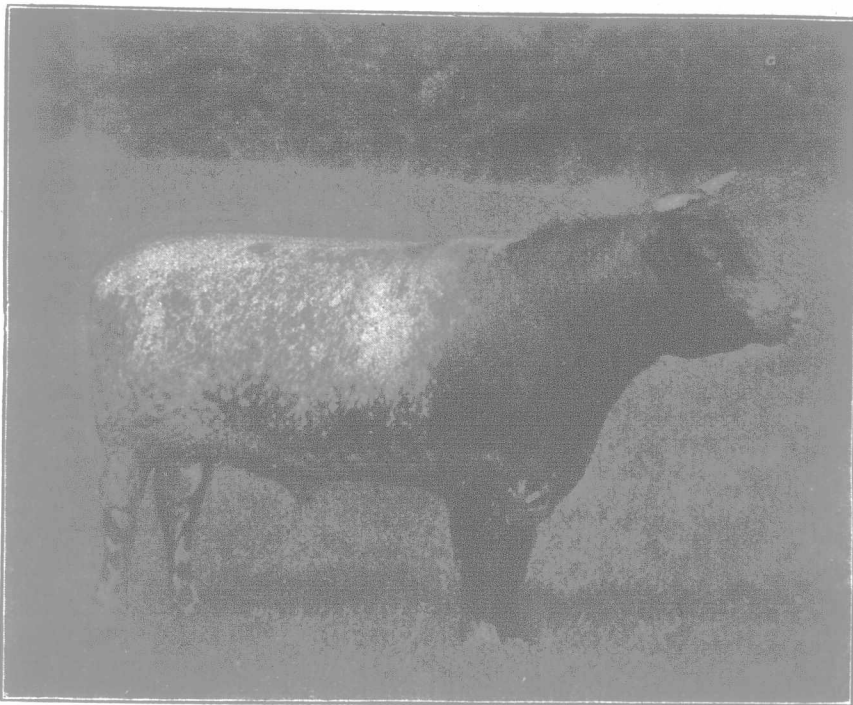
BERKSHIRES.—This class was, as usual, well filled in every section by excellent specimens of the improved and up-to-date type, showing strength of constitution and bone, and quality of flesh in high degree, together with good size, smoothness and breed type. The principal exhibitors were William Wilson, Snelgrove, and W. H. Durham, East Toronto. Wilson, who captured twelve of the prizes, was particularly strong in boars, winning first in three out of the four sections, with high-class animals, measuring well up to the standard of the best of the breed. He was also first in both sections for four pigs, the get of one sire and the produce of one sow, with splendid young stock, and first for boar and sow under six months, besides winning four of the second awards. Mr. Durham was particularly strong in the older sows, winning first in three sections straight with grand animals, especially the yearling and under a year classes. His first-prize and sweepstakes sow, Premier Queen, recently purchased from Snell & Lyons, Snelgrove, and which won first in her class for them at the Winter Fair at Guelph last year, is a magnificent specimen of the breed.

TAMWORTHS were well shown by D. Douglas & Sons, Mitchell; Colwill Bros., Newcastle, and R. J. Speers, Elmbank. The first-named firm secured the majority of the first prizes, including the sweepstakes for best sow any age. Colwill Bros. had the first-prize aged boar and male champion of the breed, in their noted stock boar, Colwill's Choice, and won first for four pigs under six months, the progeny of one sire, and also first for four pigs the produce of one sow, and first for boar under six months.

CHESTER WHITES made a very good showing, most of the entries being lengthy, smooth pigs, of good quality of flesh and bone. The exhibitors were W. E. Wright, Glanworth; D. De-

Courcey, Bornholm, and R. H. Harding, Thorndale.

EXPORT BACON HOGS.—The exhibits in this class were generally acknowledged to have been the best ever shown at Toronto. They were judged by farmers and breeders, and never with better satisfaction to all concerned, the awarding committee being composed of Thos. Teasdale, a Berkshire breeder; F. R. Shore, a Tamworth breed-



IMP. ROYAL ARCHER.

Two-year-old Shorthorn bull, included in the dispersion sale of the herd of John Bright, Myrtle, Ont., to take place at Whitby, October 14th, 1903. See advt. on page 961; Gossip on pages 967-968.

er, and R. J. Garbutt, a Yorkshire breeder. The pigs were a good, even, well-finished lot, showing good bacon type, and were strong, vigorous animals. The awards for the best pen of four pure-bred hogs most suitable for export bacon went first and second to D. C. Flatt & Son, Millgrove, for Yorkshires; third to R. F. Duck & Son, Port Credit, for Yorkshires; fourth to W. H. Durham, East Toronto, for Berkshires; fifth to R. F. Duck & Son, for Yorkshires. The sweepstakes awards for the best four bacon hogs, any breed, cross or grade, went to the same, in the same order.

Prof. J. A. Craig.

Prof. John A. Craig, formerly of the Wisconsin and Iowa Experiment Stations, has been elected director of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, at College Station, Texas, and assumes his new duties this month. He went south in the first place for the benefit of his health. As a writer on agricultural and live-stock topics, Prof. Craig is well known, both through the States and in Canada, where he began his career.

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FIRST-PRIZE HERD OF AYESHIRE UNDER TWO YEARS.

At the Dominion Exhibition, Toronto, 1903. Lessnessock Royal Star (imported), first prize yearling bull, at head of herd.

OWNED BY ALEX. HUME & CO., MENIE, ONT.

Farm.

The Rancher Hampered.

While the present prosperous conditions have been of distinct advantage to the farming sections, it is a question whether the effect in the grazing and ranching districts has not been detrimental.

The present boom in many parts of the Territories is undoubtedly largely incited by what are locally called "the wet seasons." The effect of these wet seasons in the grazing districts has been to change them temporarily to farm lands, and to their consequent settlement by the incoming settlers. The conditions reflect directly on the ranchers, and the result is to crowd out and hamper the cattle industry. The principle "The homesteader before the leaser," is undoubtedly correct where the homestead is farming land, but where in the majority of cases the homestead will not support a family in the dry season, and in some cases not even under the most favorable conditions, the question is changed. A settler realizing at once the circumstances into which he has fallen will soon leave, and little time or outlay is wasted, but where wet years make a livelihood comparatively easy, considerable improvement is often made before the dry years force them to give up, and thus it is that much honest effort is wasted.

It is obviously to the best interest of all to get a proper location at the start. Where a man cannot make a living at present on a homestead, his action can only be put down to ignorance, or that he purposely homesteaded on the rancher's lease in the hope of being bought out. The rancher, on the other hand, has no means of protection from this intrusion. He can hold a homestead and purchase railway lands, and the alternate sections of Government land, but he has no means of holding these unless he held a lease prior to '86, or lives in a limited district situated on the Red Deer river north of Gleichen.

The present regulations for the prevention of speculation in the farming districts are admirably suited to those districts, but are, as has been pointed out, detrimental to cattle raising. It seems impossible to have one set of regulations for so large a territory.

Among the suggestions to remedy this condition of affairs, a very feasible one seems to be the construction of a new Land Act, which would grade the Dominion lands into (a) farm lands, (b) land which can be farmed under irrigation, (c) grazing and ranching lands.

It has long been felt by the ranchers that the present homestead law is unfair, inasmuch as it simply allows the same amount of land for