

at Toronto, and the close observer cannot fail to notice the constant progress made in perfection of type and form. Of the twenty show sheep and lambs in the exhibit, all were bred at Fairview, and they are, probably, the best all-round lot that this flock has ever supplied to any show-ring. Although not occupying as high a position in the prize list as on some former occasions, there were not wanting some who thought that they might well have been placed higher up in some sections, notably as regards lambs. Newton Lord's progeny were once more among the best in the lot, while the get of his son, "The Paragon," made an excellent showing. Among the shearlings and ram and ewe lambs were noticeable some choice, typical, well-matured sheep and lambs by Fair Star Rose, that should be heard from later on. That this flock's merits are appreciated is evident from the numerous sales, at prices above the average of past years, made to British Columbia, New York State, Michigan, and to various points in Ontario, to head flocks.

W. S. Carpenter's exhibit was composed mostly of imported sheep, with a few excellent home-bred ones. Among the imported sheep was the first-prize winner in the shearling ram section, bred by Inge, capitally fitted, and a grand sheep. Two aged ewes imported from the Mills flock, and by the Buttar ram, Scotland's Hero, low-set, lengthy, typical ewes, grand on the back, won first and second. Second honors in the open pen went to this flock. Next year Mr. Carpenter hopes to have the sections better filled. His lambs were late and were too young to show up well in the prize-ring, but were of good character and quality.

Lloyd-Jones Bros. had only six head entered, but they were choice sheep. Prominent among them was an imported shearling ram, Marauder, with an excellent head, beautifully covered, while his skin is irreproachable. He is a Mansell ram, whose grandam was by the world-renowned Montford Dreamer. Although only lately imported, he has made wonderful improvement, but was not at all in high flesh. Another year he will be a "cracker" to beat. He did not get into the prize list, however, this time. An aged imported ram, Prince Thomas, a winner at previous shows, was also unnoticed. Lloyd-Jones Bros. won fourth for pen of yearlings and for four lambs. Telfer Bros., Paris, had only one entry, a ram lamb, but won fourth on him.

OXFORD DOWNS.—Owing to the absence of Smith Evans, Gourock, the competition among the Oxford Downs was restricted to the flocks of R. J. Hine, Dutton, and J. H. Jull, Burford. The former was very strong, winning the lion's share of the prize money, including every first prize for which he showed. Among his flock were six imported sheep, an aged ram, yearling ram, two shearling ewes and two ewe lambs. All except the aged ram were imported this year. The shearling ram, a capital topped sheep, with a good front and fleece, is from Treadwell's flock; the ewes and ewe lambs from J. H. Wilodon's flock, were selected by Treadwell and are an excellent lot. Two of the shearling ewes that were first and second here were first at the Oxfordshire County Show, shown in the wool. The importation only arrived two weeks ago. Mr. Hine showed no aged ewes. Two home-bred ram lambs that stood first and second, weighing respectively 164 and 178 pounds, were good typical sheep and well grown, as were the ewe lambs. The first and second prize shearling ewes were a grand pair. The third-prize one was Canadian-bred. Mr. Hine sold a number of sheep on the ground.

J. H. Jull had sold out very closely before the show, which rendered his exhibit weaker than it might have been. He had a nicely-fitted lot of low-set, blocky sheep, all Canadian-bred except the first and second prize aged ewes. While not standing high in the amount of prize money won, Mr. Jull was most successful in making sales to customers at satisfactory prices. Five of his exhibit were purchased to go to British Columbia.

HAMPSHIRE.—There was a class for Hampshires and Suffolk Downs, but no Suffolks were entered. The Hillhurst farm of Hon. M. H. Cochrane, at Compton, Que., had a nicely-fitted lot of good typical Hampshires, which won the principal prizes. Telfer Bros. also had a few entered, including a first-prize aged ram, a ram lamb, an aged ewe, a ewe lamb and two shearling ewes. It is a pity that we have not more of this breed in the country. In England they are very numerous and popular, and they might well be so here, as they mature fast and produce an excellent quality of mutton, while their wool is fine.

SOUTHDOWNS.—"Long" John Miller, Markham, who knows a good Southdown when he sees it, had plenty of work awarding the ribbons in this class. The entries were far and away beyond all previous shows, and when to this is added the fact that the quality was up to the highest notch, it will be seen that his task was not an enviable one. An exhibitor showing for the first time generally is, or has to be, satisfied with one of the lower honors, but here we see Mr. F. E. Came, St. Andrews, N. B., not only winning in the best

company, but making a clean sweep of all the red ribbons for which he showed, as well as of many of the blues, a feat very seldom performed. This flock, which was composed of imported Royal winners, and the pick of the Hon. Geo. Drummond's flock, was in charge of Sam Bradburn, who had early acquired the art of winning at shows, as he won with sheep at the Royal three times before he was 21. Never was a flock better brought out. Their first-prize aged ram was imported; their third-prize one was bred by Hon. Geo. Drummond. The best shearling ram was a Drummond one, an excellent sheep. Both first and second prize ram lambs were Royal winners. Two imported ewes won first and second in the aged class, a Drummond shearling ewe came in first, while two imported ewe lambs, out of the first-prize Royal pen, secured the red and blue ribbons.

John Jackson & Son's exhibit, while composed of sheep of good character, were not so well fitted as we have sometimes seen them. His second-prize aged ram and his shearling ewes, however, were in good shape.

Telfer Bros., Paris, never showed a better or better-brought-out lot. In the strong company present they showed up well, which is more creditable as they were all home-bred. A nicely-fitted shearling ram, with a good close fleece and back, by the imported ram, Chichester King, secured second place, while another by the same sire came in third. All the shearlings and ram lambs they showed were by Chichester King. In shearling ewes they won second honors over an imported third-prize Royal winner, and a third-prize lamb also was placed over imported lambs. These exhibitors also ran close for first place for the pen of lambs. They won for Canadian-bred pen.

T. C. Douglas, Galt, had, among others, a fine shearling imported ewe, a Royal winner, which won third here, and he also came in second for open pen. His imported ewe lambs were unnoticed.

Wm. Martin, Binbrook, had some good-bodied sheep. He won the yellow ticket for ram lamb, fourth for ewe lamb, first for pen of lambs, and second for Canadian-bred pen. Robt. McEwen, Byron, though not figuring in the prize list, had a good aged ram, nicely covered, shearling ewes and ewe lambs, all of good type and covering, but not highly fitted. R. Shaw & Son had made entries, but did not forward their sheep.

DORSET HORNS.—Only two exhibitors competed in this class, Col. Jno. A. McGillivray, Uxbridge, and R. H. Harding, Thorndale. A. G. H. Luxton and Jas. C. Skeen had made a few entries, but were not present.

Jno. A. McGillivray was strong all through, but Harding was strongest in lambs of both sexes. The latter had only home-bred sheep, while the former had a few imported ones, which were brought out previous to this year. Harding's sheep were not in high flesh, while their opponents were well fitted. McGillivray won first for aged rams, with a Flower sheep; first for shearlings, with a Culverwell sheep; first and second for aged ewes, with sheep from the same flock, and first for shearling ewe with a Flower, and second in the same class with a home-bred sheep with good quarters. McGillivray won all the first prizes for pens. Two ram lambs carried off first and third for Harding; of these, the first had the best back, the other had the best head and is lower set. Harding's ewe lambs, one of which won first, were good.

FAT SHEEP.—There was a larger entry of fat sheep than usual, and they were good. In long-wools, J. T. Gibson, J. M. Gardhouse, Whitelaw Bros. and E. F. Park were the winners. In short-wools, Jno. Campbell, Hamner Bros., Lloyd-Jones Bros., Telfer Bros. and T. C. Douglas shared the prize money.

SHEEP-SHEARING COMPETITION.—Great interest was taken in this competition, in which six took part. The judge was James Beattie, Brougham. The best work was done by Wm. Fawkes, Stouffville, but he took no less than twenty-seven minutes to shear his sheep, just three times as long as some of the others. However, the judge gave him the prize; second to F. Silversides, manager of the McGillivray Dorset flock, who clipped his sheep in nine minutes, and third to T. Butt, King, who was just a minute longer. As the conditions required time to be taken into consideration, it was pretty generally held by the onlookers that Fawkes should have been disqualified for taking so much time. Had some of the others spent more time over their work, they would have made a better job of it. Some of the competitors gashed their sheep considerably.

SWINE.

Most of the classes in the swine department were fairly well filled, though in several we have seen a larger and stronger entry at Toronto. In some of the breeds this may possibly be accounted for by the active demand for breeding stock consequent upon the high prices prevailing during the year for commercial hogs for the export trade, but is also due to some extent to the difficulty in securing disinterested judges com-

petent to set a reliable standard of excellence by their rulings which breeders may follow with safety to their own interests and the interests of the breed. There is evidently urgent need of a better system of selection of judges, and until that is secured there will probably be the usual stock of complaints, as there was on this occasion, over the lack of consistency in placing the awards and the lack of uniformity in the character of the work when done.

BERKSHIRES.—This old standard breed was well represented, the number of entries and exhibitors in this class exceeding that in any other, and the character of the animals shown being up to a high standard in size and weight, in indications of health and strength of constitution, in uniformity of a useful and profitable type to the producer and the consumer, and in quality of flesh and bone. Rarely indeed have we seen a whole class of any breed standing and moving so well on strong, sound feet and legs, and if any question exists as to the prolificacy of the breed, it was well answered by two of the sows on exhibition each producing on the ground litters of fourteen living pigs, a round dozen in each case being alive and doing well at the close of the show.

The class was ostensibly judged by Wm. Jones, Zenda, and H. B. Jeffs, Bondhead, with R. Vance, Ida, as referee, who was called in half a dozen times to decide differences between the officiating jury, so that a good share of the awards were, after all, made by a single judge. Under these circumstances, and making allowance for the usual probable number of compromises to avoid an open split, uniformity in the character of awards could not be expected, and was not in evidence. The exhibitors were Wm. Wilson, Snelgrove; Thomas Teasdale, Concord; T. A. Cox, Brantford; W. H. Durham, East Toronto; Reid & Co., Hintonburg, and Samuel Dolson, Alton, the last named being a new contributor here, who made a very successful debut, showing only in the sections for pigs under six months, and securing first place for the best four pigs the progeny of one boar, and for the best four the produce of one sow, all under six months, and bred by the exhibitor; the Snelgrove herd of Mr. Wilson, who is also a young but enterprising breeder and exhibitor, winning a large share of the best prizes, though less in some sections than the useful type of his entries seemed to merit. In the section for boars over two years, the first award was given to Big Tom, of the Toronto herd, a highly-fitted hog, with many good qualities, said to weigh half a ton, which he carried well on strong feet and legs. He is smooth and deep, but lacking in length of hind quarters, and was fortunate to get his position over Wilson's Gallant Prince, a lengthy, strong hog of approved type, placed second here, but first over Big Tom at London the following week. Wilson won in yearling boars with Highclere Crown 3rd, a smooth hog, of good pattern; Cox, of Brantford, coming in for second award with a very useful boar. Wilson had the first and second prize boars over six months and under a year, and Durham the first-prize boar under six months, Dolson scoring second and third. In sows over two years, Wilson was again first, with Beauty Diamond, a sow of excellent type and quality, and Cox was first in yearling sows, with Highclere 50th, a worthy winner, with a dozen piglets tugging at her teats, the big end of a litter of fourteen born at the fair. The second award went to the Toronto herd for a capital sow that made an exactly equal record as a producer while on exhibition, nursing her surviving twelve creditably. The gem of the class was the first-prize winner in the section for sows over six and under twelve months, found in the Toronto herd, a sow of ideal form and type, bred from the Snell stock that has so successfully figured in the prize list here in former years. In an extra good class of sows under six months, the Snelgrove herd again came to the top, with Durham second, and Cox third. The Toronto firm captured the first herd prize for boar and two sows. Dolson was first and Teasdale second in the sections for progeny of a boar and produce of a sow, both lots being excellent type, lengthy, smooth and strong-backed.

YORKSHIRES, though not exhibited in as large numbers as last year and some former years, owing to the active demand and numerous sales for show and breeding purposes, were yet well represented by selections from the noted Summerhill herd of D. C. Flatt & Son, Millgrove, and the old established herd of Jos. Featherston & Son, Streetsville, with a few excellent entries by H. J. Davis, Woodstock, and R. F. Duck & Sons, Port Credit, who had the first-prize boar over two years in their Kitchener, a hog of fine quality and character, and won second prize for four pigs the progeny of this boar, and second for four pigs the produce of one sow. The Summerhill herd supplied the first-prize winner in nine out of the eleven sections of the class, including first for herd and for progeny of a boar and produce of a sow, bred by exhibitor, and the second in nine sections. The entries in the rings for yearling boars and for boars over six and under