

# The Canadian National Exhibition

There is always a satisfaction about reviewing Toronto Exhibition. Every year sees some new features and furnishes instances of remarkable improvement to record in the old ones. This is true not only of the amusement and spectacular drawing-cards, but of the agricultural and industrial exhibits. This year we had the new Process Building and King's horses, both of which proved sources of universal interest to the immense throngs which animated the grounds. In addition, there is to record probably the best all-round competitive display of live stock that has ever filled the barns.

class as referee. The decisions were generally received with satisfaction.

When the winning lot was pulled out from the aged stallions, it left a lot of splendid horses outside the money; thirteen was bound to prove an unlucky number for somebody. There was no doubt in the judicial minds which horse should go first. That honor was assigned to Graham Bros.' imported five-year-old Right Forward, by Prince Thomas, dam Mary 2nd. He is a massive, well-built horse, with a splendid, deep body and squarely-placed underpinning, of Shire weight and Clydesdale quality. Add to this a pronounced

Three-year-olds appeared to the number of only three, although fourteen were catalogued. An outstanding winner was Hassard's Vigorous, by Up-to-Time. He is modelled on true Clydesdale lines, with substance to spare, and will make a likely candidate for honors in the senior class next year. The next place went to R. Ness & Son, of Howick, Que., on Baron Stilloth, by Baron's Pride, while Hassard had another entry for third in Dunure Barnum, by Baron o' Buchlyvie.

Of the formidable list of thirty-four two-year-olds promised, sixteen came on to try conclusions. When it was all over, Graham & Renfrew, of Bedford Park, had made their way to the front with Flash Baron, bearing the impress of his illustrious sire, Baron's Pride. Size, conformation and action he has, and though some did not quite fancy his head, inspection could not fault it much. The blue ribbon fell to the lot of Thos. Mercer, Markdale, who showed Pride of Drumburle, by Baron o' Buchlyvie. He has splendid good quarters, joined by a deep-ribbed middle-piece, but he was perhaps not quite so strong in the stifle as he might be. Graham Bros.' Imperial was good enough for third.

Stallion, 1 year old—1, Graham Bros., The Favorite; 2, Smith & Richardson, Baron Columbus; 3, Graham Bros., Blacon Swagger. Stallion any age, Right Forward.

A firm new to the Toronto show rings, Donald Gunn & Son, Beaverton, Ont., made the bulk of the showing in females with their new importation. The championship went to Graham & Renfrew's Lanark Queen, a brown four-year-old.

Filly three year old—1, Robert Ness & Son, Lady Seton; 2, Thomas Mercer, Lady Rozelle; 3, Donald Gunn & Son, Rosilee; 4, Donald Gunn & Son, Dunrobie Mabel.

Filly, two years old—1, Smith & Richardson, Maggie Priam; 2, Robert Ness & Son, Scottish Princess; 3, Donald Gunn & Son, Abigail.

Filly, one year old—1, Hodgkinson & Tisdale, Beaverton, Queen May; 2, Donald Gunn & Son, Marguerite; 3, Donald Gunn & Son, Dunrobin Flora; 4, G. A. Brodie, Bethesda, Lady Kinlop.

Brood mare with foal at side—1, Miss K. L. Wilks, Galt, Lady Superior; 2, Donald Gunn & Son, Minnie Bright; 3, Donald Gunn & Son, Loretta.

The special for stallion and three of his get, resulted in a victory for Hodgkinson & Tisdale's Royal Baron, and the special for mare any age (Canadian-bred), with two of her progeny, property of exhibitor engaged solely in farming, went to Geo. Davidson & Sons, of Cherrywood, on Fairy Queen.

## SHIRES.

Owing to the presence of His Majesty's and Lord Rothschild's Shires at the Exhibition, we were prepared to see a very much larger exhibit of Shires than were on hand. This would have been desirable from the standpoint of Shire breed-

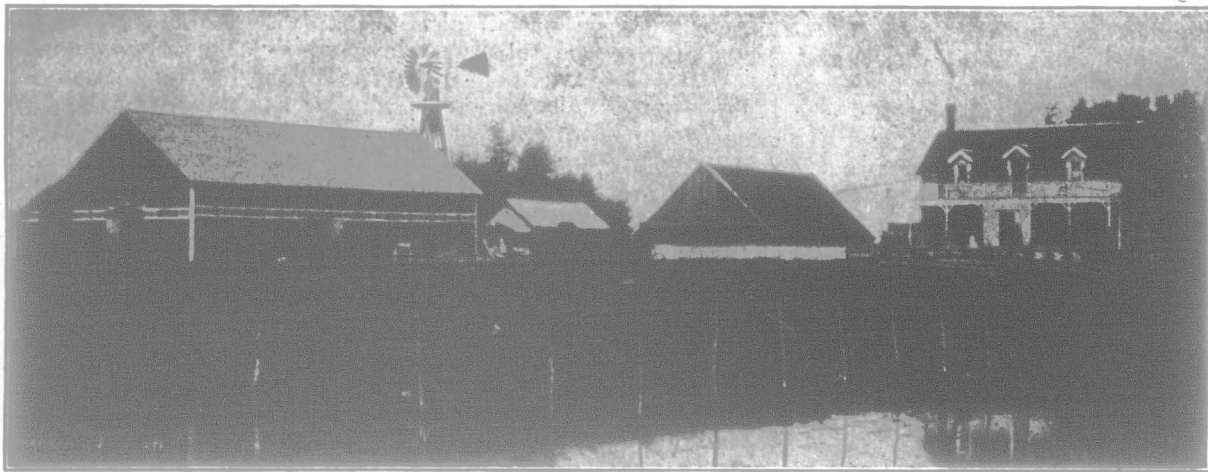


Photo by Friesen.

HOME OF PETER ABRAM, ROSTHERN, SASK.

The weather was perfect throughout, the crowds immense, enthusiasm ran high, and the coffers filled deep. We Canadians have got the "exhibition habit," as a recent magazine article expressed it, and each succeeding year the turnstiles do a bigger business.

And the people—the most important exhibit by far—what of them? Prominent visitors from abroad remarked their universally bright, happy and prosperous appearance. They deserved the compliment. Travel where you will, compass the globe in search of men and women, but nowhere will there be found so high an average intelligence, so much good sense, more robust physique and grace, or so little squalor and degradation as in Canada. This fact is evidenced at the National Exhibition, and every year the crowd improves in dress, general appearance and deportment. We are becoming broader, more capable, more polished—farmer, artisan and millionaire. The annual rendezvous is a milestone which marks our progress not only in materialistic achievements, but toward a higher standard of civilization. Never before, we suppose, was it pushed so many leagues forward in twelve months as it has been since September, 1905.

## HORSES.

It is hard to generalize safe comparisons. We are not sure, for instance, that it would be correct to call the horse exhibits the best ever made at Toronto. Where the high-water mark has long been so far up the bank, it is a great achievement to make a new record. It may be said, however, that it was fully up to the standard, if not a little better, and in some classes the display was magnificent. The stellar features were the Hackney and Clydesdales stallions and the Canadian-bred heavy drafts. The Shire horses exhibited by King Edward and Lord Rothschild were the focus of interest for visitors, and did much to advertise the breed. Massive in scale and superior in Shire quality, they quite eclipsed the Canadian Shire exhibits; but not being entered for competition, they received no awards.

## CLYDESDALES.

It was a battle of blood in Clydesdales. Home bred stock was never in it in the stallion classes, and the contest lay amidst bone and muscle from the native heath. Some conception of the strength of competition may be gained from the fact that Alex. Galbraith and Prof. C. F. Curtiss, of Iowa, took an hour and a half to decide the first class of 13 aged stallions. The rounds throughout were made by three men—Galbraith, Curtiss and Carlyle—one dropping out of each

masculine character, bold outlook, and a remarkably long, free and true stride, and you have a sire to grace top place anywhere. There appeared to be some hesitation about second. For a while the judges seemed pondering T. H. Hassard's (Millbrook) Sir Mark, a flashy-looking bright bay, with a sprightly carriage, good limbs and quarters, and lots of quality, but too light a bread-basket and a distinctly trappy step. Eventually he was set down to third, and up to second they moved Acme, the nine-year-old get of Baron's Pride, exhibited by O. Sorby, of Guelph. Acme is a splendid stamp of draft-horse sire, compactly put together, with strong quarters, coupled by a stout middlepiece, and with a good, useful kind of action. Fourth place was accorded to Graham Bros.' Durbar, another Baron's Pride get. Railbirds wondered why Durbar was not preferred to the third-prize horse, Sir Mark. Mr. Galbraith explained that he would have been, but for going a bit wide in front. He was inclined to excuse Sir Mark's short, trappy step on the ground that the horse was prancing under excitement, and allowance was also made for the middle-piece on the same score. He certainly is a horse to take the eye, and even judges might be pardoned for a little partiality to the blandishments of his address.



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