

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

PUBLISHED BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).
LONDON, ONT., and WINNIPEG, MAN.

JOHN WELD, Manager. F. W. HODSON, Editor.

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PRIZE ESSAYS.

Timely Topic in Feeding.

In view of the serious effects of drought in many parts of Canada, we will give a prize of \$5.00 for the best essay on economical methods of utilizing the coarse fodders, grain, and other stock foods on the farm, in order to secure the most profitable results. Essays must reach this office not later than October 15th.

STOCK.

The Live Stock Show at Chicago.

The live stock show at Chicago is over. It was one of the best in all departments ever seen on this continent. In the horse department the Clydesdale class was very large and good; many animals of unusual merit were on the grounds. The Shire class was small, but some fine animals were shown. The Coachers were a very numerous class. French, German and English breeds were well represented. The Hackneys were not so plentiful, but the quality of many of those shown was excellent. The Percherons were out in large numbers. The Suffolk Punch breeders showed a number of large, fleshy animals—good specimens of the breed. The Kentucky saddle horses were the attraction of the horse ring to many visitors. Among them were superbly trained animals, many of which were of good quality—possessing useful qualities, and were of handsome appearance. The show of Morgan horses was disappointing. This once useful, handsome and vigorous horse has been bred for speed until it has been almost ruined as a class, if we are to judge by those shown at Chicago. The Russian Government made a display of horses, among which were some fine animals; all were light, some trotters, others used for saddle purposes or the race course. The ponies were a large class, but few really fine animals were shown; many were very small, some not larger than yearling Cotswold sheep. In type they were mixed; some were typical Shetlands, others were Welsh in appearance. The decisions of the judge in this class was often astray, several very bad blunders were made.

Cattle were out in large numbers. The quality of the animals was very even. Shorthorns were a fair class. An absence of real y prime females in the aged sections was noticeable. In this section there were no outstanding winners. The heifers and heifer calves—the latter particularly—were a good class. In bulls the breed appeared at its best. Herefords were a fine class, thick-fleshed and finely finished. The white faces never appeared to better advantage. The Dodies (Angus) were likewise very good. The best aged females on the ground were to be found here. The heifers and calves were good, smooth and thick-fleshed. A bull calf of unusual merit was also shown. The dairy breeds were out in full force. The Holsteins were a good class; some remarkable cows were shown. The Ayrshires were very good; by far the finest animals came from Canada. The American Ayrshires are very much inferior to those shown by Canadians. Jerseys were a wonderfully good class, certainly the best ever seen in America, if not in the world. The appearance of these cows in the dairy barn was an eye-opener even to the initiated. Large, handsome, smooth beasts, hearty and vigorous, they were a sight to be remembered and appreciated. The Guernseys were not a good class. The Brown Swiss cows were a novelty to many; they somewhat resemble the Jerseys in color, but are very strong in the bone, short in the legs, and thicker fleshed. They are a peculiar sort, for which their admirers claim much. The Belted Dutch are also a novelty, with nothing to recommend them over the Holsteins, which they resemble somewhat in form and color, but are not as vigorous looking.

Canadian Stock at the World's Fair.

[SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.]

Ten or twelve thousand people had a chance on Wednesday, September 6th, to form an idea of the resources of the Province of Ontario as a horse and cattle breeding country, when our stables were emptied, and all the prize-winners and those which did not get prizes—though that was no disgrace in the distinguished company in which they have found themselves for the past three weeks—paraded in the live stock pavilion. There were the massive Shorthorns and Herefords, with great promise of steaks and roasts in the future; the curly Galloways and Polled-Angus, their black hides glistening in the sunlight; the rich red Devons, the pie-ball Holsteins, and the sleek little Ayrshires decked out with the many colored badges of victory. And the horses—the proud, high-stepping American Arabs, showing their pride of birth in every movement; the trim, neat Hackneys, easy winners among the pick of the continent; and contrasted with them the heavy Clydes, Suffolks and Shires, with bones of steel and muscles of brass—the very embodiment of strength and endurance. How they pranced and curveted in the ring, and how they were cheered, each class having its admirers. It was a sight long to be remembered, and no Ontario man but felt his blood leap quicker as he realized how nobly the banner province of the Dominion had sustained her reputation in her battle with the world.

As a usual thing at cattle shows, and for that matter at public functions of every kind, one meets many a pessimistic raker-up of old memories, who recalls the performance of a quarter or half a cen-

tury ago—the Royal Cattle Show in England in such a year, the acting of the Elder Booth, or the singing of Jenny Lind, it may be, but individuals of such a kidney had no solid ground to stand upon in the White City these August and September days. Col. J. H. Pickrell, of Chicago, one of the best known old-time Shorthorn men on the continent, Secretary of the Shorthorn Association and judge in that class, is authority for the statement that never in any country has such an assemblage of horses and cattle been gotten together, nor was it ever attempted on the same scale. Those who were there say that the present exhibition of Shorthorns is fully equal, if it does not surpass, that at the Royal Agricultural at Warwick, England, last year.

The hero of this show was undoubtedly Young Abbottsburn, 11,000, 3,000 lbs. in weight, and the most massive Shorthorn that ever graced an American prize ring. Three years ago he was purchased by Col. Moberley, of Kentucky, from J. & W. Watt, of Salem, Ontario, and since then he has downed everything in sight, rounding off his career by being declared the best on the continent. It was hardly expected that he would so long remain the victor, but that he has done so proves how grand an animal he is.

Another beauty is Nonpareil Chief, 113,021, bred by Arthur Johnston, Greenwood, Ontario, a son of old Indian Chief, and also owned by Col. Moberley. He was awarded third prize, while fourth honors went to Earl Fane VIII., 107,085, bred by John Hope, of Bow Park, Ontario, and owned by Col. H. F. Brown, of Minnesota. To follow further down the prize list would take more space than I can afford, but after a careful scrutiny of the herd book, I find that Ontario blood is strong in many of the other prize-winners now in American herds. When we came to the younger cattle, our breeders showed what stuff they were made of, and established beyond a doubt that Ontario is still the nursery for Shorthorns.

Leaving the beef breeds, we find first the black-and-white Hollanders, Holstein-Friesians, as they are generally known. Though not large in numbers, the contingent was select and of high class. Ontario was represented by one herd only—that of J. C. McNiven & Son, Winona, who had no reason to feel ashamed of the position taken among their competitors. Their aged bull was a picture, with his soft hide, silky hair and rich quality and color, and ranked a good second.

Who that has read Blackmore and Kingsley does not have ever present before him the green lush meadows of Devonshire, and keep a soft spot in his heart for the rich dark-red cattle which take their name from the loveliest county in all England—large of frame, sleek of hide, soft of eye, and just the picture of an honest cow that can fill a big pail with milk while she lives, and is a good mark for the butcher when his time comes. Uniform in color and size, the Devon ring was particularly attractive, and the honor of our province was kept up by W. J. Rudd, of Eden Mills, who was a frequent prize taker.

It is hard to find a farmer in Canada who has not a kind word for the Ayrshires. Neat, clean, kindly disposed, grand pail fillers and fair beefers, especially with a Shorthorn cross, it is no wonder they have so many admirers. And in this class was where we distanced all comers, leaving but two or three money prizes to breeders outside of Canada—grand herds than those of Stewart, of Menie, Yuill, of Carleton Place, Guy, of Oshawa, and Smith, of Fairfield Plains, have never been led into the arena, and right well did they fulfill the expectations of their friends. The Quebec Ayrshires, too, were well up in the competition.

In the Jersey class Ontario was represented only by one bull, which, however, did not rank high among the winners.

Turning now to horses. The largest class in which Ontario breeders were interested was the Clydes, in which some twenty exhibitors came forward, and most of them were prize takers, though hardly so far up in the list as their friends expected. But it was a grand show altogether, in number and quality, and one which is not likely soon to be repeated. In Shires but one Ontario man, Mr. John Carr, of Trout River, came to the front, with a well-shaped stallion, War Boy's Fashion. Only two Suffolk Punch stallions were shown, by Joseph Beck, Thorndale, and Boyd Mosson & Co., Bobcaygeon.

The high-stepping Hackneys, gentlemen of the horse family, and fully aware of the fact—were very much in evidence, and included some animals of high rank. Not so large in size, but of grand fashion of body, strong in rib, coupling and quarter, with good thighs and stifles, and a beautifully arched neck, a good Hackney is the kind of horse everybody admires, and they showed it very plainly when Mr. Robert Beith's (Bowmanville) Jubilee Chief was put through his paces at the end of a halter. How his black hide did shine and his four white feet did twinkle, and he seemed to appreciate the salvos of applause from fair hands which greeted him on every appearance. Another of Mr. Beith's stallions, Ottawa, is also a beauty: dark chestnut in color, rich in all that goes to make a good Hackney, he is very near perfection, and had no rival but his black stable-mate. Winnifred and Lady Aberdeen, also from Mr. Beith's stables, make a beautiful team, and there is no disputing the decision that gave them first and second places, and the sweepstakes to the former. Mr. H. N.