

Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition.

Halifax, the city in which the Exhibition is held, being a garrison town from its earliest settlement, has many peculiarities to distinguish it from other towns in Canada which have not been so unfortunate as to be a military post. Just now the regular British soldiers are withdrawn and their place filled by Canadian volunteers. It is a regrettable circumstance that so splendid a lot of men are thus taken



FAIRVIEW SHROPSHIRE THAT WON

At Toronto Industrial Exhibition, 1900. Two-shear ram, first prize; shearing ram, first and sweepstakes; ram lamb, first prize and sweepstakes.

PROPERTY OF JOHN CAMPBELL, FAIRVIEW FARM, WOODVILLE, ONT.

from useful employment and placed in a position where idleness and concomitant vices are much more readily acquired than their opposite virtues, but to the farmer whose tastes run towards horse-breeding, their presence reminds him that soldiers are forerunners of wars, and wars require horses in great numbers, as the South African conflict has demonstrated.

A strange and exasperating scene presents itself to the view of the farmer who visits the Halifax post office any semi-weekly market day. That building, in keeping with great numbers of Halifax structures, is of stone; massive, handsome, costly. But the visitor finds his progress hindered by the presence of hundreds of respectable farmers and their wives, who come into the city to supply the inhabitants with the varied products of their farms, gardens, poultry yards, wild fruits and other articles. These people are compelled, for want of proper buildings, to pile their wares on the sidewalks surrounding the post office and neighboring streets, and sit or stand while awaiting customers. This goes on winter and summer, sunshine or storm, from one year to another. It is doubtful if such a disgraceful outrage on a farming community exists in any other English-speaking city. This, with the objectionable practice of the evening papers employing young girls to take the place of newsboys, marks Halifax as a place needing missionary effort.

THE EXHIBITION.

The weather being mostly fine, the attendance at the Provincial Exhibition was large. The main building is commodious and handsome in appearance, and beautifully decorated. But the show of Provincial manufactured articles are few and well spread out, to make as imposing a display as possible. There were splendid exhibits of fur goods, cotton goods and canvas, supplemented by a good collection of cordage, rope, etc., which about exhausts the list of useful manufactures. An exhibition of old-style flax, domestic manufacture, was a curiosity to the younger generation of sight-seekers, but the utilitarian results to be derived are hard to discover.

THE TRANSPORTATION BUILDING

was fairly well filled with neat, nicely-finished light driving carriages and sleighs. Carts, wagons or sleighs intended for everyday work of the farm were not there.

THE HORTICULTURAL

and agricultural departments were well filled with a splendid display of products. The season being early, this statement does not include such late varieties of apples as Baldwin, Fallawater or Ben Davis, which were not exhibited.

But as the live stock is the great feature of all exhibitions, we lost but little time before visiting the cattle sheds. We found

THE DAIRY BREEDS

were present in good numbers and high-class breeding, the characteristic type being the rule, and careless breeding and lack of dairy style the exception. The prizewinners in

AYRSHIRES.

Old herd (bull and four females over one year)—C. A. Archibald, Truro, N. S., 1st; Easton Bros., Charlottetown, P. E. I., 2nd; F. S. Black, Amherst, N. S., 3rd. Breeders' young herd (bull and four females)—F. S. Black, 1st; C. A. Archibald, 2nd.

JERSEYS.

In the Jersey class, E. B. Elderkin, Amherst, N. S., won 1st in old herd, and J. R. Starr, Cornwallis, N. S., 2nd. Breeders' young herd—J. R. Starr, 1st; E. B. Elderkin, 2nd.

GUERNSEYS.

In Guernseys, old herd (bull and four females), E. R. Brow, P. E. I., captured 1st prize, as he also did for young herd.

HOLSTEINS.

Old herd—Logan Bros., Amherst, N. S., 1st; Samuel Dickie, Central Onslow, N. S., 2nd. Breeders' young herd—Logan Bros., 1st; Samuel Dickie, 2nd.

BEEF BREEDS.

We found the cattle very badly placed in the sheds. Shorthorns, Galloways, beef grades, fat oxen and working oxen were all there, but in glorious confusion. However, after considerable navigation we were able to discover a large number of grand Shorthorns, pure-bred, and registered in the Dominion Herd-books. The breeding, style and fit of at least fifty of these cattle would do credit to any show. The Galloways, although in smaller numbers, were an equally high-toned class, their pedigrees tracing to some of the most renowned tribes of that breed in Scotland.

SHORTHORNS.

Old herd (bull and four females over 1 year)—C. A. Archibald, Truro, N. S., 1st; F. E. Dickie, Canard, N. S., 2nd; R. W. Kinsman Co., Canning, N. S., 3rd. Breeders' young herd (bull and four females)—Fred G. Bovyer, P. E. I., 1st; C. W. Holmes, Amherst, 2nd. A noteworthy feature in the awards in the Shorthorn class was the large number of prizes (seven) allotted to sons and daughters of the old champion *Silver Chief*, son of the famous imported Indian Chief.

HEREFORDS.

although few in numbers, were great in quality, and a strong attraction to the crowds of sight-seers. Sir Horace, W. W. Black's stock bull, increases in thickness and smoothness as years go by. A. S. Fillmore, N. S., was Mr. Black's only competitor. Old and young herd prizes both fell to Mr. Black.

GALLOWAYS.

Herd prize—Senator D. Ferguson, P. E. I., 1st; W. W. Pineo, Waterville, N. S., 2nd. Breeders' young herd—1st, D. Ferguson.

DEVONS.

Old herd—G. W. Churchill, Cbeoggogin, N. S., 1st.

THE SHEEP PENS

contained good animals of the Leicester, Cotswold, Lincoln, Shropshire, Hampshire, Oxford, South-down, Dorset and Cheviot breeds. In many cases the exhibits were really superior, although the number present of each breed was small, the part of the sheep building intended for the pure breeds being partially empty. We must extend our sympathy to the judge whose duty was to allot prizes to the miscellaneous assortment of animals which occupied the grade sheep pens. The proper way to discourage such exhibits is for the judges to award them no prizes whatever.

THE PIGS

were a splendid and large exhibit. Here again, as in the cattle department, good breeding and care, with skillful feeding, had produced Yorkshires, Tamworths, Berkshires, Duroc-Jerseys and Chester Whites which satisfy the eye and give promise of supplying the Province with useful, profitable swine. The special prize for bacon hogs was awarded to Mr. Callbeck, P. E. Island, for a pair of Yorkshires which appeared to satisfy the critical eye of the judge.

HORSES.

If anything was needed to confirm our opinion of the chilling effect which comes from the Government attempting to take the place of private enterprise in live stock, it is furnished by the meager display of good horses at this exhibition. The horses bought in Great Britain and the West by the Government take a considerable share of the occupied horse stables, and also of the attention of the crowd. They do not compete for prizes.

THE CLYDESDALES

among them are a fairly useful sample. Only one of the Thoroughbreds (a six-year-old) is just up to the mark, and even he is somewhat fine of bone. The question was frequently asked in our hearing by visitors, "What special advantage is to be gained from introducing those little Hackneys?"

SOME GRIEVANCES.

Live stock exhibitors were loud and strong in their complaints at being held nine days at an exhibition of so small dimensions, where the prizes

are small and the expenses much greater than in the West. Their treatment by the railroad when coming was also severely commented on. In some cases the cattle train containing the show stock was delayed many hours on the road while being attached to coal bunkers or lumber trains. Those who have travelled in the rear of such trains, with old-fashioned couplings, know the rough treatment stock get during a thirty-hour ride over seventy-five miles of road.

A WORD OF ADVICE

to exhibitors of grade beef cattle, grade sheep and fat stock: Take example from the exhibits of breeders of pure-bred stock, and don't think that a beast which has been on a pasture all summer, even if grass is abundant, is a proper object to expose to public view at a cattle show. People do not travel long distances at great expense to see animals in no better fix than can be seen on any farm in their own locality. Few of the fat cattle were in show fix, and none of the grade beef cattle or grade sheep. Breeders of pure-bred stock must take this phase of the show business up and let the public see what the grades got by their pure-bred sires in the beef and mutton breeds can do.

POULTRY.

The exhibition in this department was alike creditable to exhibitors and management. The various breeds were well represented by well-bred, well-prepared birds, whose comfort was well provided for.

The Judging Competition at Ottawa.

The judging competition at the Ottawa Exhibition for the Massey-Harris Co.'s prizes was participated in by eight young men, seven of whom have been students at the Ontario Agricultural College. In the judging of the beef breeds of cattle, the prizes were awarded: 1st to J. Ferguson, Spring Hill; 2nd to G. A. McIntyre, Renfrew; 3rd to H. R. McDermid, Martintown; 4th to G. Hutton, Easton's Corners. Dairy breeds: 1st to G. J. Christie, Winchester; 2nd to Horace Craig, North Gore; 3rd to N. F. Wilson, Cumberland; 4th to D. O. Bull, Brampton. Sheep: 1st to N. F. Wilson; 2nd to J. Ferguson; 3rd to G. Hutton; 4th to G. J. Christie. The judges of the judging were: In beef breeds—J. T. Gibson, Denfield, and J. H. Grisdale, Ottawa. Dairy breeds—Capt. Rolph, Markham; W. W. Ballantyne, Stratford, and Wm. Suhring, Sebringville. Sheep—R. Gibson, Delaware, and J. H. Grisdale.

The Quality of the Sow.

While we would not for one moment lessen the appreciation of the importance which our readers attach to the boar as "half the herd," we think that in very many cases sufficient regard is not paid to the character of the sow. Success in swine-raising hinges to a large extent upon her quality, and she should be well grown, a good keeper, symmetrical, of sound health, and of the approved type for rapid modern meat production. She should be kept in good condition, but not be unduly fat, and should be fully nine months old before she is allowed to go with the boar. Of course, very young sows frequently bear nice farrows of pigs, and the youngsters get on well, but it is at the cost of much deterioration in the quality of the sow. There is also reason to believe that the farrows subsequently produced by her are not of such quality as from sows who were more mature before they were put with the boar. The aim of the breeder should be to increase the stamina of his sows by every means in his power. To this end he should feed them well upon flesh-forming foods, and allow them to take exercise in the open. They should be kept as near as may be in the same condition, and be fed at regular intervals. If this be done, most satisfactory



EXPORT BACON HOGS.

Four Yorkshire sows, first in pure-bred class over all breeds, and sweepstakes over all breeds, grades and crosses, suitable for export bacon.

BRED AND OWNED BY D. C. FLATT & SON, MILLGROVE, ONT.

results will be obtained. It is also advisable to get young sows as tame as possible, and with kind treatment they soon become extremely sociable, liking to have their backs scratched, and coming to the man who attends to them whenever he makes his appearance. This is a great advantage, as they can be attended to at fattening time without difficulty.