



The crowd at the Industrial Fair listening to the Coldstreams Band. Photo by Galbraith.

The Dominion Exhibition.

A Great Success—Immense Crowds—Splendid Exhibits—Sets a New Pace for Canadian Fairs.

A year ago there were not a few who were skeptical as to the outcome of a Dominion Exhibition. Others there were, chiefly among those interested in other annual fairs, who ridiculed the whole affair as being premature and unworthy of consideration by reasonable men. Had either of these classes visited the great fair, which closed on Saturday last, they would have had all their fears dissipated. It was by all odds the greatest exhibition of its kind ever held in Canada, and as an annual has no equal on this continent. From the time the gates were thrown open to the public on August 28th until they closed on September 12th, the grounds were crowded with interested and satisfied sight-seers. All the provinces of the Dominion were well represented in the attendance, while the number of Americans who visited the fair ran away up into the thousands. The aggregate attendance during the exhibition is estimated at over half a million, thus breaking all previous records and establishing a standard that will require some pushing to live up to in the future.

As to the exhibition itself little perhaps need be said. It was well worthy of this great country. The new buildings and the rearrangement of the grounds added much to the attractiveness of the fair and the accommodation for exhibitors. The new manufacturers' building, with its attractive exhibits of Canada's manufactured goods, was a scene of activity and interest during the whole show. The new dairy building, with its annex for lecture purposes, the new women's building, with its facilities for practical demonstrations in cooking, etc., and the new "process" building, added materially to the educational value of the fair. The space below the grand stand,

condemned so severely on former occasions as being most unsuitable for exhibition purposes, was this year the centre of interest for multitudes of people who thronged the portion reserved for the Jubilee presents.

Turning to the features of the exhibition that most concern our readers, we find a degree of excellence not excelled by any previous exhibition. In live stock, and especially in horses and in Short-horns, a better exhibit has never been seen in America. The show of the other classes of stock, while in many cases not excelling that of other years, was at least equal to it.

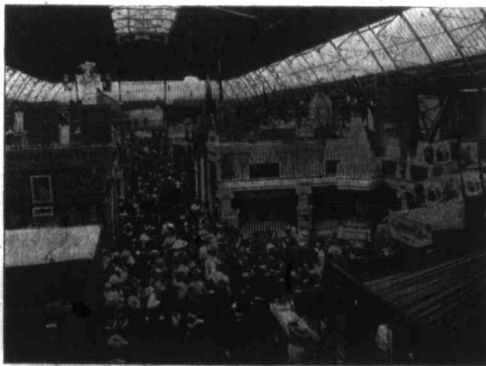
But our readers will be able to form a better opinion as to this by a careful perusal of the detailed report which follows. This report has been prepared at considerable expense and labor and will be found to accurately represent the main features of the agricultural and live stock exhibits.

Horses.

Toronto Exhibition, for 1903 brought together a splendid lot of horses, probably the largest and best that has ever been seen together in Canada. Just how many there were may not be exactly known, but the entries in the catalogue numbered 1,278, and while many horses were entered in more than one class, these would probably be offset by the number of teams which have but one number. It is doubtful if it be a good plan to allow exhibitors to enter a horse in several classes as is now done. It is quite allowable in special or champion classes, but leads to trouble where, for instance, 15½ hands is the class division, and a horse just about that height is entered both above and under that height, shown with high-heeled padded shoes in one case and reshoed with thin slippers in the other. Or again, to show a horse in the harness high stepping class and in the farmers' general purpose class. If a rule were made allowing but one entry for one animal it might do away with a good deal of trouble and be quite as fair to exhibitors as the present plan. One firm was expelled from the show for changing entries and removing animals from the grounds without permission. That they had broken the rules was no doubt the opinion of the directors, that they were alone in this is quite a different matter. The rules should be made clear and plain for the future and some changes may be desirable.

HEAVY HORSES.

There was a splendid show of heavy draught horses for which Ontario is so justly celebrated. The depression in heavy horse breeding noted a few years ago has completely passed away, and the large number and excellent quality of the animals exhibited shows how great a change has come. The show of Clydes was very good. There have been years in the past when as good tops were seen, but the gen-



Interior of the new Manufacturers' Building as it appeared on nearly every day during the big show.