

Publisher's Desk.

The Western Fair.—The Western Fair begins Sept. 9th, and will continue till Sept. 18th. This exhibition has won for itself a national reputation for its display of live stock and agricultural products. The new stock buildings are complete, extensive improvements having been made this year.

Lock-pin Clevis.—This valuable invention will meet a long felt need among farmers and teamsters. Everyone who has had to do with horses attached to vehicles of any kind knows how annoying it is sometimes to lose a clevis pin or to have something go astray with this part of the gear. The lock pin clevis is so adjusted and secured as to render it an utter impossibility for the clevis to become unlocked or displaced except at the will of the operator.

Waggoner Extension Ladder. In this issue the Montreal Woulenware Mfg. Co. advertise their patent extension ladder for use by nearly all classes. Farmers, firemen, painters, carpenters, plumbers, roofers and contractors use them, and fire insurance companies would like to see one wherever a policy of insurance is taken out. They are specially adapted for farm use, and can be easily adjusted to suit any building.

International Exhibition.—This is the leading fair in the Maritime Provinces, and will take place at St. John, N.B., from Sept. 14th to Sept. 24th. Among those from Ontario who will act as judges are Dr. J. H. Reed, Professor of Veterinary Science, Ontario Agricultural College, and Mr. Hubert Wright, Guelph. The programme of special attractions is up-to-date, and a large exhibit of live stock and agricultural produce is expected.

"Farming" Tent at the Fair.—Do not forget to call and see us at our tent on the Exhibition Grounds. It is located north of the cattle and horse stables, near the Farmers' Institute Tent. Paper, envelopes, ink and pens will be on hand for the use of stockmen and others. Orders for business cards and printing of any kind, if left with us at the tent, will be given prompt attention. A member of FARMING staff will be in the tent during the day to give information regarding advertising and subscriptions. Pay us a visit and get full particulars about our new weekly agricultural journal.

Farmers' Institute Tent.—Mr. F. W. Hodson, Superintendent of Farmers' Institutes and secretary of the Cattle, Sheep, and Swine Breeders' Associations, will occupy a tent as an office on the grounds at the Industrial Fair, Toronto, from Sept. 1st to 10th. It will be located east of the cattle ring and just in front of the horse and cattle shed on the site occupied last year. Officers and members of the Farmers' Institutes and Agricultural Associations are invited to make this tent their headquarters during the fair. Farmers and others interested are cordially invited to call upon Mr. Hodson during the fair. He will be at the tent from 9 a.m. to 12 (noon) and from 12 (noon) till 4 p.m. Mr. Hodson or an assistant will be present. A member of the staff of the Ontario Agricultural College will be present on the dates given above and will be pleased to furnish information relative to the college, etc.

Special Offer to "Farming" Subscribers.—We are pleased to be able to make the following combination offer to the readers of FARMING. Examine it carefully and see if it will not be in your interests to secure the advantage of these clubbing rates:

FARMING and Toronto Weekly Globe	81	50
FARMING and Toronto Weekly Mail and Empire	1	40
FARMING and Farm and Fireside	1	40
FARMING and Montreal Daily Witness	3	00
FARMING and Montreal Weekly Witness	1	60
FARMING and Family Herald and Weekly Star	1	75
FARMING and London Weekly Free Press	1	75
FARMING and London Weekly Advertiser	1	40
FARMING and Ottawa Semi-Weekly Free Press	1	60

The valuable premiums offered in the May, June, July, and August issues still hold good. We have not space in this issue to give the complete list of premiums. For one new subscriber at \$1 we will advance your subscription 6 months, and for two new subscribers at \$1 each we will advance your subscription one year. We allow a liberal cash commission to agents.

Stock Notes.

THE attention of our readers is directed to the person sale of the celebrated Maple Cliff herd of Ayrshire cattle advertised in this issue. This herd has always been rated high as a milking herd. The noted bull Matchless is at the head of the herd and all the young stock are sired by him, several among the older ones being prize winners at the World's Fair. Any one intending to form a herd or wishing to improve the one he has, will find in the herd now offered with out reserve a chance seldom presented to procure animals of high class merit. Mr. Robert Robertson, Compton, Que., the proprietor, will be pleased to give information regarding them.

On another page will be seen the announcement of the sale by auction of the late Thomas Gray's famous herd of Ayrshires. This herd was started in 1862 and since that time has been favorably known at the leading shows in the province. Several years afterwards the herd was increased to 40 head—the number generally kept on the farm, the surplus being disposed of from year to year. The demand was quite equal to the increase and sometimes in excess of what he had to sell. The success of the herd in the show rings each succeeding year, giving them a reputation seldom equalled. For nine years in succession they carried off the herd prize at the Provincial Show and for several years at the Toronto Industrial and twice at the Montreal Exposition. Besides winning a great number of diplomas and silver medals at various fairs, this herd won the only two gold medals ever offered by the Dominion for the best herd of Ayrshire cattle. In milking representative specimens from this herd have won in some seven or eight contests and most of the exhibitors in the show rings at the present time have either had the foundation stock from this herd or have largely drawn from it to build them up. The sale takes place at the farm, Oshawa, Ont., Oct. 13th, 1897.

Sheep at Royal Show,

BY OUR BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE.

As a section the sheep made a grand exhibit, seldom, if ever have we seen a better one. Numerically, the entry has but twice been exceeded at the Royal, that was in the great Metropolitan show at Kilham and Windsor. Space permits of but slight details being given. We, however, treat all the breeds with a brief notice.

Leicesters—a grand lot of sheep, both largely and well known. The principal winners being Mr. G. Harrison (four firsts and two seconds), Mr. J. J. Larn (one first), Mr. E. F. Gowan, (one first and two seconds), etc.

Cotswolds—a breed that was represented by some very fine specimens, but few in number, a fact to be regretted, seeing many enquiries were made which were unable to be fulfilled. Messrs. R. & W. Gann and T. R. Hulbert were leading winners.

Lincolns—a large and most meritorious entry. The quality of this grand breed of sheep as typified by its exhibits was wonderful, especially was this the case with that grand symmetrical and typical sheep exhibited by Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, for which they last year paid Mr. H. Dudding, his breeder, £350, and for which they were bid at the present show £400. These enterprising men, who believe in the doctrine that the best are the cheapest, refused this offer and thus return for use in their flock one of the most noted sheep of the breed. This grand sheep took premier honors in his class as well as the champion award as best Leicester sheep. Mr. H. Dudding's first-class sheep with a grand fleece of wool made a good second, and thus this noted breeder secured not only second honors, but found a sheep of his breeding in the premier place, a record that speaks volumes for the merit of any flock.

Five shearing rams—a class of exceptional merit throughout and one that was of very great interest as well as a rarity on account of the extremely valuable index it gave one of the merit, type and character of the flocks from which the various lots came. Messrs. Wright secured the premier place with a grandly matched pen. Next came Mr. H. Dudding with a pen, typical of that grand flock from which so many leading sheep at home and abroad have sprung; then came a quintette from Mr. J. Pears, whilst Messrs. Dean & Sons secured the fourth place with a pen matching well both for character and wool. Seldom, if ever have we had the opportunity of seeing twenty better rams than those which comprised the first four pens in this class. They were placed one, two, three and four, but the difference was one of fancy rather than merit. So good was the class, we feel bound to give by name the two H.C. pens, which came from the flocks of Mr. Tom Casswell and Mr. Thomas Herdandright. Ram lambs found Mr. J. Pears in premier place with a grandly brought out pen of especial merit, reflecting great credit both on their sire and dams. Mr. H. Dudding was close up with a first-class pen that ran the winners very close indeed. Messrs. S. E. Dean & Sons securing the third place for R. N. Shearling ewes, a grand lot.

Messrs. Wright again asserting their pre-eminence with a very grand pen of well brought out ewes, which, however, were closely pressed for their place by Mr. W. Hesselstein's pen that came second, whilst an excellent and leading pen for type and quality from Ribby Grove, Mr. H. Dunning's, made a really excellent third, whose record pen secured a deserved R.N. and H.C. Ewe lambs found the Ribby flock taking the lead with a grand pen of lambs fully worthy of the high reputation of the flock from which they came. Mr. J. Pears, for a pen of grand type and quality made a good second, while Messrs. S. E. Dean & Sons secured the R.N., closely pressing the previous pen for its second place.

Oxford Downs—a very excellent sheep and for which more continental than colonial demand exists at the present time. They were not at all largely exhibited, but some capital specimens were, however, present. Messrs. J. Treadwell, A. Brassey and J. C. Eady being the principal winners.

Shropshires were a grand lot, uniform, alike both in quality and character. They certainly ranked far ahead of any other short-woolled breed in the yard, both as regards number of exhibitors and general flock likeness and type. Mr. Barr headed the old sheep class with a typical first-class ram, Mr. J. Harling being a very close second; the R.N. going to Mr. R. P. Cooper's well brought out ram, both these latter being bred by Mr. T. Fenn. Shearling rams were the largest and best single class of any in the sheep section. A grand lot they were and to take the premier place there, as Mr. A. E. Mansell did, as well as securing the champion prize, is an honor of which any breeder would be

proud. The ram in question being a grand one, both in regard to type, character and formation, one that is doubtless cut out to make a grand sire, unless his appearance belies him. Next came a grand ram from Mr. J. Fenn's flock, being followed closely by a very good ram of Mr. J. L. Napper's breeding. Five shearling rams, an extraordinary class, led by a grand pen of Mr. J. Bowen-Jones' breeding being good in type, having first-class fleeces and a good skin. Mr. A. E. Mansell ran the winner very close with a really first-class pen of rams. Ram lambs, a very strong class, a most excellent pen of Mr. G. Harding's breeding, being put in first place with Mr. A. E. Mansell's closely following. Mr. P. L. Mills securing the R.N. Shearling ewes headed by a pen from Mr. Wm. Harr's flock were a very good class. The second award was given to Mr. J. L. Napper; these might have been given premier place without any injustice, whilst for third honors Mr. J. Bowen-Jones pen were rightly selected. Ewe lambs were, as in the ram lambs, headed by Mr. T. Harding's grand pen, followed respectively by those from the flocks of Alfred Tanner and P. L. Mills, who received second and third awards.

Southdowns, as far as numbers went, were well shown, but the specimens exhibited too great variety of type, an error which we trust will be in the future remedied. Old rams were well shown. Lord Ellesmere and Sir J. Blythe being the winners. Shearling rams were a larger class, in which H. R. H. the Prince of Wales secured first place with a ram of good type and quality, next being placed a ram from Sir James Blythe's flock that showed good quality, whilst third place was filled by a typical ram of excellent quality and type from the Pagham Harbour Co. Ram lambs, a very useful class, headed by a well brought out pen with good backs and bodies from the flock of Mr. L. Mathews, next in order of merit being placed Lord Cadogan's exhibit. Shearling ewes were rightly headed by Lord Cadogan's pen, Mr. J. J. Colman being a very close up second, whilst Mr. E. Ellis pen came number three. Ewe lambs found the well known flock of the Pagham Harbour Co.'s exhibit in the premier place, with a pen

fully typical of the good qualities of this noted breed, Sir H. F. de Wafford, Bart., being a close second with a very nice pen of good quality, the Prince of Wales securing the R.N.

Hampshire Downs, though not largely shown as regards numbers, were well shown as regards quality and character. Old rams found a good class in which Lord Rothschild took premier place with a really grand sheep. Shearling rams were headed by Mr. A. de Mornay's first class specimen, a ram of great credit and substance combined with excellent type and quality. Lord Rothschild's representative secured second award; with a grand ewe sheep of Mr. J. Flower's placed third that ought to have been at least one place higher up.

Ram lambs, a grand class, fully emphasizing this breed's undoubted right to the title of the "Early Maturity Breed." First place went to Professor Wrightson, second to Mr. J. Flower, third to Mr. T. F. Luxton. Shearling ewes, a small but most excellent class, Mr. A. de Mornay being first, and Mr. J. Flower second and third. Ewe lambs found Mr. T. Twiddell's pen rightly placed in the premier place, Mr. A. de Mornay being a very good second, with the pen of Mr. J. Flower in very close attendance.

Kent or Romney sheep, so far from their natural home, did not come forth in large numbers, though the few that were sent were of great service to the breed, because they afforded to thousands an opportunity to become acquainted with a breed that is largely in demand for the export trade. Shearling rams found Mr. G. W. Finn taking the premier place, with Mr. V. Millen in very close attendance; all with useful sheep. Ewes, a small but useful class, Messrs. F. Neame and G. W. Finn sharing the honors.

Suffolks were well shown, Lord Ellesmere and Mr. J. Smith taking the premiums. Border Leicesters made a first-class exhibit both as to type and quality, Messrs. A. J. Balfour, F. Winter, J. Twentyman, Lord Rosebery being principal winners.

Herdwick's Welsh mountain Cheviots and blackfaced mountain sheep were also well and creditably shown.

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Entries close Tuesday, September 14th

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