

### Moosomin Fair.

The annual exhibition of live stock and farm products, held under the auspices of the Moosomin Agricultural and Industrial Society, took place on the Agricultural Grounds, Moosomin, August 4th. Owing to heavy rains during the preceding night and forenoon, the attendance was not all that it otherwise would have been. Nevertheless, a goodly number put in an appearance, and a very creditable entry was made in some classes of live stock. Horses were the most numerous, there being over 150, including colts. In the class for heavy draft stallions, there were four Clydesdales and two Percherons to appear. The Ferndale Syndicate came first on a Clyde of fair character, and Philip Anderson second on another of the same breed. In females of the agricultural and general-purpose classes, there were a number of entries in most sections, but the quality, as a rule, was not of an extraordinary character. The colts showed the best breeding of the lot—an evidence that the farmers of this locality are making an effort to improve their stock.

There were a few fine cattle on exhibition. Geo. Allison, Burnbank, had an excellent herd of Shorthorns, and F. J. Collyer, Welwyn, Assa., came over with his famous Polled Angus herd, and added very materially to the cattle exhibit.

In hogs, there were a few entries, principally Berkshires; and in sheep, both short and long wool were represented by a few specimens in each class. Inside the agricultural hall there was a praiseworthy display of poultry, roots, vegetables and grains. The ladies' department also was commendable, showing that Moosomin ladies are not behind the times in their appreciation of the finer arts.

One of the chief drawbacks to Moosomin Agricultural Society at present is the need for an enclosed show-ground. The place where the exhibition has been held for some time is somewhat bluff, but picturesque, and with a reasonable outlay could be made an ideal show-ground. The surrounding country is capable of supporting a good show. There are a number of enterprising breeders, and all the farmers appear to be alive to the importance of improving their stock.

### The Seed Control Act.

There is no doubt that some measure is required to insure a better quality of seeds being placed upon the market, and to stop the sale of the seeds of weeds, which are constantly found mixed with those of grains, grasses, and of other farm crops, but the act recently introduced in the Dominion Parliament is decidedly impracticable as it stands at present. Both the grower of grains and grass seeds and the wholesale and retail dealers would unjustly be affected by the act should it become law in its present form. The act at present makes a farmer liable who sells or offers for sale to any person, other than merchants who reclean and grade seed, any seed or cereals that contain specimens of the seed of such weeds as mustard, tumbling mustard, hare's-ear mustard, penny cress, wild oats, bindweed, orange hawkweed, ox-eye daisy, perennial sow thistle, Russian thistle, ragweed or ergot. Clearly few farmers can guarantee their seed perfectly free from all of these weed seeds. The position of seed dealers is even more unpleasant. The restriction of seeds to four grades, the prohibiting of the exportation of inferior lots, upon which dealers make considerable profit, the liability of the dealer for impure seed found in his possession, whether for sale or not, it is claimed by seedsmen is altogether unjust and injurious to the trade. The seedsmen have conferred with the Government with the object of having the bill amended in several clauses, and have also suggested the following:

"That whereas heretofore large quantities of very inferior seed have been brought into this country or shipped in on consignment from the foreign countries, and these importations are largely responsible for the inferior quality of clover and grass seeds which have been distributed in Canada; that a specific duty be imposed upon clovers and timothy seed, the duty to cover crimson clover, trefoil clover, lucerne and white clover, as well as the two varieties specially mentioned in the act (red and alsike). Samples of all clovers and grass seeds might be taken at the Customs Port of Entry, these samples to be sent to the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa for examination." Unless this examination is carefully made at all the ports and outports, we fear that the importation of these inferior seeds will still continue to the detriment of the farming interests of the country, and to the prejudice of the Canadian trade. Shipments of low-grade or inferior clover and timothy seed brought into this country for purposes of adulteration or for sale might properly be refused customs entry, or required to be re-shipped out of the country if after being examined they were found to be of such an inferior quality as to be unfit for distribution in Canada.

### The Influence of Sex upon the Offspring.

Prof. Casper L. Redfield, who has been making a study of the subject of inheritance by sex, has the following in the London (Eng.) News:

"There are facts about some of the successful women in the Cambridge Tripos leading to the hypothesis that the faculties of the male parent are more likely to be transmitted to daughters than to sons. It is a matter of notoriety already that a very clever man has usually had a mother of exceptional abilities. Individual illustrations

eminent Classical scholars. How interesting and important it will be if eventually the fact emerges clearly that the intellectual inheritance passes rather from father to daughter and from mother to son than from each parent to the child of the same gender! It will be obvious how much the world has lost by the failure through so many generations to develop the full powers of women, by education for them in the first place, and by encouragement for their exercise in later life, if it becomes clear that men are affected chiefly by their mothers' intellectual powers, and that

fathers must pass on their abilities through their daughters mainly.

"Of course, the absurd statement will be frequently repeated in this transition period, that women who study in their youth will not be able to be mothers, or that on their being so, their children will suffer. Only a few days ago I read in a little column that is stereotyped for a large number of provincial papers, the statement made as if it were an admitted fact, that a highly-educated woman rarely gives birth to perfect children."

Experience has, however, proved that this is an absurd fabrication. Let this fact be noted and remembered: It has been shown by investigation, both in England and in America, that the mortality amongst the children of college-trained mothers is considerably lower than that of the children born to the nation as a whole. This fact was brought out here by an inquiry instituted by the Principal of Newnham, who found both that the wise, brain-trained women are, as, indeed, common sense would expect, more successful as mothers (judged by the mortality of their offspring) than the average run of women, and also that a larger proportion of old pupils of Newnham themselves enjoyed good health than the average of women generally. Nobody denies that over-study is dangerous: that is so irrespective of sex. When a man goes in for high honors in examinations, he does so at a certain risk. But there is no proof at present that the risk to women is much, or indeed any, greater than to men, provided girls do not burn the candle of life at both ends, and try to be society belles, or even domesticated daughters, at the same time that they are deep students. This latter effort is not trying to equal, but greatly to outdo, young men's exertions."



SWEETSTAKE AYESHIRE AT WINNIPEG INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION, 1903.

Yearling bull, Challenge of Prairie Home, won first in his class and the silver medal for best bull of the breed. Ada Marius won first in cow class, and was chosen as best female of the breed.

OWNED AND EXHIBITED BY S. J. THOMPSON & SON, ST. JAMES, MAN.

are too numerous, and, indeed, too familiar, for me to enter upon at this moment. It may be said that whenever a whole family of sons have proved themselves to be men of exceptional ability, as in the case of the Pollocks and the Napiers, the mother has always been a person of distinction and talent, who had impressed those who knew her with her great qualities. Conversely, it is notorious how often clever men have sons who do not do justice to the parental record. Until now it has not been possible to view this problem from the reverse side. In other words, it is only lately that we have been able to judge whether the intellectual brilliance of the father was likely to be reflected in that of the daughter. Strong reason has now been given in successive years in the Cambridge lists to suppose that girls are apt to inherit their father's characteristic mental powers. Miss Fawcett, thirteen years ago, carried off what Cambridge considers its premier honor—it being the great mathematical university: she was first in that subject, 'above the Senior Wrangler.' Well, her father in his day had been the Seventh Wrangler. And now, this year, there is the illustration of Professor Hudson, who was in his student day Third



HIGHLANDERS AT CLUNY CASTLE.

PROPERTY OF SIR REGINALD CATHCART.

Wrangler. Two years ago one of his daughters was Fifth Wrangler, and now, this year, there is the illustration of a Seventh Wrangler. The leading Classical women show a similar striking record. Miss Ramsey, who was a few years ago Senior Classic—the first person in the first class (men and women both) in the Classical Tripos—had a father and also an uncle who had taken high Classical honors at the same university. In another year, Miss Alford came out in company with only three men in the first class in the Classical Tripos; and her father, as well as his brother, Dean Alford, were both in their day

bluestone, and it will not readily dissolve in cold water, unless placed in a sack and suspended in the water just below the surface, when, it is claimed, it will dissolve in a few hours. The amount of bluestone necessary to make a barrel of pickle can thus be dissolved readily by suspending it in an old sack across the top of the barrel, just so that all the bluestone is submerged.

"Is there anything in the paper, dear?" asked Mrs. Bellefield. "Yes, love," replied Mr. Bellefield. "Scraps of news and news of scraps."

### Treating Wheat for Smut.

What is the best remedy to kill smut in wheat? When and how should it be used? J. J.

Ans.—For wheat, probably nothing is more effective than common bluestone (sulphate of copper) treatment, using one pound of bluestone dissolved in a pail of water for eight or ten bushels of wheat. The solution should be sprinkled over the seed, and the grain shovelled over several times to ensure that every kernel of grain is moistened with the solution. It is not always convenient to have boiling water to dissolve the