

The Maritime Horse Show.

The Maritime Horse Show was held in the Winter Fair Building, Amherst, N. S., on April 6th and 7th, and, although the first of its kind, the management have every reason to feel proud of the success of the show.

Farmers and horse-breeders in the Maritime Provinces have made tremendous progress in the improvement of their horse stock in the last ten years, especially in the heavier classes, and the Stock-breeders' Association should be congratulated for their enterprise in thus giving an opportunity to bring the best together, and encourage the raising of good horses.

The Clydesdales and Clydesdale grades showed the benefit that the country is reaping from the importations of the Provincial Governments which have been made within the last few years.

The strongest class was roadsters in harness, twenty-five of which circled around Judge Hillson, of Montreal, in the spacious building. Two or three good ones were driven by ladies, and received hearty cheers from the two or three thousand spectators present on Wednesday evening; and when the red ribbon was awarded Lady Sim, driven by Mrs. F. Blenkhorn, of Maccan, the applause was deafening.

Pairs of roadsters in harness brought out five very worthy entries. Geo. McAvity, of St. John, showed a beautiful pair, splendidly fitted, and well handled, but, as the horses were really high-class carriage horses, and not roadsters, they did not find a place. First prize went to W. Lowe, of Amherst, on a well-matched pair of well-built horses that could step along some; second to Geo. Goldsmith, Amherst, and third to Walter C. Baker, Barronsfield.

The Standard-bred stallions were an active, showy lot of useful road horses. King Dodds, owned by D. Dwyer, of Pictou, N. S., captured the red, with Oakley Baron, owned by W. S. McKie, Charlottetown, second, and Maritime Prince, owned by Thos. Munro, New Glasgow, third.

Standard-bred mares were a good lot of roadsters. First went to Miss Woodburn, owned by H. R. McLean, Woodburn, N. S.; second, Bon Bon, Murray Jones, Amherst, and third to Maud Allan Wilkes, W. M. Spence, Port Elgin, N. B.

The heavy horses were probably the strongest part of the show, and the array of Clydesdales and their grades was something to gladden the heart of an admirer of good work horses. In the aged Clydesdale stallion class it was quite a task to decide which to place first, but the weight, thickness and beautifully even action of Baron Primrose, a son of the great Baron's Pride, shown by R. S. Starr, of Port Williams, won for him the honors over Logan Bros.' Handy Andy, a younger, more flashy and more rangy horse that is getting better all the time, and may yet be able to down his truly great rival. Third went to Charming Lad, owned by W. F. George, Sackville, N. B., a strong, thick-set, heavy horse that must be a useful stock-getter. Clydesdale mares were a beautiful lot of heavy work horses. Logan Bros. took first on Imported Pink Rose, and second on Imp. Soubrette, two of the very best heavy mares that ever entered a show-ring in the Maritime Provinces; third to May Lothian, shown by R. S. Snowball, of Chatham, N. B.

The younger Clydesdale stallion and mare classes brought out some really good stock, and showed that the farmers and breeders of these Provinces are alive to their possibilities in the production of horses.

Perhaps one of the mistakes of the show was that pure-bred horses were allowed to compete with the grades in the draft and agricultural classes, and, while this caused a better display, it might have done more to encourage farmers to raise and fit good horses if the grades had had these classes to themselves. There were a good many high-class draft horses shown, with fewer "weeds" than we had expected to see in the first show, and, while there were, perhaps, no really heavy-draft grade horses (1,700 pounds would hold the heaviest), still there were several good thick, rather active horses in both the heavy-draft and agricultural classes.

Special winnings for championship silver cups and diplomas were as follows: Carriage horse in harness, Banker; owner, MacAvity, St. John. Saddle horse, Guardian; owner, G. W. Fowler, Sussex, N. B. Clydesdale stallion, Baron Primrose; owner, R. S. Starr, Port Williams. Clydesdale mare, Pink Rose; owners, Logan Bros., Amherst Point. Thoroughbred stallion, Dodd; owner, Dwyer, Pictou, N. S. Standard-bred stallion, G. W. Fowler, Sussex, N. B. Hackney stallion, R. A. Snowball, Chatham, N. B. Percheron stallion, C. O. Cook, Charlottetown, P. E. I. Best Percheron mare, Chas. Symes, Minudie, N. S. Agricultural animal, any age, Fowler Bros., Amherst Point.

The annual meeting of the Quebec Pomological and Fruit-growing Society will be held at Sherbrooke on August 30th to September 1st, 1910.

A Railway Agriculturist.

Prof. G. F. Marsh, B. S. A., formerly on the editorial staff of "The Farmer's Advocate," is now engaged as Agriculturist for the Pennsylvania Railway Company, one of the most powerful transportation corporations in the United States. From an extended report in the Geneva (N. Y.) Times, of one of his recent addresses, it appears that he is conducting an educational campaign in the form of addresses on the advantages of co-operation between farmers and railways in marketing products, and in good-roads construction. In fact, the company propose to conduct a good-roads campaign, in order that it may receive freight all the time in more uniform quantities, thus facilitating the work of distribution and avoiding glutted markets. An important part of Mr. Marsh's work will be the starting of a small demonstration fields of alfalfa at each station along the northern central section of the Pennsylvania Company's lines. At these stations meetings will also be held to discuss the advantages and methods of growing alfalfa, which it is anticipated will bring prosperity to the New York State farmers, as it has to large areas in the West. Naturally, the railway desires to operate through a prosperous country, and has arrived at the conclusion that alfalfa culture is one of the best agencies to that end.

A Compromise Bill Re Gambling.

Contrary to expectations, there has been a compromise on the Miller anti-race-track gambling bill. Beaten in Committee of the Whole by the smallest of majorities, after a hard fight, those behind the bill at first felt like refusing anything which allowed in any form the gambling privileges they had fought against. The supporters of the bill, however, realized that they had either to continue the fight or accept a compromise, and, being beaten on a vote, were not sure that next year they would fare any better. The bill, as passed, prohibits the making of handbooks, pool-selling, the transmission of news or information as to betting or wagering, and the advertising of tips or inducements of any kind to bet or wager. Bookmaking is limited to the tracks of incorporated associations that confine their races to seven-day meets, to be held not oftener than twice a year, and during the actual progress of such race-meetings. The number of new tracks that might be opened will be reduced by the provision that bookmaking is prohibited on the tracks of any racing association hereafter incorporated, unless situated in or within three miles of a Canadian town or city of not less than 15,000 people. Considerable has been won, but vicious gambling practices, though limited as to time and place, are still permitted.

Reducing the Brown-tailed Moth.

Following the examinations at the Nova Scotia College of Agriculture, a party of students, under charge of Prof. Smith, planned to set out for Annapolis and Digby Counties to assist in the work of exterminating the brown-tailed moth. The work of destroying the nests has been proceeding since January, and has been more thoroughly done, it is said, than in any previous year. All together, between 1,200 and 1,500 nests have been picked up to a recent date, in comparison with 6,000 four years ago, thus showing the progress made in eradicating the pest. It is reported that Dr. Chas. Gordon Hewitt, Dominion Entomologist, who recently visited the Province, recognizing the national importance of keeping out of Canada this destructive moth, which it costs Massachusetts over a million dollars a year to fight, purposes recommending that the Federal Department of Agriculture join with the Local Department in the work of eradicating the brown-tail moth, and, from a general inspection of the area infected, is sanguine of at least keeping in control, if not absolutely destroying this moth.

In official circles at Washington, great interest is taken in the announcement by Premier Gouin that Quebec Province would prohibit the exportation of pulpwood cut on Crown Lands. Following so close upon the friendly trade agreement reached between the United States and Canada, some slight irritation is felt, but the action is not believed to be specially directed against the United States, but merely to be following the lead of Ontario, which, in 1897, by act, provided that all pine cut on Crown Lands should be made into lumber in Canada, and in 1900 extended the operation of the act to pulpwood cut on Crown Lands, which, since that date, must be manufactured in Canada into pulp or paper. U. S. Government officials look for an early opening of negotiations between the U. S. and Canadian Governments, with better reciprocal trade relations in view.

Rural Telephones.

The advantages of having a telephone in the farmhouse are very graphically and plainly set forth in a publication just received, entitled "Canada and the Telephone." In this, by means of a series of picture-stories, the annoyance caused by having to drive long distances on an errand that might have been executed in a minute over the 'phone is shown, and the advantage of telephone connection in dozens of other critical or vexatious situations that arise on the farm, is also pictured.

For instance, here is a man with a disappointed face, who, in bad roads, has hauled a load of oats to town, and only got 35 cents per bushel for them. He did not know they were selling so low. On another page a man has left his team on the plow while he steps into the house and gets his lawyer's opinion on an important point over the wire. Every page has its picture and situation. Here a threshing gang is ordered over the 'phone, while an unfortunate has driven for miles on a similar errand, only to be disappointed. Here a farmer corrects a statement of an apple-buyer by calling up his neighbor. And so they go; the sick are inquired after; the doctor called; neighborly messages sent; machine repairs ordered; alarm of fire sent out, etc.

Of course, this is for advertising purposes, but it is instructive, nevertheless. The Canadian Independent Telephone Company, Limited, Toronto, who have got up the book, deserve credit for the effective way in which they have presented the case. In the year 1875 the telephone was invented in Canada. In the year 1910, a beautiful memorial, in commemoration of that event, is being erected at Brantford. To-day, over 450 independent telephone companies and associations are profitably serving communities, where telephone service was unobtainable from the monopoly, except at prohibitive prices. There is no doubt that competition in the business has resulted in better service. The Canadian Independent Telephone Company is supplying many local companies with all necessities, in the way of high-class telephones, switchboards, and construction material, as well as complete information how to build and equip rural-telephone lines.

There are said to be nearly 7,000,000 telephones in the United States, and less than 250,000 in Canada. It is expected that the wonderful expansion of the business in Canada of late years will continue and increase.

Gentlemen on the Farms.

HOW TO KEEP THE BOYS AND GIRLS ON THE FARM.

I notice in "The Farmer's Advocate" of February 24th an article by Mrs. Hopkins, which I shall have to contradict to some extent. Mrs. Hopkins says the cause of the rush to the city is the rudity of the country. Such, I hope is not the case in the major part of this fair Dominion. If such be the case, why are there so many people coming direct from the city to the farms? Possibly the country folk are not so well polished as the city people, but where will you find a young farmer who puffs a cigar in the company of his lady friend, or his mother? I think you will have to look a second time before finding a more genuine-mannered people than the young folk of the farm.

Mrs. Hopkins also states that the farmer's wife is made to climb into a wagon with a basket on each arm. I do not know where such a thing would occur. I have lived nearly all my life on the farm, and have yet to see anything so inhuman, as, for my experience, every nine out of ten of the country ladies go to the city in the good buggy, and are not ashamed to do their shopping in the principal business part of the town, and very often have reason to look down on the city folk as being ignorant.

Again, as to the social part of the country, I have never had mother, sister or sweetheart brush my clothes, or shine my shoes, or pick them up after me, before or after a social gathering, since I was able to do it myself, unless on very rare occasions; and I am not the only one; in fact, I do not know of a young man in Middlesex county who has been waited on, except in times of sickness. But, instead, they are taught to wait on those of the weaker sex; while, as to courtesy, the lady who lived on a farm thirty-five years, and never had a hat touched to her, must have lived sixty miles from any place, out on a homestead, or in a lumber camp.

Please, Mr. Editor, grant room for a little more about the rude speeches which we hear from the country folk. I am inclined to think that Mrs. Hopkins did not notice the smooth talkers, but just the rough, so-called jokers. But just here, leaving all jokes aside, give the young man a good horse, and a fair share in the management, and, above all, do not expect him to ask for every cent he wants, but give him a little now and then, and I do not think there will be much trouble in keeping the young folk on the farm.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

G. H.