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CALGARY BULL SALE

All previous records were broken by the prices realized at the sixteenth annual auction sale of pure-bred bulls, held under the auspices of the Alberta and Dominion Departments of Agriculture and the Alberta Cattle Breeders' Association at Calgary on April 11 and 12. Three hundred and four head of bulls were sold for a total of \$78,570 or an average of \$242 per head. Last year, when the number of bulls sold was 336, the total sum realized was \$53,355, and the average price paid \$158.79. The previous record average price was in 1913, when sixty-seven bulls sold for an average of \$202.61. The association holds sales annually at Calgary and Lacombe. Altogether, since the sales were inaugurated, 3,272 bulls have been sold for a total of \$411,797.

The sale was the most remarkable ever seen in the province. There was a very large attendance of buyers from all over Western Canada, and bidding was keen throughout. Auctioneer S. W. Paisley, Lacombe, again conducted the sale.

The number and average prices were given in last issue.

No Dairy Bulls

There were no dairy bulls entered, the association having discouraged the offering of dairy bulls at what has come to be regarded as purely a sale of beef bulls. This was one reason for the higher average price realized this year, as the few dairy bulls entered in previous years have usually sold for low prices. Next October the association proposes to hold a sale of dairy stock exclusively. It is believed this will result in the bringing together of more buyers of dairy animals, with the result that breeders of dairy stock will realize better prices on their offerings.

Danger in Numbers

The chief reason for the high prices realized was undoubtedly the boom in the beef cattle business prevailing at the present time, the high quality of many of the animals offered was also a factor. This was particularly true of the Herefords and some of the Shorthorns. There were, however, a considerable number of bulls that did not add anything of a creditable nature to the sale, especially considering the prices paid, and will not likely add much credit to the herds they go to or the country in general. Some step to eliminate this wholesale entry would not only be wise for the association but also for reputable breeders. It would remove many dangers to the reputation of the breeds sold.

At the show held just previous to the sale the following championships were awarded by Prof. W. T. McDonald:

Shorthorns—Open, C. F. Lyall, Strome; reserve, A. W. Latimer, Bowden. Alberta bred, A. W. Latimer; reserve, P. Talbot & Sons, Lacombe.

Herefords—O. A. Boggs, Daysland; reserve, A. Robertson, Westcott.

Aberdeen Angus—Stewart Alexander, Chendle; reserve, Geo. P. Rattray, Cochrane.

Record Prices

The greatest advance in prices over previous years was seen in the Herefords, where the average was \$100 higher than the previous highest average of \$232.91 realized in 1913. The popularity of this breed was very evident, and two Herefords sold respectively for \$705 and \$700, these being the highest individual prices realized. The top price was realized on "Success," a four-year-old Hereford bull by "Gallant Herold 16th" and bred by A. Robertson, Westcott, Alta., and sold to Jas. Melk Davidson, of Coaldale, Alta. H. Sherry, of Clover Bar, Alta., bought the next highest priced bull, "Alberta Don 2nd," bred by O. A. Boggs & Bros., Daysland, Alta. The third highest price for Herefords was \$565, realized by John Wilson, Marmston, Alta., for "Asquith," the first prize two-year-old. This was sold to the Mossom Boyd Ranch, Clouston, Sask.

The highest price realized for a Shorthorn was \$635, paid to A. W. Latimer.

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