

HOLSTEINS

were out in strong force here, as they have been at all the leading fairs this year. Among the exhibitors were McDuffie & Butters, Stanstead, Que.; A. G. Rice, Currie's; Fletcher Bros., Oxford Mills, and Gilroy, Glen Buell. There was, perhaps, more than the usual amount of dissatisfaction with the judging in this class, but we have no doubt the judges acted conscientiously. The trouble is in the difficulty of getting men as judges who have had experience with the breed, and it shows the necessity of having expert judges who know the peculiarities of the breed they are called to pass upon. The prizes in the class of aged bulls were reversed from the Toronto awards, Mr. Rice's bull being here placed first, McDuffie & Butters' second, and Mr. Fletcher's third. The same experience came to exhibitors in the section for aged cows, where the sensational cow Eunice, owned by Mr. Rice, and which won first prize and sweepstakes at Toronto, was here shut off the prize list, to the amazement of all the exhibitors and many spectators. If a cow is to be judged by her capacity for work, and the indications of a great machine for converting food into milk, Eunice surely has these qualities in a high degree, and her record of actual work, as well as prize-winning, stands unsurpassed by many cows in America. McDuffie & Butters were fortunate in winning both first and second prizes in this section with imp. Trintje and Evertje, two very useful-looking cows, but the owners claim that their best cow was not placed. Mr. Fletcher got third prize on a very good cow. There was a very strong ring of three-year-old cows, and Mr. Gilroy secured first place with a business cow of rather small size, but with a nicely-balanced and well-shaped udder, with teats about perfectly placed. In the competition for the herd prize, Mr. Rice received at the hands of the judges some compensation for having degraded his dehorned cow, by giving him the first prize in a very keen contest, but they could not well do otherwise with a herd to which they had given three red tickets—first on bull, first on two-year-old heifer and yearling heifer—and the dehorned cow with her previous record made this herd a strong collection. But McDuffie & Butters had in the second prize herd a grand lot of matured cows, which had proved themselves producers and workers, and for uniformity of excellence was very hard to get over. This firm also won the diploma for best female with their fine cow, imp. Trintje.

GUERNSEYS

were exhibited by Mr. J. N. Greenshields, Danville, Que., and W. H. & C. H. McNish, Lyn, and Isaac Holland, Culloden, who won second prize with his three-year-old bull, May Roseberry. Mr. Greenshields' bull here got back to his proper place, according to Manager Ormsby, who was very much exercised at the indignity practised upon his favorite imp. Adventurer, at Toronto, where he seemed to have been overlooked. This is certainly a very handsome bull, with a rich yellow skin, and every appearance of royal breeding, and was here awarded first prize in his class, and the sweepstakes as best bull, any age. This herd also secured first and second awards for cows, and the herd prize. McNish Bros. scored first for bull calf, for two-year-old heifer, yearling heifer and heifer calf.

JERSEYS

were represented by only one herd, that of Mr. W. A. Reburn, of St. Anne's, Que., except two animals shown by J. E. Bennett, Carleton Place, who received second prize for his three-year-old bull, Brutus of Acklan, and third prize for yearling heifer, Maud of Acklan. Mr. Reburn showed a strong herd in fine condition. His cattle are large, strong and robust, and are richly bred, deep in Victor Hugo and St. Lambert blood, and many of them very closely in-and-in-bred, yet they have every appearance of having strong constitutions. A remarkable instance of success of close in-breeding, is that of the prize two-year-old heifer, Queen Vic of St. Annes 3rd, which counts in her pedigree no less than twelve crosses of Victor Hugo, and is the result of breeding together full brother and sister for four generations, yet she is large for her age, well developed in every respect, and has every appearance of a strong and vigorous constitution. The first prize cow, Jolie 4th of St. Annes, is a grand specimen of the breed, with good size, deep barrel, neat head and horns, great milk veins, and rich yellow skin. The younger things in the herd were well-grown, and show strong family character and much promise of usefulness. The judges of the beef breeds were Messrs. J. I. Hobson, Mossboro, and Robert Miller, Brougham. The breeds were all represented, but in some classes only one or two exhibitors were in the ring. Yet the quality in all classes was good.

SHORTHORNS

were shown by W. C. Edwards & Co., of Rockland, and James Rennie, of Wick, whose white yearling bull, Valasco 22nd, won first prize in his class, and is a bull of great substance and fine quality. Mr. Edwards' herd, now under the care of Mr. Joe Barnett, late of the Agricultural College Farm, at Guelph, is made up of a very useful lot of thick-fleshed animals, headed by the imported three-year-old, red, Collynie-bred bull, Knight of St. John, a bull of fine character, with long, level quarters, and full twist, soft hair and good handling qualities. A very useful imported two-year-old bull, also bred

by Mr. Duthie, is Knight of Lancaster, which won first prize in his class. The massive and matronly five-year-old roan cow, Bessie of Rockland, is wearing well, and would hold her own in first-class company. The fine yearling heifer, Lady Fame, bred by Messrs. Watt, sired by Challenge, and shown by Mr. Edwards, at Chicago, last year, where she won second prize as a heifer calf, has gone on well, and is a long, level heifer, of fine quality, and good promise. Mr. Edwards' cattle were not in high condition, not having been prepared for exhibition, but they were in fine shape and looked like going on to better things, which we have no doubt they will.

HEREFORDS

were represented by the two strong herds which met at Toronto—those of F. A. Fleming, Weston, and H. D. Smith, Compton, Que. The prizes were nearly equally divided, the Toronto awards being reversed in one or two cases. Mr. Fleming's sweepstakes bull, Commodore, and Mr. Smith's first prize cow, Lady Tushingham 3rd, are grand specimens of the breed, and the younger animals in both herds are well up to the standard of first-class. Mr. Fleming captured first and second on aged bulls; second for two-year-old bull; first and second for yearling bull; second for bull calf; for cow, third prize: two-year-old heifer, second prize; yearling heifer, first and third; heifer calf, second and third; herd, first prize; gold medal and diploma for best bull any age. Mr. Smith won first prize for two-year-old bull; bull calf, first; cow, first and second; two-year-old heifer, first; yearling heifer, second; heifer calf, first; herd, second.

GALLOWAYS

Galloways were shown by Jas. Neilson and C. H. McNish, both of Lyn, Ont., and the prizes were nearly equally divided between them, Mr. Neilson capturing the herd prize.

POLLED-ANGUS

Dr. Craik, of Montreal, had a walk-over in this class with his fine herd, which met such strong competition at Toronto and gained a large share of the premiums.

DEVONS

were shown by Messrs. Rudd, of Eden Mills, Ont., and the prizes were distributed much the same as at Toronto.

GRADE CATTLE

The managers of the Ottawa Fair have set a good example by making two classes for grade cattle—one for beef cattle and the other for dairy grades. This we deem a great improvement, as they are entirely distinct classes of cattle, and cannot be judged together with any degree of satisfaction, either to the judges on the exhibitors. In the class for beefing grades, some grand cows and heifers were shown by James Rennie, of Wick. These animals would stand well in comparison with most of the pure-bred Shorthorns shown at the leading fairs, and are a splendid illustration of the potency of pure-bred bulls in grading up the cattle of the country. J. J. Clarke, Ottawa, also showed some very useful animals in this class. The dairy grades made a very interesting class. They were mainly Ayrshire grades, and some of the cows shown had every appearance of being pure-bred. Mr. Clarke, of Ottawa, showed a cow in this class that was, perhaps, as good a type of a dairy cow as anything in the show of any breed. A three-year-old cow, shown by J. R. Campbell, Vernon, was also a very fine model of a dairy cow.

SHEEP

The different breeds of sheep were well represented by selections from the well-known flocks of the following breeders:—Cotswolds, S. Coxworth, Claremont; Leicesters, John Kelly, Shakespeare; Lincolns, Gibson & Walker, Ilderton; Shropshires, R. Davies, Toronto, and J. N. Greenshields, Danville, Que.; Oxford, W. B. Cockburn, Aberfoyle; Dorset Horns, J. A. McGillivray, Uxbridge; Merinos, Smith Bros., Fairfield Plains. It is needless to say that the quality in every class was of a high average, and the only thing required to make the show more interesting was more competition.

SWINE

There was a large display of hogs, and a good share of competition in nearly all the classes. Mr. J. C. Snell acted as single judge in all classes. Berkshires were shown by George Green, Fairview; S. Coxworth, Claremont, and J. E. Gilroy, Glen Buell. The best prizes were divided between the first-named exhibitors. Mr. Green secured the herd prize. Mr. Coxworth won first prize with his aged boar, Highclere Prince. Both these gentlemen showed splendid specimens of the breed. Yorkshires were shown by Joseph Featherston, M. P.; J. N. Greenshields, Q. C.; McNish Bros., Lyn, and others. There were a number of very fine sows shown. The boars were not as good as the sows. It has been remarked that there is a lack of uniformity of type in this class as shown at the fairs, which it should be the aim of breeders to correct. Judges find it difficult to make awards satisfactorily, to themselves or exhibitors, where there is such diversity of type and style. Mr. Featherston had the Suffolk class to himself, with the exception of one boar. Poland-Chinas were represented by animals of very high merit, from the herds of Messrs. Smith, of Fairfield Plains, and Jones Bros., of Mount Elgin. Some very fine Chester Whites and Tamworths were shown by Wm. Butler & Son, Dereham Centre.

Chatty Stock Letter from the States.

FROM OUR CHICAGO CORRESPONDENT.

Best corn-fed beef steers, \$6.15; best Montana grassers, \$4.90; best heavy hogs, \$5.50; best light hogs, \$5.25; best sheep, \$3.75, with muttons good enough to export at \$3.25; best lambs, \$4.25. These prices are lower all along the line than two weeks ago, especially on hogs, which declined \$1.25 per 100 lbs., much to the surprise even of the packers, who were exerting every possible influence to break the market. The tendency in the hog market lately has been to narrow the range of prices between good and common stock. Buyers say that with the improvement of the average quality of the hogs they can get satisfactory droves of medium priced hogs without competing so strongly for the few fairly heavy hogs offered.

There is usually a powerful effort made by the packers to lower prices for hogs just before the opening of the winter packing season—now Oct. 1—but this year, when the conditions seemed most against them, they made a more successful raid on prices than for many years, considering the suddenness and extent of the decline. The stocks of provisions were very light, and the home and foreign demand was good, but prices for provisions on the Board of Trade were manipulated, and the price of hogs was forced down in accordance. One of the strongest arguments the packers have used was the depression in cotton values in the South. They claim that this has practically cut off for this year what has been a very large demand for bacon and salt and smoked meats.

Wheat is not the only depressed staple of this country. Cotton is also at hitherto unheard-of low prices. Cash cottons recently sold at \$5.80, the lowest price ever made. The cotton quotation, like the wheat, is about one-half of what used to be considered an average price. However, there is an ever-present law of compensation at work, and the cheap cotton is making cheap feed in the South, and the chances are that farmers who are fixed for taking advantage of it, will make money on converting cotton-seed meal and hulls into beef.

The reports of a large number of Western correspondents on wheat feeding show that farmers, to a large extent, have tested the value of wheat (when ground) as food for all classes of stock, and are using it freely and deriving benefits from its use that are surprising. Many of the correspondents who have made scientific tests state that one bushel of wheat, when ground and properly fed, is equal to one and a-half bushels of corn, and, as this is a year when it will be used to a large extent, it is apt to revolutionize the stock-feeding business.

The number of very young Western pigs being forced on the market is still very large. Correspondents generally report large numbers of young hogs, with small supplies of fat, heavy porkers.

Chicago received 31,334 sheep in one day recently, and 27,000 on another day within a week. The free wool business seems to be turning the heads of sheepowners, and they are scrambling to "clean out."

Fall Care of Sheep.

It is not uncommon, and especially now that the sheep trade is quiet, to turn the ram among the ewes and trust to luck. In many cases the results of such a course may be all right, but not always. There is a risk of being minus a crop of lambs the following spring. A much better plan is to house the ram each night, so that a feed of grain may be given him, and when turned out in the morning he should be carefully observed by the shepherd for ten or fifteen minutes. This may seem, to a great many, too troublesome, and to such we suggest an easier plan, that will at least prevent a total failure. The ram should in all cases have his breast painted, and for this purpose red ochre mixed with lard answers well. If painted once in three or four days, the served ewes can be detected. As soon as the flock have all been served, a fresh ram should be turned in, having his breast painted blue. It will soon be seen whether the first used ram was to be depended on or not. There are almost always a few ewes in a flock that will not breed from one ram, but will in the case of another. Such ewes will be saved a barren year by the plan outlined. All the ewes that retain the red color, and received no other, will be known to lamb earlier than the others, and in keeping track of pedigrees the sire of every lamb is known. If a third ram is to be used, the color of the paint on his breast may be black or some other dark shade.

When the pasture fails in the autumn, a few acres of rape makes a splendid substitute, but when this is not to be had, a daily grain ration should be given, composed of oats and bran, or oats and wheat, and a small feed of clover hay in the morning. Ewes treated in this manner will go into winter quarters in splendid form to suit their pregnant condition, and, if allowed plenty of outdoor exercise, liberal but plain food, a dry shelter, free from draughts, will bring forth a high percentage of vigorous youngsters.

The matter of parasites is a consideration one cannot afford to ignore. Flocks that have not had a thorough dipping during the spring or summer season will be almost certain to contain in their fleeces a lot of ticks, and in some cases, little lice. There are several well-known preparations, either of which should be used before the cold weather comes on, but even after that time it may better be done than left till spring.