

The Western Fair—Canada's Favorite Live Stock Exhibition.

In a few days after receipt by our readers of this issue, the Western Fair, London, Ont., will have opened its gates to its thousands of visitors, and all the live stock, agricultural and horticultural products, agricultural machinery, and carriages; in short, everything that is required to make the life of the farmer, manufacturer and merchant happy and less burdensome, will be in their places for inspection, purchase and sale. The Western Fair had never brighter prospects than at present. With each year it gains strength and becomes wider known and patronized by people of all classes and requirements who assemble for diverse reasons, some to see the advancement in science and art, others for the object of witnessing improvement in live stock and the latest inventions in machinery and agricultural implements; others for pointers in making cheese and butter, and not a few to be entertained with the special features of the Fair. We can safely say that at the Western Fair of 1895 each of the classes referred to and all others will find their desires gratified to the fullest extent.

A word to those who have not made their entries yet: do so at once, that you may receive the required space or stabling, and also to assist the Secretary through his duties. A large number of stalls have already been allotted, and perhaps the precise location you may have liked will be gone, so make haste and get the next best. Straw and water are provided by the Association, and everything will be done within reason for the comfort and to supply the wants of the exhibitors.

As London is pre-eminently a railway, agricultural and live stock centre, its success as an Agricultural Show is assured. The prominent breeders of all classes of animals, the fanciers and breeders of poultry, and the best manufacturers and farmers are always represented, so that the Fair is of personal interest to every resident of Western Ontario, and they should show their appreciation of the Association's efforts by their personal appearance on the grounds during the Fair from Sept. 12th to 21st.

The special attractions are entirely different from those of preceding years, and consist of an entire troupe of Arabs, etc. Send for programme giving details. The present outlook indicates a decided improvement both in the number and quality of the exhibits and in the attendance. Never has this Fair been better advertised. Come and enjoy your annual holiday with them.

Canada Central, Ottawa.

Secretary McMahon writes us that everything points to their having the best exhibition yet held. Entries and applications are far ahead of any previous year at this date.

In addition to the regular prize list of \$14,000, there are offered 35 "specials," including 25 gold medals, silver and bronze medals, silver cups and special cash prizes.

It may be expected in connection with these medals, that they are not all struck off from a die, as is the case generally with other exhibitions, but each medal is specially designed and made by hand to suit each individual case. Thus, if the medal is awarded for a Shorthorn bull, a special design is made bearing the figure of a bull; if for a stallion, another distinctly separate design is made with the image of a stallion, and so on.

The medals are all hand-made, and are not cast from dies. They are of the most artistic and elegant design, and very massive.

This is a distinct feature in connection with the Central Canada Exhibition, and has been very highly expatiated on by prize winners of past years.

Apart from the Fair, a visit to Ottawa—Canada's Capital—with its fine scenery, public buildings, together with the Central Experimental Farm, is one of the events of a lifetime.

The "Fake" Element at Agricultural Shows.

A contributor of the Whitty (Ont.) Chronicle makes the following vigorous observations regarding the conduct of local agricultural fairs, which might well be taken to heart by many societies throughout the country:

"Of late years, especially last year, there was a general disapproval of the management of the fair. This was partly for allowing fakirs of every description to come into the fair grounds to operate their most villainous and swindling practices, picking pockets, or anything else that comes in their way. Not only that, but they attract the worst element possible. They are so plausible and delusive in their practices that the unsuspecting are caught in their meshes ere they are aware. They also break the interest in the fair. Thus its best purposes are thwarted. It very frequently happens that some innocent youth who, after receiving the red ticket, and perhaps sweepstakes, approaches these vile men with no other object than to see and be seen. Their tricks seem so plausibly simple that he is tempted to try his skill, and, of course, is caught, and in five minutes all his summer's pocket-money is gone. Red ticket, sweepstakes and all, fall into insignificance, and the whole fair is spoiled. His mother is grief-stricken that her son (whose eyes she has so carefully guarded from beholding iniquity) should have performed the part of a simpleton. The youth, simply through being a little impulsive, is caught in a plausible delusion. Indeed, many who have got beyond the 'greenie' age are caught, but are cunning enough to bear the mortification in silence. If they will operate their villainies, let them be driven outside the walls, and placed under their own colors, so that every one may know with whom they are dealing. They should not be allowed to operate under the protecting wing of an honorable body like the Agricultural Society. Under the protection of this body everyone parent expects that his child will be shielded from contaminating influences, or as far as within the power of the managers to make it so. The best way would be to give fakirs no rest for the soles of their feet within the corporation, but let them be driven out, and shunned like a plague. Those who come to the fair because of this being the chief attraction will most assuredly receive no benefit, neither will others receive a benefit from them. Dollars and cents are not to be lost sight of, but when weighed against the better interests of the community they become not only trivial but despicable. If the fair cannot sustain itself without these swindlers, and stand upon its own merits, the better way will be to lock the gates and allow them to remain so."

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto Markets.

The live stock market was only fairly supplied. A few complaints are heard that the farmers are sending on their cattle in a half-finished condition, greatly to the detriment of the market, causing a quantity of butchers' stock to be held over. There is a fair demand for the right kind of cattle of good quality; the trouble is that only a few of these are on hand, so that trade was only fair. Lambs and hogs went lower. A good many sheep and lambs were left over at the close of the day and taken on to Buffalo.

Export cattle. Only one or two buyers were operating. The cables were very depressing. Dr. MacEachran, of Montreal, the Dominion Veterinary Surgeon, was on the market making enquiries as to the cattle reported suffering from disease in the Old Country. These went through this market a month ago.

Most of the cattle ranged from 3c. to 3½c. per lb.; one or two lots of picked cattle reached 4c. per lb.; two carloads of

cattle, 1,200-lb. average, \$55 per head; one carload, 1,200-lb. average, \$52 per head; one carload, 1,300-lb. average, 4½c. per lb.

The offerings included 2,000 sheep and lambs, 600 hogs, 75 calves, about 12 milk cows. Most of these came from the Wiarton and Hanover districts.

Total receipts for the week: Cattle, 2,451; sheep and lambs, 7,529; calves, 95; hogs, 2,216. Six double-decked loads of sheep went forward to Montreal over the G. T. R.; about 30 load by the C. P. R. The best sale of the day was a bunch of 20 cattle, 1,250-lb. average, which were sold for 4½c. per lb. These cattle were stall-fed, having never been on the grass, and were fine quality Shorthorn grades. There was some demand for bulls; one carload averaging 1,350 lbs. each, one load averaging 1,800 lbs. each, at 4½c. per lb., less \$5 on the deal.

Butcher Cattle.—One or two extra choice picked cattle sold for 3½c. per lb.; 3½c. per lb. good. Mr. Halligan purchased four load of picked cattle for Montreal, paying 3½c. per lb. to 3½c. Some of the common cattle were sold for 2½c. to 2½c. per lb., but a big drove was left in the pens at the close of the day.

Milk Cows and Springers.—Only a dozen on offer; not many wanted. At the close of the day a very good Holstein was sold at \$38; a few sold at prices according to quality, from \$25 to \$30.

Sheep and Lambs.—Lambs were hard to sell; about 400 remained unsold. Prices of good ewes, 3c. to 3½c. per lb.; \$2 to \$2.70 per head. Sheep were quiet at 3½c. to 3½c. for choice culled shipping ewes and wethers.

Stocks and Feeders.—There were not many offerings. Joseph Lunness picked up all there were on offer at 2½c. to 2½c. per lb. for the Walkerville distillery; a few more wanted.

Hogs.—A very fair number of good hogs were on sale to-day. Priced at 5½c. lb. to \$5.20 off cars; thick fat, \$1.50 per 100 lbs. No stores wanted; almost 600 on offer; anything but the very best were hard to sell. Sows at \$4.

A specimen of Manitoba wheat was on view to-day, but new wheat will not be moving for another month, and it is not likely to be seen here before October. None of it weighs less than 59 lbs. to the bushel, and it averages 60 lbs. No one can pay more than 60c. per bushel for export in the present state of the market, although it fetches 74c. on this market to-day. Wheat is steadier; 200 bushels selling at 74c.

Oats.—Offerings liberal; 300 bushels selling at 30c. to 31c.; new; old oats selling 36c. to 38c. Stocks of grain as per trade report:—

	Aug. 20, '95.	Aug. 20, '94.
Fall Wheat	700 bush.	40,554
Spring "	543 "	1,897
Hard "	6,500 "	1,500
Oats	29,615 "	25,933

Mill feed.—There is not much offering; the demand is smaller. City mills quote shorts at \$17 to \$18.50 per ton. Bran prices nominal at \$15.50 to \$16 per ton, f. o. b. cars.

Barley is quiet; cars of dark feed are quoted at 40c. The barley market is quiet; but good enquiries from American maltsters, who will give Canadian barley the preference the coming season.

Hay and Straw.—The receipts were small; 10 loads only. The market is firm at \$14 to \$14.50 for new, and \$17 to \$18 for old. One load of straw at \$9.50; \$10 offered, but missed. Baled hay, car lots, \$12.50 to \$13.50 No. 2.

Butter 16c. to 18c. per lb., for best fancy lots and table use; the market is bare, and good dairy makes are scarcely equal to local requirements.

Honey.—New very scarce; good demand for best; 8c. lb. bulk; 10c. basswood per lb.

Poultry.—The offerings are only fair; demand good; the market steady; 8c. to 10c. for turkeys; 15c. to 55c. for ducks; 40c. to 60c. chickens.

Wool and Hides.—There is no change in the situation; no enquiry for export; the local dealers are taking small lots, and are quoting 2½c. for combings outside. Pulled wools—Stocks of domestic grades were never so low at this time of year, there being little or no Canadian pulled wools in the market. We quote 22c. to 23c. for extras and 20c. to 22c. for supers. The market is dull; tanners are afraid to buy, and taking only sufficient to meet immediate requirements; dealers say that they do not see any prospect for a decline. Cured hides, 9½c.; green, 8c. Lamb skins and pelts.—There is a good demand, and the market is firmer at 50c.

PRICES RANGE AS TABULATED.			
Milkers and springers	\$25.00 to \$30.00 each		
Butchers' choice	3½c. "	3½c. lb.	
Butchers' good	2½c. "	3½c. lb.	
Cattle, export	4c. "	4½c. lb.	
Sheep	3½c. "	3½c. lb.	
Lambs	3c. "	3½c. lb.	
Hogs, thick fat	\$1.25 "	\$1.50 cwt.	
Hogs, long lean	50c. "	50c. "	
Eggs	11c. "	14 per doz.	
Butter	16c. "	18 per lb.	
Oats, old	36c. "	38 per bush.	
Oats, new	30c. "	31c. "	
Wheat	74c. "		
Hay, new	14.00 "	14.50 per ton.	
Hay, old	17.00 "	18.00 "	
Straw	9.50 "	10.00 "	
Cheese	7½c. "	8c. "	

Montreal.

With the firmer tone of the English markets two weeks ago, the export demand for both cattle and sheep have improved slightly. The drop in values anticipated by the expected arrival of a large number of Manitoba cattle did not materialize, mainly due to this improved feeling. The shippers of the above lot, Messrs. Mullins & Wilson, undoubtedly made a fair sale. Their hogs (649) realized fully 20c. per cwt. more than the market price allowed, they being contracted for in advance. The price paid was \$3.25 per cwt. off cars. The cattle (10 head) were bought for export at 4½c. per pound. The greater part of the Northwest stock arriving is in splendid condition.

With the unexpected depression reported in the British cables this week, cattle have again dropped off slightly, further aided by the fact that most of the ocean space to the first or second week in September has been booked. Export cattle have ranged in price from 3½c. per pound for the best butchers' stock to 4½c. for the best on offer. There were one or two exceptional cases where the half cent was paid, but it was an outside figure. There are no really prime cattle being offered. Butchers' cattle ranged in value from 2c. per pound for culls to 3½c. per pound for the pick (one lot of culls sold for \$1.60 per cwt., which was, however, an exception).

Export sheep have met with a fairly active demand at from 3½c. to 3½c. per lb. for choice ewes and wethers; butchers' stock selling all the way from 2c. to 3½c. per lb.

Calves are growing scarce now as the season advances and very few are brought in; these realize from \$2 to \$8, as to size and quality.

As for the live hog market, it is a difficult one to deal with; each succeeding market records an unexpected change. Yesterday (Thursday) hogs were offered at a reduction of full 3½c. per cwt. for western light bacon (140 to 160 lbs.) or \$5.40 to \$5.50 off cars; heavier grade (175 to 180 lbs. average) \$5.30 to \$5.40; and thick fat from \$4.90 to \$5.20 per cwt. off cars.

Shipments show a falling off this week of nearly 1,600 head compared with last week, and are 2,622 cattle. For the two weeks the shipments were 6,282 cattle, 12,464 sheep, and 812 horses. The total shipments from May 1st to date are:—

Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Horses.	No. of Steamers.
1895	55,855	62,742	7,768	111
1894	51,361	48,792	2,998	115

As will be seen the shipments so far this season show a substantial increase all round on last year, and as last season showed an increase over 1893, it speaks well for the prosperity of our shipping interests.

Chatty Stock Letter from Chicago.

(BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Extreme top prices now, compared with two weeks and one and two years ago:—

CATTLE.	Present prices.	Two weeks ago.	1894.	1893.
1500 lbs. up	\$5.90	\$6.00	\$5.35	\$5.35
1350 @ 1500	5.80	5.85	5.35	5.05
1200 @ 1350	5.65	5.80	5.15	5.05
1050 @ 1200	5.40	6.00	4.85	4.65
900 @ 1050	5.10	5.30	4.75	4.45
Stillers	5.50	5.60		
Feeders	4.00	4.10	3.15	3.25
Fat cows	4.25	3.75	4.25	3.40
Canners	2.50	2.50	2.10	2.40
Bulls	4.00	4.00	3.75	3.60
Calves	6.00	6.00	5.25	5.60
Texas steers	3.70	4.35	3.15	3.25
Texas C. & B.	2.75	3.05	2.30	2.35
W. Rangers	4.40	5.10	4.55	4.00
Range Cows	3.75	4.00	3.55	3.25
Hogs.				
Mixed	5.00	5.15	5.75	6.00
Heavy	4.80	5.10	5.90	6.65
Light	5.00	5.40	5.65	6.25
Pigs	4.70	5.15	5.25	5.75
SHEEP.				
Natives	3.75	4.25	3.75	4.62
Western	3.25	3.50	3.25	3.50
Texans	3.00	3.50	3.25	3.25
Lambs	5.00	5.65	4.25	5.60
Sept. Wheat	62½	67½	54½	61½
" Corn	35½	40	54½	37½
" Pork	9.57½	9.52½	13.57½	13.05

Native beef cattle are selling 40c. higher on an average than a year ago, while western ranges are about the same. The last ten days of August, 1894, natives advanced 50¢ @ 60¢, selling up to \$5.90. Last September best natives sold as high as \$6.45.

There has lately been a heavy slump in the market for western range cattle, prices dropping 60c. to \$1.00 from the high point of the season, as a result of unprecedentedly large receipts for so early in the year.

Range cattle receipts for the season to date foot up 87,500, against 40,500 the corresponding time last year. With receipts of ranges over 50,000 ahead by the third week in August, there is no wonder prices tumbled rapidly.

The beef of the western range cattle is exactly what the slaughterers want, and the cattle from Montana, Dakota and Wyoming have been made in many cases to take the place of "native" cattle usually used for exportation alive.

Concerning the prospects of the hog crop, an authority says: "The general hog situation is better than for many weeks past, owing to more competition between packers and shippers. Armour has entered the market a free buyer. We learn from the most reliable sources that the supplies of hogs throughout the States east of here are unusually light for this time of the year, and as the cool weather approaches, and the cash demand increases, shippers will have to increase their purchases. Receipts at the four principal Western markets show very little over one-half of last year's, and this state of affairs promises to continue right up to next November. We cannot expect any large receipts of hogs until the present large crop of spring pigs is matured from the new crop of corn. What the coming crop of hogs will be is largely problematical, as reliable advices report a large amount of sickness in the best hog-raising sections of Missouri, Iowa, and Illinois.

A commission man writes as follows, concerning the best grades of corn-fed cattle: "The outlook for the future, up to the holidays, is very promising on finished native cattle, but they must be fat to command the premium over the medium grade cattle. Reports are universal from all sections that the supply of fat cattle is the lightest known in years. As the weather gets cooler the demand for beef increases, which will keep prices on a strong scale up to the time when the cattle commence to come good from the new crop of corn."

The great coliseum being constructed on the site of the Buffalo Bill show grounds, near the Columbian Exposition site, met with a destructive accident. Unevenly distributed weight on the roof displaced the giant iron arch, which in turn carried away nine others. The building is a wreck, and it is not yet decided whether it will be completed. It was to have been opened by the Barnum circus September 2nd, and was to have sheltered the Fat Stock Show. Just what provision will be made for the latter has not yet been settled.

The Washington Park summer meeting of trotting and pacing horses was conducted without any gambling attachments. The vast crowd that was drawn out by the Joe Patchen-John R. Gentry pacing race was evidence enough that people will attend good races without the pool-selling attraction.

The demand from abroad for good American horses is remarkably strong, and it is said upon good authority that there will be a still better demand as the fall season advances.

East Buffalo Stock Letter.

Sheep and Lambs.—The arrival of Canadian lambs so far have been rather light, and the few that have been here were poor quality, and prices unsatisfactory to shippers. The receipts of native stuff have been heavy, with the bulk of the offerings common half-fat stuff, and prices consequently very low; and we would advise our Canadian friends to grade their shipments carefully, and make their purchases in accordance with the markets. The receipts for the past week have been rather light, though the improvement in prices has been mostly on the prime lambs; anything, though, that is not good quality is selling very low in price, and there is not likely to be any improvement on the latter grades for some time to come. There is a good deal of far Western stuff to be marketed yet, which has been held back all summer on account of an abundance of grass. At some of the points tributary to this market the weather has been very dry, and the bulk of the stuff has been marketed; but, generally speaking, we look for rather liberal receipts for the next thirty or sixty days. After that we look for an improvement in values, and believe that good stuff will command better prices. Best Canadian lambs, from 75 to 85 lbs. average, selling from \$5.20 to \$5.40; cull lambs are selling about 3c. per lb.; some fancy export sheep selling here at 4c., but the bulk of the best ones around \$3.50; good butcher sheep from \$2.50 to \$3.00.

In the cattle line the market remains about steady on good kinds. Prime corn-fed beefs, the few that are coming, are selling readily at strong prices. The common or medium grades, or anything that is not fat, is selling lower. Receipts of range cattle in the West are heavy, and prices on them have declined about 50c. per hundred, which, naturally, has a depressing effect here also.

Hogs stand around the 5c. mark; some extra heavy grades, weighing around 300 lbs., strictly corn-fed, selling down as low as \$4.90, and some light grades, weighing around 150 lbs., up as high as \$5.20. Pigs selling very low around \$1.50 for the best. We are not likely to have much of a decline, though, we believe, that prices in 1896 will be lower than they were in 1895.

EDWARD BROS.

There is no reason why every farmer should not have an abundance of many luxuries that are good for him, in the shape of fruit. Plums, apples, pears and cherries need very little attention, except planting. This is a good time to set out strawberry plants, if good strong runners are used and not allowed to run much after setting. The beds set out last spring will need attention to place the runners evenly.