

Report of the Poultry Exhibit at Toronto.

In visiting the poultry building one is struck by the grandness of the display, not an empty coop being found, and on interviewing the judges, Messrs. Butterfield, Jarvis and Smith, they informed us it was the finest exhibition of poultry ever held in Canada, both as regards quantity and quality. The poultry industry is getting to be quite an item at our various Canadian exhibitions, and from the way the building is crowded it shows the interest the farming community take in the exhibits. When properly managed there is nothing more remunerative than poultry, and as a rule the farming community are beginning to find it out. Below will be found the number of birds in each class:—

OLD BIRDS.	
Brahmas, Dark	23
" " Light	24
Cochin, Buff	13
" " Partridge	11
" " White	10
" " Black	6
Langshan	27
Dorking, Colored	12
" " Silver Gray	9
" " White	4
Houdans	5
La Fleche	4
Creve Coeur	4
Wyandotte, Black	9
" " White	11
Silver Laced	11
Golden Laced	7
Plymouth Rock, Barred	25
" " White	15
Dominique	1
Black Red Game	11
Brown Red	8
Duck Wing	9
Pyle	8
Indian Game	12
Any other variety	9
Hamburg, Black	9
" " Golden Pencilled	6
" " Silver Pencilled	5
" " Golden Spangled	6
" " Silver Spangled	10
Red Cap	8
Javas	13
Leghorns, White	14
" " Brown	20
" " Rose Comb, Brown	17
" " " " White	11
Black Leghorn	9
Buff	4
Spanish	15
Andalusian	5
Minorcas, Black	11
" " White	11
Polands, White Crested	5
" " Silver Crested	4
" " Golden	6
" " Buff Laced	6
Any other variety	5

There were 107 entries of bantams, and about the same number of birds of 1893 as in the old class.

Turkeys, geese and ducks of 1893, 68 entries. The principal exhibitors were Messrs. Bogue, McNeil, McCormick, Saunders, Scott, Sage, London, Ont.; James, St. Thomas; Rice, Whitby; Smith, of Fairfield Plains; Brown, Barber & Co., Bonnick; Downs, Toronto; Wagner, Mimico; Donovan, Toronto; Gray, Todmorden. There were 281 entries of pigeons and 38 of rabbits. The turkeys of Messrs. Main, Bell and Hodson were very fine. Bogue, of London, and Colson, of Guelph, showed some very fine Pekin ducks—as I heard one man remark, they were like geese. The show on the whole was a credit to Ontario.

Pitting Turnips.

A Subscriber asks: "How shall I pit my turnips so that they will neither heat nor freeze?" Turnips are the easiest roots to keep in pits; if gathered in fine weather and carefully covered, they should come out any time through the winter the better for storing.

It is better not to place them too thick. Long pits, about 31 feet high, are about right; cover rather thickly with straw, and about 6 inches of earth. Place 6-inch square ventilators every 10 feet, formed of 6 and 8-inch fence boards. Cut one pair of the four boards 3 inches longer than the other two, which will allow a circulation of air after a cap is nailed on the top. It is well to select a sheltered situation, where the snow is not so apt to be blown off the pits. A fine mould is best for covering, as clay that cakes in digging is apt to leave too many air spaces where wet and frost may enter. Mangolds require much heavier covering.

An Error Corrected.

In our report of the Industrial Show, we credited Mr. S. C. Johnson's three-year-old Clydesdale stallion Balgownie with second prize honor. We find this was a mistake, and it was Mr. J. Davidson's Westfield Stamp that carried this honor, while Balgownie won third, as the official prize list in this issue states. We understand Mr. T. Little, Sand Hill, Ont., has since purchased Westfield Stamp of Mr. Davidson. He is a horse of wonderful substance, and of a type that Clydesdale men should cultivate.

Ottawa Central Fair.

This exhibition opened on the 22nd of September, under very unfavorable auspices. The whole week, with the exception of one or two days, was very wet and disagreeable; indeed the weather for several months previous had been so excessively wet that the farmers were much behind with their work, and thus did not patronize it as they have in the past years. The Montreal show coming off at an earlier date than usual had a tendency to lessen the number of exhibitors, as many of the western men would not bring their stock so far east for one exhibition. Still, in spite of all drawbacks, the citizens turned out well, and helped the management to even up, so that they could show a clear balance sheet. The Experimental Farm made a splendid exhibit, which included a working dairy, where the seeker after dairy knowledge could see the whole milk taken in, tested with the Babcock test, run through the separator, and the cream made into butter in the most approved manner. They also showed a very tastefully arranged display of the most promising varieties of grains, vegetables, grapes and other fruits, and samples of the different liquids used as fungicides and insecticides, with the formulae for their preparation. The dog show claimed a large share of attention. The Locked Wire Fence and the Page Wire Fence Companies both had specimens of their fences erected on the grounds, and came in for a large amount of inspection from the farmers. Another centre of attraction for the farmers was the tarpaulins, horse and binder covers, stack covers and waterproof clothing of ever description, made by Mr. J. Tobin, Ottawa. He exhibited a tarpaulin, made tank-fashion, into which about thirty gallons of water was poured at the beginning of the fair, and was held perfectly through the whole ten days of the exhibition. Mr. Tobin did a rushing business, and found it almost impossible to keep up with the demand for his horse covers. A very pleasing feature of the grand parade, and one not seen at any of the other exhibitions, was the handsomely decked four-horse wagons which headed the procession. Upon the first one was arranged specimens of corn, beans, sunflowers, grains, roots and vegetables, the product of the Ottawa Experimental Farm. The three following wagons displayed the different brands of flour and feed manufactured by the McKay Milling Co., of Ottawa.

There was a regrettable falling off in all the classes of live stock, as was shown by the long rows of empty stalls.

HORSES.

This department was rather below the average as regards the quantity, but the quality was all that could be desired. Graham Bros., of Claremont, had twelve of their Clydesdales on exhibition, and won all the best prizes. They also showed a pair of Hackneys, a mare and their well-known stallion Seagull, which won first money. W. Allen, Hull, P. Q., showed a number of Clydesdales. W. H. Craig, V. S., Cornwall, Ont., showed some good thoroughbreds, French coach and carriage horses, while G. Sparks brought out his Clydes and French coach horses. W. W. Kerby, W. Hume, Ottawa, and Jas. Collander, North Gore, were the chief exhibitors in saddle horses and hunters.

CATTLE.

The absence of a number of western breeders, coupled with the fact that this is essentially a dairy section, accounted for the weakness of this show in the beef breeds. The Ayrshires were well up to the mark, with herds from such well-known breeders as Jas. Drummond, Petite Cote, D. McLachlan, Petite Cote, Jas. Johnston, Montreal, John Newman and others from Quebec, while R. Reid & Co., Huntington, J. G. Clark, Ottawa, Jas. Yuill, Carleton Place, W. M. & J. C. Smith, Fairfield Plains, represented Ontario. Both old and young herd prizes, as well as the special gold medal, were won by Jas. Drummond, Petite Cote, D. McLachlan winning the silver medal, and Jas. Johnston the bronze. J. G. Clark won second on three-year bull, and D. McLachlan first on two-year-old bull. The prizes for grade cattle for dairy purposes were principally taken by R. Reid & Co., with their splendid herd of Ayrshire grades.

Guernseys.—In this class J. N. Greenshields and C. H. & W. H. McNish divided the prizes, Greenshields securing the herd prize and the majority of the red tickets.

Jerseys.—W. A. Reburn, St. Anne's, showed the herd which had been so successful in winning prizes at the larger exhibitions, while J. Erratt, Geo. Fowler and S. B. & B. Slinn, all of Ottawa, showed a few specimens each.

Holsteins.—In this class McDufee & Butters won herd prize, and the most of the firsts, with the herd that was so successful at Toronto and London. Jos. Fletcher, Oxford Mills, secured first and second on two-year-old heifer, and second on the herd. Gilroy & Son, of Glen Buell, received the red ticket for yearling bull.

Durhams were chiefly represented by the herds of Jas. Crerar, Shakespeare, Ont., D. Brims, Athlestan, Que., and Jas. Forth, Glen Buell, Ont. Mr. Crerar won the sweepstakes for bull and herd prize, while D. Brims secured four awards, three of which were firsts.

Galloways.—This hardy breed of blackskins were represented by the herd of J. A. Neilson, Lyn, while the Messrs. McNish won a blue ticket on a yearling heifer.

Herefords.—F. A. Fleming was the only exhibitor of white faces, of which he showed a number of good ones.

Aberdeen-Angus.—W. A. R. Stewart, Lucasville, had it all his own way with his herd of Daddies, while Messrs. McNish secured second on a yearling heifer and heifer calf.

SHEEP.

The following were the chief exhibitors: S. Coxworth, Claremont, in Cotswolds.

In Leicesters, the eastern men received most of the prizes. D. Pringle, Huntington, Que., and J. Pringle, Athlestan, Que., both show good flocks. J. Forth, Glen Buell, also showed a few.

In Shropshires, the honors went to Quebec, J. N. Greenshields, Danville, Que., winning the bulk of the prizes, while D. Brims secured the flock prize and several others.

In Oxford Downs, the well-known western breeder, Henry Arkell, from Arkell, Ont., showed an excellent flock. A. Gilmore & Co., Huntington, Que., received one first and two seconds.

R. Shaw & Sons exhibited Southdowns and Merinoes. W. M. & J. C. Smith also showed Merinoes.

SWINE.

The show in this department was small. The principal exhibitors were: S. Coxworth, Claremont, Berkshires; J. N. Greenshields, Danville, Que., Yorkshires; Jos. Featherstone, Streetsville, Suffolks.

Chester Whites were shown by S. B. & B. Slinn, Ottawa.

W. Allen, Hull, and the Messrs. McNish, Lyn, exhibited a few Yorkshires, while the Messrs. Smith, Fairfield Plains, showed Poland-Chinas.

Fencing as Seen at the Fairs.

Fencing is one of the most costly departments to keep up on the farm, and anything new in this line that will tend to curtail expenses is sure to meet the approval of those concerned.

In wire fences, the Locked Wire Fence Co., Ingersoll, had a sample of their fence at all the leading fall fairs. They have only been established in Canada some eight months, yet they have now agents in almost every county, who have built samples and are qualified to sell farm rights or build the fence as parties may require. This fence has many advantages. It is cheaply constructed, forms a perfect barrier from, and is not injurious to stock, while in point of durability it stands at the top of the list. The fence is formed by smooth wire, which, having a slight crimp made in it, and a bent clamp placed over the crimp, forms a space for a stay which runs from wire to wire, thus securely joining the whole of the wires, forming a truss that makes the fence perfectly rigid and strong.

M. T. Buchanan, Ingersoll, also showed a fence on something the same principle, except that a wide band with a slot and a crimp in the wire forms a place to run the wire stay.

Then there was the Page wire fence, which was described in our Sept. 1st issue. This fence is built in the shop, and has many friends. It is quickly put up, and if done right forms a strong barrier.

A new (to us) design in wire fencing is the Truss and Cable wire built by the Ontario Lead & Barb Wire Co., Toronto, Ont. This is formed by the separate cables which are made of two wires twisted together, and in which a square mesh woven between forms the truss. This makes a strong and visible fence, and if it can be placed cheaply on the market, would attract much attention. It is made by a machine in the shop.

In movable fences there were two exhibits at Toronto that are particularly handy on the farm. This consisted of the Harris fence, which is built of inch lumber, except an upright which has a foot to keep the fence from blowing down. An iron dog keeps the hurdles in place. This fence is quickly removed, and may be opened at any point. In the March issue of the Advocate this fence was illustrated in the advertising columns.

Another fence which was much approved of was the Duncan Fence, also movable. This fence was built with hardwood, the bars being 2x2, with a movable end formed like an A. There was a barbed wire on the top of each hurdle. This fence is quickly removed and easily set up again.

Crowded Out.

The crowded condition of our columns this issue prevents us publishing a full report of the sheep and swine departments at the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago. In the sheep departments Canadians were very successful; many of the winning animals in each class were bred or fitted in Canada. In the swine departments the judging is going on at the time of writing. We learn that Mr. Joseph Featherstone, M. P., has been very successful in the Essex class. The show of sheep and pigs is marvellous, both in number and quality. One of the most noticeable features is the almost total absence of inferior animals. In our next issue a very full report will be given of each class in the sheep and swine divisions.