

young filly foal by Royal Harold was first. This filly has great merit and quality. One of the most remarkable classes of the whole section was that for pairs, mares or geldings; but generally these pairs are mares; and a grand sight it is to see them in the ring. Boquet and Lady Franklin, the former seven and the latter six years old, won the coveted honors for Mr. P. A. Muntz, M.P. Such is but a mere outline of this year's grand show, where any who desire to see the Shire horse to perfection, or a grand lot of hunters, should not fail to attend if opportunity offers.

Amongst the more notable winners in the Short-horn classes was Mr. J. E. Casswell (one of our advertisers), who, amongst other things, secured the championship of the section with Laughton Earl 16th, sold at a big figure for Buenos Ayres. Mr. J. Deane Willis; H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, who, by the way, won in the yearling heifer class first prize, with a grand one; Mr. J. Athinson, and Mr. P. L. Mills were principal winners.

Amongst the winners in the classes for Aberdeen-Angus cattle was Mr. R. W. Hudson, whose advertisement will be regularly seen in our columns, and from whom can be obtained typical and excellent specimens of the live stock there offered for sale, including the above-named breed.

The sheep section—not an over large one—was a good one. Mr. J. E. Casswell's Lincoln Long-wool rams taking first and second prizes, and Mr. H. Dudding's yearling ewes easily topping their class. Mr. R. P. Cooper's Shropshires, both for ewes and rams, led the way. Sir James Blyth (Bart.) and Earl Cadogan were winners in the Southdown classes. Mr. J. C. Eady took precedence for Oxford Downs, and Lord Rothschild's flock won first and championship for ram lambs, Hampshire Downs, and G. F. Buxton's grand pen of ewe lambs won in their class.

The Lincolnshire County Show.—Here the main source of attraction was the grand display of Lincoln Long-wool sheep; a class of sheep Canadian buyers have been looking after more during the present season than usual, and a class of which many more will be required, for it is quite certain that no better wool-producer can be got than these.

The ram classes were of exceptional strength and merit. Messrs. Dean & Son's Royal champion ram again leading the way, and winning the challenge cup as well. Another from the same flock wherein he was bred (for Mr. J. E. Casswell, whose advertisement runs in our columns, was his breeder), stood third in the class; whilst five other rams from Mr. Casswell's flock won one of three equal firsts, offered in that grand class, wherein there were seventeen pens of five rams each; the other two winners of first prizes being Mr. Henry Dudding, another of our advertisers, and Mr. Tom Casswell, who was also successful in winning first and second in the class for single yearling rams, with two most excellent sheep. In yearling ewes Mr. H. Dudding's flock reigned supreme, for in pens of three he was easily first and second; whilst in pens of five, shown in their full fleeces, he took premium place, winning, as well, the challenge cup for best pen of ewes in the class. Mr. Dudding was also first and second in the ram lamb class, showing therein six grand lambs of very great merit. Messrs. Wright led in the ewe lamb class, with a pen of rare good merit, Mr. H. Dudding being second, and the latter gentleman also secured the premium prize for wool in the fleece, a competition wherein the Riby flock has never been beaten.

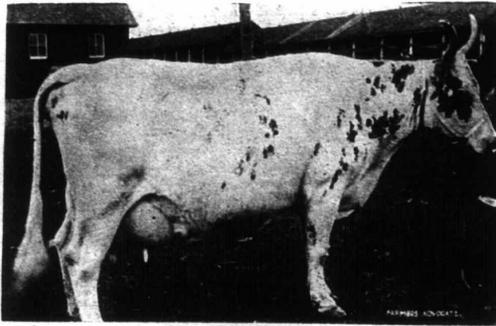
The Shorthorn entry was a good one, Mr. Henry Dudding being to the fore herein, as with the sheep, securing the challenge cup with Monogram, a bull who has very many admirers. Mr. J. E. Casswell was also to the fore with a first, with Laughton Earl 16th.

The Shropshire and West Midland Show.—A notable show for Shropshire sheep, for here, at any rate, one finds classes for this kind of sheep which are unequalled at any other show in the country. The yearling ram class was an exceptional one, and Mrs. M. Barr's grand ram, placed second at the Royal, here claimed precedence over his victor on that occasion, Mr. A. E. Mansell's typical ram. Messrs. M. Williams and T. S. Minton (the latter's a grand sheep) took the other two prizes. Rams of any age—a class of eight, all being noticed in the award list—was headed by Mr. A. Tanner's Diamond King, who was bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell, and the second and third prizes went to the same owner's other two entries. The pens of five yearling rams found seventeen entries all present. Herein Mr. A. E. Mansell gave strong proof of the type, merit and general evenness of his flock, for he had three pens—fifteen rams in all—entered, one of which went first; the other two were, respectively, H. C. and C. Mr. A. Bradburne's grand fleeced and skinned pen came in for second honors; Mrs. M. Barr's being third; Mr. A. Tanner, fourth; Mr. R. P. Cooper's grand pen of first-class rams, fifth; Mr. P. L. Mills' pen being R. N. There were present eleven entries of five yearling ewes, the premium pen of which was Mr. P. L. Mills' grand-fleeced pen, which goes to Canada with the noted judge, Mr. R. Miller, who, we may say right here, has secured this year a grand lot of sheep for his clients that are bound to lead to repeated orders next year; Mr. W. F. Inge's pen was next; followed by Mrs. Barr's pen, some of which came out with Mr. A. Bradburne for the States; Mr. T. Fenn's pen was number four, a place which would be better filled by Mr. R. P. Cooper's grand pen, which are sold for export as well. In ewe lambs and ram lambs, Mrs. M. Barr's flock was first, with lambs of rare merit, type and

character, the former being closely pressed by a pen of Mr. P. L. Mills'; whilst in the latter class, the pen of even and well-matched ram lambs from Mr. A. E. Mansell was a very dangerous competitor, being nearly equal thereto. As one hardly need repeat, this is the show, above all others, at which to see the Shropshire sheep to perfection.

Single Judging.

An expert correspondent of the *Daily Free Press* (Aberdeen, Scotland) writes to that paper as follows: "In your article on the question of judging, in your issue of Saturday, you bring before the notice of your readers the points bearing on the constitution of the 'bench' at a very opportune time. The attention of every one of us is turned at present on some show or another, and the time is therefore very meet for coming to, if not arriving at, a conclusion as to how the all-important work of adjudication can best be done. As one who has had a considerable experience as a judge, and as one who has found the weakness and strength of single, dual, and triple judging, it may interest you to know how fully I can endorse the conclusions you arrive at. The system of three judges is now becoming so antiquated and unknown in the north-east as to be scarcely in need of discussing. Experience of it has gone to show that it is the least satisfactory of all. Perhaps the bane of it has been in the appointment. A usual and natural feeling is to propose a friend, a neighbor, or perhaps a beginner, with the feeling that the other two will keep him right, and the result often has been that the municipality of brains has shown a wonderful lack of knowledge. The system, too, was cumbersome in the working. Dual judgment was instituted on the argument that it was just the same as the three-judge system, as two gave the finding then when a doubt arose. The argument is logical, certainly, but in practice it does not quite work out. In the selection, of course, more care is bestowed, and usually any one of the two acting in a ring of any importance will be found perfectly capable of pronouncing intelligently on the exhibits.



NELLIE OSBORNE.

First-prize cow and champion female at the World's Fair, Chicago.

OWNED BY MR. R. REFORM, ST. ANNE DE BELLEVUE, QUE.

Two strong men on together, with eyes for different types, can work sad havoc, however. Given such two—men of high principle, each believing in the honesty of purpose of the other, each respecting the other and desirous of maintaining respect of the other, yet differing in love of type—what can these men do but 'give and take'? The result is that a studious onlooker gets puzzled and the exhibitor irritated. Take another example—an example unfortunately not unknown when the bench is made up of a party man and a 'sterling' man. It does not take so much coddling or nice insinuation as one would imagine in a big day's work for the party man to advance his interest. That is all he has to do, and he keeps himself fresh to play upon his often blind and trusting conferee, and, when challenged as to the result, can always shelter himself by saying he was not responsible. My own experience of dual judging has been that, when I met a man of similar taste and desirous also of rewarding merit, the system was ideal. Alas! however, as often as not either one of these conditions or another has been wanting, and I have gone home disappointed, dissatisfied, and ruffled. It may well be argued that the referee can always be called in, but in the working out it is found more pleasant to make the best of your co-judge than to continually make an exhibition of protesting; and besides, the labor, it must be remembered, is not a labor of contention, but of love. The results that have given and will give the most satisfaction are of single judging. From a judge's view of it, I have found a peculiar pleasure and satisfaction in the end of a day's work single-handed that I never found under any of the other systems. I have been asked by exhibitors my reasons for awards, but I have never been challenged as to the honesty of my purpose; and I say this to bring out that it will take a bold man to accuse a judge of the want of it, and a judge will be on his mettle to show that he does not want it, for even if he is a mortal of weak flesh, he lacks the sheltering cover of the co-judge and has to play the part where least braveness is necessary; i. e., in making honesty the best policy. Single judging should be adopted universally, as it will bring out only the expert judges; more care will be taken in their selection. Societies can afford to pay the ex-

penses of one from a greater distance, if need be, than of two. Societies should publish the name of the judge of each section with their premium list, and then exhibitors will know the type likely to be in favor, and can make their entries accordingly."

For Shepherds --- Keep Up Your Flock.

"The foolish man sold his sheep when they were cheap and bought them back when they were dear." This was bad for the man and bad for the sheep business. There are too many shepherds easily discouraged with cheap wool, and with one or two seasons of cheap lambs we need not look for any decided or permanent improvement in the price of wool. The growing consumption of mutton is going to keep the supply of coarse and medium wools large, and wool must only be looked on as a secondary product. With regard to mutton, though we have occasional years of depression, it is the steady, consistent, tenacious shepherd that wins, and it is an obviously foolish thing to sell out when prices are flattest. A good shepherd won't sell out, as he knows that it takes time and care and selection to bring his flock to a good standard, and so he will hesitate to sacrifice the fruits of his experience and his knowledge of the breeding qualities of the individuals of his flock all at one fell swoop. It is better to keep his flock, selecting the best, until prices are better, than to sell them cheap and buy what others want to get rid of at times of inflated prices.

We are never subject to bonanza prices to any extent, as, owing to the rapidity of increase of sheep, scarcity of supply is not possible for long periods. It is one advantage of the sheep business that it is generally possible to get into a decent flock at small original cost, the only chance for absolute loss being the case of inexperienced men plunging heavily into a large and expensive flock. Sheep times are good now and promise to be better, and the present is a safe time to invest. There is a commercial buoyancy and confidence abroad that is going to result in larger industrialism and larger commerce and exchange in Canada in the next eight or ten years. The resulting increase of industrial and manufacturing population is going to be a distinct gain to the meat producer in Ontario. The increase of the means of transit under Government patronage is going to lead to the development of latent resources in all parts of the Dominion, and is going to induce freer investment of capital and larger employment of labor. Hence there will be an impulse and an encouragement to more intensive and heavier production of foodstuffs on our lands. Mutton is not becoming less popular, but more popular year by year. It is the tenderest, sweetest and most wholesome meat grown. The sheep lives a free, simple, active outdoor life, and as long as we can keep the veterinarians away from it we shall not suffer from tuberculosis. It is a good time now to either see to your flock or make a start in one. The fall season is the beginning time for the shepherd; his sheep products depend on how he arranges matters at this time.

Perhaps you are doubtful about the breed to begin with. There is no best breed. The breed you like is the one that is best for you, if your conditions are suitable to it, for no one can succeed if not interested from the beginning in what he is doing. The sheep first brought to perfection in England—the Leicester and Southdown—were naturally the first to secure a foothold with us—Leicester predominating. Then followed the Cotswold and Lincoln; and later we have had a considerable invasion of the brown-faced, later improved breeds, with some flocks of Dorsets, and fewer of Hampshires and Suffolks. The result is that we have in Canada all the most important plain and upland breeds represented, which leaves plenty of room for choice to suit tastes and circumstances of soil and environment. Select what your best judgment tells you is most suitable, and rest assured your sheep will never die in debt to you, with careful management. The shepherd who does not take advantage of the growing time is not living up to his privileges, and lacks the foresight demanded by his business.

Peterboro Co., Ont.

J. MCCAIG.

The Shire Horse Approved.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—As I am interested in the horse question, perhaps the few suggestions which I shall make may be of interest to some of the readers of your valuable paper.

My experience has been, from what little I have had with the Shire horses, that they make a better cross on our Canadian mares than do the Clydes, because they produce more bone and greater size, which is, I think, the one thing needful at present, as our draft horses are becoming too small. I think, of late years, importers have had an eye to speculation, rather than improving the stock; hence the inferior class of horses in the country at the present time. I think it would pay the farmers to club together and import some first-class Shire horses to cross on our Canadian mares. I have several half-bred colts which I am working, and I find they make better horses for general use than the thoroughbred Clydes, as they are better dispositioned, not so easily excited or fretful.

Oxford Co., Ont.

VAL. FICHT.