THREE BREEDS VIE FOR CHAMPIONSHIP

By Hon. Duncan Marshall, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario

THERE WAS A LARGER NUMBER of . I entries in almost every class of market cattle at the Royal this year. In fact, it was a very fine showing of fat cattle, and the numbers in the grades and cross-breds had been greatly increased because of the new regulation this year that outside of the champions in each of these classes, the carcasses of these steers should be passed upon after they were slaughtered and prizes should be awarded for the carcasses.

There has been a growing feeling that too many of the cattle fitted for fat stock shows have been very wasteful after being killed because of the abundance of tallow in their carcasses. Consequently, there has been some agitation for a class of cattle that might be called "less fat" than some of the tops that are shown.

This is a pretty difficult matter to determine because it is rather impossible for the judge to have anything like an accurate knowledge of how much consists of flesh and how much consists of fat in an animal when he is judging it alive.

We all, however, know this, that for beef to have a good flavor it must be cut out of at least a reasonably fat carcass. While we waste something in roasting, and as a lot of people do not care for eating fat, we lose something of the meat's contents, but that is in a great part made up by the flavor of the lean meat which comes from the carcass of a fat beast. Most people are, therefore, willing to pay for fat that perhaps they do not eat because they recognize that they will have a better flavored roast of meat, even though there is some waste to it in this manner.

The opinion, however, having got abroad that leaner animals might show better carcasses when killed than some of the over-fat ones, brought out quite a number of lean steers in the single classes of the grades and cross-breds; some of them far too lean. In fact, many of them would have stood 60 days good feeding. The breeders and feeders, however, will find this out as years go by, when they see the results of their steers being judged alive and the carcasses being judged afterwards, and the change has sound educational value, and will improve the market classes at the Royal Winter Fair. One of the important purposes for which this Show was organized was that it might be the "Fat Stock Show" of the Dominion of Canada.

From the very start this show has been a good market show and not only a good one but a quite representative one, because many of the awards, from time to time, have gone to Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, while Ontario has had to struggle for everything she got.

Neither the Maritime Provinces or Quebec have been devoted to cattle feeding to any great extent, and British Columbia might be placed in the same class, but the competition has been exceedingly keen among the other four Provinces,



Eric, Angus steer, grand champion over all breeds for F. C. Todd, Lucknow, Ontario, sold at auction for 75 cents per pound to Eaton's.

the result of which has made the Royal Winter Fair, from its very inception, a place where people went to see Christmas beef on the hoof.

The first class of market cattle brought out 46 entries which was one of the largest, if not the very largest, class ever shown at the Royal Winter Fair. This class was open to a steer or heifer under 800 pounds. It contained quite a few fairly thin animals. Most of them were calved in 1935, and it is always a bit difficult to have junior calves well enough fitted to look well in a fat stock show, but the tops in this class were quite good.

It was headed by Parker & Edwards of Watford, Ontario, with a black polled heifer that was smooth and full of flesh and very attractive. The second place was won by J. J. and G. A. Parkinson, Guelph, Ontario, with a steer by Middlebrook Prince 33rd. McKenzie Hall of Ayr, Ont., was in third with a grade Shorthorn of Browndale blood. Parker & Edwards of Watford, who breed some steers of all breeds, won fourth place with a grade Shorthorn heifer, also of Browndale blood, and James Acton of Sunderland, won fifth place, while J. J. and G. A. Parkinson of Guelph, were in sixth place.

In the class for steer or heifer, between 801 and 900 pounds, the University of Alberta won 1st with a very smooth, well fleshed heifer sired by a black bull and out of a Shorthorn dam. This was one of the attractive animals in the show. J. H. Matthews & Sons of Delaware, won 2nd place with a grade Hereford, and J. J. and G. A. Parkinson of Guelph were 3rd with a Shorthorn grade. Parker & Edwards of Watford, Ontario, were 4th and 7th with two steers sired by the black bull "Blacko bird Bandolier of Page." Howard Fraleigh of Forest, was in 5th place with a black steer, and Duncan Campbell of Moffat, Ontario, had a red Shorthorn grade in 6th.

In the class for steers from 901 to 1000 lbs., Howard Fraleigh of Forest, Ontario, one of the good exhibitors over a number of years won a first place with a steer sired by an Aberdeen-Angus bull. Parker & Edwards came 2nd with another son of "Blackbird Bandolier of Page"-a bull which made a record with the steers he sired in the prize list of this Royal Winter Fair. Third place was won by C. F. Lean, of Cobourg, Ontario, with a steer sired by a Shorthorn bull "Blythwood Stamp 2nd." Fourth was won by George Tait & Son, 5th and 11th places were won by C. R. Daniel of Lethbridge, Alberta, with Hereford bred steers, and the C.P.R. Natural Resources Department of Calgary, Alta., were in 6th with a black steer. Seventh place was won by E. Robson & Son of Ilderton, Ontario, successful breeders over a period of years,

The class for steer or heifer, grade or cross-bred, between 1001 pounds and weighing not more than 1200 pounds, Parker & Edwards of Watford, were first with a Shorthorn bred steer. Howard Fraleigh of Forest with "Ink Spot" was 2nd. J. J. & G. A. Parkinson of Guelph were 3rd and 10th. The C.P.R. Natural Resources, Calgary, Alta., were 4th, 6th and 11th. C. R. Daniel of Lethbridge, Alta., was 5th.

For steer or heifer over 1200 pounds, J. J. and G. A. Parkinson were first, C.P.R. Natural Resources of Calgary, 2nd. F. G. Todd & Son of Lucknow, Ontario, 3rd. C. R. Daniel of Lethbridge 4th, and 5th.

The baby beef class brought out a nice line-up of twelve steers. This group was topped by Maurice Robson of Denfield, Ont., with a Shorthorn bred steer, nicely finished, an October senior calf, and he not only topped the baby beef contest, but he won the championship among the grades and cross-breds, and the reserve grand championship of the show. This was a very creditable record indeed for this boy, whom we are very pleased to say is entering the Ontario Agricultural College as a student and ought to be one of the contenders there in the live stock judging contest, particularly among beef cattle. Arnold Robinson of St. Marys, Ont., was 2nd, with a Shorthorn bred steer. Reford Gardhouse, Weston, Ont., was third with a Shorthorn bred steer. Reford is the fourth generation of Gardhouses to exhibit cattle at Toronto. Clifford Black of Caledon was fourth with a very attractive Hereford steer. Donaid Roth of Petersburg, Ont., was 5th. Gordon E. McKinnon of Hillsburg, Ont., was 6th with a Shorthorn bred steer.

The judging of the pure bred steers was done by the judges for the different breeds. The first classes to come out were the Aberdeen-Angus, and they were judged by John Lowe of Elora, Ont. In the first class of junior yearlings, the C. P. R. Natural Resources, of Calgary, won with a very nice steer, well finished, and he looked good at the top of his class. Howard

Fraleigh of Forest was in 2nd; F.G. Todd & Son of Lucknow, 3rd, and Howard Murray of Magog, Que., was 4th. The summer yearling class was topped

you would finally land him.

by Thomas Henderson of Lacombe, who

made a very nice showing with three steers, winning 1st, 5th and 6th, in quite a strong class. Howard Fraleigh of Forest won 2nd place. The C. P. R. Natural Resources, of Calgary, 3rd, and the University of Alberta 4th. Then J. P. Henderson & Son of Guelph won 7th and Lloyd Mack of Rockwood 8th. These were a good bunch of steers. Thomas Henderson's first prize steer was a very deep sided beast, perhaps a bit of waste about him, but he was the kind of steer that you had to put at the top of the class or else look around a good deal for where

The senior calf class in the Aberdeen-Angus steers brought out the grand champion of the show. This steer was bred by F. G. Todd & Son of Lucknow, Ont., and as the judge, Mr. Lowe had something to do with breeding him, he placed all the other steers in the class, and then asked Mr. Noel Gibson to put Todd's steers in the proper position. Noel compared him with a steer then standing at the top of the class owned by the University of Manitoba, and with very little hesitation ordered Todd's steer to first place in the class. It was a popular decision and a proper one. He is a very tidy steer, would have very little weight, was well covered, and later Mr. Gibson made him Grand Champion of the show, and the ringside boys, to show their approval of his choice, carried Mr. Todd shoulder high through

the ring to celebrate the victory. Next to the champion in this class stood the University of Manitoba's steer, quite a creditable beast. In 3rd place, Wm. E. Scripps, Lake Orion, Mich., had a very nice black steer, and the C. P. R. Natural Resources of Calgary were 4th. J. P. Henderson of Guelph, 5th; E. S. McDonald of Brookdale, Man., 6th.

The junior calf class was headed by J. P. Henderson & Son of Guelph, Ont., with an Aberlour bred steer. The University of Alberta was in second with a steer bred by Black Quality Marshall. Howard Fraleigh of Forest was 3rd, J. P. Henderson & Son of Guelph 4th, E. S. McDonald of Brookdale, Man., 5th, and Bertwin Blackburn of Uxbridge, Ont., 6th.

The Hereford classes were fairly strong, although Herefords have never been as strong at the Royal Winter Fair as either Shorthorns or Aberdeen-Angus. There were no entries in the junior yearling class at all. In the summer yearling class the University of Alberta was first with a very nice, deep fleshed Hereford steer, straight in his lines, though he could scarcely be called a topper. This steer was afterwards made the pure bred Hereford champion of that market division. In this

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