

FOUR MAJOR BULL SALES

Prices were up and down at the four large bull sales in western Canada, but the Calgary sale registered gains for all breeds



With fewer bulls entered in the major sales, and general reports that bulls are scarce in the country, expectations for higher average prices seemed to be justified before the bull sale season started. This optimistic point of view which was further strengthened by strong prices for commercial cattle, became apparent at the Calgary sale when all three beef breeds achieved higher prices than those realized in 1954. Very cold weather during the week of the Edmonton and Regina sales undoubtedly acted as a damper on buyer enthusiasm and prices at both events were lower than last year's. In the May issue of Canadian Cattleman we will publish a summary of all sales held prior to our deadline. Here are the stories of the four major sales.

CALGARY SPRING SHOW AND SALE

Shorthorns

For years, Shorthorns at the Calgary bull sale have undersold Herefords, but the 1955 Shorthorn sale gave Shorthorn

breeders the biggest boost they have had in over 30 years. Not only did the Shorthorn average exceed that made on the white-faces, but a Shorthorn bull was sold for the highest price ever recorded at Calgary. A. R. (Sandy) Cross' Rothney Goldenrod, by the imported Highland Piper, a ten-thousand-guinea Perth bull, had only placed as reserve grand champion during Monday night's judging, but when he was led into the sale ring the next day, he created the most excitement seen at any western bull sale in years. Veteran auctioneer Clarence Damron, who already held the honor of selling the highest priced bull at Calgary—\$8,200 for a Hereford, four years ago—made another record for himself and the Calgary sale, when accepting bids from Arnold Staples of Oxbow, Saskatchewan, and his fellow-auctioneer, Wm. Durno, he ran the bidding up to \$9,600 and finally \$10,000. Mr. Durno had made the last bid, and when he announced that he had been acting for Claude Gallinger, of Killearn Farms, Edmonton, the crowd cheered. Mr. Gallinger, who is recognized as Canada's premier Shorthorn breeder, has consistently imported sires from Scotland, and his purchase of a bull at the Calgary sale enhanced the prestige of the big



The \$10,000 bull, Rothney Golden Rod, was exhibited by A. R. (Sandy) Cross and was bought by Claude Gallinger of Edmonton. The bull was sired by Calrossie Highland Piper, bought at Perth by Mr. Cross for 10,000 guineas. Herdsman Wm. Cameron stands behind the bull.



A. R. (Sandy) Cross receives the P. J. Rock trophy from Mr. Rock for the best three Shorthorn bulls in the Calgary show.

event, as it did that of Shorthorn breeder A. R. Cross.

The ten-thousand-dollar sale seemed to instill a spirit of optimism in Shorthorn buyers, and when the sale concluded, 124 bulls had been sold for an average price of \$622.46—exceeding last year's average by \$190. Mr. Cross had the high average of any breed when his nine bulls, only one of which sold for less than \$1,000, averaged \$2,561. His second highest price bull, Rothney Graduate, went to Mr. Staples, unsuccessful bidder for the record-making Goldenrod, for \$3,300. The Grand Champion, T. G. Hamilton's Rannoch Eventide, also sold for a good price, being taken by the North Dakota Agriculture College at \$2,300. Wm. Melnyk and Sons, with a high of \$2,200 averaged \$1,027 on four head.

The Shorthorn show, which was probably the strongest seen in western Canada, was dominated by A. R. Cross entries. Although losing out on the grand champion, Mr. Cross won the reserve junior championship, the range bull championship (a new award carrying the Moray Perpetual Trophy, donated by F. E. B. Gourlay and Sons of Midnapore—judge, C. H. McKinnon), and first prizes for both the best two and best three bulls in the show.

The junior and grand championship was won by T. G. Hamilton of Innisfail. Senior champion was exhibited by Dahm and Son, Rockyford, while the reserve senior award went to Wm. Melnyk and Sons of Chipman. Judge of the show was Wm. Florence of the University of Idaho farm, Moscow. ▶ ▶

Herefords

The feeling of buoyancy established in the Shorthorn sale carried over to the Hereford event, and although the white-faced cattle did not register as great a gain over last year's average as did either of the other two breeds, nevertheless, prices were considerably stronger than last year. The top-selling Hereford bull, Pelican Lake Del Zento 8H, from the herd

of M. and A. Simonet of Clandonald, went for \$6,200 to A. T. (Dick) Hines and Sons, Marwayne. The bull had been selected as Grand Champion during Tuesday night's judging; few ringside authorities predicted that he would approach the high mark made by the ten-thousand-dollar Cross bull the day before, but nearly everyone looked forward to something over \$5,000. Bidding on the champion (he sold in less than ten minutes), was brisk with Len Wood of Armstrong pushing Dick Hines right up to the last bid. Having missed out on the champion, Mr. Wood, a few minutes later, successfully bid \$2,900, the second highest price, for the Reserve, Britisher's Image 27H, which topped a string of ten head contributed by S. C. Williams of Claresholm.

When the champions sold on Wednesday afternoon, all sitting, standing and leaning room was taken; interest and enthusiasm were high, and by day's end 190 bulls had been sold for an average price of \$630.78. Thursday saw 210 bulls disposed of at a \$610 average. By Friday, the sale dragged a bit in the morning but was sparked in the afternoon to finish with 177 bulls sold for an average price of \$592. When the sale was over, the 577 Hereford bulls had averaged \$611.38-\$77.55 over the average made last year on 754 bulls, and \$11.08 less than the 1955 Shorthorn average.

The following breeders received an average price of over \$1,000 for their bulls: M. and A. Simonet, \$1,741 on six head, top \$6,200; W. J. Edgar, \$1,600 on six head, top \$2,850; C. E. Jones, \$1,215 on five head, top \$2,500; J. M. Campbell, \$1,225 on three head, top \$2,050; S. C. Williams, \$1,140 on ten head, top \$2,900; Ed Noad, \$1,075 on five head, top \$1,800; Wm. Weber, \$1,075 on three head, top \$1,550; Bryce Campbell, \$1,010, top \$2,200. Ten bulls sold for



Roy Ballhorn of Wetaskiwin exhibited Senior and Grand Champion Aberdeen-Angus bull, Woodlawn Bell Boy 2nd.

over \$2,000. In addition to those mentioned above were entries from: Mrs. Wm. Weber, \$2,100; S. C. Williams, \$2,200; W. J. Edgar, \$2,800; John McCardell, \$2,100.

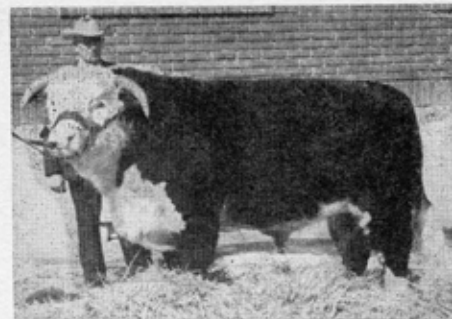
The placing of the Hereford entries at the Calgary sale is one of the biggest and hardest assignments that a judge can undertake. This year, V. E. Ellison of Oyama, B.C., who has just completed a term as president of the Canadian Hereford Association, was asked to do the job. This was the first time that Mr. Ellison had worked in "the big time," and many spectators, as well as quite a few Hereford breeders, were curious, to say the least, as to how he would line up the entries in the large classes. Mr. Ellison's big test came in the third class, when he had to place 40 bulls, exhibited in two sections. It soon became apparent that the judge knew what he was looking for, and when, from the initial 40 head, he



Rannoch Eventide, exhibited by T. G. Hamilton, Innisfail, was Shorthorn Champion at Calgary.

had picked 13 animals from which to choose his top placings, the remarkable uniformity of the bulls amazed the crowd. From then on, choosing large, smooth, well-covered bulls (all the little ones were turned back), Mr. Ellison was in complete control of the situation. So firmly had he established his type that some exhibitors who had prepared bulls for subsequent classes, did not lead them out because it was obvious that their entries would not match the judge's standard. When the show was over, it was generally conceded that a top-notch job had been done, a point of view which was to be justified dollar-wise, when the bulls came before the auctioneers during the next three days.

The grand championship was awarded to M. and A. (Tony) Simonet's senior champion Pelican Lake Del Zento 8H, and with the championship went the Austin Trophy and an all-expense-paid trip to England for Tony Simonet. E. F. Halford of Calgary, representing Sir Leonard Lord, donor of the trophy, made



Grand Champion Hereford at Calgary was Pelican Lake Del Zento 8H, contributed by M. and A. Simonet, Clandonald, and bought by A. T. Hines and Sons for \$6,200. Mr. Hines in background.

the presentation. Previous winners of the award were: Warren Smith, Olds; W. J. Edgar, Innisfail; Ralph Thrall (McIntyre Ranch), Lethbridge.

Junior champion and reserve grand champion was Britisher's Image 27H, contributed by S. C. Williams of Claresholm. An interesting sidelight of the battle for top Hereford position was that the champion was shown by a Shorthorn breeder, Bud Boake of Acme, while the reserve champion Hereford was managed in the ring by Bud McBride of Benalto, an Angus breeder. The reserve senior championship was won by W. H. Perkins of Balzac, with Ferndale Britisher 14G. W. J. Edgar's Proud Mixer LRD 32H, was reserve junior champion. Classes for the best two and best three Hereford bulls were won by Wm. Weber of Claresholm, with S. C. Williams placing second in both classes. Mr. Williams also showed the best five bulls, standing above Parsonage and Holmes of Innisfail. ¶ ¶

Aberdeen-Angus

Aberdeen-Angus and Shorthorn breeders were the lead-off men at the Calgary Spring show and sale, when their bulls were judged simultaneously, in the same ring, Monday night. At times the ring was crowded, particularly in group classes, and Show Announcer Bill Durno was hard pressed to keep the crowd up to date on what was happening in the double-barrelled event. Only 84 Angus bulls were entered in the Calgary sale, and the show was perhaps not quite as strong as last year's. Percy Webb of Don Head Farms, Richmond Hill, Ontario, placed the black bulls, awarding the senior and grand championships to Woodlawn Bell Boy 2nd, exhibited by Roy Ballhorn of Wetaskiwin. Senior and reserve grand went to Bardolier of Altario 49th, owned by Albert Murphy of Altario. Old Hermitage Farm, Edmonton, had the junior champion with Even Bandal of Old Hermitage, while Riverbend Farms of Benalto won the reserve junior championship with Bendolier 29th.

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FOUR MAJOR BULL SALES

(Continued from page 7)

In the group classes, Albert Murphy won first for the best two and the best three bulls, while second place in both groups was taken by Flint and Flint of New Norway.

With 64 fewer bulls to sell than last year, Angus breeders found their offerings well received and 84 bulls averaged

championship of the fat stock show. Last year, Gerald Bull led a calf into the Calgary ring for the first time and went home with a clean sweep of all the top honors. This year, his elder brother George, who has exhibited before, won the first prize in the Hereford baby beef event, champion baby beef award, and finally grand championship of the entire fat stock show. Like his brother last year, George won the D. E. Black Challenge Shield,

ship of the open classes with a Hereford steer. William Florence judged the show.

T. Eaton Co. Ltd. paid \$1.00 a pound for George Bull's grand champion when the sale of fat stock got under way. The reserve champion brought only 35 cents per pound—another instance of buyer discrimination against heifers. Keith Barr received 50 cents per pound for his champion Shorthorn from Burns and Co., while Lyndsay Mathews sold her Angus Champion to Safeway for 37 cents per pound. The 67 animals entered in the fat stock show averaged 25.47 cents per pound.



The presentation of the Austin Trophy. In the foreground, left to right, W. L. Bond, secretary, Alberta Hereford Association; E. F. Halford of Calgary; Tony Simonet, contributor of the Grand Champion; V. E. Ellison, Hereford judge; Bud Boake, who showed the bull.

KAMLOOPS BULL SALE AND FAT STOCK SHOW

Bull prices at the 37th Annual Bull Sale and Fat Stock Show at Kamloops, March 8, 9 and 10, were somewhat lower than a year ago for all breeds. A total of 18 Shorthorn bulls averaged \$366 compared with \$433 for 21 in 1954. Herefords were down \$23 when an average price of \$508 was received for 112 head; last year's average was \$531 for 92 head. Aberdeen-Angus numbers were doubled, 16 head this year compared with eight contributed in 1954. The 1955 average was \$415 and last year's average was \$517.

The high selling Shorthorn bull was contributed by James Turner, Royal Oak,

\$524.76 compared with an average price of \$378 for 148 bulls last year.

The high selling Angus bull, Blackbird of Coaldale, which had stood sixth in his class, was contributed by James Mantler of Coaldale and was bought for \$1,075 by P. Kenschuk of Cluny. The second high price went to Flint and Flint when their Dalrene E. Bardolier 16th was taken by W. C. Fleshman of Lacombe for \$1,000. Roy Ballhorn's grand champion was sold for \$710 to Ben Steinback, Bassano.

Auctioneers at the Calgary sale were: J. W. Durno, C. F. Damron, Archie Boyce, Harry Hays, J. Allen Baker and Jock Blacklock.

Fat Stock

The Bull family of Midnapore seem to have a fairly strong grip on the grand

the Alberta Hereford Association Award, the George Collicutt Memorial Prize, and the Charles Bull Special.

Top Shorthorn calf in the show was exhibited by Keith Barr of Vermilion. Keith went on to win the reserve champion baby beef and second place in the Collicutt and Bull specials. Lyndsay Mathews of Pirmez Creek had the best Aberdeen-Angus calf and won the Angus Association award and the Lord and Lady Roderick Gordon Special.

Best showman among junior exhibitors was Bill Jackson of Midnapore who won the Michael Boyce Memorial trophy.

Grand championship of the open classes and reserve grand championship of the fat stock show was given to K. S. Gibb of Killam who showed a blue roan Angus-Shorthorn cross heifer. Walter Maxon of Markerville won the reserve champion-



E. J. Cammaert, president of the Alberta Cattle Breeders' Association, presents George Bull with the E. D. Black Shield, for the best Baby Beef in the Calgary Show.

LETHBRIDGE & DISTRICT EXHIBITION

June 27, 28, 29,
1955

Livestock Show, Agricultural Display, Rodeo, Fireworks, Commercial and Industrial Displays, Platform Shows.

ENTRIES CLOSE June 3rd, 1955, in Livestock Classes

A. W. SHACKLEFORD, President

Phone 6266

C. E. PARRY, Secretary-Manager



Champion fat steer at Kamloops was sold by Len Wood and Son of Armstrong, to Canada Packers for \$92.50 per cwt.

Vancouver Island, and was bought by Pike Anderson, Vernon, B.C., for \$500. This bull was the Reserve Champion. The Grand Champion, Monarch Lad, also contributed by Mr. Turner, received the second highest price of \$450 and was bought by R. A. Davidson, Vernon.

Hereford entries were larger than last year and included 22 bulls from Alberta breeders. The Alberta contingent averaged \$600, and one Alberta bull, the Reserve Champion, Britisher Lad MRC 15th, from the McIntyre Ranching Co. Ltd., sold to the Harper Ranch, Kamloops, for the top price of the sale, \$1,125. The Grand Champion, Noble C.R. Supreme 12H, from Fred E. Dey's Ranch, Kamloops, sold for \$1,000 to F. De Leeuw and Sons, Knutsford, B.C.

Felix Abel, Westwold, B.C., had the high Hereford average, receiving \$4,000 for five bulls to average \$800 each.

Aberdeen-Angus contributors received fair prices for the quality of the stock offered. The Grand Champion, Eileenmere of Shaver Ranch 6th, from Shaver and Johansen, Rock Creek, B.C., was sold for \$725 to L. Folvik, Greenwood, B.C. The second high price of \$510 was also paid for a Shaver and Johansen entry by N. W. Fennell, Chu Chua.

The entire show was judged by J. Charles Yule, Calgary, and all bulls had been graded by a committee of three—Mr. Yule, E. P. Orcutt, Bozeman, Montana, and Brian K. Chance, Douglas

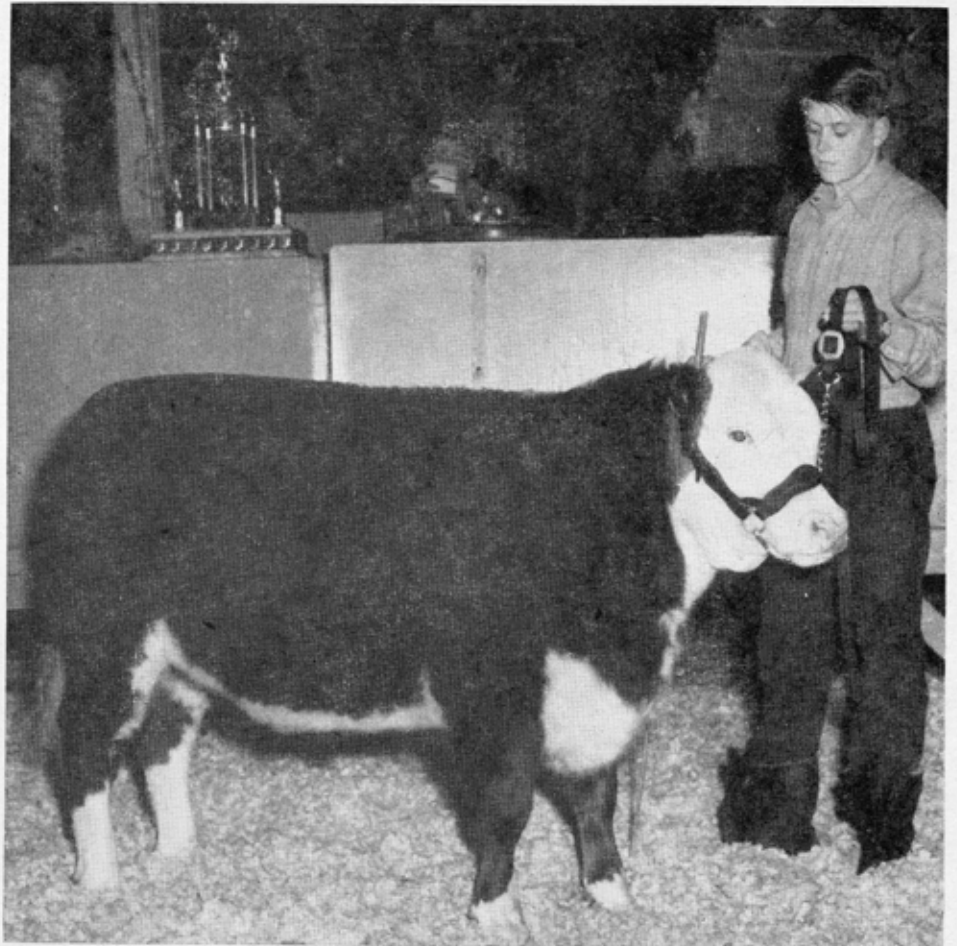
Lake. No bulls graded higher than B plus.

Auctioneers Mat Hassen and Son handled the sale briskly and during the Hereford events, when they refused bids of less than \$25, they were able to gauge the temper of the crowd accurately and received starting bids of at least \$400 for most of the B plus and B bulls.

The Fat Stock Sale just about equalled that of 1954. Last year, 395 head sold for a total of \$77,572, while this year 366 head realized \$73,172. Prices on singles were slightly higher while group lots were a trifle lower. The Grand Champion Fat Steer of the show, a Hereford, shown by Len Wood and Son, Armstrong, sold

for 92.50 cents a pound to Canada Packers. The Reserve Grand Champion, a Shorthorn, from L. V. Shannon, Knutsford, was bought by Canada Safeway Ltd., for 55 cents a pound, while Dennis Lydster's Hereford, Champion of the boys' and girls' competitions, sold for 52 cents a pound, also to Safeway.

The Douglas Lake Cattle Company had the Champion Carlot which later sold for \$21.75 per cwt. to Canada Safeways. Grand Champion of five was shown by Haughton Bros., Kamloops; Canada Safeways were the buyers at \$21.40. Price averages follow: Carlots, \$19.44; Groups of Five, \$19.42; Spares, \$18.83; Singles, \$24.39. 1 1



George Bull of Midnapore exhibits the Grand Champion fat steer, which later sold for \$1.00 a pound to the T. Eaton Company, at the Calgary Spring Show and Sale. Last year George's younger brother, Gerald, won the same event.

LETHBRIDGE SPRING BULL SALE

JUNE 8, 1955

FAT STOCK SHOW AND SALE

June 7, 1955

ENTRIES CLOSE APRIL 18th, 1955

Sponsored by Southern Alberta Cattle Breeders' Association and Conducted by Lethbridge and District Exhibition Board.

G. R. POWLESLAND, President
Del Bonita, Alta.

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