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Live Stock in Britain.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In 1915 the English Hackney Society will hold its yearly show, not at Islington, but away across London, at Olympia, where a large ring will be laid out, measuring 314 feet long by 84 feet wide, and seating accommodation will be provided for 2,500 persons, in addition to which there will be a promenade round the ring. The total amount of prize money and trophies is equivalent to £3,500, whereas this year only £1,400 was offered. Classes have been extended and some of the prize money improved. The first prize in the yearling colt class will be £15 instead of £10 as formerly, and the second £10 instead of £7. For the stallion section there will be a champion cup, valued at £30, in addition to the challenge cup for the best stallion shown in hand, and a special prize and silver medal for the best stallion of major age, as well as a £15 prize and silver medal for the best junior stallions. An innovation is the class for stallions three years and over, 15½ hands and over, in which straight and true action will be taken into consideration, and high action will not be counted. Better classification is to be seen in the mare section, and the harness classes will be very much the same, though there will be one new event, for mares or geldings over seven years old and below 15 hands in height. There are a number of amateur harness classes. No pedigree is required, and animals entered must be driven by the owner, or a member of his or her family not in any way interested in the purchase or sale of horses. In ponies there will be a class for pairs of ponies not exceeding 14 hands. There are to be jumping, children's classes, and other ring events to pad things out with. The dates decided upon are March 2nd to 6th, 1915.

The Yorkshire Agricultural Education Committee are "great" upon finding out the cost of their milk. For many years past, they have been watching carefully the performances of herds of cows, and their latest report issued deals with the work of nine herds. Four of these nine herds are composed of non-pedigreed Shorthorns, one is of pure-bred Shorthorns, and three are mixed herds of Shorthorns, Jerseys and Guernseys. In all, 278 cows were tested, but complete records for twelve months were available only for 141 cows. The greatest yield of milk given by an individual cow was 1,314 gallons in 48 weeks, and the smallest was 192 gallons in 26 weeks. The latter was quite exceptional, no other cow having given less than 367 gallons in the year.

Taking the averages for three years, 19 per cent. of the cows tested gave 500 gallons of milk or less, 58 per cent. 500 to 800, and 23 per cent. over 800 gallons. In each of the three years, one particular herd gave nearly 100 gallons more than any other in average yield per cow. This herd produced milk of the average value of £28 9s. per cow per annum, while another herd gave an average return of only £15 19s. Another contrast is a year's milk from one cow valued at £43 16s., as compared with only £6 5s. for the cow which gave the lowest yield.

The average yield of 118 Shorthorns, included in last year's test, was 725 gallons a head, while that of 23 Jerseys and Guernseys was 584 gallons a head. An interesting table averages the milk yields of cows of different ages, showing an increase up to the fifth calf, after which there was a small but steady decrease. Cows calving in September, October and November, gave the greatest milk yield, and those calving in June, July and August, the least. The estimated cost of food per gallon of milk per head, ranged from 5.3 to 7.8 pence, comparing very closely with the figures for the two preceding years.

There is another boom in milking Shorthorns going on in Britain, thanks to an American enquiry. At J. Ellis Potter's sale of dairy cattle, 47 head aggregated £4,160, and Dormouse 2nd, a roan daughter of Conjuror, of the Darlington tribe, realized 450 guineas. Sir Gilbert Greenall buying her. Many fetched 200 guineas, and that was the price also paid for some young bulls. Professor Thos. Shaw is over here buying all the dairy Shorthorns he can.

G. T. BURROWS.