

Milking Trials, English Dairy Show, 1899

At the London, England, Dairy Show, held a few weeks ago there was keen competition in the milking trials in which representatives of nearly all the leading dairy breeds took part. The following tabulated statement of the result and some comments by a writer in the *Live Stock Journal* will give some idea of how the various breeds fared:

"There were eight classes for competition in the above, each of which had four entries, except classes 6 and 7 (Ayrshires and Kerries) with two and three respectively. Taking them in order of classes, with regard to quantity of milk, points, and age, we have the following results:

	2 days milk.	Average each.	Points gained.	Average points.	Aver. age.
	lbs.	lb.			y.m.w.
4 Pedigree Shorthorns...	354.9	88.7	366.5	91.6	8 2 0
4 Non-pedigree Shorthorns...	472.9	118.2	505.3	123.3	6 6 0
4 Jerseys...	323.0	80.75	425.3	106.3	6 3 2
4 Guernseys...	222.3	55.57	298.3	74.58	5 7 1
4 Red Polls...	373.1	93.3	369.7	92.42	7 8 0
2 Ayrshires...	215.4	107.7	223.8	111.9	5 9 0
3 Kerries...	245.0	81.6	254.9	84.97	6 2 1
4 Mixed breeds...	456.1	114.0	483.6	120.9	7 0 2
Means...	332.8	22.48	366.0	101.1	6 7 3

Without making any individual distinction, it will be noted that the non-pedigree Shorthorns come out at the top of the list, although very closely shadowed by the mixed class. The latter, however, included the two fine cross-breeds, Nancy and Buttercup. The Jersey class came third in order of merit, and proved too good in the analyses for the pedigree Shorthorns and Red Polls, which duly represented the oldest cows in the classes. The Ayrshires and Kerries did not do badly for small cattle, but the Guernsey made a poor exhibition, their average of milk and points being far behind the others. On the whole the Shorthorn and Jersey breeds seem to lead the way in these contests, and there does not appear to have been much to choose between them of late years, when their various merits both in the milk and butter trials have been fairly gauged."

Veterinary Inspection in England

The importance of veterinary inspection is fully recognized in France, Germany, and other European countries where government supervision of horse breeding has developed scientific horse breeding. England has adopted veterinary inspection for thoroughbred stallions that compete for the Queen's premium. The *English Live Stock Journal* says:

"In the report of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding reference is made to the results of the veterinary inspection of thoroughbred stallions for soundness, and a communication from Professor Sir George Brown is alluded to. Comparing the results of the veterinary examinations of the Queen's premium stallions exhibited at the present show at the Royal Agricultural Hall with the results of similar examinations at Newcastle in 1887 and Nottingham in 1888, he says it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that a remarkable success has attended the efforts which have been made to prevent the use of animals for breeding purposes affected with hereditary diseases, such as cataract, navicular disease, ringbones, and spavin. Since that time, and especially during the past four or five years, there has been a noticeable decrease in the above-named diseases, which were at one time exceedingly common, and in the present exhibition it is satisfactory to be able to state that a critical inspection of the eyes of forty-nine

horses did not reveal a single instance of cataract or other disease of the visual organs. Further, it may be observed that no instance of roaring or broken wind was discovered, although the tests applied were exceptionally severe. The total result of the veterinary inspection was the rejection of only three horses out of the forty-nine examined."

The Garden in Winter

The average garden is entirely neglected during the winter season. It is allowed to lie bare and the soil is subjected to the action of frost and rain without any protection of any kind. There are two or three ways of causing the soil of the garden to improve during the winter. One is to cover the surface with a good coat of coarse manure, which will rot and the plant food in it leach into the soil before spring comes. Another way is to sow the garden with rye in the fall, to be plowed under in the spring. If the soil is inclined to be heavy and intractable a coat of straw plowed under in the fall will improve its texture very much as well as add to its fertility.

The garden that has been used for several years, always being fertilized with stable manure, gets in such a condi-



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tion that it does not furnish the best of vegetables. In such a case a new garden should be laid out or the old one refreshed by plowing under a green crop every spring for a few years, and for this purpose there is nothing that will do better than rye.

Tuberculosis

Some Conclusions From the Berlin Conference

A conference was held at Berlin, Germany, last May to discuss tuberculosis. That conference was attended officially by several British delegates whose report to the Government has lately been handed in. Attached to this report was the following memorandum, which as a summary of the conclusions arrived at, conveys in brief about all that a layman wishes to know concerning it:

1. That consumption and all other tuberculous diseases are caused by Koch's bacillus tuberculosis.
2. The most frequent mode of infection is by the admission of the bacillus into the lungs and throat.
3. That the vehicle in which the bacillus is most often transmitted is the phlegm coughed up. The bacillus is tenacious of life, but is killed by free exposure to the air, by the heat of boiling water, or fire, or by sunlight.
4. Milk is another important vehicle of infection.
5. A third mode of infection is by meat contaminated through tuberculosis disease of the lymph glands, etc.
6. Although the specific bacillus is present in every case of tuberculous disease, there is no doubt that the disease depends on the condition of the host as well as the activity of the parasite. A child is very seldom born with tuberculous disease, but he often inherits a feeble