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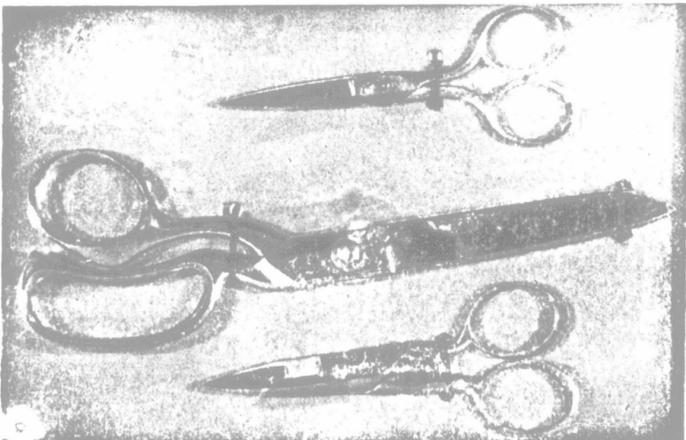
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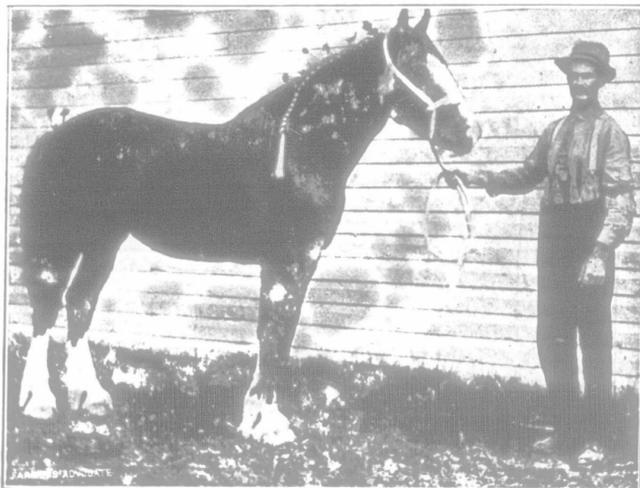
GOSSIP

THE ROYAL FARMS

King Edward was one of the largest breeders and exhibitors of pedigree live stock in the country. At the Shaw Farm, Windsor, there is maintained the famous herd of Shorthorn cattle which for the last quarter of a century has had but few equals in prosperity and influence. It attained to eminence long before his accession, but if anything its reputation has been extended and enhanced since it came into his possession. Like Queen Victoria before him, King Edward evinced the liveliest interest in the welfare of the herd which has won so many prominent honors in the showyard, and which has sent animals into many of the colonies and foreign countries. It was the Windsor herd that set the example, which has been so extensively followed, and has been such a potent factor in preserving the supremacy of the Shorthorn breed, in blending the Aberdeenshire strains with the older and impoverished Bates and Booth families. If the Windsor herd had done no more than this, it would have rendered a signal service

first-prize yearling bull to a South American buyer, for 1,000 guineas. The other breeds of bovine stock included at Sandringham are the picturesque West Highland, the comely little Dexter from Ireland, and the indispensable Jersey in the dairy. The Scottish and Irish varieties have been exhibited with consistent success, the former chiefly at the winter shows.

Leaving the Thoroughbreds out of the question, it has been in the breeding of Shire horses and Southdown sheep that Sandringham has achieved greatest success in the agricultural world. The stud of heavy cart horses is one of the oldest, largest and most impressive of the breed. His Majesty exhibited a keen appreciation of the qualities of a good cart horse, and followed closely the career of his stud and its progeny, which at the periodical reduction sales passed into the hands of other owners. It is within the mark to say that few studs contributed more largely to the select list of prominent prize-winning animals than that at Sandringham. So many of the young colts and fillies bought at the Wolferton sales developed into famous prize-winners that the Royal stud has earned the reputation of being one of the best from which to procure young animals likely to achieve distinction for their owners, and no breeder could wish for finer testimony



LADY MADCAP, SIRE EVERLASTING, FIRST IN CLASS FOR TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES, MOOSE JAW EXHIBITION, 1910. OWNED BY JOHN LOGAN.

to the great cosmopolitan breed, but its influence for good has extended far beyond these limits, for its surplus progeny have been distributed with beneficent results throughout the length and breadth of the land.

The hospitality of the Flemish Farm is shared by herds of Herefords and Devons, which in their respective circumstantial spheres have been equally conspicuous in public exhibitions. The brilliant records of the Windsor herds of these varieties at both the summer and winter shows refute the view widely entertained that local breeds cannot be long maintained successfully outside their native districts. It can at least be said regarding the Royal Herefords and Devons, that skillful management has been equal to the disadvantages of unpropitious environment. The popular Jersey breed also occupies an important, though less prominent, place at Windsor. It is a fitting recognition of the utility qualities of the Channel Island variety that it exclusively is kept for supplying dairy produce for the Royal table. A fine herd is maintained at the Royal dairy near the Castle, the dairy itself being equipped with the most modern appliances, and in every sense admirably appointed. Several varieties of pigs are bred, though not on an extensive scale.

The Sandringham farms also are utilized for the breeding and rearing of pedigree stock. A herd of Shorthorn cattle has long occupied a prominent position on the Norfolk estate, though it has not attained to quite the same eminence as the herd of the same breed at Windsor, it has achieved considerable success. Many prize animals have been bred at Sandringham, and it may be recalled that at the Royal Show in 1896, the Royal owner himself sold his

regarding the results of his enterprise.

A choice flock of Southdown sheep brought Sandringham into prominence in the pastoral branch of farming. Founded with purchases from the Goodwood and other noted flocks, it has throughout its career occupied a position in the very first rank, and has rarely failed to contribute successfully to the leading summer and winter shows of the past twenty or thirty years, while championship honors have been won more than once at the Royal and Smithfield exhibitions. The Royal flock possesses in a marked degree that uniformity of type, character and quality which is held to denote judicious breeding and skillful management.

At Abergeldie Mains, near Balmoral, his late Majesty continued with undiminished success the herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle founded by Queen Victoria, and thus a variety of breeds of farm live stock unprecedented in the historic association of British Sovereigns with the farming industry, had in King Edward VII. an appreciative and generous supporter.

* * *

During August eleven prosecutions were conducted in Ontario for violation of the Dominion Seed Control Act. Two retail firms were convicted and fined, while the others escaped fine under sub-section 2 of section 9, as it was proved that the seed had been purchased in good faith from a wholesale firm in Canada.

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It is announced that the fifth annual International Horse Show will be held at Olympia, London, from 14th to 24th June, 1911. The prize list will be ready for issue early in January. About £12,000 will be offered in prizes.