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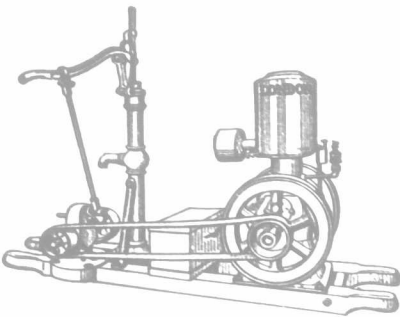
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International Horse Show.

The International Horse Show of Chicago was held from December 7th to the 10th. In splendor it excelled the livestock exhibition which it succeeded, the crowds that daily thronged the amphitheater were greater, but the show itself in public interest was far below that of the event of the week before. A horse show in the United States is a dual-purpose institution. It is a display of horseflesh and horsemanship on one hand and the center of the elite of fashion on the other. A novice might have difficulty in discovering which of these purposes a show aims primarily to serve. At Chicago, the equine aristocrats of the continent assembled, glittering in trappings and appointments, to entertain the elite of the American fashionable world, the multi-millionaires with their friends of the East and West. The show presented the highest products of the breeders' skill side by side with the latest creations of the Parisian costumer. Which was the most essential of the two to success depends largely upon the point from which the affair is viewed.

Fashionable society patronized the Chicago show and graced the International pavilion with its presence, but the stockmen and farmers, all but those who were required to remain to look after the animals still on exhibition, went home. All the stock shown the week previous was held over for the horse show, and the show opened each day with a parade of the prizewinning drafters. One hundred and thirty horses, representing the cream of the draft breeds of England, Scotland, Belgium and France, were daily massed in groups about the arena, marched round and round, presenting a pageant such as has never before been seen in America. The value of the animals called daily to the ring, according to their owners' valuations, aggregated over a million dollars, which would mean \$10,000 per head. Nothing like putting on the price!

Excepting those of Miss K. L. Wilkes, Galt, Ont., who made a small exhibit, there were no Canadian horses present. Of American exhibitors, Alfred G. and Reginald Vanderbilt and Judge W. H. Moore, of New York, were the chief. The Truman Stud Farm, Crouch & Sons, of La Fayette, Ind., and a number of other breeders and importers of less note, made exhibits, the latter two getting a fair share of the money in certain classes. For the rest, it was largely a contest of wealth.

The principal event from the standpoint of the average draft-horse breeder, was the determining of honors in the six-in-hand contest. There were three contestants, Morris & Company, with an outfit of Clydesdales, and Armour and Swift, with Percherons. These three entries were shown daily during the progress of the International of the week before, but judging for the honors came on Tuesday night of the week following. Two of the Armour horses were of the famous team which that firm sent to England in 1907, that won the International six-in-hand prize in 1905, 1906 and 1907. The Morris horses that defeated them this year are a collection of prizewinning Clydesdales. Two of them are said to be the champion geldings of England, two were champion geldings from Canada, and the other pair the best geldings of Clyde breeding which the Morris people could purchase in the United States. The six-in-hand contest is the great event of the International draft harness classes. It is won this year by the Clydesdales for the first time since 1903.

Throughout the different sections leading up to the final event, honors were divided, with the advantage a little in favor of the Clydesdale blood.

The single class to halter, weighing from 1,500 to 1,750 pounds, was stronger than usual this year, the competition being entered into by the leading importers and breeders with some very worthy specimens of breeding mares. The awards were:

1. Morris & Co., on a Clydesdale gelding.
2. Finch Bros., on a Shire mare.
3. McLay Bros., on a Clydesdale mare.
4. Morris & Co., on a Clydesdale gelding.
5. Swift & Co., on a Percheron gelding.

In the class for the big single mares or geldings weighing over 1,750 pounds, the entries were more numerous than in any of the previous shows. The Shire and

Clydesdale entries of mares again furnished the competition for the geldings. The winner was found in a five-year-old gelding, Tom, a new addition to the Morris aggregation. This horse is said to be a cross-bred Shire-Percheron, and while not possessing the massive proportions and draft character of the old-time winner, Jim, when fully developed he will wear the honors quite as well. The awards were:

1. Morris & Co., on Tom.
2. Swift & Co., on a Percheron gelding.
3. Morris & Co., on Drew, a Clydesdale gelding.
4. McLay Bros., on a Clydesdale mare.
5. Trumans' Pioneer Stud, on a Shire mare.

In the class for pairs, lightweight, 3,000 to 3,500 pounds, to wagon, the awards were:

1. Swift & Co., on Percheron geldings.
2. A. G. Soderberg, on Clydesdale mares.
3. Morris & Co., on Clydesdale geldings.
4. Armour & Co., on Percheron geldings.
5. L. N. & O. B. Sizer, on Shire mares.

The pairs of heavy drafters over 3,500 pounds presented some keen competitions, the Armour entry of Percherons winning easily over the classy Clydesdale pair of wheelers shown by Morris, and the well-mated pair sent forward by Swift & Co.

The exhibit of three horses abreast to wagon had only three entries, the Morris Clydesdale geldings winning easily, Armours next with Percherons, and Swift & Co. third, also with Percherons.

In the class for fours, the Morris Clydesdales had an easy win, with Armour second, and Swift third.

Morris & Company started in 1900 to win this honor with an outfit of six imported Clydes, and they won it four years in succession. Then, in 1904, the blue ribbon went to the Percherons on a team of six which the Pabst Brewing Company, of Milwaukee, gathered together regardless of cost, and trained to win. In 1905, the Armour people entered the field with the six-in-hand that has defeated everything opposing them until this year, when the drafters of Scotland reach the premier position again. Prof. W. L. Carlyle, who judged at Winnipeg this year, made the awards.

When Mark Twain was a young and struggling newspaper writer in San Francisco, a lady of his acquaintance saw him one day with a cigar-box under his arm, looking in a shop window.

"Mr. Clemens," she said, "I always see you with a cigar-box under your arm. I am afraid you are smoking too much." "It isn't that," said Mark, "I'm moving again."

Two little darkies had gone walnutting, and, after filling their pockets and everything else about them that would hold nuts, they started for home. Passing a cemetery, one suggested that they go inside and divide the walnuts equally. In this the other agreed, and thereupon the two lads climbed the fence, dropping two walnuts outside as they were doing so. Piling the walnuts in a heap, they proceeded to make a division. While they were thus engaged a negro came along the road, and hearing voices in the cemetery, stopped to listen. And this is what he heard: "Ah'll tak' this one," "Ah'll tak' that one," "Ah'll tak' this one," "Ah'll tak' that one," "Ah'll tak' this one," "Ah'll tak' that one," "Ah'll tak' this one," "Ah'll tak' that one." The darky's eyes began to bulge. "Foh de law's sake," he suddenly exclaimed, "de debbil and de Lawd's dividin' up de folk," and taking to his heels, he fled down the road.

About a mile and a half away a white man rushed out and checked him as he sped. "Hold on there," he shouted. "What's the matter? What are you running like that for?" "Oh, don't stop me, boss, don't stop me, I mus' get away from hyah," wailed the frightened negro. "But what's the matter?" pursued the white man. "Oh, de debbil and de Lawd's back in de cemeter' up dar dividin' up de folk. Lem'me go, lem'me go." "Here, that won't do. You will have to come back with me and see what is going on," said the white man, and taking him by the collar, he forced the darky to retrace his steps. When the two reached the cemetery the voices were still going on: "Ah'll tak' this one," "Ah'll tak' that one." Then suddenly one said: "Now we'll get the two outside, and we'll be done." "And they do say," said the storyteller, "that the white man beat the negro running."