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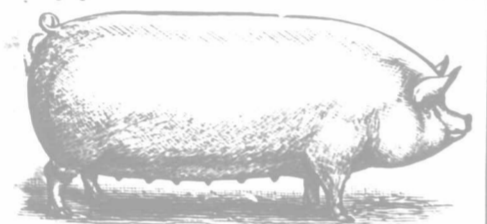
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**GOSSIP.**  
**Live Stock Show at Paris.**

The International Show of live stock, which opened at Vincennes on Saturday, June 9th, was one of the largest and most representative gatherings of the kind ever brought together. The totals of the entries of farm stock (including poultry) were as follows: Cattle, 2,241; sheep, 713; swine, 332; poultry, rabbits, etc., 2,679; grand total, 5,965.

There was a fine collection of 41 distinct breeds of cattle, classified into two divisions—one for foreign-bred animals and the other for animals born and reared in France. These were grouped into 49 different categories—15 in the first division and 34 in the second for French breeds. Many of those amongst the upwards of 30 French breeds represented were hardly of such characteristic stamp as to deserve the title of distinct breeds, and looked more like departmental differences of strain in a great many cases than real distinctions of breed. Taking the numbers shown as an index, the popularity of the leading breeds would be as follows: (1) Normandy, 273; (2) Shorthorns, 221; (3) Hollandaise or Dutch black and white, 118; and (4) Flemish cattle, 110.

To Great Britain was paid the highest compliment of any foreign nation, as provision was made for every one of our recognized breeds in eleven sections. It is to be regretted that this opportunity was not more largely availed of by British breeders, for only the Shorthorns, Herefords, Red Polls, Jersey, and Aberdeen Angus were represented by 10 British exhibits, and in the latter two breeds the competition was altogether left to foreign owners. No doubt this was caused by the stringent laws at present in force against foreign importations rather than a lack of sympathy or enterprise on the part of British exhibitors. Breeders do not relish the prospect of sending their choice animals to risk a low price at a forced sale or slaughter on return.

**Shorthorns.**—There were five bulls and one cow shown in the foreign Shorthorn section, and of these, Sir Jacob Wilson's 2nd prize two-year-old bull, Sir Riby Gilbert 73619, was the only British representative. He is a very good type of a bull, with grandly sprung ribs, excellent touch, and plenty of strength through the heart, but he has hardly depth enough—a shortcoming which made him look a trifle leggy. The French Shorthorn Syndicate got the first prizes in both classes with prime animals bred by Mr. Deane Willis. The younger animal was Bapton Warrior, a son of Bapton Victory 99910, which was a reserve winner at the Royal last year. This is a fine, stylish looking roan, with an imposing forehead. There is a slight weakness at his tail-head, but otherwise he is very level, from crop to quarter, and shoulder to thigh, and stands exceptionally well round the girths. The other and older winner was Centurion 25558, by the well-known champion sire, Count Lavender. He is a bit stronger in his points, but not so refined as the other, and he is a little patchy about the tail-head. This bull has a capital top and grandly well-roasted; and with his fine depth, and level, well-patched shoulders, he formed a typical specimen of the breed. The second winner in the yearling class was a Buenos Ayres bull of good stamp named Nicholas White Poppy.

**Herefords.**—This famous beef and grazing breed made up a very nice collection of two males and four females. With the exception of the second prize bull, owned by M. Henri Corbiere, they were all shown by Mr. W. T. Barneby, Herefordshire. The English animals made a very fine group, and their nice, level, plump appearance excited general admiration when later in the day they sustained the prestige of British skill by winning the championship for the best group of five foreign-bred "beeves." The first prize bull was a second winner at Herefordshire two years ago. He is a trifle patchy about the tail-head, and coarse over the crop, but is a bull of great depth and substance. He carries his flesh very evenly, and has an exceptionally fine round rib. The first prize two-year-old cow was shown by the same exhibitor.

Mr. J. E. Platt, Bedfordshire, with three exhibits, and Mr. R. P. Conroy, Berkhamsted, shared the honors for Red Polls. There were no English exhibits of Aberdeen-Angus on this occasion, although M. le Comte de Germinz, the only exhibitor with six entries, got second prize in the male and female classes with a bull chiefly British-bred.

Speaking generally, the French breeds are regarded as inferior to those of Britain, particularly for beef purposes. The French Shorthorns are distinctly behind ours, and are something of the earlier type, with rather prominent points about the hooks and shoulders, and not so well developed on the rump, or so full in the thighs. The evidence of the judging would tend to a predilection for milk rather than beef. The Limousins, though known as "working" breed, possess some good beef points, short legged, of reddish fawn color, and of a pudging rather than block conformation.

The Normandy cattle are the most important milk breed, being of a rich brindle in color, with somewhat of a Shorthorn type.

There were only 57 entries in the foreign-bred section for sheep, but these were all of a very creditable stamp, especially the Southdowns and Shropshires. The Prince of Wales got a 1st prize among Southdowns only under 18 months with a very symmetrical stamp of a sheep, but he failed to get a place in the older class. The plan adopted was that of clipping bare for the show and leaving a tuft of wool on the left shoulder. The sheep stood in their bare figures with every mark, line, and prominence shown. In this way they could be distinctly judged for frame merits, while the tuft of wool remaining allowed facilities for testing the staple. The exhibits of French Southdowns were numerous, and perhaps the best of the section; leaving out the Merinos, in which the French surpassed. The breed champion rams for males and females were both taken by Frenchmen—one with foreign breeds, the other by the home-bred section.

Against the shroons, the English competitors were more favored, and Mr. Tanner carried off the 1st prize on the basis of championships with very few exceptions. The others represent a number of different breeds, and the requisite number of sheep to be shown in each class.

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LABORATORY OF INLAND REVENUE, OFFICE OF OFFICIAL ANALYST, Montreal, April 8, 1895.

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