

LIVE STOCK.

Recipes for Pickling Beef.

Please publish a good recipe for pickling beef.
M. A. C.

Ans.—The tastes of different people vary somewhat with regard to meats. The amount of salt or sugar they may use in curing beef or pork depends considerably upon their individual likings. We are presenting three different recipes, but in the main points they are very similar. The first one reproduced here has been recommended for some time, and is quite reliable, particularly so for summer when it is more difficult to keep meat properly.

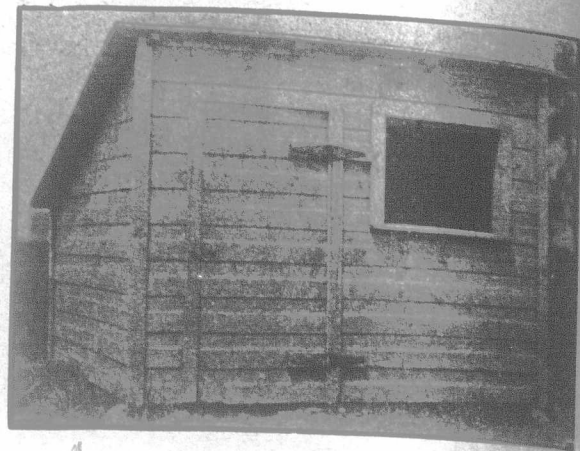
For 50 pounds of meat take 2 gallons of water, 4 pounds of salt, 2 pounds of brown sugar, and 1 ounce of saltpetre. Boil this for ten minutes, then skim well, remove from the fire and allow it to stand until cold. Put the pieces of meat in a cask, cover with the brine, weight the meat under, cover the top and set in a cool, dark place. If the brine becomes sour, drain it off, boil, skim well and pour back on the meat when cool. Attention should be given that the brine keeps sweet, and that the meat does not get too "soggy."

Another recipe for corned beef, is as follows: Take 8 pounds of salt for each 100 pounds of meat; put a layer of salt in the bottom of the barrel, then sprinkle salt on each piece of meat and a layer of salt between each two layers and a thick layer on top of the whole pack. After standing 12 hours, add for

each 100 pounds of meat a solution of 4 pounds of sugar, 2 ounces baking soda, and 4 ounces saltpetre in a gallon of water. Enough water is added to cover all the meat, which is weighed down.

Still another recipe, which varies slightly in detail from the two already given, follows: To each gallon of water add 1½ pounds salt, ½ pound sugar, ½ ounce saltpetre, and ½ ounce potash. Let these be boiled together until all the dirt from the sugar rises to the top and is skimmed off. When cold pour it over the meat. The beef must be well covered with the pickle and before putting it down it is well to sprinkle it very lightly with saltpetre, which removes all the surface blood, etc., leaving the meat fresh and clean.

In curing beef in this way, there are several points which should be kept in mind. Tight barrels or casks are quite satisfactory, but earthen crocks, when large enough, are more suitable, since they can be very thoroughly scalded from time to time. After butchering, the meat should be allowed to remain in a cool place for a couple of days before being put in the pickle. Some of the recipes given do not mention boiling the brine before application to the meat. It is wise to do this at any time, and particularly so in summer. Sugar and salt always contain particles of dirt which rise to the top and can be skimmed off when the brine is boiled. The preservative is purified in this way and we believe it is good practice to boil the pickle at all times. Watch the meat to see that it is well covered with brine and that the latter has not become sour. When such a condition exists, take it off, boil it and return it to the meat.



A Rectangular Colony House.

Scotia Agricultural College for exercising bulls which has resulted in good crops of strong calves. Several bulls, of course, must be maintained there, and they are housed in a long building, partitioned off into box stalls of only moderate size. At the feed manger is a large stanchion into which the bull is driven when required for use. This makes it easy to attach the staff. The stalls connect with paddocks, about ten to twelve feet in width, which are built only wide enough that the bulls can turn round in them conveniently. They are between fifty and seventy-five feet long. The animals walk backward and forward in these paddocks, and more actively do they exercise when bulls are in the adjoining run-ways. Where more than one bull is kept, this is a very satisfactory method of exercising.

Shelters for Sheep.

Sheepmen of limited experience have, in the past, provided expensive barns in which to house their flocks. Besides being costly, these buildings are not suitable unless considerable attention is paid to the requirements of a good sheep shelter. Sunlight, cool, fresh air, freedom from drafts, absence of dampness and good feeding conveniences are the chief features of a building for housing sheep in winter. Where the flock is large the outlay of some money will be necessary to shelter them properly and provide for accommodation at lambing time, but it is folly to put up expensive sheep barns on the ordinary farm where only a small flock is kept as one branch of the live

stock. Sheep enjoy the pure, out-door air, and anyone is inviting disaster who will confine them in close, shut-in stables or buildings. They should be kept dry, however, and be given an opportunity to get out of winds or drafts. This done, they will fare very well under conditions that obtain almost any place in Canada. An ordinary sized ewe should be provided with at least twelve square feet of floor space in any house or building. Large ewes should have as much as eighteen square feet each. The shed illustrated in these columns is inexpensive compared with the accommodation it renders, and can be made quite serviceable as a sheep-pen. With the large doors facing the south, the sheep will have protection against most any kind of weather, and yet they will not be shut in nor obliged to suffer from lack of pure air. Often such a building is provided with doors in such a way that the lower half and the upper half open and close separately. When it is necessary to keep the sheep housed the upper half of the door can be left open and the lower half closed.

Anyone acquainted with sheep will realize at once the necessity of large doors through which they may enter their pens. When sheep are frightened they will crowd when going in or out of a door in such a way as to injure some of the flock. It is well indeed to have large spacious doors to serve this purpose. Sometimes it is necessary to have warmer quarters for early born lambs than has here been described. It is the lamb, however, not the ewe that requires these conditions. Unless the lambs are coming early, cool quarters are more suitable for sheep, and, in fact, in Southwestern Ontario last winter we saw one flock of sheep running loose on 100 acres which were provided with practically no shelter whatever. The lambs came late in the spring after the grass had started slightly, and no trouble was experienced at yearning time. It is well, too, considering the high price of wool, to provide convenient racks in which to feed the rough fodder, so as to keep the fleeces clean and free from chaff.

Houses for Hogs.

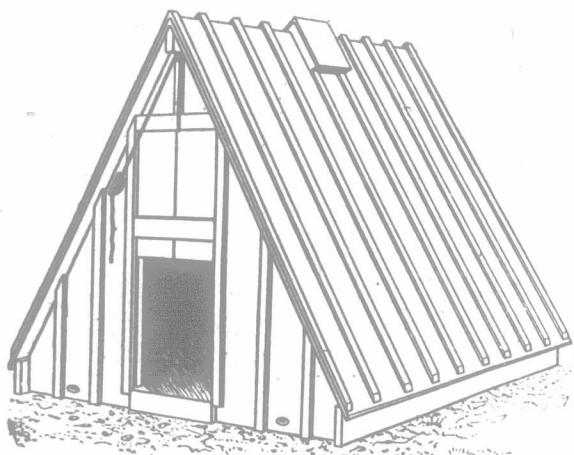
It would be but an easy matter to improve on the type of piggeries seen generally throughout the country. In the majority of cases we would attempt to improve upon them with even a cheaper building. For convenience in feeding and tending the swine it is necessary to have a large and well-planned building, but if one can provide the labor and has suitable grounds we believe a modification of the colony-house plan to be preferable. There is danger of

Housing Breeding Stock.

There have been many wonderful animals produced under conditions that would now be considered neither comfortable nor sanitary; however, they were reared in spite of, rather than on account of the lack of opportunity to breathe pure air, or enjoy the light of day in their cellar-like stables. Ailments are now more widespread than formerly. Contagious diseases lurk about ready to destroy individuals of the herd, or impair their breeding qualities. The consuming public does not care for meat from infected animals, or milk from tuberculous cows. While stock could be subjected to unfavorable circumstances in the past, they will not permit it now and still give satisfactory results. A stockman cannot get the best out of a poorly housed and ill-kept herd, no more than a fruit grower can produce clean apples without spraying. As time goes by the live-stock industry is being confronted by new obstacles and hemmed in by new laws. We shall be obliged to pay more attention to our breeding stock in order to produce those rugged, strong-constituted sires and dams that stamp upon their progeny the character and qualities they must possess to make them profitable. Too often light and ventilation are sacrificed to obtain warmth. If stockmen who have adhered to this principle would reverse their methods they would not be so far astray. Generally speaking, it is not the cold that necessitates housing at all in most parts of Canada, but a changeable atmosphere, and in some provinces too much moisture. Nature has provided the animals we breed with a protective covering that increases as the occasion demands. If this is allowed to develop in length and density as the winter becomes colder, the animal with shelter from the storms and dry quarters free from drafts will do better than the stock housed in warm, dingy stables, where they are obliged to breathe foul air over and over again. The strength and vigor of our herds and flocks as well as the corresponding freedom from disease, depend upon exercise, pure air and plenty of nourishing feed. The large, airy, well-lighted, and well-ventilated building is, of course, the ideal accommodation for live stock, but there are many farmers who have neither such a building, nor the capital to invest in one. When we have the proper conception of what constitutes suitable housing for breeding stock we can then proceed to erect the same in accordance with the means at hand.

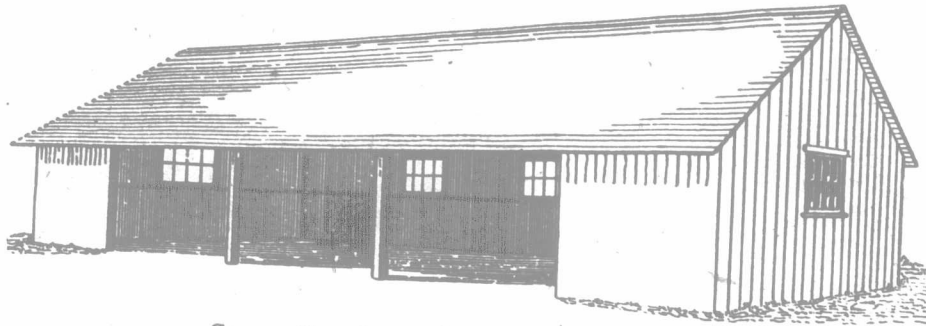
Quarters for Breeding Cattle.

So much has been written in these columns of late regarding light and ventilation in the stable that we



The A-shaped Colony House.

shall not elaborate on it at this time. The principles involved in housing breeding stock must first be understood, and then each one will strive to introduce those ideas into his management of the herd so far as possible. Everything considered, the convenient stable, with a good circulation of air and well lighted, is the most suitable place to winter cattle. But such accommodation for the young stock is not indispensable. Often a shed can be brought into service for the use of young heifers. If facing south the doors may remain open except on occasions of storm or high winds, but with a dry floor and plenty of bedding the young stuff will produce a coat of hair that will protect them against moderately low tempera-



Suggestion for an Inexpensive Sheep Shed.

From Sheep Husbandry in Canada.

tures. More feed may be required under such conditions, but they will make good use of it in developing strong constitutions and rugged frames. Needless to say, they should be allowed the run of a yard wherein to exercise. Even when quartered in stables young heifers should be out as much as possible, but since they do not produce as much hair when stabled they will not endure such low temperatures when outside as will cattle accustomed to out-door conditions. Breeding cows, not in milk, will thrive in more open buildings than the ordinary stable. As a general thing the females of the herd are allowed insufficient exercise in winter. The box stalls are usually occupied by calves, and the pregnant cow or heifer is turned loose only when showing signs of approaching parturition. The writer has many times been impressed by the sappy, rugged young things that breeders have led out of the most unexpected places. We should get away from the idea that it is necessary to expend hundreds of dollars on fixing up stables for cattle of the beef breeds. It is well to lay out a moderate amount, if the money is available, for it lessens the labor required to tend them, and, as a general thing, they are kept cleaner. Whether we spend dollars or spend cents, the ends to keep in view are sunlight, pure air and dryness. Fortify against drafts; clean the glass or enlarge the windows; make provisions for a steady exchange of air, and provide a suitable place for the cattle to stand or lie down. This done, the main features in housing beef cattle have been attended to.

What has been written with regard to females holds true with bulls. Many weak calves are due to pampered, weakened sires that were too closely confined from calfhood up. Make them exercise, get them out in the pure air, even if it is sometimes cool, and feed them well. This method will insure lusty bulls, if their breeding will permit it at all. The mature stock bull requires exercise if a good crop of strong calves are to be looked for. The head of the herd should spend much of the time in a paddock where he has access to adequate shelter. The writer recently observed the system in vogue at the Nova

disease spread pigs. It is not our at this time, to extend his tion for pigs colony house two houses ill in common on 2 x 6-inch 8 feet, and the rectangular bu 3 feet 6 inches front; the fram walled with d roofing. It is A man can co day and a ha feature to be c ing pigs durin placed some c troughs, the h distance each sows will occ winter, and th the barnyard dry, well-vent colony house housing capaci

Relative I in

Could you fo a side of be name of the c and the price around, or a to beef dressing A side of beef in mate the value Nipissing Dis

Butchers h which they ad but each has hi to details. The are large, but "straight cuts" the various sm are taken. So higher quality are in greatest disposed of, wh certain cuts so retail price of The retail but pays a uniform and must then dispose of the the highest price next. The mos hind quarters, naturally it reta It is not diffic is worth per p endeavoring to different cuts o

It takes a 700 pounds. Th what the averag weight would be depending on the dress out a mu meat than other cised in buying bullock may dres meat, but the o 58 to 61 per cen high a percentage weight in the the same, provi Therefore, the we in the diagram are known to th are represented takes in Nos. 2 a 8; flank, 9; plat Whether the car finished, the per weight will be ap chuck 26, plate Figuring on this 700 pounds will ribs, 81 pounds pounds of plate, and suet. The w pound carcass w ship to each oth centage basis as trade the "straig nated more exp Number 2, round 4 and 5, loin er brisket. The ma the division is quarters. Accord is left on a hin two ribs attach of the illustration the various bones A is known as