

Beef Rings

DETAILS regarding a beef-ring have been requested by several readers of THE GUIDE and as farmers in many localities are planning for a fresh supply of fresh beef by means of a beef-ring, this article is reproduced from THE GUIDE of January 19.

The customary arrangement is for members to be agreed to provide an animal each for slaughter on successive weeks, said animal to be a steer or heifer, not more than two, or perhaps three years old, and to dress not less than 300, or in some cases 400, and not more than 500 pounds, exclusive of head, heart, liver, feet, tail, fat of internal organs, etc., which parts, along with the hides of the animal, go to the owner. The services of a competent butcher are secured to kill the animal and apportion the carcass according to the fixed chart, cuts being supplied in turn, so that by the close of the season, each member has received an entire carcass. At the end of the season, settlement is made among the members, according to the weights of the animals slaughtered, on the basis of a fixed stated price for beef, from or to those who go below or above the average.

Butchers have different charts for cutting into shares. A chart for a sixteen-share beef-ring, commonly used, is as follows:

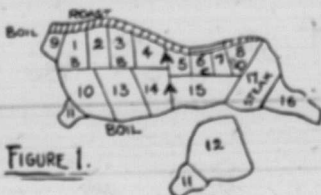


Fig. 1 represents one-half of beef lying on table ready for saw. Before letting this half down, divide it in the middle by running a saw across at "a" between roasts 4 and 5, leaving two ribs on hind quarter. After laying both quarters on the table, divide four quarters at line "b."

No. 9 represents neck. Saw neck off, leaving three joints on it.

No. 1 represents roast No. 1. Saw roast No. 1 off, leaving three joints on it.

No. 2 represents roast No. 2. Saw roast No. 2 off, leaving three joints on it.

No. 3 represents roast No. 3. Saw roast No. 3 off, leaving three joints on it.

No. 4 represents roast No. 4. Saw roast No. 4 off, leaving four joints on it.

No. 11 represents front shank. Saw front shank off above upper joint.

No. 14 represents second rib cut. Saw it off, leaving five ribs on it.

No. 15 represents first rib cut. Saw it off, leaving four ribs on it.

No. 10 represents brisket.

No. 12 represents shoulder, which lies directly under brisket, as represented in Fig. 1.

Then take the hind quarter and divide at the line "d."

No. 15 represents flank. Cut flank off at line "c."

No. 5 represents roast No. 5. Saw roast No. 5 off, with three joints on it.

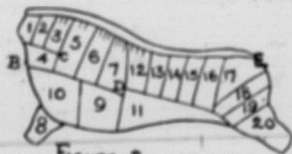
Nos. 6, 7 and 8 represents sirloin, rump No. 7 and rump No. 1 respectively. Divide these three to as near the same weight as possible.

No. 17 represents steak. Cut steak into slices, giving a slice to each person.

No. 16 represents hind shank after steak is taken off.

After this half of the beef has been cut up it is divided between the first eight persons, as shown by the time-table, giving each person a roast, a boil piece, and a slice of steak. The then other half of the beef is taken down and cut up in the same manner.

A successful chart for a beef-ring of twenty members is as follows:



The numbers that go together are: 1 and 18, 2 and 16, 3 and 12, 4 and 13, 5 and 17, 6 and 20, 7 and 11, 8 and 15, 9 and 14, 10 and 19.

In some localities twenty-four share rings are in operation. Many individuals, too, decide that they cannot handle a whole share, and so arrange with a neighbor to go halves. With a 16-share ring, an animal up to three years and an averaged dressed weight of about 400 pounds, one share gives a fair supply to two small families. It can be seen, therefore, that the number of shares will have to be governed by conditions, and that the chart will have to be made out accordingly. A competent butcher will find little difficulty in dividing the carcass in such way that each member will receive justice.

PITTSBURG SUNDAY BALL

The ministers of Pittsburgh and the managers of the baseball club which have been holding Sunday exhibition games have reached an agreement whereby the Sunday baseball games will continue and the attendance at the churches, it is thought, will increase proportionately. Hereafter, according to the manager of the A. J. Martin's, one of the best known amateur nines in the country, no person will be allowed to attend the Sunday exhibition games conducted by that club unless the patron is able to present a ticket which is obtained only at certain Pittsburgh churches after the Sunday morning service. These tickets will be given only to persons who attend the Sunday morning church service. No person who does not sit out the service, no matter what the length of the sermon may be, will be given a ticket.

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MUCH FLOUR BLEACHED

A McGill, chief analyst for the Dominion, has issued an interesting bulletin giving the result of an analysis which has been made of 223 samples of flour with the object of showing to what extent the flour sold in Canada is artificially whitened by the process of bleaching by means of nitrous acid. This is a question which has been the cause of some discussion both by millers and the consuming public during the last year.

In North Dakota as a result of the judgment given by the supreme court, the sale of bleached flour has been made illegal. Canada, however, has no legislation with regard to bleached flour. The analysis made by Mr. McGill shows that fifty samples, or twenty-two per cent. of the total collection contained about one per million of nitrates, and of the seventy-five samples which show measurable amounts of nitrates, 25 contain not more than one part per million. Of the 223 samples, 148 give no reaction for nitrates.

Mr. McGill says that it is evident that the bleaching of flour has resulted from a popular demand for white flour, and a conviction on the part of the millers that they were meeting this demand in a perfectly harmless manner. Mr. McGill says that it is an important question whether or not there is any danger to the public health from the bleaching of flour is a most important question upon which judgment is reserved.

"Of this we may feel perfectly sure," continues the report, "that should a decision be reached on scientific grounds and so clear as to justify prohibition of oxides of nitrogen, as bleaching agents the large mills will be found prompt to recognize such a decision and to live up to it."

The report concluded with a suggestion that a standard be set defining the amount of bleaching matter which it may be possible for the millers to use in the bleaching of flour without danger to the health of the consumer.

It's easy for a man to understand a woman if she's a good cook.

RUSHING TO ALASKA

Officials of companies operating steamships to Alaska points on the Behring Sea estimate that 15,000 people will leave Seattle for Nome and St. Michaels on the early June sailings, drawn to the far North by the reports of rich deposits in the Ideratorod gold fields. The first regular liner to leave for Nome has sailed for Seattle recently, and every berth was sold weeks in advance.

Wealthy men have been compelled to take a compartment in the steerage and there is a waiting list at the steamship office larger than the company capacity of North-bound steamers. So great is the rush to the North that passengers and freight officials of Alaska steamship lines say the movement, which amounts to a stampede, has been equalled only once in the history of the north and that during the Klondike rush thirteen years ago.

PLANNING FOR CENSUS

Nine thousand men will be required to take the census of next year. The schedules of enumeration embodying some changes from the previous forms are now before the cabinet for approval. The number of these employed in the work will be very little more than in 1910, the idea being to make larger the areas assigned to each enumerator. The great growth of the west will operate towards an increased representation but this will depend upon the relative increase in Quebec and the east.

Some men remind us of camels; while they may go for several days without drinking, they nevertheless get their backs up.

It is easier for a poor man to be good than contented.

A girl seldom resents a man's attempt to flirt with her unless she is in love with some other man.

A man seldom goes to a pretty woman for advice.



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