

mixtures of different quantities of barley, oats ground flax-seed and bran, the whole diluted to the consistency of milk in a tea made of boiled hay. But as the fattening of calves for slaughter is a good way to utilize the skim milk, recourse should, as a general thing, be only had to these broths when skim milk is scarce or veal commands a good price.

With respect to the feeding of cows and calves, we recommend the dairy manual of Henry Stewart, (New York Orange Judd Company) from which we have derived most practical information.

## Swine.

### PIG FEEDING IN IRELAND

A great deal has been said and written of late regarding the feeding of pigs. In this country, at least, there are several important points to be settled in connection with the feeding problem. One of the most important is to decide whether soft pork is caused by some other practice followed in this country in raising hogs. Some definite information along these lines will likely be forthcoming before the end of the year. In the meantime the following instructions on pig feeding, given by a well-known packing establishment at Limerick, Ireland, and published in the *Farmer's Gazette*, of Dublin, will be of interest in showing the methods followed elsewhere.

"Pigs should be well fed, but not over fed. A good bacon pig of 12 stone (168 lbs.) ought to be produced in seven months from its birth. It should not be crammed, neither should it be half-starved, but fed steadily and regularly. Pigs fed steadily and regularly will give the most satisfactory results to the feeder when weighed in the factories. A hog which has been half starved at at any period of its life, even through well fed afterwards' will do not do so. Feed three times a day at fixed hours; never leave food in the troughs after the pigs have finished. The flesh of hogs is soft and flabby if fed on brewery or distillery stuff, or on turnips or mangels, and is comparison to their size their weight in the scale is miserable. They may deceive (we doubt it) the buyer who buys by "guess," but they will not deceive the scale-weight.

"The best classes of food for pig feeding are: Potatoes (cooked), milk, barley meal oatmeal, crushed oats, pollard, bran, ground wheat, rye meal, Indian corn. The latter should only be used sparingly, and in conjunction with other foods, such as pollard, bran, or milk; and should always be ground as fine as the mill can make it, and thoroughly cooked, otherwise the Indian corn passes through the animal undigested, and to the loss of the feeder. Barley meal need not necessarily be cooked—scalding it will do. It is certainly the best food, except, perhaps, potatoes, for producing pork. Never sell barley of moderate quality to buy Indian meal. Grind your barley, feed it to your hogs, and their weight when dead will astonish you.

"The secret of making money by pigs is not to rush into them, nor out of them. Never keep too many; never keep too few. The fault in the past has been that feeders ran in to buy when hogs were dear, and stayed at home when they were cheap. You will not get well-shaped pigs from a badly-shaped boar; neither will you get thrifty pigs from an unthrifty sow. If you do not keep your pigs clean and dry they will not pay you. A pig, any more than a human being, will not thrive on a foul, damp bed. The best thriving pigs we have ever seen were those produced from an ordinary well-shaped country sow and a thoroughbred York boar. The services of this latter class of animal can easily be had nowadays. A long-legged, ungainly boar will get a leggy, flat-ribbed, cat-hammered, herring-gutted, miserable class of pig, which will pay nobody, and deceive nobody as to their quality, except perhaps, the man who feeds them. The tall, leggy hog was ignorantly thought to deceive the buyer who purchases by "guess," but does not deceive the factory weighmaster.

"No matter how low prices may be, if it does not pay to feed pigs, it certainly does not pay to starve them. The way to have cheap stores is to breed them yourself. If you cannot afford to keep a breeding sow yourself, get two or three of your neighbors to join you, and divide the expense and the progeny. A good sow is easily fed, and is the best savings' bank you can have. The day you buy is the day you sell. If you pay too much for the store you will want (but will not get) too much for the bacon pig. Where a proper sow is kept, young pigs can be produced for 1s. a week of their age, that is to say, eight weeks, 8s.;