

A prolific sow.—Mr. Wesley Hounsell, of Butterworth, has a very prolific breeding sow that less than a year ago gave birth to 12 healthy pigs, last autumn 17 more, and a few days ago

20. Forty-nine pigs in less than a year from one sow seems almost incredible, but Mr. Hounsell has the proof of his assertions and is raising some of the last lot by hand.

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We have bought cheap for cash 1,000 Chilton's Improved Spring Balance Milk Scales (which are recommended by the Dominion Government), in addition to the Household Scales, which we are willing to sell to every reader of this paper at a saving of 50c on the dollar.

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## Entries for Dairy Farms Contest

Evidence of the interest that is being taken already in the dairy farm competition that is to be held throughout Ontario and part of Quebec this year by Farm and Dairy, is already beginning to reach us. The first letter came from a farmer who took part in the competition held two years ago. He is thinking of entering his farm, located in Peel County, again this year.

Shortly afterwards a letter was received from Mr. Alfred Hutchinson, of Wellington County, asking for particulars and expressing a desire to enter. A letter from Fred V. Woodley, Boston, Ont., Norfolk County, asked for entry forms so that he could enter his farm. Neither of the last two parties took part in the competition held two years ago.

A letter has also been received from Mr. H. C. Sparling, Managing Director of the Empire Cream Separator Co., Toronto, Ont., which contributed \$200 towards the funds of the last competition, indicating their willingness to contribute again toward the funds of this year's contest. This is the first firm to write to that effect. Were it not for such generous contributions as these firms are making, a committee of management would not feel safe to arrange for the holding of a competition.

Reports of the contest have evidently reached Georgia as the Central Georgia Railway Company, of Savannah, Ga., has written for full particulars, presumably with the intention of holding a somewhat similar competition in that state.

### Select Seed Carefully

Geo. H. Clark, Seed Commissioner, Ottawa

The available supply of seed corn is better than last year, though not as good as most farmers expect. Little difficulty will be experienced with the flint varieties; but even of these farmers should procure their supply of seed, if possible on the ear, and carefully examine and discard any ear containing kernels with discolored embryo. Even greater care should be taken with dent corns. Injury to seed corn is usually from heavy frosts occurring during the early winter months, before the corn has become thoroughly dried. When the corn is allowed to stand in the shock until late in the autumn, some of the ears become quite moist from autumn rains and may be injured at any time thereafter by 10 degrees of frost or less.

Seed merchants as a rule prefer to handle their seed corn shelled, because in the ear it is bulky and all defects even in first class corn, are clearly evident in the unshelled seed. Most farmers who grow corn for ensilage, but who are not corn experts, are unable to detect poor quality or find fault with seed corn that has been shelled and cleaned from the nubbins in the corn crib after the best ears have been selected for sale on the ear.

### A Question of Power

Can I run an engine to cut wood with steam from the same boiler that is used to heat the house if it only requires 10 pounds pressure to run the engine? Does it require water hotter than boiling for heating a house?—J. E. S., Thurston Bay, Ont.

It would be impossible to use the same boiler for the two purposes you have mentioned. The pressure of 60 lbs., which would be necessary to run the engine, would be at least 15 times as great as would be used for heating. A pressure of four or five pounds being sufficient for this use. In fact all houses of ordinary size can be heated by a pressure of two pounds, which means very little hotter than boiling water.

## A Sanitary Milk Pail

Editor, Farm and Dairy.—Many of the defects in all dairy products are due to bacteria. Milk is it comes from the cow ordinarily is pure. The first point, therefore, in producing clean milk is a clean cow in a clean stable. The style of milk pail used, however, has a great influence on the number of bacteria that find their way into the milk before it leaves the stable.

A desirable and undesirable type of milk pail is shown in the diagram herewith. A very desirable type is shown to the left of the illustration. The top being partly closed in greatly reduces the chances of bacteria-laden dust, hairs, etc., finding their way into the pail, while the rounded joints make the pail easy to clean.



The second type of pail shown is the one most commonly used. Dirt and dust have every chance to get into the milk and the sharp corners unless the pails are unusually well cared for, will be harbinger of dirt and bacteria. Make a close inspection of your milk pails after reading this article, and if your minute inspection does not influence your appetite for milk, then you are likely one of the cleanly, progressive dairymen. Any tinmith can make a pail of the desirable type here shown. It would be a good thing if pails only of this type were used.—"Instructor."

## A Breed Study in Sheep

I have taken a number of sheep on shares; five I got from one man and four from another. They are of different breeding. The first lot has wool very white, and they are light looking sheep. They are very active. Their wool seems to tangle up. The second lot is very different. They are heavy chunky sheep and slow to move and have dark brown noses and legs. Their wool seems coarser and is more of a brown color and is all by layers. The wool comes down on their faces below the eyes. Would you kindly tell me through the Columns of Farm and Dairy, which is the first lot—A.L.B. or Essex Co., Ont.

In all probability the sheep mentioned first in your enquiry are of the Leicester breeding. The second lot are likely Oxforddowns, although they may be Shropshires. One would need to see the sheep or have a more complete description before one could state definitely as to what breed they were.

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