

uniform in size and will bring a better price, as any buyer will pay more for an even lot in quality and size than for a lot of mixed weights and colors.

#### THE SOW AFTER THE PIGS ARE WEANED.

The sows, by having been fed strong during the suckling period, should not be very much sucked down, and soon ready to be bred for fall litters. As I am trying to show how to make the \$1,000 on an investment of \$100, we must keep the sows working all the time, and also reserve the best sow pigs or gilts, now weaned, to add to the breeding herd for next season. So we will figure on keeping every one of the original purchase of sows, and also every one of the good sow pigs this year. If all has gone well, and the litters have averaged even fairly well, we should have from, say, only 3 sows, 12 good sow pigs to be bred from next spring litters. This gives us, with the original 3 sows, 15 sows to be bred for the next spring litters, and say 12 barrows to sell the first fall, which, at 5 cents, the present price, would bring \$150 for care and feed. The three old sows bred for fall litters to farrow as early as September, should bring and save, say, 20 fall pigs, and, by best care and feed, these could be weaned by December 1st. We would now be ready to breed the three old sows and 12 gilts, by purchasing a good young boar for the gilts. The first boar should be used on the original 3 sows, as one will get better pigs and more of them, usually, from mature sires and dams.

By giving the same care and attention the second season as the first, the 15 head can be carried on until spring, when we should have a crop of at least 100 good pigs. By June 1st the 20 fall pigs should be ready for market, and I would sell the entire lot, unless there should be an outstanding good sow pig or two among the number that could be added to the breeding herd. These 20 should bring at least \$10 per head, or \$200.

We are now just getting where in the future we can always have a large number of hogs to sell twice each year, and, with good care and attention, more money can be made than from any other department of the farm.

The writer has found, in an experience of over 30 years, that sows after maturity can be carried over from year to year at an expense not to exceed \$1 per month on an average, and can, for this expense, raise one or two litters annually, as the owner desires. Generally speaking, we do not, in our own business, make a practice of raising the second litter from but few of the sows, as we do not care for over 75 fall pigs. We have also found, by long experience, that a herd of well-bred hogs can be fed to a finish for about 3½ to 3¾ cents per day, and on this expense will gain from 1 lb. to 1½ lbs. per day.

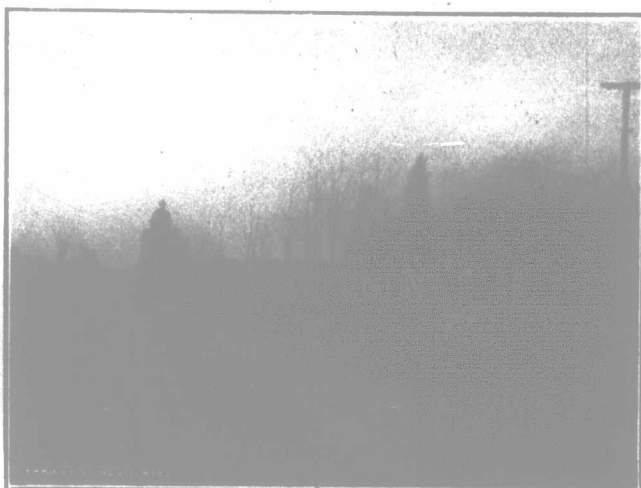
We make these gains at this expense on ground mixed grains, balanced with tankage or middlings, fed in a very thick slop, and, as the pigs get older, an addition of ear corn. We figure all grain grown on the farm at \$1.00 per 100 lbs., which covers cost of grinding, and shows a profit on the growing. On the above basis, and figuring for a series of years that live hogs are sold at 5 cents per lb., one can easily figure out a profit that will make him about \$1.50 per 100 lbs. net, and, with no bad luck from disease, he should be able to clear his \$1,000 in from three to four years from his investment of \$100.

Should he start with registered sows and boar, and do a little showing at his county fair, and a little advertising in the live-stock journals, he should be able to sell the better boars when of breeding age and also some of the better gilts at a price that would make him money much faster. So, taking a conservative view of the business, I believe that, for the amount invested, one can, if he has the determination to give proper care and feed, make a larger profit on his \$100 than in any other method with farming.—[A. J. Lovejoy, in Successful Farming.]

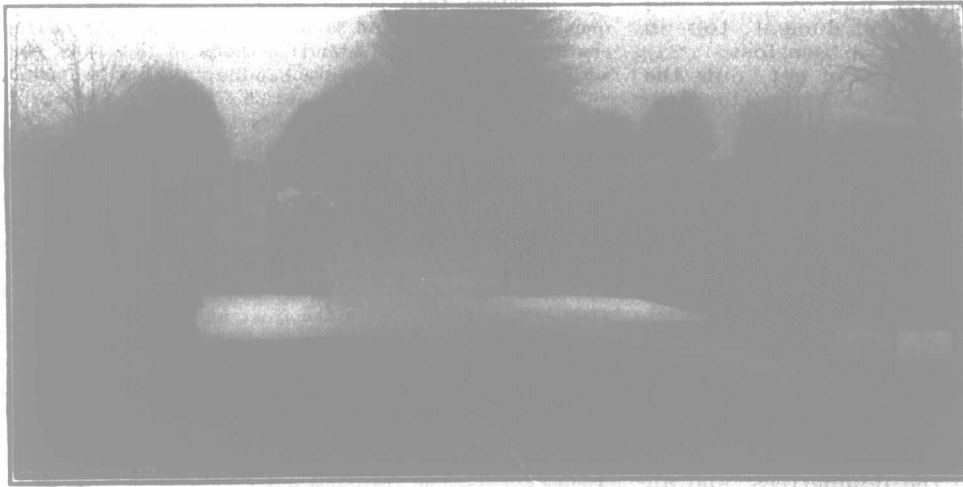
#### Abortion Among Cows.

In the course of a paper read at a recent gathering, in connection with a local farmers' club in Scotland, Mr. McLauchlan Young, of the North of Scotland College of Agriculture, referred to the enormous loss caused by an abortion among cows. In abortion, the young creature is either dead on expulsion, or dies immediately afterwards; but in a premature birth, although it may be weakly and ill-developed and die in a few days, many cases are known where the calf was successfully reared. No line of demarcation can be drawn between the two conditions, especially when a premature birth may be due to some of the causes which produce abortion. Abortion may take place in all animals, but there is not the same tendency in the different species. Abortion is described as being of two kinds, viz., sporadic and epizootic. The first is where cases occur over a wide extent of country, only here and there, and without any relationship as to the causation, and each case, although certainly a loss, is to be

looked upon as accidental. The second is where the pregnant animals in a neighborhood or on one farm abort in large numbers, and the tantalizing act is evidently due to the same cause; then it is, indeed, a grave misfortune, as it entails serious damage—present and prospective—to the stock owner. That the disease is either infectious or contagious, or perhaps both, and spreads in the same way as do all other contagious diseases, is in itself sufficient proof that the cause is a living organism. In fact, the germ or bacillus has been isolated and cultivated artificially, and when used for inoculation abortion has been produced experimentally. The animal that has aborted must be isolated for at least two weeks. During the isolation the cow must be thoroughly irrigated with some germicide, so that the bacillus may be destroyed. Corrosive sublimate is probably as efficacious and convenient as any disinfectant, and it is specially suitable for this purpose, as, being made up in pellets containing a definite quantity, a solution of known strength can easily be made. The pellets contain corrosive sublimate to the extent that when one is dissolved in a pint of water the solution is then one part of sublimate to one thousand of water. One in two thousand is the



A Better Part of the Road.



A Dangerous Unguarded Culvert.

After standing a couple of years in that state is repaired within a week of the visit of "The Farmer's Advocate" camera. Two others in similar condition within a mile—standing invitations to actions for damages.

strength to irrigate a cow that has aborted. Although it is difficult—sometimes impossible—to kill all the germs by the flushing, there is a peculiarity in the life history of the bacillus which assists us in our endeavors towards its destruction. It is not very tenacious of life, and seems to expend its powers in a season or two. Many stock-breeders have noticed that a cow which has been sterile, or has aborted for two or three seasons, seldom gives further trouble. Whether it is that the bacilli die out, or that their products make the environment inimical to them, is not clearly understood, but this peculiarity has suggested a possible preventive. It may be, as in vaccination for smallpox, that an immunity has been produced, and the attempt to induce the violent contractions of the uterine walls is successfully resisted. If this naturally takes place, we may be able to imitate nature, and, by inoculating the cows with a vaccine prepared from a pure cultivation of the bacillus, produce that immunity which would rob abortion of its terrors.

#### Agreeably Surprised.

Had a very agreeable surprise on receiving the "Farmer's Advocate" premium knife. Knew "The Farmer's Advocate" would not send out a poor article, but did not expect one so very good. Many thanks. GEORGE MCPHAIL.  
Bon Accord, N. B.

#### Care of the Sow and Her Pigs.

Feed the sow to keep her bowels freely open during pregnancy. Do this by adding some flaxseed meal to her thick slop of middlings, ground oats, tankage or other nitrogenous foods. Let her have at all times plenty of bulky food, such as alfalfa or clover hay, and, if procurable, feed roots. Let all the food be free from sourness and decomposition, more especially after the pigs come, so that scours may not be caused. For farrowing, provide a roomy, clean, disinfected and whitewashed pen, having fenders around the base of the walls to allow the pigs a place of refuge. "Let a little sunshine in"; yes, lots of it, and plenty of fresh air. Bed with litter free from dust. Shredded corn fodder is about the best. Oat straw in unfit for this purpose. Keep the bed clean and dry. Make the sow exercise right up to farrowing time. When the pigs come, keep them warm until the sow can care for them. Don't use forceps unless absolutely necessary, and the properly-cared-for sow won't require their use. Kill the little, useless runts found in some litters. Eight or nine fine, strong pigs are better for even the biggest sow than twice that number of whining, wheezing "titmen." Don't feed or woory the sow after she is through farrowing. Let her alone until she is up and about, and evidently ready and looking for food. Give her a warm drink after farrowing, and in thirty to forty-eight hours let her have a little thin, light, warm slop, and increase the amount and strength of the slop very gradually for the first week; then put her on stronger food, as she will take it. Wet the navels of the pigs with a 1-500 solution of corrosive sublimate at birth, and once or twice daily afterward until healed. Nip off the little sharp tusks in their mouths, to prevent laceration of the udder and of the pigs' faces and gums. This tends to prevent canker of the mouth and face. Don't dope little pigs; take care of the sow. If the pigs scour, change the sow's feed, and, above all things, let her food at all times be sweet. Lime water mixed in her slop will help to prevent scouring in pigs; coal-tar disinfectant, added to her slop (a pint to the barrelful), has a

like effect, and is not so apt to cause constipation. As soon as possible let the sow run out, but keep her and her pigs from wet, filthy, dirty places. Don't feed the little pigs soaked she'll corn as soon as they will eat solid food. Better not feed them corn in any form before they have developed sufficient frame to be fattened for market. At this time they will stand all the corn fed them, and it will be turned to the greatest profit. Gradually get the pigs onto solid food and slop, so that in six weeks or so they will be able to do without their dam, and make good progress without stunting. Make the pigs take plenty of exercise from the start, and they will not suffer from "thumps," for that disease affects only the pampered pig from pampered, corn-fed parents. Let the exercise be on green grass, clover or rape, and with all that we have advised, and especially the advice as to natural life and rational feeding, the sow and her pigs will thrive, progress and prove profitable.—[A. S. Alexander, V. S., in the Live-stock Report.]

#### THE FARM.

##### Three Questions About the Roads.

"The Farmer's Advocate" camera started out on a beautiful afternoon, April 19th, over two old gravel roads through three of the richest townships in the County of Middlesex. The engravings published herewith tell the story of the snapshots. It was ten or twelve days after the roads were at their worst in these places, else readers would hardly credit even the truthful tale of the camera. The pictures are most graphic than any words could be, and Middlesex does not enjoy any pre-eminence in this sort of thing. Who are the chief sufferers by having the roads in this condition? Farmers who pay the taxes, and struggle over these alleged highways. Why not have an experience meeting on the bad-roads question right away in "The Farmer's Advocate?" Let us hear from men who have given