

# EFFICIENT FARMING

**SOFT PORK A MENACE—WANT BACON, NOT LARD.**

Somewhat of a new difficulty in bacon manufacture—or rather, a very old difficulty in accentuated form—is pressing upon Canadian packers. This is the growing proportion of hogs which, when slaughtered, yield what is known as "soft pork." This consists of softness in the fat and a general flabbiness which makes it impossible to prepare a "best" Wiltshire side from these hogs. Such sides can only be classed as seconds or thirds in the trade, while in the worst cases they are almost valueless. As stated, an undue number of Canadian hogs this year are cutting out soft.

This is all the more remarkable in Canada because it is the one aspect of scientific bacon production which is generally considered to have been most thoroughly studied. "Aside from soft pork investigations very little experimental work has been carried on with the definite aim of ascertaining the effect of feeds and feeding on the quality of the ultimate product," Mr. G. B. Rothwell, Dominion Husbandman, wrote in a recent report. The Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, and the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, many years ago did extensive experimental work on this subject but apparently its practical application has been lost.

"One of the greatest defects in quality with which Canadian packers have to contend is a tendency of some of the sides to turn soft during the process of curing," to quote Professor Geo. E. Day, who wrote about 1906. "Softness has nothing to do with fatness; in fact, a thin side is more apt to develop softness than a fat one. In a soft side the fat is soft and spongy and sometimes even the lean is affected. . . . The percentage of soft sides is sometimes very high, even as high as 15 per cent. It will be readily understood that such a condition represents an enormous shrinkage in value; and this loss is bound to be reflected in the prices paid the farmer for his hogs. This is not a matter, therefore, which affects merely the packer. It affects the bacon industry as a whole and the farmer, sooner or later, must shoulder the loss."

Professor Day enumerates as chief causes of softness in bacon: Exclusive meal feeding, corn, beans, lack of exercise, unthriftiness, lack of finish, holding back and lack of maturity.

For the comfort of our producers and packers alike it may be added that this is a problem in other countries also. In the current issue of "The Journal of the Minister of Agriculture" in Great Britain there are the results of a special investigation into soft bacon. The writer states: "The lack of uniformity in bacon pigs is one of the chief handicaps of the curer. Soft fat is detrimental to bacon and hams not only on account of wastage when cooking but also because such fat develops rancidity more rapidly than firm fat. Moreover the appearance of the bacon leaves much to be desired. Unfortunately there is no certain test by which the curer can forecast the nature of the bacon-fat from an inspection of the freshly killed carcass. Consequently it is not possible to pick out the defective sides and hams until curing has been completed. The curer's aim is to trace

the cause of soft bacon in order to abolish it."

Perhaps a misunderstanding of the bacon hog campaign is partly responsible for the present situation. Underfeeding resulting in lack of finish and holding back hogs tending to run to fat are both prolific causes of soft pork. The attempt of many farmers to turn thick hog conformation into the "select bacon" grade may have this effect. This emphasizes the fact that what must first be obtained is bacon conformation, by adopting the right breeds which then will carry the right to produce "best" Wiltshires without excessive fat. Breeding and feeding go together and the principle of feeding should now receive special attention.

Pork and lard are two of the largest items in the food supply of the American people, according to a recent statement from Washington. The average annual per capita consumption for the last five years was 67.3 pounds of pork and 12.5 pounds of lard, as compared with 60.9 pounds of beef. In several recent years the consumption of pork alone has exceeded that of all other meats combined. Those who fail to understand why Canadian farmers should raise bacon hogs when United States farmers have had such good success with the lard type will find a partial answer to their problem in the above quotation from the Washington report, says the "Family Herald," Montreal. The American farmer has a home market at his door for his lard and pork. The Canadian farmer has not and his hogs, if produced in any large number, must be exported, as the home market will only consume a limited quantity.

"We cannot export hogs to the United States market as it is already supplied with hogs grown in that country. Last year the United States exported many millions of pounds of pork and pork products. Our only alternative outlet is the British market, and that calls for bacon. Not just 'any old bacon' but bacon of the quality, put up as 'Wiltshire sides,' bacon up to the standard the British consumer has been accustomed to from Denmark and Ireland. Unless our bacon is up to that standard it will not command the top price. Whether our American cousins will continue to prefer pork and lard to bacon cannot be foretold nor does it matter to the Canadian hog raiser, since the producer there can be trusted to shape his product to the demands of his home market. What we need to do, is to shape our product for the market to which we have to cater—in this instance the British bacon market."

Learn the amount of lubrication needed. Too little means friction and worn parts. Too much means a gumming and a clogging of parts, and the fouling of spark plugs. Enough is enough. Know how much that is.

Take out insurance coverage as a matter of business policy. The wise man does not run any risks from which he can protect himself. A talk with a reliable insurance agent will prove illuminating, and the relatively small amount spent for insurance protection, is worth while in satisfaction, peace of mind, and possibly in the settlement of some unexpected claim.

## AN INDEPENDENT INCOME through Systematic Saving

is possible for every individual who will plan and carry out a systematic, regular programme of saving and investing a fixed portion of his or her monthly income in safe bonds.

How to budget your income and determine, from the results of investigation into thousands of cases, the correct ratio between income and expenditure is completely described in our booklet "Buying Bonds on the Partial Payment Plan." Send the coupon below to our nearest office for a copy of the book and particulars of the plan.

**Emilius Jarvis & Co. LIMITED**  
 Established 1891  
 Ottawa 208 Bay St. Montreal  
 New York Toronto London Eng.

Please send me a copy of "Buying Bonds on the Partial Payment Plan"—No. X-119.  
 Name.....  
 Address.....



## Assisting Nature.

By F. H. Present, Department of Horticulture, Ontario Agricultural College

What has been responsible for the remarkable interest which has developed in the past few years in landscape gardening and its attendant features? Is it a deferred awakening amongst our Ontario people of a love for the beautiful in Nature? We can hardly attribute it wholly to this because such an appreciation of Nature has always been apparent even though not openly expressed. From some unknown source a stimulus has arisen or it may be just the natural development, on a wide scale, of the expression of such sentiments.

To-day, in all of our cities, practically all of our towns and many of the smaller communities, local organizations have been formed for the purpose of furthering the idea of the beautification of public and private grounds. These are usually branches of the Ontario Horticultural Society but in many cases the local branch of the Women's Institute has taken up this work. In the larger cities, or many of them, the Parks Commissions are doing much to beautify civic property. However, with all of this development of interest, the rural communities are most backward in taking it up. It is true that many community parks have been and are being established but these are comparatively few. The movement cannot be said to be effective in the country until it brings about such an interest that every farm owner is going to do something to his own home grounds and surroundings that will make him proud of them rather than ashamed of their ugliness. For it is a regrettable fact that our farm homes throughout too many communities are the most unattractive and uninteresting parts of the landscape.

For this condition of affairs there is no real excuse as the hundreds of attractive and splendid farm home grounds found scattered all over the

province go to show. The trouble is that we, as farmers, have not yet accepted the idea of the value of a real home rather than just a place to live. Attractive homes—the surroundings are a vital feature—play a very important part in the rural problem and its solution.

The average farm home can be made attractive and often beautiful with very little expense in money or labor. The farmer can be his own architect and engineer; he may even, under some conditions, supply most or all of his own material.

Since the farm home is set in the midst of natural surroundings any attempt to do landscape work should be along the lines tending to bring about a naturalistic effect, one that will blend in with the surroundings and be an added attraction to them. To accomplish this end and in order to gain a natural effect, the following general rules should be applied:

1. Allow for open spaces of lawns and for vistas showing attractive views beyond. To accomplish this the planting of trees and shrubs in groups at the boundaries, at the junction of paths and roads and the planting of shade trees along the walks and drives is practised.
2. Avoid straight lines; make use of natural curved lines.
3. Do not use anything of a stiff or formal nature such as formal flower beds, vases, etc., and if board or iron fences are used allow vines to climb over them.
4. Clipped hedges, trees and shrubs should not be used nor should masonry of any sort.
5. If privacy is desired use clumps of close-growing shrubbery.
6. Avoid the use of all plant curiosities and try to obtain in the color scheme a gradation rather than a contrast of colors.
7. Rustic work well arranged is helpful in producing a natural effect.

## The Dairy

"The milk in this can is from contented cows"—so runs the legend to be seen on a certain brand of evaporated milk. Finding ourselves in close proximity to one of the large farms, where such cows are kept, we went out of our way a bit to make the personal acquaintance of these much advertised contented cows.

The first thing to greet us upon entering the big dairy stable were two conspicuous signs which gave us to understand that the advertising slogan was backed up by practical methods of dairy work. One of them read: "No Swearing Allowed. These Are Contented Cows." The other advised us that "Kindly Treated Cows Give More and Better Milk." We hunted up the barn boss and asked him to tell more about the phase of the work suggested by the placards.

"Well, you see, it's something like this," he replied. "Those signs mean just what they say. You can understand that in a big place like this we get all sorts of help. The average helper around dairy stables is more or less of a drifter unless he happens to be some young agricultural student who comes here for a bit of experience."

"Among the men who come and go there is a certain percentage always that is accustomed to cuffing cows around, speaking harshly to them, and all that. If they do not learn anything else while they are here, there at least learn that a cow is one of the most sensitively strung of farm animals. She can tell a cross word every time from a kind one."

"And we know that a large portion of the milk drawn at any milking is manufactured, so to speak, while the cow is at the pail. If a cow stands in fear of a cuff or a kick the production is curtailed. This is an important factor with us for we have at all times a number of high-producing cows on test and the 'holding back' even of a small quantity of milk at each milking makes quite a difference in the final total."

"When a new man comes into the barn we advise him as to our rules in regard to the kind treatment of our animals. We show him these signs. We impress it upon him that they are not intended for the amusement of visitors, but as a rule of conduct for the men who handle the animals. As a rule, our men fall into the spirit of the thing quite readily. Now and then we have to let a man go because he has become too set in his way."

As we drove on, the phrase, "Kindly treated cows give more and better milk," kept recurring to us. Then we remembered that the Swiss peasant usually croons to his cows while he is milking her. We recalled, also, of having read of someone who operated a phonograph in his milking stable at milking time.

Here, it evidently appears, is a bit of cow psychology that has been overlooked by the average dairyman. The harsh word, the whack over the back with the milk stool, the cuff and the kick should go into the discard in stables where it is desired to secure "more and better milk" without a single extra cent of expense for additional overhead.

If angleworms persist in damaging special plants they can be controlled by adding lime-water to the soil.

## Why Hens Become Broody and How To Break Them

A rest period follows after a hen has laid a series of eggs and is usually accompanied by broodiness. This means that the succeeding egg series must remain dormant for two or three months until the hen has hatched a brood, reared it and gained the vigor for further development. This will probably bring her into the molting season, in which case there will be little chance of egg production for 100 days. If the hen is interrupted in the beginning of broodiness, however, the whole dormant period is changed to one of activity.

The broody hen, if allowed to remain on the nest, soon becomes thin and emaciated. She eats and drinks very little and thus draws heavily on her internal storehouse for sustenance. Egg production results from a secondary circulation—a circulation that can progress no faster than it can be supplied from the ordinary daily wear and grind on the body tissue. If the circulation is insufficient to meet the daily need, or just equal to it, there is no surplus for egg development.

Hence, it is a matter of dollars and cents that this self-imposed starvation, as a result of the broodiness, should be intercepted at the earliest possible moment. It is much easier to discourage a hen from broodiness the first or second day than it is to break her after she has been so for several days; her appetite is still active and the habit of sitting is not so confirmed. During the spring and early summer months the nests should be examined every evening for hens that show a tendency toward broodiness; those that show signs by clucking, ruffling of feathers and general defensive attitude should be removed.

There are many ways of breaking up broodiness, but subjecting the hen to some form of cruelty or privation, as was the old idea, may result in further loss in egg production. A sitting hen should be induced to eat and drink freely as well as to exercise. This will revive her appetite, and if this is accomplished in the first few days of broodiness, the egg organs will resume activity.

One of the most efficient ways of breaking up broodiness, where large flocks are kept in long laying houses, is to partition off the end which has plenty of sunshine and remove all nests and other fixtures that might offer secluded spots. Put the hens in this pen, remembering to keep plenty of feed and water before them and, where possible, to encourage exercise. If they still show tendency to construct nests, put a couple of lively cockerels in the pen. In a warm climate, or when weather is mild the same results can be obtained in an outdoor yard constructed at the side of a building to afford protection in case of storm.

If there are only a few fowls, a coop with a slatted bottom raised about six inches from the ground will serve. The hens are not able to squat comfortably and the air currents passing under them is not just what they like; they soon become disgusted and are glad to join the flock when released. Water and food should be kept before the hens in the slatted coop.

Plan your kitchen and home arrangement so that you do not do your housework in a workhouse.

## The Sunday School Lesson

AUGUST 5.

Lesson VI: Luke 8: 1-3; Matthew 27: 55, 56; John 19: 25; 20: 1-18. Golden Text—Our soul waiteth for the Lord; He is our help and our shield.—Psalm 33: 20.

LESSON SETTING—Our lesson to-day emphasizes the part that women played in the life and ministry of Jesus.

I. HELPING THE WORK OF JESUS, LUKE 8: 1-3.

V. 1. It came to pass afterward. The preceding event in the Gospel of Luke is the story of the penitent woman who came into the house of Simon the Pharisee. Jesus pardoned her and sent her away in peace, while he rebuked Simon. We are not to identify this woman with the Mary of our lesson. Went throughout every city and village; covering completely a certain region. Showing the glad tidings. The word "gospel" means good news. Jesus spoke words of hope and love to those hearts where hope was absent and love was needed. The twelve were with him; sharing the burden of Christ's work and partaking in its joy.

V. 2. Certain women. There was a band of women helpers as well as the disciple band. The religious teachers of the day treated women with contempt in their teaching. "No woman was allowed to come closer to a man than four cubits' distance." Which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities. Jesus had blessed them in soul and body. Mary . . . Magdalene; from the town of Magdala. Out of whom went seven devils. Whether the state of Mary had been that of spiritual malady or moral degradation, it was extreme in its nature, as indicated by the word "seven," which is the word of completeness, whether good or evil.

V. 3. Joanna. She was with Mary at the sepulchre. Chusa; Herod's steward or chamberlain. Some suppose him to be the nobleman whose son Jesus healed at Cana. Susanna. Nothing more is known of her. Ministered unto him. In their deep gratitude they sought to make some return. They helped Jesus in the way they were able, by using their possessions to procure necessities of life for Jesus and his company.

II. WATCHING THE CROSS OF JESUS, JOHN 19: 25.

John 19: 25. There stood by the cross . . . Mary Magdalene. Mark tells us that there were many women near the cross—those who had followed Jesus in his ministry in Galilee and had ministered unto him. It was, therefore, no passing enthusiasm that made them follow Jesus through Galilee in his days of popularity. When the dark days came they still clung to him and watched him in deep, though hopeless, love, as he hung on the cross.

III. WITNESSING THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS, JOHN 20: 1-18.

V. 11. But Mary stood without. After the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene came very early in the morning, bringing spices to complete the work of love begun by Joseph and Nicodemus. She finds the tomb empty, but an angel is there who declared that Jesus is risen, Matt. 28: 5. In amazement and sorrow, she runs to Peter and John and tells of the empty tomb and follows the two disciples as they run to the tomb and find it empty, as she had said. Weep. She had not comprehended the message of the angel. The one thought that fills her mind is that she cannot find the body of Jesus to pay the last rites of love. Looked into; one more look of sorrowing love.

Vs. 12-14. Seeth two angels . . . why weepeth thou? In John's account it is now for the first time that the angels are seen. In the other Gospels the angels are seen at the first visit to the tomb. They have taken away my Lord. Her grief makes her blind to the significance of the presence of the angels. She turned herself back, and saw Jesus. Thus it was to a woman that Jesus actually revealed himself first of all in his resurrection life.

Vs. 14-18. She supposing him to be the gardener. Mary's eyes were filled with tears that dimmed her vision. Her mind was distracted with grief. Jesus was doubtless altered in appearance. Moreover, there was in her mind no hope of Jesus' resurrection. All these facts made her slow to realize the whole truth of it all. When she mistook Jesus for the gardener or keeper of the garden, it was because the gardener was the only person likely to be there at that time of the day. Jesus saith . . . Mary. Jesus said it in the same loving way in which he had been accustomed to say it in the days of his flesh. It was the love in the word that opened the eyes and heart of Mary. Rabboni; said in wonder and love. Touch me not; rather, do not cling to me. Mary seemed to think that all the old relationships of his earthly life were restored. Jesus reminds her that he must ascend to the Father. The love remains, but new relationships exist. Go . . . and say . . . I ascend. Jesus is not a Master restored to earth, but a Master entered into heaven, that they must think of.

APPLICATION.

When we are misunderstood, it gives us a sad, stinging feeling of pain. Sometimes it stirs us to resentment and anger. In some cases the wrong understanding is never corrected, but perhaps in most instances sooner or later justice is done. Many, if not most, competent scholars believe that Mary Magdalene has been misunderstood, doubly so, and for many centuries. Whether in that sacred presence of her beloved Lord in Paradise, any shade of unhappiness or annoyance troubles her, we cannot know. Perhaps the spirit of Bonar's hymn is sufficient comfort. "The Master praises; what are men?" Mary has been doubly misunderstood. She has been identified without sufficient warrant with the woman who was a sinner, who anointed Christ's feet with the precious oint-

ment. Prominence in the narrative may have led to that inference. The artists in their paintings have given a pathetic touch of beauty to this thought of Mary. And yet some of the great scholars of the early church, like Origen, denied it, while Ambrose, Augustine, and Jerome were doubtful of it. Again, the Gospel record that out of her our Lord cast seven devils, has been misunderstood. Dr. Adeney says, very clearly and emphatically, "There is no reason to suppose that the brain and nerve symptoms associated with the idea of possession were accompanied with a corrupt moral character." The popular idea of the "Magdalene" is a baseless libel on Mary of the Watch-tower."

If there has been misunderstanding, there have been magnificent compensations. Some of the most notable churches of Christendom have been named after her—the Russian Church of St. Mary the Magdalene on the Mount of Olives, and the Magdalene, one of the well known churches in Paris, while Oxford has its Magdalen College. Moreover, in the name of St. Mary Magdalene the church work in the redemption of sinning sisters.

Even though there may have been a mistake as to identity, and she was not necessarily a specially sinful woman, she was an afflicted woman, and whatever her deliverance, she was grateful for it, and showed it in practical ways. She was one of the people, men and women, who were responsive to the "good-tidings of the kingdom of God," and with a glad, grateful heart, she found ways of helping the Lord in the founding of the Church; that there are so many women in its membership and service; their sensitive souls have responded intuitively to the high calls of Christ. He has done much for womanhood, and they know it.

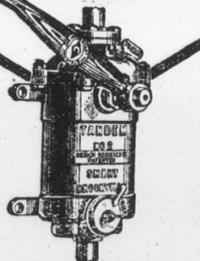
## Variegated Alfalfa

Common alfalfa has a violet flower which differs in degree of density from a very pale to a comparatively deep color. The flowers of the Variegated Alfalfa, however, include shades of blue, green and yellow as well as violet and also blends of these colors with each other. The July blossoms, in a series of thirty-four plots of different varieties and strains of alfalfa being tested in the Field Husbandry Department at the Ontario Agricultural College, show a variegation of from one to eighty-five per cent. In past experiments at the College, the common alfalfa of Ontario has proven tender and the variegated hardy. This variegated alfalfa is being grown successfully in a number of counties in Ontario, such as Welland, Lincoln, Peel and Haldimand. In Peel County an Alfalfa Club has been organized and this season over one hundred field of variegated alfalfa have been entered and inspected for seed production. Several carloads of hardy alfalfa seed was shipped from Peel County in 1922 in addition to a considerable amount which was sown locally.—Ontario Agricultural College.

## Here Is The Pump You Need SMART'S TANDEM DOUBLE ACTING PUMP

Pumps more easily, more silently and more efficiently than the Wing type model which it has definitely replaced. Repairs easily made with household tools. Can be drained to prevent freezing. Easily primed.

ASK ABOUT IT AT YOUR HARDWARE STORE JAMES SMART PLANT BROOKVILLE, ONT.



## All About Horses

Get this book! You cannot afford to be without it. It tells you nothing! If you own horses, it can save you hundreds of dollars. The book—"A Treatise on the Horse"—is yours for the asking. 450 pages. The horse and all about him—his diseases—how to recognize them—what to do about them—with chapters on breeding—care and showing, feeding—and many tried and proven horsemen's remedies. Ask your druggist for a copy of "A Treatise on the Horse" or write to direct—

Dr. B. J. KENDALL CO., Enosburg Falls, Vt. U.S.A.

**FREE**