

nounce against the bill. Members of the House of Commons can rest assured that their best interests will not be served by drawing workers away from the farm and thereby lengthening the hours of labor for those who remain on it.

MAKE USE OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION

The annual value of the field crops grown in Ontario exceeds the combined value of the products of the forests, the mines and the fisheries of the whole of Canada. It may be noted from reports of the Ontario Agricultural College that the average yield per acre of the principal farm crops is increasing from year to year. This increase is largely due to the introduction of better varieties and to improved methods of agriculture that have been adopted in recent years. While improvement has been made, the opportunities for advancement are still almost unlimited.

As farmers, we are fortunate in having such organizations as the Dominion agricultural colleges that carry on experimental work, and the Ontario Agricultural and Experimental Union, which conducts experiments on individual farms over Ontario. The results of all this experimental work is available to all those who apply for it. It remains only for those who obtain this information to make the practical application. The extent to which this information is applied shows forth each year in the average returns of crops over the provinces, and on individual farms.

Ere long, seedtime will again be with us. Those who have not as yet availed themselves of the valuable information provided through the various channels mentioned, should make haste to secure such matter and so far as possible profit therefrom by a wise application of the principles gleaned from such experiments.

Much satisfaction, to say nothing of extra profit, can be had from growing varieties best suited to one's requirements and which will yield more abundantly than other sorts too frequently grown. Let us see to it that in the operations of this coming year we make intelligent use of the information that is available concerning crops, and the best varieties to grow.

In Praise of The Hog

Editor FARM AND DAIRY.—The following article which appeared recently in a Kansas City newspaper reminds me very much of Lamb's essay on "Roast Pig."

The news of the discovery of an anti-cholera serum for hogs by the scientists at the State University of Missouri is tremendously important, and it is said to be true. The hog may not figure in the popular mind as an inviting subject for rhapsody, but when you come to consider his economic relationship to the concerns of humanity where will you find another animal with more points in his favor than the hog, with all his bristles and his untidy habits.

The hog comes into this world almost without exception in a "gregarious" form. One never hears of a little pig or a mature hog being "spoiled" because he is the only member of the family. There are always others—and plenty of them—to share the favors that come to the hog household. It is quite usual for the family to

number 8 or 10, and a litter of 12 is not phenomenal.

Well, within less than a year of the birth of a litter of pigs they are full grown hogs, carrying around on their little legs several hundred pounds of the best meat that ever came from the hand of nature. Again, each several hog when he goes to the market carries in his corpulent carcass about ten bushels of corn. If you have given on the subject the attention it calls for you will see how much this saves the honest farmer in the way of freight charges in the transportation of corn.

But the hog's usefulness is not by any means limited to lease of life. His rural virtues only begin to shine forth after he is dead—like the "actions of the just." To the hog belongs the high privilege and the honor of furnishing the poor man his food. Not that the food is poor, mind you—and not that it is always cheap. But it is more readily produced and more plentiful than any other sort of animal nourishment, and for quality it challenges competition and is without a rival. It is, however when it comes to "infinite variety" that the hog shines as a food producer. He is good to eat "in any spot or place." From his head to his tail he is the compendium of delicious parts. As the orators say, "time would fail us to mention them all." But the quita is full and generous, and of the highest excellence. Not to go any further, the hog may securely rest his claims to importance and to usefulness on ham, bacon, side meat and lard alone, as it really is not necessary to digress as far as sausages, scrapple, head cheese, pudding, etc., although all of these are pleasant objects of contemplation.

The case, then, for the anti-cholera serum and for its discoverer is "made up" by the staple products of the hog alone, and needs no auxiliary armaments. The Legislature of Missouri is called upon by the just fealty it owes the hog, and the millions of people within the borders of the state who are the hogs' beneficiaries, to get behind the proposition for the employment of the serum to protect his lordship from infection and maintain him without spot or blemish.—W. R. Leroux, Hochelaga Co., Que.

Ottawa Notes

An editorial representative of Farm and Dairy visited the Department of Agriculture of Ottawa, a few days ago and gathered information about the work that the Department is doing. In the live stock branch, general satisfaction is being expressed over the fact that the Government had succeeded in inducing Dr. J. G. Rutherford to withdraw his resignation as Live Stock Commissioner and Veterinary General. The Department is planning with some leading sheep breeders in holding sales of pure bred rams next fall in sections where such stock is most needed for breeding purposes. During the past few months, many pure bred rams have been sent to the butchers owing to the depression that has been affecting the sheep industry. It is thought that if pure bred rams could be distributed among the farmers it would do a great deal to encourage sheep raising.

Since the excellent bulletin on sheep raising was issued by the Department, the correspondence received by the Department relating to sheep has shown a great increase. Some 25,000 copies of the bulletin were printed and the supply is already nearly exhausted. Another edition is likely to be printed next summer. The bulletin is now being printed in French. A bulletin covering the different phases of the beef industry is in course of preparation. It should be ready for distribution before long. It will be on much the same lines as the bulletin on sheep raising now being distributed, that has created such general favorable comment.



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