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On account of the physiological action of a few poisonous plants in causing paralysis of the throat, or because of the difficulty in managing an animal, it is sometimes impossible in the case of sheep, cattle, and other ruminating animals to force the antidote down the throat. In this case the solution should be injected directly into the stomach through the walls of the body. As is well known, the stomach in ruminating animals is joined without any intervening spaces, as in the case of horses, to a certain part of the body wall. This circumstance renders it safe by use of the trochar and canula, sold by dealers in veterinary instruments for the purpose (or even a common knife), to make an opening into the stomach and to inject the antidote. It is a common practice thus to perforate the stomach of a cow or sheep to relieve gas pressure in case of bloat, and the same method is occasionally employed in administering medicines.

American Meat Products.

In visiting the towns along the C. and E. line between Calgary and Edmonton recently a FARMER'S ADVOCATE representative made inquiry, at a number of points, as to the demand for American meat products. In nearly every village the lard meat extracts, canned stuffs and hams from the jungle of Packingtown were on sale. This seems more than strange when we consider that the district traversed is one of the richest dairying and hog raising sections of the west. Not only American products but also the corned beef of a well known Montreal firm had found its way into the heart of the stock country of Alberta. The only explanation offered was that the trade demanded it, and the merchants sold it. This may be correct but it seems a strange caprice for the people of Alberta to prefer canned dairy cow from the East in preference to a home grown sirloin. To bring beef from the East and pork from Chicago seems like carrying coals to Newcastle, but trade like love continues to laugh at locks and bars.

But Alberta is not the only part of the Dominion that delights in the use of the foreign grown meat product. In 1905 Canada imported 1,223,576 pounds of lard valued at \$102,666. This lard is produced in Chicago where such infamous discoveries were recently made. We also imported 4,220,354 pounds of bacon and hams valued at \$483,354. Salted beef in barrels was brought in to the tune of 1,152,569 pounds costing \$50,727. Our imports of canned meats from the United States aggregated 812,000 or \$99,550 worth. In extracts of meats not medicated we are a customer for \$70,590 worth; while of barreled pork we buy 4,957,453 pounds put down at \$337,865. Of dried and smoked meats we purchase \$66,365 worth, of fresh meats \$23,000 and of other salted meats \$10,000 worth. This makes a total of \$1,245,000 worth of American meats in various forms which compete against our own products. There is not the slightest doubt that the recent exposures will do much to curb this, and the time has surely arrived when Canada can at least in a large measure supply her own products. Especially should this be the case in the province of Alberta where according to a recent poem,

"The sirloin steak doth grow
And bovril walks about in herds
As all the pictures show."

Official Records of Holstein-Friesian Cows.

During the period from May 16th to June 5th, 1906, records for 83 cows have been accepted. All made seven-day, one made a twenty-one-day, and six made thirty-day records. The averages by ages were as follows:

Twenty-eight full aged cows averaged: age, 7 years, 0 months, 11 days; days from calving, 24; milk, 446.3 lbs.; per cent. fat, 3.35; fat, 14.953 lbs. Four four-year-olds averaged: age, 4 years, 6 months, 20 days; days from calving, 26; milk, 442.5 lbs.; per cent. fat, 3.23; fat, 14.291 lbs. Twelve three-year-olds averaged: age, 3 years, 3 months, 1 day; days from calving, 22; milk, 375.7 lbs.; per cent. fat, 3.22; fat, 12.101 lbs. Thirty-nine heifers classed as two-year-olds averaged: age, 2 years, 2 months, 20 days; days from calving, 27; milk, 291 lbs.; per cent. fat, 3.34; fat, 9.720 lbs.

This herd of 83 animals, of which the larger part were heifers, produced in seven consecutive days 30, 126.8 lbs. milk containing 1,000.158 lbs. of butter-fat; thus showing an average of 3.32 per cent. fat. The average yield for each an-

imal was 363 lbs. of milk, containing 12.05 lbs. butter-fat; equivalent to a yield of over 14 lbs. of extra creamery butter per week, and over 25 quarts of milk per day.

During the official year just closed, 1,545 Holstein-Friesian cows and heifers of all ages were officially tested for a period of seven consecutive days or longer; and these 1,545 cows and heifers produced for the seven consecutive days a total of 581,959.5 lbs. milk; containing 19,701.3 lbs. butter-fat; showing an average of 3.39 per cent fat. The average weekly production for each animal so tested was 376.7 lbs. milk, containing 12.75 lbs. butter-fat; equivalent to 53.8 lbs. milk, or over 26 quarts daily, and nearly 15 lbs. of the best quality of butter per week.

What Should Be Planted for the Early
Pasturing of Hogs?

It seems to be admitted on all hands that the hog should be pastured during some stage of his career, if a profit is to be made on him. That matter is not hard to settle late on in summer, but for eight weeks, from the middle of May until the middle of July, it is not so easy to get. Here it would seem the clovers have a place, as should alfalfa, and some of the grasses, perhaps peas and oats might be used also. Doubtless some of our readers have experimented along this line, if so we should like to know the conclusions they have arrived at. Rape and corn come in later, but it is the early pasture that is wanted.

Building A Sheep Pen.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

We have a flock of Shopshire sheep now numbering 44 head. This summer we wish to build a good, up-to-date, convenient and comfortable barn for them. Will you please give us a plan, and a few particulars and pointers on how to go about it? We would like it high enough to have a loft overhead to contain two or three loads of hay and sheaves, and some grain, as we have to feed them inside quite a large part of the winter. We would like to have it so that we could enlarge or lengthen it, as our flock increases later on.

What kind of racks and floors do you prefer, and how many pens would be necessary?

Crystal, N. D. JOHN STAFFORD & SONS.

Ans.—There is nothing to be gained from building expensive or elaborate sheep pens, unless it is the intention to raise early lambs and then one must expect greater loss then if the crop comes in May. The largest sheep raisers on this side of the line simply provide open sheds or bluffs for shelter and allow their sheep the run of large yards during winter. If it is not the intention to raise early lambs, and there is very little natural shelter, we would recommend a simple, single-boarded, shanty-roofed shed opening to the south, for the sheep to run in during storms. This would not need to be more than 15 x 30 and could have a grain bin in one end. The rough fodder could be stacked outside just over the fence and thrown to the sheep in the yard. What grain that is fed, such as screenings or oats, might be given in flat-bottomed troughs. It would also be a good plan to have a straw stack convenient so that plenty of straw could be given the flock to work over.

Sheep will appreciate the outdoor freedom better than being kept in "comfortable" pens and will thrive much better upon it. Just as soon as sheep get into comfortable quarters they get cold, begin to snuffle and do not thrive.

Under other conditions when early lambs are expected, a double boarded pen of the same type is best, and for a flock of this size would require to be about 20 x 40 so that divisions could be erected for ewes with young lambs, about four of these across one end and part way down the side would be sufficient, and this part could be enclosed in front. It would also be necessary to let plenty of light into the smaller pens. A building of this size could be made about sixteen feet high in front and collar ties could be laid from the eaves to the front studding over which a rough floor could be laid. This would provide a lift for some choice fodder for the breeding ewes and young lambs. A few acres of alfalfa should be grown for this purpose.

If this building were placed upon a high dry place no floors would be required, in fact very few sheep pens have any other floor than the earth with a straw covering.

Pig Breeding for Profit.

The breeders of purebred bacon hogs report plenty of prospective business for breeding stock, and these men can be depended upon to make the best out of their stock. The beginner attracted to this industry by reason of the present remunerative prices for baconers needs his wits about him, especially in the selection of foundation stock on which he hopes to base successful operations along this particular line. The following trenchant sentences from a recent bulletin:

"Since the pork packers are in closest touch with the British consumers, they are the most competent judges of the class of hogs required for the most profitable trade; and we find that they recommend the use of Yorkshires and Tamworths as especially suitable for the production of bacon hogs, while Berkshires of the newest type are excellent. The other breeds are not, as yet, so well adapted, but, as has been already stated, the breeders of these breeds are rapidly bringing their pigs into line, and sows of these kinds when crossed with males of the more approved bacon type, produce good bacon pigs. These cross-bred pigs frequently make more economical gains than the purebreds. The Yorkshire-Berkshire and Tamworth-Berkshire cross is especially popular.

No breed or combination of breeds has a monopoly of all the desirable qualities in a pig. 'There are good and bad in all breeds, and bad and worse in some.' It does not follow that because a hog is of any given breeding he is necessarily a good or a bad bacon hog. It is necessary, therefore, that the breeder of market hogs has a clear-cut conception of the ideal pig; then he will be in a position to make the best of the materials at his disposal by judicious selection and careful breeding.

SELECTION OF THE SOW.

Care should be taken in selecting the females of a herd to choose only those of a quiet contented temperament. Few things are more exasperating than a roving, noisy, discontented sow; not only is she a continual menace to fences and gates, but she is cross at farrowing time, and is quite as likely as not to destroy half of her litter in a fit of nervous excitement. In addition to this, a sow of this description is seldom or never a good milker, and every stockman knows that the profit or loss on a batch of pigs is determined largely by the start they get in life during the first six or eight weeks. The milking qualities of the sow is a matter too often overlooked or ignored when selecting the females for a breeding herd. Many men seem to take it for granted that if they can get a sow to produce a large litter she will, as a matter of course, nourish them afterwards. This is a grave mistake. Sows vary in their milking propensities as widely as the cows in an unselected herd. Among pigs the ability to give a large flow of milk is more a family trait than a breed characteristic; that is to say, different families of the same breed differ more in this particular, than do the different breeds. It is therefore, largely a matter of selection. A well formed udder is, of course, essential. There should not be fewer than twelve, better fourteen, well developed, evenly placed teats, extending well up to the fore-legs.

The sow should be large and roomy, with great length and depth of side, she must, however, be trim and neat in her outlines, showing no tendency to baginess or flabbiness, and, though not wild or nervous, she must be active in her movements. An animal having a heavy, listless, clumsy walk should not be retained in a breeding herd. This indicates a lack of vital force; and an animal with this characteristic is not likely to be so prepotent as one with a more active sprightly temperament.

The brood sow should be selected from prolific families. A sow must raise a given number of pigs each year to pay expenses, and each additional pig represents a profit. There is, however, a limit to the number of pigs in a profitable litter; very large litters are apt to be weak and uneven in quality. Few sows can properly nourish more than fourteen pigs and an even litter of from eight to twelve large, strong, lusty fellows is much more profitable than a litter of sixteen or eighteen weak, flabby, and ill-nourished pigs.

SELECTION OF THE SIRE.

The choice of the sire is perhaps the most important step in all breeding operations. The trite remark that "the sire is half the herd" is only part of the truth. He is much more than half of the herd because, of the two parents, he usually exerts the greater influence on the conformation of the offspring. This, of course, is