

price for a steer in his class, or he is only worth his hide, therefore, if you happen to have an animal affected with this disease, do not offer him to a drover but communicate with an abattoir which is under Government inspection—that is, one in which Government veterinary inspectors inspect all animals slaughtered, and if it is too far from your farm to take the animal on foot, you can ship him directly to the abattoir. If he passes the inspection, the company will pay you market price less one dollar for the head, and if he is rejected by the inspector you get nothing. Is this not what any honest man would expect? If the animal is unfit for food, an honest man would not want pay for him, but on the other hand if he is fit for human consumption the owner is entitled to the value of him. Now, most farmers are led to believe that it is seldom that such an animal is used for human consumption, but only as canners or some of the cheaper meats. This is an erroneous idea; the fact is that over ninety-five per cent. of cattle affected with actinomycosis do pass veterinary inspection, being purely local lesions and if they pass the inspection the meat is as good as that of an animal which is not affected. If the abscess happens to be one of the pus formation get your veterinarian to treat it till it dries up, for if there is much pus it is liable to be rejected as spoiled food material, that is where there is an absorption of septic material from the abscess and distributed by the blood and lymph through the muscle. Now this procedure applies only to animals old enough to slaughter. If it happens to be a yearling which is affected you may have it treated to advantage. Treatment consists of the following: If the tumor is not attached to the bone, you may have your veterinarian remove it surgically, but if it is in connection with the bone, blister and administer potassium iodide in two-dram doses twice daily. If ulcers appear on the tongue, dress with tincture of iodine.

G. P. MCKENZIE, V. S.

Feeding the Growing Pig.

With the scarcity and high price of feeds, it is necessary for the hog feeder to use judgment in selecting his feeds and also to exercise care in feeding. Hogs can be grown quite cheaply on clovers or rape thus using the minimum quantity of grain. No matter how luxuriant the pasture some grain is required for finishing the hogs for market. Then, too, it is advisable to feed grain to young pigs. It is claimed by some feeders that they should be upwards of seventy-five pounds in weight before being turned on pasture. However, it is doubtful if the run of a grass paddock injures pigs just taken off the sow. Not only do they get necessary exercise but they consume a considerable quantity of green feed which naturally tends to lessen the grain ration.

Milk is the natural food of all young and some stockmen claim that milk is essential in the growing of thrifty, strong pigs. While this may be true, pigs that never received milk after they were weaned have made satisfactory gains.

There are a number of feeds or combination of feeds suitable for pigs, and considerable work has been done on the Dominion Experimental Farms in order to determine which feeds give best results, or which can be substituted for milk for the weaned pig. The following table gives results of an experiment carried on similarly in three consecutive years, to determine the most effective substitute for milk.

| Lot Feed given | 1 Barley or Corn Shorts Oil Meal Milk | 2 Barley or Corn Shorts Tankage Milk | 3 Barley or Corn Tankage Milk | 4 Barley or Corn Tankage Water | 5 Barley or Corn Milk |
|-------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--------------------------------|
| Average daily gain per animal | .92 lb. | .73 lb. | .84 lb. | .41 lb. | .79 lb. |
| Meal required per pound gain | 1.39 lb. | 1.64 lb. | 1.53 lb. | 2.59 lb. | 1.58 lb. |
| Cost to produce 1 lb. gain | 2.94c. | 4.10c. | 3.53c. | 4.74c. | 3.3c. |

From the above it will be seen that oil meal in the ration containing milk gives better returns than tankage and milk. Tankage has in many cases proven to be a fairly good substitute for milk in raising pigs, especially when fed to balance a ration that is low in protein.

According to the following table from Experimental Farm Notes milk is more economical than tankage for growing hogs.

| | Meal (self-fed) and skim-milk | Meal (self-fed) and tankage |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total gains | 554 lbs. | 278 lbs. |
| Daily gains per pig. | 1.05 lb. | .52 lb. |
| Cost per pound gain. | 5 3 cents | 10 2 cents |
| Meal required per pound gain | 1.79 lbs. | 3.9 lbs. |

This experiment was carried on in 1917 in self-feeding trials and all lots of pigs were practically identical in age, weight and thrift at the start of operations. The kind of meal used is not given in the above table.

For young pigs finely-ground oats and middlings in equal proportions and mixed with skim-milk make an excellent ration. They contain the nutrients necessary for the development of bone and muscle. The frame of the pig must be grown before an attempt is made to put on flesh, if most economical returns are to be obtained. Using heavy grains is likely to make the young

pig fat and pudgy and it never attains the size or weight that it would have had a growing instead of a fattening ration been fed.

The hog feeder cannot afford to be careless in the feeding of his pigs and an unbalanced ration, irregularity in feeding, over feeding, keeping the pig in filthy quarters or permitting it to be infested with vermin are not conducive to economical gains. Feeds are too high-priced to be used carelessly. It is believed that more pigs suffer from being overfed than from being underfed. The feeder should find a clean trough at every meal; in fact, the trough should be clean within fifteen or twenty minutes after each feed. Any feed left in the trough should be removed and the ration reduced. Keep within the pig's appetite.

Australian Notes.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The Queensland State Government is pursuing its proposal to eventually monopolize the cattle industry and the meat trade. Already quite a number of ranch properties have been acquired and stocked, while other pastoral leases, as they fall due, are taken up by the Department. In all the larger towns meat shops have been established, where the Government under-cut their own fixed prices. It is promised that these shops are to be extended all along the railway towns and will be fed by stock from the Government stations. The innovation is watched with great local interest, though not a few predict that first drought will spell disaster to the enterprise. So far the Government have not meddled with sheep, as it is recognized that in the wool industry personal supervision counts to a greater degree than in the case of cattle.

An astonishing lambing record is reported reliably from Hergot Springs, S. A. In March and April Calanna station lambed 103 per cent., and in the following November and December lambed another 92 per cent. The flock consisted of 1,200 aged ewes.

The blow-fly is now our worst insect enemy. Its ravages among sheep is appalling in places, running into 50 per cent. of the ewes. Various plans have been tried in a war against the enemy, but not any are very efficacious. Traps made from benzene tins account for great numbers, and so does the laying of baits which collect the maggots before spraying. The experts are hoping to get good results from the chalcid wasp, which makes a host of the fly maggot for its spawn and that is the end of the section for the maggot. Millions of these wasps have been liberated, but it will take years for them to produce any appreciable effect as the flies are in myriad waves all over the sheep belt and in the grazing country generally.

Some question has arisen as to the best shearing records in Australia. Jack Howe's hand record of 321 in one day will probably never be beaten, as the work is now always done by machines, besides which the fleeces of to-day are heavier than they used to be. Jim Power with machine shears cut 316 in eight hours. His is the best of modern times. It will be readily understood what a good thing these swifts have on at the current rates of pay—25 shillings per 100.

Two hens—both black Orpingtons—put up a world's record this season by producing during the test 335 eggs in the 365 days. One was engaged in the Gatton College (Q) pen competition and the other in the Burnley (Vic.) contest. Unfortunately the first-named was

disqualified as some of the eggs were under standard weight. Poultrymen are now talking about breeding an egg-a-day type, but it could only succeed by the hens each producing over a period two eggs a day. In a recent Hawkesbury (N. S. W.) competition one hen produced during one fortnight four extra eggs.

The wheat farmers, through their Association, are clamoring for five shillings per bushel for their wheat during the ensuing and following seasons, as so far they say prices have only been normal. In contrast they quote Canada and America where the rates are more than twice those ruling in Australia. The last Imperial offer was four shillings and three pence. The State Government of N. S. W., in order to encourage production, has just guaranteed four shillings spot cash on the trucks, giving the Federal Government time to think over the position. The trouble of the Imperial Government is that it cannot get away the wheat and has five year's transport work in the five million tons of grain which have already accumulated.

Mr. E. J. Vossler, of the California State Horticultural Commission is at present in Australia, hunting for insect parasites. He was here twelve months ago and got hold of some which have already proved valuable. He is especially interested in finding an enemy to the beet hopper. Already he has sent away six gin cases about taking parasites by the hand and more than likely she will profit by this expert's work.

Sydney, Australia.

J. S. DUNNET.

Live Stock Prices in England.

The prices being paid for pedigreed live stock in England are soaring to great heights. Speaking generally, Shire horses are making in repository sales £1,000 down to £350, for stallions; £800 to £250, for mares, and £300 to £150 for fillies. That is for breeding stock. Shire-bred, every-day geldings make £115 to £170, and mares and fillies for farm work are selling at around £130 to £200. Shorthorns (pedigreed) are fetching an average of \$115 to £120 at local draft sales; Jerseys make their £80 to £90 apiece; Friesian cattle run at about £150 to £200. Large Black pigs are making £105 for gilts; £82 for sows, and £80 for boars. At a large Black pig sale, four gilts realized £105 each. The rise in the value of pigs is due to a boom in porcine races, consequent upon our cottagers and small holders and allotment (garden) holders going in for feeding and rearing generally.

Yearling Hereford bulls are worth £200 to £300 apiece. Red Polled cattle are making £200, and Welsh cattle are on the soar; this latter being a black-coated breed of the dual-purpose type, giving goodly yields of milk and then feeding up to a very good carcass.

All draft horses and pony stocks are "up". Suffolk horses are fetching £350 and mares £200, as against £100 and £60 respectively before the war. New Forest Welsh and other ponies are largely utilized as teams for haulage work, but they find some of London's bridge inclines a bit steep for them. Breeding Hackneys are making good money and private trade is good in that breed, but the public business is not so—which is curious.

We have had a remarkably good lambing season, the fine and mild winter having been much appreciated by flock owners. Exports of breeding sheep stocks continue to South America. Cattle, too, are going out in large quantities to the several States down there. One exporter got rid of 80 head on a single boat. Included in the group were 22 Herefords to Brazil. Rhodesia is taking Herefords.

Our show season is virtually nil this year. We have had a few stallion shows, held for publicity purposes, but that is about all. The Shire Horse Society keeps adding hundreds of new members, chiefly small farmers, to its roll. Stallion letting has been a great business this season. There are about 20 stallions that have commanded a fee of £1,000 apiece for the 1918 season. Many others bring in their owners £500 and £250. Stallion societies are on the increase as community propositions, and quite good schemes they are, too.

The pig feeding development is the outcome of the growth of allotments. These latter are rural and urban parcels of land devoted to the growth of vegetables and culinary roots. Local restrictions in by-laws that were against pig keeping within 100 feet of a dwelling are being relaxed, and pig societies are springing up everywhere. Men get together with a two-dollar investment apiece and the pigs are fed by the community, and the porkers and the bacon pigs are to be divided among that community. England—truly rural—and "swanky" suburban—has gone right back to the land. City clerks and tall-hatted gentlemen go home, rig themselves out in an old suit, and dig like Hades. Only to-day I saw a suburbanite going to town to business. Everyone in the carriage was in titters. He was wearing a faultless tall hat and a nice frock coat, with silk lapels, but he had forgotten to take off his garden boots! And he wondered why the carriageful giggled. Some shoe black would surely break the news to him before he got to the office.

War correspondents writing to English papers tell pathetic stories of the frantic efforts of Flanders farmers to save their stock from the German onslaught. The English Tommy has done valiant deeds in rescuing, for instance, the single milk cow treasured by some poor farmer who has had to "move on."

"Comparatively little has been left for the enemy," writes a correspondent on the Flanders battle front. "He (the German) expected to find, among other things, quantities of live stock, for their airmen seem to have reported that the fields close to our front were still occupied by grazing cattle and sheep. Some of the Belgian peasants left their farms so hurriedly that they had no time to collect their cows and drive them away, and these bewildered animals wandered about aimlessly until rescued by the troops. Women and girls were the sole occupants of many farms, and as our men passed to and from the front line they witnessed many pathetic attempts by these brave people to take away their cows. Bent, grey-haired, old women could be seen trying to urge the tired animals through the tangle of moving guns. Frequently they halted beside the road, overcome by fatigue, and weeping bitterly when they realized they could go no farther. Finally, the military took charge, in the interest of the owners, and all live stock in the shelled areas was concentrated and driven out of range."

ALBION.

Some form of recreation is necessary to relieve the over-taxed, and sport to the youth is almost as important as food; but too many make sport and recreation the first consideration and relegate more vital matters to a second category. In this connection the statement credited to Bancroft B. Johnson, President of the American League, expresses the right spirit. He said: "I do not believe the Government has an intention of wiping out baseball altogether, but if I had my way I would close every theatre, ball park and other places of recreation in the country and make the people realize that they are in the most terrible war in the history of the world."

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