

How the Danes View Canadian Bacon

The following extract from the Danish (London) Consul's report on bacon, to be published shortly in Denmark, and kindly sent us by the Hon. Mr. Dryden, who is at present in London, will be of interest to Canadian hog raisers. From one source the Consul learns:

"Canadian bacon is undoubtedly the most formidable competitor of the Danish. The regular lines of steamers from Denmark and the shorter distance from the English market, however, enables the Danish bacon to come forward in more perfect condition. One or two of the Canadian houses have adopted the Danish packing in bales instead of in boxes, but whether with success is doubtful. The Canadian bacon in bales is treated differently to that in boxes; the Danish principle is followed in the "curing" and the bacon is carried in cooling chambers on board the steamers. This bacon has scarcely proved satisfactory; it is unkeeping and must, therefore, be sold at once on arrival. The difference in price between Danish and Canadian bacon varies from 3s. to 8s. per cwt.; this depends upon the supply and demand, but there are times when the Canadian obtains as high prices as the Danish.

"As regards London and the South of England, however, there is a decrease in the consumption of the Canadian bacon, as buyers who have once become used to the Irish or Danish bacon do not find the Canadian satisfactory. In other parts of the country the Canadian is no doubt gaining ground and superseding inferior American goods."

From another source it is reported: "Canadian bacon is, as a rule, treated differently to the Danish before shipment; often it is not carefully treated; it is too soft, and insufficient salt has been used. For this reason much of the Canadian bacon will not keep and must be sold at once, and even then there are large quantities that are tainted, and for this reason many dealers will not have it. Danish bacon is reliable. Canadian mutton could, if properly treated, compete with the best Danish brands, but the Canadians have much to learn yet."

From a third source it is reported "that the dealers in England seem more satisfied with the general improvement in the quality of the Canadian bacon, and that they maintain that much of it is second to none from any other country. The Danish is milder and finds more favor in the London market. In Wales, which is probably the best market for Canadian bacon, Danish is not considered "hard" enough; it is thought to lose its color more quickly, and that it is therefore not as satisfactory to handle as the Canadian. A large shop owner there maintains that the Canadian bacon suits him much better even than Irish, and that he sells twenty times as much Canadian as Irish; but on all sides complaints are made of the large amount of borax used in preparing the Canadian bacon."

"From all sources reports say that there is a well-established and good business done in Canadian bacon, but that it can only be maintained and increased when packers keep their attention directed to the wants of the different markets, when no "tainted" bacon arrives, and when the use of borax is reduced."

The two latter conditions it may perhaps be difficult to conform to at

the same time. The number of slaughteries in Canada increases, however, year by year, and though not particularly rapid, still a keener competition from that quarter must be expected when the time comes when cheap feeding stuffs and other favorable conditions give rise to an increase in the stock of pigs—which, of course, is a still further reason why the Danish producer ought to see that the quality of his goods is as perfect as possible."

Money in Pigs

Our experience in raising pigs has been that we can keep a good sow in perfect condition the year round for \$15. This estimates the meal at 1c. a pound, and includes the cost of pasture, building and everything, except labor. From the average sow we may anticipate eight pigs, if she gives only one litter. That reduces the cost of the young pig to less than \$2. If she gives two litters, it costs somewhere near one dollar per pig. If you add to this \$7, which we say is the cost of finishing a 200-pound pig, you get \$9, the whole outlay. The lowest price for which we have sold this year has been \$10. Prof. Grisdale, Central Experimental Farm.

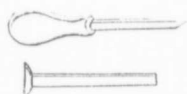
Ashes for Pigs

Prof. Henry, in Feeds and Feeding, says: "When feeding corn to pigs as the exclusive ration, the writer observed a strong craving by the pigs for wood ashes, considerable quantities of which were consumed, if opportunity offered." Were the ashes a benefit to the pigs or not? To answer this question, three experiments were conducted. In each trial six pigs, all from one litter, were used, the animals being from 105 to 128 days old when the feeding began. The result of the test showed that where ashes were fed, 491 pounds of cornmeal made 100 pounds gain, and where it was not fed it took 629 pounds of cornmeal to make 100 pounds gain. The test also showed that the ashes made strong bones, it taking a pressure of 581 pounds to break the thigh bone of the one fed on ashes, whereas 301 pounds broke the thigh bone of the one which received no ashes. The test included bone meal on one lot, ashes on another, and the third lot did not receive either. The bone meal and ashes had virtually the same result, showing that the ashes were as good for feed as the bone meal. In speaking of the results of the test, the professor says:

"By the table we learn that feeding bone meal or hardwood ashes to pigs otherwise confined on a cornmeal diet, effected a saving of 23 per cent. in corn, required for 100 pounds of gain. We further find that by feeding hardwood ashes or bone meal to pigs, otherwise living wholly on corn, the strength of the thigh bone was about double that of pigs not allowed bone meal or ashes. It was further found that when the bones of those pigs getting ashes or bone meal were burned, about 50 per cent. more ash was obtained than from the bones of the pigs that did not receive ashes or bone meal. This latter fact was substantiated in another interesting way. After burning, the bones of the pigs which had received no ashes or bone meal crumbled at once upon handling, while those of the pigs fed on ashes or bone meal still retained their form after burning and did not crumble when carefully handled."

Instrument for Tapping Stock

A simple and useful instrument is the trocar and cannula, used in tapping horses, sheep, or cattle when bloated from the formation of gases due to acute indigestion. As will be seen, the cannula is a metallic cylinder or tube with the rim at one end bent outward with a sort of flange, which apposes the handle of the trocar. Into this cylinder or cannula is received the trocar, which, when in place, should exactly fit top with the sharp-pointed end protruding beyond the end of the cannula. In this way together the instrument is to be driven within the distended flank of the suffering animal, nearly to the flange or guard, the cannula held there firmly by the thumb and forefinger, and the trocar removed, thus allowing the escape of gas. There is almost no dan-



ger in the use of this instrument on cattle or sheep, and very little danger with horses.

With cattle and sheep bloat is the distention of the rumen or paunch, and the trocar should therefore be used on the left side, about half-way between the point of the hip and the last rib. In the horse the distention takes place in the large intestine, and appears on the right side instead of the left, and the puncture should therefore be made on the right side, and in the same relative location as in cattle or sheep.

"This little instrument will be found invaluable in an emergency. Like the revolver once in Texas, 'you won't need it all the time, but when you do you'll need it mighty bad.' When not in use, both trocar and cannula should be kept clean, and should be smeared with gasoline to prevent rusting.—N. Z., 'Farmer.'"

Toot Your Little Whistle

If you toot your little whistle
And then lay aside your horn,
There is not a soul will ever know
That such a man was born.

The man who owns his acres
Is the man who plows all day,
And the man who keeps a-humming
Is the man who makes it pay.

The man who advertises
With a short and sudden jerk
Is the man who blames the printer
Because it didn't work.

The man who gets the business
Uses brainy printers' ink,
Not a cutter and a splutter,
But an ad. that makes you think.

And he who plans his advertisements
As he plans his well-bought stock,
Has the future of his business
Just as solid as a rock.

Saddlery and Harness.

Only a Difference of Opinion

There is a difference of opinion between a conductor and brakeman on a certain line in Montana as to the pronunciation of the nation's name, Euribia.

Passengers are considerably startled on reaching this particular station to hear the conductor yell:

"You're a liar; you're a liar!"
This statement is then confirmed by the brakeman, who roars:
"You really are; you really are!"