

**A PROPERLY CARED-FOR PIG.**

Educational Department,  
Food Controller's Office,

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In view of the world shortage of foodstuffs and the importance of bacon in the list of exports to the men at the front and the people of Allied Europe it is interesting to contrast two striking facts. In Germany 4,000,000 hogs are maintained as auxiliary to the national food supply by the citizens of urban municipalities. In Canada on the other hand, where the total number of hogs in the country at most is only 3,500,000, the keeping of pigs is practically prohibited within urban municipalities. "Swine," reads a typical ordinance, "shall not be kept within the limits of this municipality except in pens with floors kept free of standing water and regularly cleansed and disinfected and distant at least one hundred feet from any dwelling house, schoolhouse or church."

Public Health Acts are provincial enactments, and though they may cover regulations as to keeping pigs, they generally place this matter largely under the discretion of municipal authorities. But the trend of municipal regulations has been to discourage the keeping of pigs within the limits not only of cities and their suburbs, but also those of even small towns and villages. However, well justified such regulations may have been in peace times, the question of their entire wisdom in the circumstances of the present day, and the conditions of acute food shortage occasioned by the war, might well be a matter of municipal consideration.

"A properly cared-for pig is no more unsanitary than a properly cared-for dog," says Mr. Herbert Hoover in urging the "keep a pig" movement in the United States.

In view of an estimated waste of food in the garbage formerly was destroyed.—Portland Oregonian.

thing over \$50,000,000 per year, it would seem that there was room for the "keep a pig" movement in Canada. There are obviously many places in small towns and on the outskirts of cities where pigs might be kept without menace or annoyance to the community. No one would suggest that pigs be kept where they might become a nuisance. But where there is plenty of space, as in many a suburban garden of the typical Canadian town and city, there should be no difficulty, and there would be a decided practical advantage in keeping pigs and increasing the bacon supply. Food scraps, kitchen refuse and garden gleanings of all sorts usually buried or burned, would thus become of actual value instead of a charge. Where the regulations should be relaxed, and where they should be enforced would be determined citizens in each place to take the matter up with of an enlightened public would approve official action along these lines.

Farmers, according to reports from the different provinces, are energetically taking up the campaign for an increased production of hogs in 1918. There is a general response in rural sections to the patriotic call. Greater production is the duty of the whole Canadian people for 1918. People in the cities, towns and villages responded in 1917 to the appeal to cultivate vacant lots. In 1918, this work might be supplemented by the addition of an effort to increase the production of bacon.

What applies to pigs could also apply to poultry-keeping. There are many restrictions which might be reasonably relaxed with all round benefit. A dozen hens can be kept laying on the waste bread and vegetables of the ordinary family, supplemented by a little corn. Poultry-keeping could be as well carried out in the large cities as elsewhere. Indeed, while it was found that the "back garden" plan worked surprisingly well in the large cities, only the fringe of the possibilities in food production in urban areas

has yet been touched.

The Food Controller does not suggest that either pigs or fowl be kept in places where the remotest chance of injury to health could result or even where the inconveniences might outweigh the advantages. It only requires a small body of level-headed, determined citizens in each place to take the matter up with the local authorities, to urge them to get the necessary authority to relax present hard and fast regulations. The rest is a matter of patriotism, public spirit, care and good sense.

**NO JOKE.**

A small town in Mississippi has abolished all amusements except dancing. The "pastimes" that are taboo include corn doctors, fortune tellers, lung testers, menageries and patent medicine peddlers; also muscle testers, flying horses, shooting galleries, roller coasters, theatres, billiard tables and pool rooms. Nothing is said of book agents, although they are a favorite source of amusement for jokesmiths. Presumably mothers-in-law are permitted, but suffragettes probably would not be tolerated.—Southern Lumberman.

**WHAT WASTE COSTS.**

The waste of 500,000 pounds of paper a week, Canadian authorities estimated, entailed the cutting of at least 2,000 trees a week. Every ton of old paper recovered means a saving of eight trees of mature growth. The saving of woolen rags for the manufacture of shoddy saves land for crops which otherwise would be required for the raising of sheep. Men, money and material—capital and labor—are conserved every time a bit of material is re-employed which formerly was destroyed.—Portland Oregonian.

**MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA**