

without first washing their boots and sprinkling their clothes with a 5 per cent. solution of carbolic acid and water and even then it is not advisable. Remember that a particle of manure or dirt the size of a mustard seed from an infected farm is sufficient to start an outbreak that will destroy a herd of swine. A particle that size may be carried upon the shoes of a visitor, upon the foot of a dog or any other animal, upon a wagon wheel, or in a multitude of other ways. Non intercourse at such time is therefore the safest rule.

Having had a large experience with the disease while government inspector in Western Ontario, I have found the following symptoms which farmers and swine breeders will do well to note and when found in their herd report immediately to the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa. The symptoms of disease in swine are not so characteristic as in the larger animals. In the most acute and most severe cases the animals die very suddenly, either before sickness has been observed or after they have been ill but a few hours. Such cases are seen most frequently when the disease first appears in a herd; in the greater number of cases the progress of the malady is slower and there is consequently a much better opportunity to observe the symptoms. There are first seen the signs of fever, shivering, unwillingness to move, more or less loss of appetite, elevation of temperature, which may reach 106 deg. to 107 deg. F. The animal appears stupid and dull and have a tendency to hide in the litter or bedding and remain covered by it. The bowels may be normal or constipated at the beginning of the attack, but later on there is generally a liquid and fetid diarrhoea, abundant and exhausting. The eyes are at first congested and watery, but later on the secretion becomes thickened and accumulates in the angles and has a tendency to gum the lids together. The breathing is more or less rapid and may be oppressed and labored. In the later stages there is cough, which, however, is not frequent, and is generally heard when the animals are driven from their bed; it may be a single dry cough, or it may be paroxysmal. The skin is often congested and red over the abdomen, inner surface of the limbs, under surface of the neck and on the ears. The color varies from a pinkish red to a dark red or purple. An eruption is sometimes seen, which leaves crusts or scabs of various sizes over the skin. There is a rapid loss of flesh and the animal grows weak, stands with arched back and the abdomen drawn up, and

walks with a tottery, uncertain gait. There is less and less inclination to move and the weakness and exhaustion increases until death results. The course of the disease varies from one or two days to two or three weeks.

The most characteristic lesions of hog cholera seen in post mortem examinations are:

(1) Hemorrhages, particularly in the subcutaneous, sub-mucous and sub-serous connection tissue, in the lymphatic glands and the porous organs of the body.

(2) Ulcerations of the large intestine, especially the cæcum and ilio-cæcal valve.

(3) Collapse of lung tissue and, less frequently, bronchial pneumonia.

The first question that occurs to the owner of swine when disease appears amongst his animals is, "What is the disease with which they are affected?" It is important to briefly consider the nature of the evidence upon which this question is to be answered. If several animals are affected with the symptoms already enumerated, and if the same disease has been affecting the hogs on neighboring farms, we may decide that the disease in question is present. The owner should immediately report to the Department of Agriculture, so that steps may be taken to have an investigation held and the proper precautions observed in stamping out the disease and in keeping it from spreading.—*N. W. Farmer.*

### THE BREEDING SOW.

The starting point of success in the sow meant for ordinary pork raising is to see that she comes from a mother that is an easy feeder and a good nurse. Take care to see that she has not been stunted in the earliest stages of growth for want of enough to keep her in comfort. These are essential. What breed to work on will depend mainly on individual taste and judgment. She should not be bred so early as to injure her own growth or the vitality of her young. If her first litter is fairly numerous, say from seven to ten good pigs, and she nurses them well, that is a sow to retain as long as she is fit to breed. Such a sow, properly managed, will bear and nurse 20 pigs in a season, and pay her way with a good profit on all the skill and feed she gets. If she does not keep up to her heredity, is a poor breeder or a poor nurse, she may have another trial, and should that also prove unsatisfactory, she cannot too soon be made into pork. No matter how good she looks she has failed in the main purpose of her existence. Heredity and selection by a man who knows at the same time how to manage his stock are the foundation principles of the work of pork raising for profit. In a year or two by careful management a splendid breeding herd can be established and all the cheaper products of the farm can by this means be readily turned into good money.