

The Winter Housing of Swine

It is at this season of the year that the housing of swine becomes a more or less difficult problem. This is more particularly true in regard to the housing of sows due to farrow in the spring. It is chiefly on the housing that the vigor of spring litters depends. The revised edition of Bulletin No. 10 of the Live Stock Branch, Ottawa, treats this question in a very practical manner. It says:

"Much of the success of hog-raising depends upon suitable housing. Suitable housing does not, however, demand summer temperature during the winter season. In an ambitious desire to treat swine with due consideration for their comfort many progressive hog raisers have, during the past few years, practically wasted large sums of money in building elaborate warm houses for their herds. Having wintered their stock of all ages and conditions in these structures for one or two seasons the mistake they had made became apparent by reason of the fact that the swine instead of showing greater vigor exhibited signs of ill-health in the form of coughing, lameness, scurfiness of skin and other evidences of lack of thrift. The chief difficulty from these close houses is due to the lack of exercise taken by the swine kept in them. After rising from their comfortable beds to take their food, which is usually provided regularly, near at hand and in palatable condition, the pigs fill themselves and again return to their resting places. This mode of living followed for weeks and months at a season of year when outdoor life is uninviting, even should the pen door be left open, is attended with indigestion, constipation and other forms of sluggishness, causing weak litters, lack of good milk flow in dams, stunted weanlings and slow gains in older hogs. Exercise is one essential for swine of all ages if hog raising is to be made a success, and it is in not providing this that the warm pen used for both sleeping and feeding fails. For young litters coming in cold weather a warm pen is necessary, and rather close quarters are also conducive to the most profitable gains during a hog's final fattening period, but at no other time in a hog's life is close housing advantageous.

"For brood sows due to farrow in the late winter or early spring months there is no better shelter than the movable cabin. A number of these can be ranged side by side in or near the barn yard. If kept comfortably bedded four or five large sows will lie very comfortably in a cabin constructed according to directions given further on. The old style of rail creep beneath a straw stack, so long as it is closed on three sides, affords a fine bed for breeding sows or even growing pigs. On some of the most extensive hog breeding establishments the only shelter given the sows in winter is an old barn or shed, lined up to keep the draughts out, and having a constantly open door which affords free and unlimited access to the open air. The feeding is done in the open, which compels the herd to take a good amount of daily exercise, upon which good health so much depends. Sows thus housed and fed on food composed of pulped roots and chopped grain, bran, etc., given in a rather dry consistency will maintain a fine condition for successful motherhood."

The bulletin then goes on to describe in detail the plan, construction and management of various styles of houses that are in successful operation in different parts of Canada. Copies of this excellent bulletin which should be in the hands of every swine raiser may be secured free by making application to J. G. Rutherford, Live Stock Commissioner, Ottawa.

Seed Fairs

Proposed list of Dates for the Alberta Seed Fairs.

Irvine	January	14th
Taber	"	15th
Lethbridge	"	16th
Raymond	"	18th
Magrath	"	19th
Cardston	"	21st
Macleod	"	23rd
Nanton	"	25th
Gleichen	"	26th
Didsbury	"	27th

Thrifty Bluenoses

(Montreal Gazette)
The estimate is made by Nova Scotia newspapers that the agricultural and fishery, manufacturing and mineral industries of the province last year produced wealth to the amount of \$103,000,000. This is a fairly large figure, meaning fully \$1,000 a family. If it is right, Nova Scotians should be well up among the people of Canada who are growing rich.

Canadians are thankful that conditions in Canada are not so bad as they are in the States. The only reason is that we are a younger country. Give Canada time and, unless we are on our guard, identical conditions will develop here.

Poultry Meetings

The following is a partial list of the poultry meetings which will be held in the Province of Alberta during the winter months of 1909, in accordance with the educational program mapped out by the Department of Agriculture. As in the case of the dairy meetings, there will be two delegations touring the province, and the speakers are the best experts on the poultry business than can be secured.

The schedule of dates is as follows:
Speakers—T. O. Lachance and E. J. Cook, of Lethbridge.

January 11, Irvine; 12, Medicine Hat; 13, Burdette; 14, Taber; 15, Lethbridge; 16, Stirling.

January 18, Warner; 19, Raymond; 20, Magrath; 21, Cardston; 22, Mountain View; 23, Caldwell.

January 25, Kimball; 26, Macleod; 27, Granum; 28, Claresholm; 29, Stavelly; 30, Nanton.

February 1, Cayley; 2, High River; 3, Okotoks; 4, Calgary; 5, Cochrane; 6, Langdon.

February 8, Strathmore; 9, Gleichen.

Kootenay and Alberta Railway Company

NOTICE is hereby given that an APPLICATION will be made at the next session of the Legislature of the Province of Alberta FOR AN ACT TO INCORPORATE A RAILWAY COMPANY to be called "The Kootenay and Alberta Railway Company," with power to construct and operate the following lines of railway:
1. To begin at a point at or near Cowley, Alberta, going south-easterly through the Valley known as Beaver Valley and thence west to the North Kootenay Pass in the Rocky Mountains.
2. To begin at a point at or near Cowley, Alberta, going south-westerly through Fischer Creek Town, the Settlement of Fishburn, Cardston and thence easterly to a point at or near Cochrane on the International Boundary Line between Canada and the United States.
AND to make agreements with other Railway Companies for amalgamation and otherwise, with such other necessary and usual powers, rights and privileges.
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SYNOPSIS OF Coal Mining Regulations

Coal mining rights of the Dominion, in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, the Yukon Territory and British Columbia, may be leased for a term of twenty-one years at an annual rental of \$1 an acre, not more than 2,500 acres will be leased to one applicant.

Application for a lease must be made to the Agent or Sub-Agent of the district in which the rights applied for are situated. In surveyed territory the land must be described by sections, or legal subdivisions of sections, and in unsurveyed territory the tract applied for shall be staked out.

Each application must be accompanied by a fee of \$5, which will be refunded if the rights applied for are not available but not otherwise. A royalty shall be paid on the merchantable output of the mine at the rate of five cents per ton.

Every lessee of coal mining rights which are not being operated shall furnish the district agent of Dominion Lands with a sworn statement to that effect at least once in each year.

The lease will include the coal mining rights only, but the lessee may be permitted to purchase whatever available surface rights may be considered necessary for the working of the mine at the rate of \$10 an acre.

For full information application should be made to the Secretary of the Department of Interior, Ottawa, or to any Agent or Sub-Agent of Dominion Lands.
W. W. CORY,
Deputy Minister of the Interior

Municipal Directory, '09

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