

a glimpse could be had of a bed with a patch-work quilt, a table with all simple toilet arrangements these simple folk require, different in style and quality from the appointments of a fine lady's dressing table.

Frank slept on the other side of the house between white sheets smelling of peat and bog myrtle, and heated up with a large, stone jar of hot water. There as he lay watching the dull-red glow of the peat fire which caused the room to be filled with fantastic shadows he believed himself to be too comfortable to sleep, but gradually he would begin to wander in the land of dreams and the smell of the bog myrtle would make his fancy flit to the summer days when he strolled by the burn-sides, sometimes fishing, sometimes idling and dreaming. He sleeps sound now nor dreams far away from his Scottish home, as Rupert Brooke says he had made one bit of France "forever Scotland."

The sweet-smelling linen is caused by the way the hill folk do their washing. Their laundry is the riverside. There they take wash-tubs and a great iron cauldron which sits on an arrangement of stones, and below it they light a peat fire. Afterwards the clothes are put into the river to take all the soap out thoroughly and dried on the sweet-smelling bushes along the river bank.

As a rule Sandy Elliot sits quiet and gives his wife full scope for her fine conversational gifts, but Mr. Frank and he have much in common and from time to time papers come from Edinburgh which Sandy delights in. He is himself a good "Conservative" in politics, but he delights in Frank's radical and socialistic views and reads every word of the papers he sends.

"So the women are nae langer to obey their husbands and are bound to hae their rights, yon last paper says," he says seriously, "I tried to hide it frae the wife for it's a dangerous doctrine to spread in this district. When they're guid the wives get their ain way and if they're bad they tak' it." "Sandy," breaks in Mrs. Elliot seriously, "Folks ken weel that I am nane o' the new fashioned kind and I always ask your advice, yes and take it, provided your opinion is the same as my ain." "Aye just so I can, I aye kent ye were an obedient wife, wi' reservations." "But, Mr. Frank, in anither bit o' the paper there was a matter with which I could cordially agree. I always had a suspicion that I was not appreciated according to my deserts and I may hae hinted as much tae the wife but got no encouragement." "Hout," she wad say, "Gie up your place the morn Sandy Elliot, and the master will find twenty as guid to do your work for less money." "But here's my ideas full better expressed than I could: 'When the down-trodden serf who tills the soil and tends the flocks recognizes how he is being exploited,' but I need na go on, ye'll hae read it all. What surprises me is to find out what rascals the maister and the laird maun be and I had lived amang sic folk for nearly sixty year and never suspekkit. There's clever chieils in Edinburgh."

But tea was ready and the afternoon was past and by and by Jock would be coming to pass the evening and bring a new element into the fireside circle.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

MARGARET RAIN.

### Profits From Pigs.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Some people wonder if there is any money to be made with pigs. Last year I kept accounts of a pure-bred sow, beginning on December 1, 1915. The sow was seven months old on December 1, and was bred that day to a good boar. The first money to her credit was made at the Winter Fair, Amherst, N. S., where she won third prize in her class. To save space I shall put a resume of my accounts in the following form:

Winter Fair, third prize, \$4; Winter Fair Special, \$5; Halifax Exhibition, first prize, \$12; Charlottetown, Exhibition second prize, \$7; and at the same Exhibition second prize in another class, \$5; total, \$33.

Her first litter of nine pigs was farrowed March 26, 1916. Eight were raised, and following is an account of this litter: Sale of one pig four weeks old, \$5; sale of one pig, six weeks old, \$6; sale of 390 lbs. of pork, at 13½ cents, \$52.65; sale of 160 lbs. of pork, at 14 cents, \$22.40; sale of two boars, 6½ months old, at \$30 each, \$60; total, \$146.05. The feed consumed amounted to: middlings, 2,200 lbs. at 1½ cents; pig meal, 48 lbs. at 4 cents; feed flour, 548 lbs. at 2¼ cents; corn meal, 513 lbs. at 2¼ cents; skim-milk, 1,200 lbs. at ¼ cent; hog feed, 100 lbs. at 1¾ cents; crushed oats, 175 lbs. at 2 cents; sugar beets, 180 lbs. at 1½ cent; stock feed, 2 lbs. at 25 cents; total for feed, \$67.22.

Her second litter of ten pigs was farrowed September 7, 1916. Six were raised. These were weaned at eight weeks old. The value of feed up to December 1 was \$15. The value of six pigs on December 1 amounted to \$50; besides this they won \$25 in prizes at the exhibitions. The value of the sow from one year to the other would be about the same.

The total expense in connection with these pigs would be as follows: cost of feed for sow, \$50; cost of feed for young pigs, \$67.22; cost of feed for young litter, \$15; freight to exhibitions, \$10; total expenses, \$142.22.

The prize money in all amounted to \$58. The returns from eight pigs, as before stated, amounted to \$146.05. The value of the young litter was \$50, making the returns total up to \$254.05; thus leaving a profit over total expenses of \$111.83.

Colchester Co., N. S.

SAXBY B. SEMPLE.

Allied shipping still disobeys the Kaiser and goes on its way. Wilhelm forgets that there are some countries where he is not supreme and there will soon be more.

### Disease Causing High-Priced Meat and Dairy Produce.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

I believe one cause of the present high cost of all meat and dairy products is contagious abortion. Strange as it may seem, some farmers will not confess they are having trouble in their herds from this disease, and they are ashamed to acknowledge that their herds are affected.

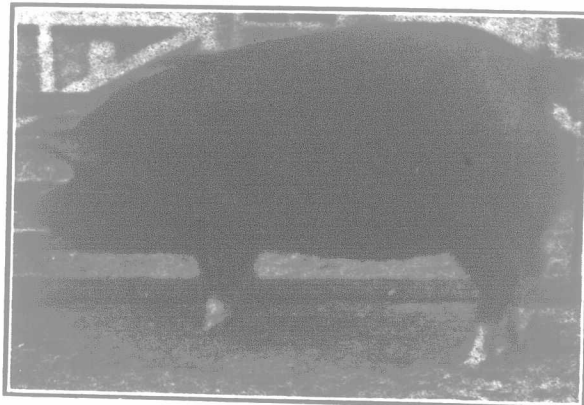
Some are so selfish or perhaps thoughtless that they are helping all the time to spread the scourge instead of allaying its progress. It requires knowledge, expense and labor to combat this evil, but it needs also co-operative methods. One must help the other and be honest and sincere in his efforts to stamp out this disease, or we shall never get beyond its damaging effects. I have labored for four years; I have tried everything that has been advised, and yet I have had to give up and confess that I was beaten. I even sold off my herd at a considerable loss, disinfected my stables, bought up a few that were declared all right, but I find traces of the disease yet. Some veterinarians claim that they can



A First-prize Royal Winner.

effect a permanent cure, but why don't they? One of my neighbors paid \$5.00 each to have ten cows treated, and then had to sell eight of them as canners for they failed, after repeated efforts, to freshen. This is a great loss to the farmer when cows fail to freshen. Also, before this stage appears, the cows drop their calves before time repeatedly. There are fewer calves now to raise. Farmers are feeling this loss acutely. It seems that strenuous efforts will have to be made to awaken people to their duty to themselves and country, and the need of working together with one object in view, namely, to extirpate the scourge. Appointing investigation committees will not solve the trouble. In my estimation these are only another needless expense to be met by the public. Men on commissions do not work for nothing.

How is it something will not permanently cure this disease without so much expensive outlay for experimenting? A great deal has been spent for methylene blue, has anyone yet received any benefit from its use? One veterinarian who treated my herd said that someone in the Western States was receiving a good rake-off on its sale, and he was the only one who was receiving



W. W. Brownridge's Champion Berkshire Sow.

any benefit from its use. I pass this along as it was given to me. You, as well as I, must take it for what it is worth. I am not competent to judge, but I know I have spent much on methylene blue and fail to see any good results. The situation is becoming more alarming. I hope something can be found or something done that will count and bring good and speedy results.

Oxford Co., Ont.

N. H. WOOD.

### Sorghum Versus Corn as Feed.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

I hold in my hand a leaflet from the Department of Agriculture with the following analysis:

	Crude	Carb-				
	Water	protein	hydrates	Fibre	Fat	Ash
Fodder corn...	42.2	4.5	34.7	14.3	1.6	2.7
Sorghum fodder...	41.7	3.2	32.2	17	2.9	3

This shows the sorghum to be slightly lower in crude protein and carbo-hydrates, but much richer in fat. The analysis fails to state what per cent. of this is digestible.

Having grown and fed several acres of both corn and sorghum last year I will state my experience. The sorghum was rather slow in making a start, but when it once began to grow it soon overtook the corn and finished a good two feet taller than the corn, which was of the White Cap variety. Both corn and sorghum were a good crop. The sorghum stood up nice and straight and was not affected by a storm of wind and rain which made a rather bad mess of the corn. Both corn and sorghum were sown in rows about three feet apart and both were cut with a corn binder. About fifteen pounds of sorghum seed per acre was used. It was sown with a 15-hoe drill which enabled us to sow three rows at a time. The drill was set for 4 pecks of wheat per acre. Both corn and sorghum were stooked in the field and allowed to dry. The sorghum was then drawn in and stood up in the hay mow and straw mow just as tight as we could shove the sheaves together. No air spaces were left and the sorghum is coming out sweet and nice with little or no signs of must. The corn was also drawn in and stood up tight, but showed some little must when brought out. The corn was fed first and lasted till after the New Year. By that time the stalks were becoming very dry and were not very palatable. Both corn and sorghum were run through a cutting box driven by a 1½ h.p. Mogul engine using coal oil for fuel. This furnished plenty of power as long as the knives in the cutting box were kept well sharpened. When the corn was done the sorghum was brought out. The sorghum stalks were nice and juicy and did not dry out like the corn. The cattle ate it readily. We are also feeding sorghum to the horses and find it excellent. It gives them a bright, smooth, silky coat and keeps their general health excellent. For the cattle both corn and sorghum were mixed with cut straw, a little salt wasshaken on and the pile moistened with water. A slight gain in milk was noticed from the cows when we started to feed the sorghum.

As a fodder the sorghum will keep good and remain palatable till animals are turned out on grass. The sweet, sticky juice contained in the pith is held in by the hard almost glassy exterior of the stalk. When corn stalks are as dry and hard as so much wood shavings the sorghum is still good.

We have seen no sign of so-called sorghum poisoning and this is the second year of feeding that fodder. Next season we intend dropping the corn and sowing all sorghum. We also intend testing how the sorghum will keep when piled up like cord wood in the barn, the rows running at right angles to one another. We tried it this year on a small scale and saw no sign of must. If corn were piled thus it would speedily spoil.

Sorghum delights in hot, dry weather and is partial to a warm, loamy soil. It will grow on clay successfully if plenty of barn-yard manure is used. As a crop for the silo sorghum has not been a complete success. The large amount of sugar contained in the stalk causes an intense fermentation and too much acid is the result. Trouble is sometimes encountered when endeavoring to fill a silo with pure sorghum. The thick, sticky juice causes the blower to choke up and much time is lost in pulling the pipes apart and cleaning them out. It is as a fodder that it excels and I can heartily recommend it to any farmer requiring feed of this type. Sorghum is sown about the same time as corn, but will stand to be sown later and still do well.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

W. E. WILLIAMS.

## THE FARM.

### The Seed Oat Problem for 1917.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Every season brings its problem in seeds of some kind. This year, owing to peculiar climatic conditions when oats were filling in Ontario and part of Quebec, the oats generally were very light and in a large measure unsuited for seed. Consequently there will be a big demand for suitable seed oats. "Where are the stocks to be found?" is the question that many are asking today. Fortunately, from the splendid crop of the previous year, some farmers saved enough to supply themselves with seed, and in a number of cases have some for sale. However, this will only touch the fringe of the demand.

The Maritime Provinces, notably P. E. I., had a good crop last year, and they will be able to meet large demands. The crop in the Prairie Provinces varied a good deal and, from our latest knowledge, all their No. 1 and 2 Canadian Westerns will be needed out there to supply their own demands.

Large amounts of feed oats will find their way East, and in a year of shortage of seed will doubtless be used quite freely as seed. Here is a case in point and it goes to show what the results will be all too frequently. A farmer living in the vicinity of Ottawa saw some fairly good looking oats in a flour and feed store which the proprietor was suggesting he would sell as seed. The farmer turned his sample of feed oats over to a member of the Seed Branch for report on purity and vitality. In purity the sample showed the presence of 138 noxious weed seeds per lb., made up of 3 Western false flax, 99 wild oats, 32 ball mustard, 4 hare's ear mustard seeds, and 435 other weed seeds made up of lambs quarters 138, and wild buckwheat 297 per lb. The oats without the weed seeds were then subjected to a germination test, and after four days in a standard germinator they showed 20 per cent. vitality. So far