

sheep were O. C. Millen (who led one class with a Kent and Southdown cross, the first ever seen at the show), Captain R. S. Hicks, A. W. Bally-Hawkins, and Miss Alice de Rothschild (whose Oxfords made a splendidly-matched pen, scaling 7 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lbs.).

In pigs the King's Berkshires from Sandringham won. One of his pen scaled 7 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs. In Large Blacks, A. Stimpson's winners weighed 6 cwt. 10 lbs. The special award in pigs, however, fell to H. Read for a pen of cross-bred Large and Middle Whites, which scaled 6 cwt. 3 qrs. 16 lbs., and boasted great quality.

MEETING THE PIG PROBLEM.

In view of the present price of bacon and a shortage of breeding stocks, English pig breeders are considering how they can best meet the immediate situation when the war is over. The sudden increase in the cost of milking offals about a year ago, when young and store pigs were comparatively cheap, caused many English breeders to reduce their number of sows, and this tendency was strengthened by a large demand that then existed for sausage-meat, a form of food that is still being largely bought by the working classes. The Danes did the same thing, i. e., sold off a large portion of their breeding sows, and that itself has affected our bacon market. Much of the fat pork we formerly received from the United States of America was for some months after the outbreak of war dispatched to the Continent. Germany herself has slaughtered 7,000,000 pigs, and in that country the price of pork has advanced to an almost impossible figure. It would look as if the present high prices obtained for pigs and pork will continue for some time after hostilities cease. The breeding stocks of Germany and Austria will be almost decimated, and those countries, when open, will be importers of pork for a long time, and a considerable period must elapse before pork there once more becomes a cheap food. British pig raisers should preserve their breeding stocks at all hazards, for in that method lies at least one solution to the problem of meeting the position that will arise when peace is proclaimed.

NEXT YEAR'S ROYAL SHOW.

From June 27 to July 1 next, the seventy-seventh annual show of the Royal Agricultural Society will be held on a site near Alexander Park, Manchester, where already the "permanent" buildings of the society are assuming shape. The exhibition will be carried out on its usual generous lines. It should not be forgotten that the last Royal Show in Manchester yielded the record total attendance of 217,980, and a profit of £4,074. That was in 1897, but, in 1869 a record profit was made at the National Show held in the same city, i. e., £9,153, figures which were not beaten until 1908, when the Newcastle visit yielded a profit of £10,054. The Royal Show has secured all its greatest financial successes at the industrial cities it has visited, to wit, profits of £5,483 and £3,947 at Liverpool, £3,115 and £1,667 at Bristol, £4,523 and £2,028 at Derby, £3,424 at Birmingham, £4,229 at Nottingham (1888), £3,600 at Leicester, and so on. In rural Canterbury it once lost £2,005 a similar sum at Bury St. Edmunds, £4,577 at Taunton, and £6,383 at Maidstone.

During 1915 U. S. A. has bought 70 pedigree Herefords from English breeders, but Uruguay has taken 76 and Argentina 66, and even Chili and Brazil have been customers, but not a one has Canada bought. British breeders are looking to U. S. A. coming back, when ports are open, or rather when Britain is free of foot and mouth disease, for more bulls of this type in 1916. The Hereford is going strong in Uruguay.

To U. S. A. the English Guernsey Cattle Society have granted 110 export certificates, and no doubt the number would have been much larger but for the conditions prevailing. A Guernsey Society has been established in Australia.

A breed of little heavy milking cattle in Scotland is that known as the Shetland, which fatten early and so provide a dual-purpose. Herds are being started in England.

Anthony Horden, the New South Wales cattle rancher, has just exported 50 Lincoln long-wool ewes of prize-winning abilities and big rams costing 2,500 dollars and so on.

The Government has sanctioned steeplechase and hurdle racing to resume on a limited scale in England. Breeders of Thoroughbred stock, i. e., race horses, have had a bad time of it since the war started. Yearlings which once sold in the thousands of pounds at Doncaster and Newmarket have been given away for a few hundreds, and stallions and brood mares are fetching "wicked" prices. But better days are coming. It is in the air; we can all feel it.

May I wish Canadian readers of my notes a happier Christmas than last? May I say, too, that, at home, here, in Wimbledon, Surrey, I shall be glad to meet any sons of readers of "The Farmer's Advocate" who may be domiciled near me in training for "The Day." Surrey is full of Canadian boys with the colors.

Surrey, England.

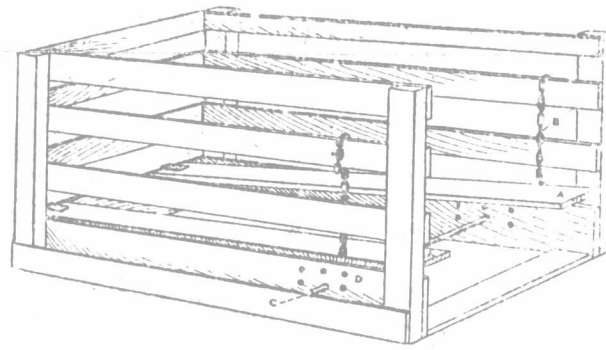
G. T. BURROWS.

Breeding Crate For Swine.

I saw mention regarding breeding crates for hogs, in a recent issue of "The Farmer's Advocate"; please give a few details regarding them.

J. McN.

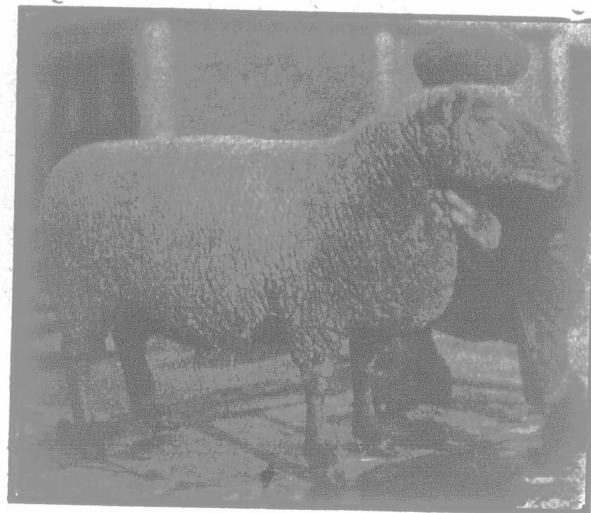
A breeding crate may be used in two ways. When a heavy boar is to be mated to a small, young sow, a platform for the boar's feet may be



Breeding Crate.

so arranged as to relieve the female of considerable weight. On the other hand a short-legged or young male pig may be assisted in serving a full-grown sow by placing a cleated platform at the rear of the crate.

The crate shown in the illustration is one that will prove useful. The dimensions are: length, 5 feet 6 inches; width, 2 feet; and height, 3 feet 6 inches. The uprights at the corners are made of 2 x 4 inch scantling, and the sides may be made of 4-inch strips of inch lumber with a 10-inch board at the bottom on each side. The supports for the feet of the boar (AA) are hinged at the front end of the crate, and can be raised or lowered by means of the chains (B). On the outside of the crate are hooks for holding the chains. An iron rod (C) slips through holes (D) bored in the bottom side boards. The rod should come just above the hocks of the sow, and there should be enough holes to permit the rod being adjusted to suit the size of the sow. If it is desired to use a small boar on a large sow, a cleated, sloping platform can be moved up to the rear end of the crate, whereby the boar may be elevated to any desired position.



A Winner at Guelph. 1914. Champion Southdown wether for Peter Arkell & Sons, Teeswater, Ont.

There are many types of breeding crates, but the one just described should answer the purpose, or serve as a principle or pattern to construct others similar or better suited to any local conditions.

FARM.

"There's no Muckle Made by Kickin."

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I was talkin' tae a half friend o' mine the ither day an' he says tae me, "Weel, Sandy, we're comin' tae the end o' anither year," says he, "an' I'm wunnerin' what we hae got oot o' it, that is gaein' tae mak' it worth while stayin' on an' tryin' it for a while langer. We hae made some money an' we hae pit in the spare time we had spendin' it, an' for a' I can see we're juist about where we were twelve months back. It's an unco' weary round, Sandy," says he, "what we rake in wi' ane hand we throw awa' wi' the ither, an' in the end we die an' let some ither chap get on tae the treadmill in oor place. What's the hale thing about anyway, I'd like tae ken," says he.

"I'm afraid, Alex.," says I, "that ye hae been takin' something for dinner that didna' agree wi' ye. Ye seem tae be in the dumps a'richt." "It's no' that," says Alex., "but when a mon warks as hard as I do, frae foor in the mornin' till eight o'clock at night, I'm thinkin' he has guid reason tae be askin' what he's gaein' tae mak' by it a', an' tae wunner gin pay-day will ever come aroond. About a' a mon can get in this world is his board an' claithe, an' nobody wi' any ambition wants tae wark for that. D'ye think, Sandy," says he, "that when we get tae the jumpin'-aff place an' the time comes tae pass in oor checks we'll get any credit for a' the wark we hae done an' the hardship we hae put up wi' on this auld airth. I ken ye dinna' ken Sandy, but what dae ye think." "Weel, Alex.," I says, "ye say I dinna' ken what's in store for us when we get through here, but ye're no' sae sure o' that as ye might think. There are some things that we never saw, an' that naebody has telt us about, that a' the same we are pretty certain o' it's this way. We ken that in the ups an' doons o' oor life here we hae learned a guid mony things an' ane o' them is that when we dae certain acts the results are a'richt, an' we hae a feelin' o' satisfaction, or in ither words, we are happy. But when for some reason or ither oor actions are different, the consequences are bad an' we are dissatisfied an' unhappy. Noo, Alex.," says I, "here is where ye get the wages for the wark ye dae, over an' above yer board an' claithe. It's the feelin' o' pleasure that ye experience when yer job has been weel done that pays ye for yer labor an' hardship. A condection o' happiness is what ilka livin' thing in the world is tryin' tae reach, an' there's juist one way tae dae it. By daein' yer wark ilka day as it's laid oot for ye, an' daein' it the best ye ken hoo. An' gin only one is miserable an' in the blues, as ye are noo, Alex., ye may tak' it for granted that their life hasna' been a' it should hae been. They hae been shirkin' their duties or breakin' Nature's laws in some ither way. An' the only road tae a better condection o' things an' final happiness is tae be found by makin' a right-about-face an' travellin' in the ither direction. Ye'll admit this yersel', Alex.," says I.

"Sure," says he, "but what has this got tae dae wi' us when, as I said before, the time comes tae pass in oor checks?" "Weel," says I, "it has a guid deal tae dae wi' us as I see it. What I'm comin' at is this. Anyone wi' half an' eye can see we're in this world for a trainin' an' an education that is never half-finished when the time comes for us tae get aff the airth. Sae we maun tak' it for granted that it will be finished somewhere else, or in some future life at any rate, an' this seems sae certain tae me that that is why I tauld ye that I was no' sae sure that we couldna' tell what was comin' next. Gin there's one thing in this universe that we notice mair than anither it's the progress o' life. It gets mony a set-back but it never gets stapped, an' ye may be certain that mankind will no' be allowed tae stap either while he's in his present partly-educated condection, where he can juist begin tae see his possibilities. Sae there's na use gettin' discouraged an' wunnerin' what's the use o' it a', an' wishin' we could throw up the job. We're juist wastin' time that we'll hae tae hustle tae mak' up later on. For the mon that keeps goin', an' daein' the best he kens ilka day, there is peace o' mind an' happiness, an' he kens that the future has mair in store for him than he can imagine, gin he will, but keep up his courage an' gang aifter it. The mistak's an' worse that he has been guilty o' in the past will no' hauld him back gin he doesna' start tae think an' worry about them, for he'll ken that the ane great mistak' wad be tae gie up climbin' because o' this or anythin' else. But the mon that gets intae the dumps is in a fair way tae keep himsel' in purgatory for a' time, an' pairt o' eternity, maybe. An' in the end he has tae start in an' mak' up for lost time, an' tak' his share o' trouble an' hardship wi' the rest o' the warl'. Sae there's naethin' gained by lettin' go for a meenute, but everything that's worth havin' is tae be gained by hangin' on tae the end an' makin' the best o' ilka day the Lord gies us."

"Noo, Alex.," says I, "I didna' intend tae preach ye a sermon when I started oot, but when I see a mon takin' a gloomy view o' life in general, an' his part in particular, it gets me goin'. I hae been there mase, an' monys the valuable hoor I hae wasted in wishin' I had never been born, but I hae got oot o' that bog, an' I'm aye mair than willin' tae gi' a hand tae any chap that I see in the same trouble. Ye may depend on it, it's better on ahead, gin we're merr enouch tae pit up the fight that will tak' us through."

"Weel," says Alex., "I guess maybe ye're richt, Sandy. There's no muckle made by kickin' anyway. It doesna' seem tae get ye anythin'. I'm thinkin' maybe I'll gae back an' feenish ploughin' that field I quit yesterday, afore it freezes up. It's mair like ploughin' in a stane fence than anythin' else, but it's rart o' ma job, I suppose."

SANDY FRASER.

Potato

The two the world at lowing these are Austria-Great Britain the United States homely, ple tributed to a most imp great indust graciated an ration at the beats German ambitious, w these two cr built up he which forme her industria strange to s both of these duct of Fren Napoleonic er as we shall Louix XVI.

Germany her light soils ductive her 8,000,000 ac 600,000,000 h duction. Th potato crop prairie wheat.

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So much fo potato in the v potato in time

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The potato l samples had medical doctors claiming that it But Parmentier and he was enco bouquet of the the King (Louis tonhole, and pul ably attracted to spread through adoption of i for us in Canad in Ireland in 18 emigration to ago. In 1847, Canada and of from Ireland. Colorado Beetle, boys as "the pot ling Paris Gree potato plants w less whence they as to their speed. Beetle, of course, origin—but how The gold and sil the potato trave the gold of Calif eastern migration Forty Niners at that were mark grounds. Refuse tions of potato potato plants. plants reached C the beetle, where potato solanum structing a trans when it was comp their slow but su