

## About Co-Operative Pork Packing

South American Competition in Cattle Raising  
—Poultry Notes.

A subscriber in Western Ontario asks for information regarding the cost of erecting and operating a co-operative pork factory, and whether it would be advisable to erect one in his locality. It is very difficult to give definite estimates as to the cost of buildings, etc., and the amount of capital required to successfully operate one. To start a small plant that would allow for growth and expansion, would require at least from \$25,000 to \$50,000 for plant and equipment, and then it would be safe to have a working capital of several thousand dollars in addition. We know of one or two instances in the eastern provinces where a pork factory was started on a capital of \$10,000 for building and equipment, but we think this is too small, and only admits of a very small business being done. We would advise all parties contemplating erecting pork packing factories, whether they are co-operative or not, to visit some of the establishments already in operation. Such a visit would enable them to understand the nature of the business and the magnitude of the undertaking.

As to the advisability of erecting co-operative pork factories there is some difference of opinion. One very important advantage which the co-operative packing establishment has over the large establishment is that the big centres is that if properly managed it would be able to control to a large extent the kind of hogs produced by the farmer. A co-operative factory drawing its supply from a district within a comparatively few miles distant would be able to educate the farmers in that section as to the kind of hogs to raise and how to feed it so as to make it produce the finest quality of hogs. The packer in the large centres who is separated a long distance from where he gets his supply can do only in a general way. But a co-operative factory with the stock held largely by farmers in the district would have a great advantage in being able to come directly in touch with every hog producer in the locality.

But it is well to consider the question from every point of view, whether a co-operative or any other kind of pork-packing establishment is contemplated, it is absolutely necessary that some skilled expert should be secured who thoroughly understands the selection and killing process, and the making and curing of bacon suited to the export trade. The erection of buildings and the management of the whole concern should be placed under the control of such an individual, who, as is the case with skilled labor, will have to be paid a good salary for his services. Where large capital is invested, such as would be required to operate a pork-packing establishment some person or persons of more than the average business ability should be connected with the concern to overlook its finances. There are no doubt farmers in every district quite capable of looking after this part of the business if they would give their time to it. To finance well requires special training and careful attention, and unless that could be given care should be exercised in investing large capital. The buying and selling is also an important part of such a business, and unless the markets are closely followed, and the quality of the best, failure is likely to result.

As far as we are able to judge we do not think there would be much difficulty in disposing of the product in Great Britain so long as the quality was right and the price high. Withshire hogs were exported. But then the supply must be regular, and when a customer is secured the factory must be in a position to send forward a certain quantity every week, or fortnight, as the case may be. And just here, for a time at least, will be one of the great difficulties in successfully carrying on a pork-packing establishment where the supply of hogs is to be drawn from a certain limited district. A factory that has a killing capacity of 1,000 hogs a week is not considered very large, and this would require a capital of about \$50,000 for buildings and equipment. But we are very doubtful at the present time if there is one single county in Ontario in a position to supply every week (1,000 hogs) for a year. Double this number each week, however, is not beyond the capacity of every county if the farmers make a regular business of it, but this will take a year or two, if conditions were favorable, till a sufficient quantity of hogs could be secured.

Recent experiments conducted at Guelph, show that whey and skim-milk, combined with other feeds, make a good, firm quality of bacon. This being so, pork-packing and dairying should go hand in hand. Where both winter and summer dairying are made a specialty of, it should not be difficult to get a sufficient supply of hogs in a comparatively small area to keep a good-sized packing establishment going. Ten or a dozen good cheese factories or creameries in close proximity, as in the case in Oxford or Perth counties, if running all the year round, making cheese during the summer and butter during the winter, or butter both winter and summer, could supply a good share of the food necessary to raise sufficient hogs to make a pork-packing establishment in the locality a success.

Co-operative packing may be made useful to the farmer who raises hogs without investing money in a co-operative packing establishment. To co-operative selling of their supply of hogs would help farmers to get better value for their products. The plan would be for the farmers in a locality to co-operate and ship their hogs direct to the packer and do away with the middleman. If any farmer would co-operate in this way, an ear-tag with the farmer's name or a number on could be

provided and fastened to each lot of hogs. When the hogs arrived at the packer's each farmer could be paid what his hogs were worth. In this way the utility of the hog could be counted, as it does not where a middleman buys any and every kind at the same price. We would like to see this plan tried, as we believe it would be of great educational value and enable every farmer to get better value for his hogs than the present plan affords.—Farming.

**SOUTH AMERICAN COMPETITION**  
In another column a correspondent points out that the reason why Canadians are not able to compete with the people of Argentina in grain-growing and the export cattle trade may be due to the different monetary systems in vogue in the two countries. Argentina has a silver currency, while Canada has a gold currency. While this is true, we are at a loss to understand just how such a condition of affairs would enable the one country to produce beef cheaper than the other. The export cattle trade of Argentina is with Great Britain, where a gold standard of currency prevails, and all cattle or any other product shipped there would have to be sold on the gold basis, or in other words, for the value of the animal or product in English currency when it is landed. This being so, it would not make any difference what kind of a currency was in vogue in Argentina, the price paid in England being governed altogether by the supply and demand.

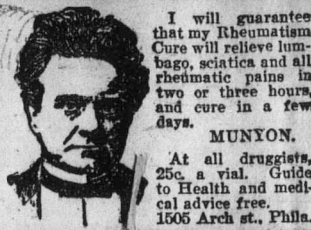
The cost of producing beef or any other farm products depends nearly altogether upon the cheapness of the land and its ability to produce an abundance of cheap food. Argentina seems to be specially favored in this particular. There are large runs where cattle can graze all the year round at very little cost. Besides this, corn and other fodders can be produced at a very low cost, so that the expense of producing good beef is very much reduced. The general plan followed by feeders there is to allow the cattle to graze until within a few months of the time when they should be ready for export. They are then placed in stables and fed a ration made up largely of corn; silos being in use in many parts of the country. It will thus be readily seen that the South American feeder has a great advantage over his brother feeder on the northern half of this continent.

But cheap feed is not the only requisite in producing cattle. There must be the right type of animal to begin with. Five or ten years ago the feeders of South America were not so favorably situated in this regard as they are to-day. At that time they had to depend upon the native stock, which was unsuited to the production of beef suitable for the British markets. However, they did the right thing under the circumstances, and began importing a variety of purebred animals of the right type to cross with the native stock, with the result that to-day Argentina is our strongest competitor, both as regards the quality and the quantity of the cattle she exports. The same system of improving the stock has been followed in connection with sheep and horses. Purebred rams of the best breeds have been, and are being imported in large numbers to cross with the native sheep, and likewise shire and Clydesdale stallions have been brought into the country to improve the quality of the native horse.

Cheap feed and a good breed of cattle seem to us to be the chief factors in the production of cheap beef in Argentina and not the adoption of a silver currency. No matter what value an animal might have under a silver standard, if shipped to a country where the gold standard prevailed, its value would have to be changed accordingly. For instance, a British dealer whose standard is gold would not pay the cattle dealer in South America in gold the value which the animal would have under the silver standard in Argentina. Because an animal is worth say \$300 under a silver standard does not prove that it is worth the same amount under a gold standard. It therefore seems clear that the cattle producer in Argentina will have to figure out his profits on the basis of what his cattle sell for in Great Britain: just the same as the cattle producer in this country has to do, and quite independently of the nature of the currency in his own country. The only way in which a silver currency might be of advantage to the South American cattle feeder would be in the cost of labor, but from what we know of the country such is not the case. Relatively speaking, labor costs about as much there as in Canada. A silver currency, no doubt, gives a higher value to all products in the colonies of the country in which it is in vogue, but the real value or worth of the product is not changed in the least. More than anything else, an agriculturist's products are governed by the law of supply and demand.—Farming.

**MANUFACTURING EGGS.**  
To know what ingredients are required we must examine the egg itself. It weighs on an average 1.40 grains, and consists of three parts, shell, white and yolk. The shell, weighing 100 grains, is merely carbonate of lime. The white, weighing 400 grains, is one of the purest forms of what we call albumen. The yolk, weighing 400 grains, consists of oil, albumen, phosphate of lime and traces of sulphur, iron, etc. In fact, an egg contains everything essential to the manufacture of a chick. All the materials required for making muscle, bone, feathers, etc., must be in the egg, for in incubation nothing is added, and everything that enters the egg for his breakfast eats animal food—eats an embryo chick, more nutritious, or at least more easily assimilated food, than so much weight

## MUNYON'S



## RHEUMATISM

I will guarantee that my Rheumatism Cure will relieve lumbago, sciatica and all rheumatic pains in two or three hours, and cure in a few days.

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of beefsteak. Of course the production of such rich food must make heavy drafts on the hen, and no mill can turn out a rich egg unless the hen is kept well supplied.

These several ingredients in the egg the hen gets from what she eats and gets it from the organic matters she eats. Fed by its various forms she uses to build her food and not to build up her body to make eggs out of. The oil, or fatty substance needed is found in greatest proportion in seeds, chiefly in corn. The albumen, which is a nitrogenous substance, is found also in grain to a limited extent, more in wheat than in corn, and in still larger proportions in wheat bran and alfalfa. The white of the egg is composed of albumen, water, sugar, milk and meat. The latter is furnished in the form of meat meal, canned refuse meat, green corn, etc. The shell material is found in all the grains, but principally in oats and wheat bran. It is contained also in milk and in the grasses and clover. In summer, clover, green grass, vegetables, bugs, worms, seeds and the cultivated grains furnish the egg factory with useful germs to help with free range. In winter, much of this supply is cut off and must be supplied by the owner of the hen if he expects business to prosper.

Incidentally it should be mentioned that about three-fourths of the contents of an egg consists of water, and in this the substances named above are suspended. It will at once appear that water is essential to egg-making.—Farming Journal.

**EGGS AND POULTRY.**  
The keeping of large numbers of poultry of suitable kinds should be a means for greatly increasing the revenue from Canadian farms. They form a class of live stock which has been too much neglected. This keeping is included in the system of farming, so far as the live stock branch is concerned, which has been designated "small cultures." Though singly small in size, they can become in the aggregate producers of large revenues. They are not merely to be counted as gatherers up of fragments, utilizers of odd scraps and gleaners of waste grain. They may be also a class of live stock which, if properly managed, may be fed with a good profit on the transaction.—Prof. Robertson's report.

**BOCCONTRI CLUBS OF THE WORLD**  
Facts About Some of the Oldest Organizations Extant.

One of the queerest clubs in the world is the Lazy Club, of Vienna. It is said to have a membership of 100, and there are no dues or fees for admission. No member of this organization can do anything for a living, and the slightest suspicion of work that rests on a member is equal to expulsion.

There is a curious society in London called the Crabbed Club. It is made up of men who have met great disappointments in life, and the club meets once a month. At these times the members are not allowed to repeat their hard luck stories, but, on the contrary, form a merry company and endeavor for that time to forget their woes.

The club of eccentric clubs was swelled last year by the addition of the Don't-take-off-your-hat Club, of Wehlan, Germany. The members who fear catching cold are absolved from the obligation of removing their hats in the winter months under the penalty of a severe fine.

In Philadelphia there is an Anti-baby Kissing Society, where the hygienic crusade against kissing is pushed. The city boasts of an Anticigarette Club, formed by young women who bind themselves to have nothing whatever to do with any young man who smokes cigarettes. A new feature in the club is recorded in New York. It is the Dyspeptic Club, and the test of eligibility for membership is a doctor's certificate that the applicant is suffering from a weak stomach. The object of this organization is to promote cheerfulness among dyspeptics and to furnish to the members the latest results of science in treating indigestion. The President of the Dyspeptic Club is said to have a remedy that has never failed to help sufferers, but none but club members know what it is.—New York Despatch.

**No Encouragement for the Boy.**  
Fired with zeal to emulate a great and good man, Alfred cut down the cherry tree with his little hatchet.

Then he went into the house and informed his stern parent that he could not tell a lie.

"Do you think I shall be the father of my country?" Alfred now asked anxiously.

"There is no certainty about it, my son," replied the old man, with streaming eyes. "Times have changed in 150 years. The boy who cannot tell a lie is assured of nothing except that he can't very well be a painless dentist."

Thus we see that opportunity is a large element in success.

**Group Will Kill**  
If not cured at once, Every mother should keep a bottle of Ransom's Live Syrup and Tolu at hand—it is the standard remedy all over the world—it always cures. 25c at all druggists.

For sale by J. W. Gerrie.

**Efficiency With Economy.**  
This is the ruling spirit in the conduct of our business. Telephone 641. Pray, Robinson & Peterson, undertakers and embalmers, No. 33 King Street West.

**It is not enough to have great qualities, we must also have the management of them.—Rochefoucauld.**

## A New Year's Dream.

In the cozy depths of an arm-chair, thrown, On New Year's Eve, I mused alone, "Welladay!" thought I, "and deary me! This world is a fairly good world, I own. But how much better indeed 'twould be, If, putting aside his natural pride, Each living thing in the world so wide Would honestly try his simple best To be obliging to all the rest! With a little more kindness and sweet civility, Courtesy, patience and amiability— Ah, welladay, and deary me, What a highly agreeable world 'twould be!"

Then softly faded the firelight's gleam, And I fell asleep—or so it would seem— And dreamed this very remarkable dream:

I stood, methought, in the same old world, With the same old ocean round 't curled; But a singular state of things I found, As I rubbed my eyes and looked around, Each man and woman, each chick and child, Whenever I met them, bowed and smiled, And answered my questions before they were asked, And with my errands their memories tasked;

And each I saw, with an equal zest, Wishing the same for all the rest! Such consideration and thoughtful zeal, Such delicate tact!—I could not feel, From the President, bland on his lofty seat,

To the dear little cricket that chirped at my feet,

But lived to oblige. The ragman muffled his bells, for fear They might awaken some sleeper near. And the newsboys called the "Times" and "Post" in tones like a cooing dove's—almost,

The plumber offered the pipes to mend, "Just as a favor, to please a friend."

The lawyer begged that his little bill, Unpaid, as it happened, be unpaid still, And the worthy parson, considerate man, Finished his sermon before he began.

The cook made tarts each day in the year, And nobody thought it the least bit queer.

The kind policeman in all the parks Just stayed to see that the boys—such larks!—Kept on the grass; and the teachers Gave only as children know is right—

The shortest lessons and highest marks. The printers sent out, in the kindest way,

A new St. Nicholas every day; And the editors always took the rhymes

That the poets sent at all possible times.

To please the fisherman down by the brook,

The fish came swimming to catch the hook;

The oysters smilingly opened their shells;

The buckets sprang merrily up in the wells;

And the little dogs gathered the deary bread,

And helped the chickens to scratch for food.

The currants and blackberries picked themselves,

And stood, all canned, on the pantry shelves;

The sun sat willingly up all night To cheer the earth, when it needed light.

The babies their natural cries suppressed,

And feared of breaking their parents' rest;

And the dear little, kind little, sweet little boys Refrained from making the slightest noise;

But quietly played with their harmless toys,

And washed their hands without being told;

To please their mothers, as good as gold.

The breeze came blowing in gentle gales

Whenever it was wanted to fill the sails;

The prisoners stayed in the unlocked cells;

And the mice sat up on the balcony rails.

To let the kittens play with their tails;

And the old cats stifled their nightly wails;

And the little fish danced to tickle the whaler;

And the brown hawk hurried to warn the quail;

And the butterflies loitered to help the snails;

And the hammers were gentle and kind to the nails;

And the mope took care not to scratch the parlor;

And Princeton's ball gracefully yielded to Yale's;

And here the wonderful story falls: For I breathed awake. It was New Year's day.

The world wagged on in the same old way.

"It was only a dream!" said I, "deary me!" But I'll be obliging as I can be, And the world may be better for that.

—Margaret Johnson, in January St. Nicholas.

**Beautiful New Year's Gifts.**  
During the balance of this week there will be offered at Garrie's drug store, No. 32 James street north, about ninety dozen purses and pocket-books at 25c. each. These are of the latest styles, and many are sold by department and other high-priced stores at 50c. We also offer a large variety of better quality of pocket-books at low prices; also a large stock of penknives suitable for presents.

There are more persons more solicitous about the preservation of rank than those who have no rank at all.—Heston.

All disorders caused by a bilious state of the system can be cured by using Carter's Little Liver Pills. No pain, griping or discomfort attending their use. Try them.

## Startling Fatality of Croup

The terror of childhood is croup. It is the most fatal of all diseases among babies and young children. It usually begins with all the appearance of a common cold. The child coughs, is restless, has more or less fever. As the disorder progresses, if relief is not had, the fever increases and breathing becomes very difficult. At last this difficulty becomes permanent, the pulse falls, the face becomes pale and is bathed in cold sweat and the end is not far off.

Shiloh's Consumption Cure is a sure cure for croup, as half a century of successful experience clearly shows. Mrs. J. B. Martin, of Huntsville, Ala., writes to the S. C. Wells Co., of Le Roy, N. Y., as follows:

"GENTLEMEN: I write this letter to tell you what a valuable medicine you have in your Shiloh's Cure. I think it is the greatest remedy ever discovered, and several of my friends to whom I have recommended it are as enthusiastic as I am. My baby, who is now nearly two years old, was brought up on Shiloh, and a fatter or more healthy baby cannot be found in this section. If he were croupy of a night, had a cough or a cold, one or two doses invariably relieved him. I would not be without a bottle of it in the house for ten times the price of it. It has saved me many a dollar in doctor's bills. I will send you a picture of my Shiloh baby if it will be of any service to you."

Shiloh's Consumption Cure is sold by all druggists on a positive guarantee that the purchase money will be refunded in case the medicine does not do everything that is claimed for it. 25c, 50c, and \$1 a bottle in United States and Canada. In England 1s. 2d., 2s. 3d. and 4s. 6d.



## Wishing You

## A Happy and Prosperous New Year.

## MALCOLM & SOUTER,

Corner King and Park streets.

## FURNITURE. CARPETS.

## Presents Free.

For the return of sets of coupons from Adams' Tutti Frutti Gum, a large variety of very handsome and useful presents are sent free. The following are illustrations of a few of the presents



Full particulars inside each wrapper of Adams' Tutti Frutti Gum. Refuse all imitations.

## E. B. EDDY'S

## Indurated Fibre Ware,

Tubs, Pails, Etc.,

Are the housekeeper's favorites. There is no comparison between them and the ordinary wooden tubs, pails, etc.

Ask your grocer for

## INDURATED FIBRE WARE.

NEAT CLEAN LIGHT DURABLE

## FOR SALE. GOMPF'S

## EXPORT LAGER

IS THE BEST.

Ask your dealer for it.

JOHN GOMPF, ONTARIO BREWERY HAMILTON.

**MOORE & DAVIS,** Real Estate and Insurance Agents, James Street, Opposite City Hall, Hamilton.

**Clip Your Horse.** NOW IS THE PROPER TIME.

He can do more work with less feed and care and look better than with a long coat of hair. A complete job is done by Craig Bros. Electric Power Clipper. Price 60c.

**CRAIG BROTHERS** Veterinary Surgeons, 71, 73 and 75 Hughson Street South.

**Wood's Phosphorine.** The Great English Remedy. Sold and recommended by all druggists in Canada. Only reliable medicine discovered. All reliable medicine guaranteed to cure all forms of Sexual Weakness, all effects of abuse or excess, Mental Worry, Excessive use of Tobacco, Opium or Stimulants. Mailed on receipt of price, one package \$1, six \$5. One sent please, also will cure. Transients free to any address. The Wood Company, Windsor, Ont.

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