

AUGUST 29, 1918

Questions and Answers.
Miscellaneous.

Heavy Bull.

Bull has broken the back of one cow and lamed another. Can any arrangement be built to relieve his weight when serving a cow?
A. K.

Ans.—We doubt if a breeding crate for cows would be practicable, and would advise using a lighter animal on your small or young cows.

Slimy Milk.

1. Why do cows give slimy milk?
2. What causes eggs to taste of lime?

Ans.—1. Slimy milk is usually due to the accumulation of a large number of bacteria which change the sugar of the milk into a slimy or ropy mass. The bacteria come from dust or bad water which gets into the milk at milking time or during the washing of the utensils. Thoroughly scald the pails, strainers, etc., and see if the trouble will be removed.

2. Egg shells are porous. In fact, the shell itself is composed largely of lime. If in contact with a strong lime solution the contents of the egg might taste, otherwise we cannot account for the abnormal taste.

Feeding Hogs.

1. Would it pay a farmer having a number of thrifty pigs seven weeks old, and his own grain, to feed them or to sell at \$9.00 each?
2. If the former, in the absence of milk, what would be the best feed for the pigs for the first month after weaning?
3. What alterations of feed should be made as the pigs increase in weight?

4. Have you any reliable data as to the amount in weight and value of feed required to produce 100 lbs. of pork; assuming that you begin with pigs from the sow, seven weeks old, the term being from middle of August?

5. Can pigs three to four months old be advantageously fed during the months of December and January on absolutely cold feed and water?
6. Can roots, raw or cooked, be used to advantage to economize on the meal diet, and, if so, in what manner?

S. P.

Ans.—1. It will depend on a number of circumstances, such as price of grain, kind of grain, amount of skim-milk available, thriftiness of pigs, price of finished hogs, etc. With shorts and oats at their present prices, and finished hogs at somewhere around the present price, we believe you could make good wages and interest on investment to grow and fatten the hogs. Pigs will get off to a better start on skim-milk than on any substitute therefor. We have made very well on pigs when purchasing all the feed.

2. Middlings and finely-ground oats with skim-milk makes the best ration for young pigs. Tankage may be used to advantage in the absence of milk.

3. It was generally thought that as pigs increased in weight barley or corn should be added to the ration, the amount being increased as the pigs neared the finishing point. The feeds mentioned are fattening. However, we have seen pigs that were grown and finished on shorts and skim-milk, others on oat chop, and still others on the by-product of the oatmeal mills. While there is nothing to equal middlings and oat chop for growing pigs we like to have some of the heavier grains for finishing.

4. The following figures are from Prof. G. E. Day's book, "Productive Swine Husbandry":

Live weight of hogs.	Meal required for 100 pounds increase in weight.
54 to 82 pounds	310 pounds
82 to 115 pounds	375 pounds
115 to 148 pounds	438 pounds
148 to 170 pounds	455 pounds

5. There is frequently more trouble with pigs during the severe weather than during warm weather, due largely to lack of sufficient exercise. The pen should be dry and properly ventilated. Satisfactory gains can be made under proper conditions of housing and feeding during cold weather.

6. Raw roots, especially mangels, can be fed to advantage. They not only result in a saving of feed but aid in keeping the animals healthy. Various tests have shown about 500 pounds of roots to be equivalent to 100 pounds of meal when fed to hogs.

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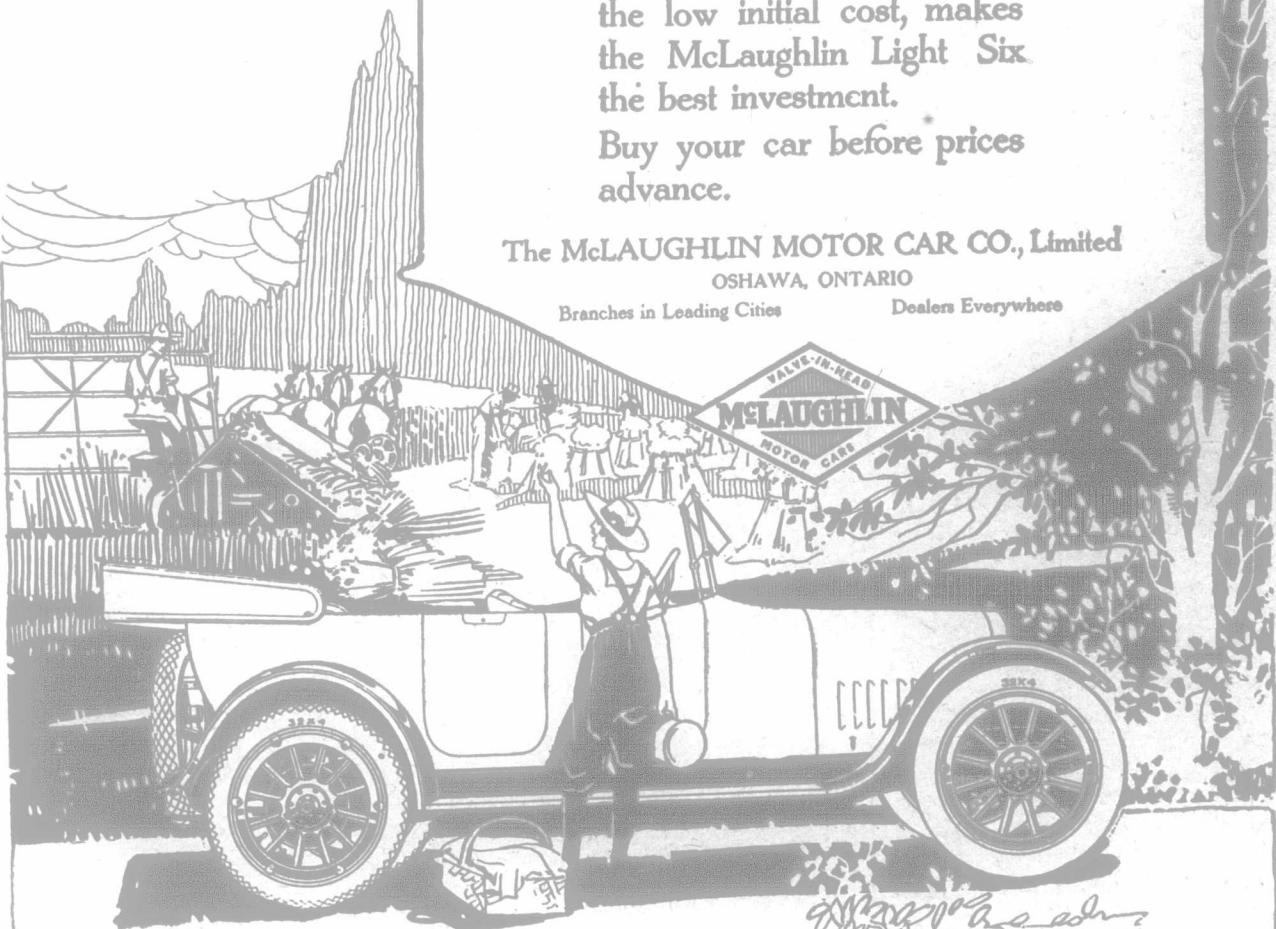
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