

BEWARE OF EMPIRICAL CURES.

In one section of Ontario, much loss has been entailed by quacks selling nostrums, reported to cure the disease. Farmers, as a rule, are too easily imposed upon in this way. Believing in the efficacy of these quack medicines, they commit a serious breach of quarantine regulations in failing to report to the Government the existence of contagious disease in their stock; they often allow the disease to attack their entire herd and, by disposing of partially recovered pigs to neighbours, they spread the disease and cause serious loss to others.

A careful consideration of what is said above as to the infectiveness of so-called recovered pigs will impress all thinking men of the danger arising from keeping such alive longer than to fatten them for slaughter; such should never be sold for removal into any man's herd, even to one's worst enemy, as it may lead to his ruin. *Farmers, think of this.*

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

Every breeder or feeder of pigs ought to arrange his premises so that he can divide them into perfectly isolated piggeries, so that if, by some misfortune, disease is introduced to one lot, the others may be preserved, through isolation. Breeders and owners would greatly serve their own interests by providing a separate pen as a quarantine pen for probationary detention of all new purchases, in which they would be kept for a few weeks to make sure that they are free from disease.

When the disease has been introduced and discovered in a herd, immediate notice should be given to the Minister of Agriculture, who will cause an investigation to be made, and if the disease is found to be hog cholera, quarantine will be established, the actually diseased pigs immediately slaughtered and the carcasses burned, or deeply buried with lime; all fat enough will be immediately slaughtered and if, on post mortem examination, they are found free from the disease, they will be sold for pork, and the balance fattened as quickly as possible and disposed of if, on examination after death, the flesh is considered fit for food; indemnity being paid for those actually diseased, to the extent of one-third of their value before they became diseased. For animals in contact, the compensation is three-quarters of their value. Every pig on the farm must be killed and the premises thoroughly disinfected before an inspector can issue an indemnity certificate, which must be accompanied by certificates of satisfactory disinfection; thereafter the Minister will order the removal of the quarantine.

CLEANSING DIRECTIONS.

The flooring, divisions and base boards of the pen should be removed and any loose boards with which the hogs have come in contact, burned; the surface earth or gravel of the pens and yards should be removed to a depth of six inches, freely covered with newly-slacked lime and re-covered with fresh earth or gravel.

The disposal of manure from infected hog pens is seldom sufficiently considered, yet manure is a frequent source of infection. As above stated, the bacilli of swine plague will live in the water from 10 to 15 days, and in soil four to six days; that of hog cholera lives in water two to four months and in soil from two to three months; and in manure they live for an indefinite period, varying according with the season. During the prevalence of these diseases, the manure should be carefully collected from the piggeries and at once mixed with newly-slacked lime, and removed in water-tight wagon boxes to an inclosed yard to which none of the animals on the farms have access. This is the more necessary on account of the impossibility of disinfecting a barn-yard or manure pile during winter weather, or so long as frost continues. When used, it should be ploughed in, not spread as a top dressing. The careless custom of throwing it into a common pile in the barn yard, over which all classes of stock root and trample it down, is one of the means by which the disease is perpetuated and extended.