

DISTRIBUTION OF FEED FOR LIVESTOCK

Ottawa, May 21.—Frequent statements appear that mills are insisting upon dealers buying large amounts of flour in order to get feed. This is not the case, and has not been for some time. The mills are able to sell all the flour they can make for export to the Allies, for cash, and at a price equivalent to that allowed by the Canada Food Board to be charged to the Canadian trade, and there is no necessity for attempting to force sales in Canada, as otherwise might be the case, for feed cannot be made unless flour is made and can be sold.

The Canada Food Board, the Feed Branch of the Department of Agriculture, and the millers have been working together for months upon the very difficult problem of the fairest method of distributing bran and shorts. The demand in Canada for these feeds is many times the total output of Canadian mills and comes from all parts of the country. The prices fixed for bran and shorts have made them relatively cheaper than other feeds, such as oats and barley, and this has increased the demand and, moreover, in many parts of the country, oats and barley were a short crop last year, as was also hay.

EXTRACTION IS LENGTHENED

The extreme need of our Allies in Europe for every pound of flour and every bushel of wheat that could be spared has necessitated the lengthening of the extraction in milling. Under ordinary conditions about 270 pounds of wheat would be used to make 196 pounds of flour, and allowing 3 pounds for waste there would remain 71 pounds of offal, but about 10 pounds of the lower grade flour would be added to the shorts to make middlings so that there would be a total of about 81 pounds of feed produced. Under the Order now in force the mills must make 196 pounds of flour out of 258 pounds of wheat and cannot turn any back into the shorts, so that to-day only 59 pounds of feed is made in the process of grinding a barrel of flour and the richer feeds cannot be made at all. Taking an equal amount of wheat in each case, this means that almost 25 per cent. less feed is being made than before, which of course has made the feed problem still more difficult.

NO FINANCIAL OBJECT

It is entirely out of the question for the mills, under these conditions, to ship full carloads of bran and shorts, to meet the demand for feed without causing users at other points to suffer. It would make no difference to the miller whether he sold in full carloads or in less than carloads, for his price to the trade is fixed at the same amount per ton in both cases, but the best and fairest method of distribution has required shipment in smaller quantities. If a dealer does not require flour or some other cereal produce to fill a car, this of course involves the payment by the dealer of the higher freight rate charged upon 1. c. 1. shipments. This difference in freight may run from \$1.00 to \$10.00 per ton, according to distance. Dealers are naturally anxious to avoid this extra cost, which might put them at a disadvantage as compared with competitors in the same district who could fill a mixed car, and although there is no extra profit to them the millers do not desire their customers to be at a disadvantage if they need oats, barley, oatmeal, or flour which could be used to fill the car. There is, however, no such thing as compulsion on the part of the miller nor any financial object on his part in insisting, since he can make no more money by doing so and already has a bigger market for all his products than he can fill.

NEW REGULATIONS IN FORCE

The critical condition of food supplies for the Allies during the next few months has led the Canada Food Board to pass

additional orders affecting wheat and flour. It has been made illegal for farmers, or anyone else, to use any millable wheat for feed for any kind of animals. Consumers are prohibited from accumulating stocks of flour beyond their actual current needs and must return to dealers any excess they may have been hoarding, and dealers must report their excess stocks which will be returned to the millers or disposed of as the Canada Food Board directs.

METHODS OF WEANING LITTLE PIGS

(Experimental Farm Note.)

Weaning time is the most critical period of the hog's life. The approved practice is to wean at about six weeks. Teach the litter to eat three weeks before weaning, using a crib or creep which excludes the sow, or a separate pen. Feed, in a trough, preferably, middlings with skim-milk. With middlings at present unobtainable, finely ground sifted oats is best. Feed only small quantities at first and avoid having decomposed or stale food left over. After weaning, add shorts gradually up to equal parts, and from the second to the third month add barley or corn as one-third the total feed ration. First and last, avoid over-feeding with its consequent train of evils.

Within the last year at the Central Experimental Farm, experiment and subsequent practice has indicated a system whereby weaning is simplified and the bad results of careless feeding practically eliminated. Instead of "hand-weaning" or feeding the weaning pigs milk and meal in a trough, a small self-feeder is substituted in the creep, skim-milk being fed in a separate trough. Finely ground oats and shorts, and later ground elevator screenings with a small proportion of ground corn, if available, are placed in the feeder. Thus, the little pig feeds himself when and as much as he sees fit, is able to eliminate from the meal eaten much fibrous material which he must consume willy-nilly where fed a slop, and incidentally accustoms himself gradually to skim-milk. Except in cases of early litters, the little pigs are given access to outdoor runs at all times from two to three weeks of age. Excellent growth is shown, the pigs developing clean, long and thrifty, with no evidence of thickness, pudginess or lack of energy. Absolutely no evidence of indigestion or scouring has been seen, and in one instance where a dozen litters were so fed at a central feeder the percentage of "culls" was remarkably low. When finally removed from the sow, pigs so weaned, particularly where they are to be self-fed subsequently, give minimum evidence of the check in growth, usually incidental to weaning in a greater or lesser degree. In short, while the experienced hog-man can hand-weigh his pigs with maximum results, the farmer lacking experience or depending upon ever changing attendants, is likely to run into difficulties. The method described, besides reducing labor, apparently removes the danger of irregular and over-feeding. Both method and results might be described as automatic.

In the foregoing method, skim-milk plays an important part. Where this or other milk product is unobtainable, experimental evidence would show that good pigs may be raised by following this method and supplying tankage, blood-meal, fish meal or some similar animal product in a separate compartment of the feeder, not mixed with the regular meal. Pigs, so fed, have shown only slightly inferior in quality to skim-milk fed lots, but the cost to produce would seem to be considerably increased.

Brent—"Old chap, I've been duck shooting, don't you know?" Sanderson—"Duck shooting? Why, you don't know a wild duck from a tame one." Brent—"Oh, yes I do—the wild beggars got away."—*Boston Transcript.*

REARING HEAVY COLTS FROM FARM MARES

(Experimental Farm Note.)

There is perhaps no side line in general farming that under suitable conditions gives better monetary returns for the labor involved than the rearing of draught colts. Among the necessary conditions are, first, roomy mares of good quality with some draught breeding and weighing at least 1300 pounds; second, a chance for good pasture, well fenced. The barbed wire fence is not a good one, as risk of damage to colts is too great.

The mares above described will do the work of the farm and raise a colt yearly, if desired, with but little loss time at average farm work.

The type of sire available has a good deal to do with the profit to be realized from the colt. He, of course, should be purebred if consistently good results are to be expected. Conformation, and quality are of more importance than his weight, though the larger he is, if his quality is right the more valuable he should be. Whether he be Clydesdale, Percheron, Suffolk Punch, Shire or Belgian his feet and bones must be good, his joints well formed and smooth, and evidence of constitution and draught strength shown by his general conformation. The choice of breed is largely a matter of personal preference, but if all the farmers in a county or good sized portion of it could only have the same preference and breed along the same lines, they could reap much more profit from their colts than where all the different breeds are introduced. Better stallions could be obtained and much better markets got for the colts.

When a really good stallion can be obtained it will be profitable to pay \$20 for a service fee than \$10. No stallion owner can afford to put from \$2,500 to \$4,000 into a horse for the \$10 fee. The best stallions of any breed cost within the above range and sometimes very much higher.

The time to breed is whenever it can be done. A good colt may be raised if dropped any month in the year. If it were possible to breed so as to have the colts dropped when the work was least pressing that would be the most profitable time. A comfortable box stall is needed for each mare and colt. The mare may work moderately up to time of foaling and after a week's rest after foaling can go into the team again without injury. She should not be overheated and the colt should be allowed to suckle at least three times between 7 a. m. and 6 p. m. At ordinary farm work the loss of time for a mare in foaling and caring for the colt should not exceed \$10 in cost.

From data obtained at the Fredericton Experimental Station, such a colt at three years of age, well broken and ready for business, represents a total expenditure of—Service fee, say \$15. Loss of time of mare \$10. Feed for two years \$61.51. Feed for third year \$80.60. Blacksmith bill \$10, a total of \$177.11. Against this there is a credit for the work of the colt during the third year which at the Experimental Station was 100 days @ 70¢ per day leaving the net cost of the colt weighing 1390 pounds at three years old, \$107.11.

At present prices these colts will sell at from \$160 to \$200 each.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF ST. LAWRENCE POWERS

IS ADVOCATED BY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

"Within a very few years there will be a demand for every horse-power that can be developed on the St. Lawrence River to which Canada is entitled for use upon the Canadian side," states Sir Clifford Sifton in the Ninth Annual Report of the Commission of Conservation which has just been issued. "The situation with regard to Niagara will undoubtedly be duplicated," declares Sir Clifford, "and if we are foolish enough to allow vested interests to be created on the other side of the line we shall inevitably find ourselves handicapped and embarrassed as we now are with respect to Niagara power." He contends that a thorough study of the situation reveals that there is only one sound method of developing these powers, viz., under "an international commission under which the best use of the powers will be made, the most economical development effected, and a just and equitable division of the power will take place for the benefit of the people who are directly concerned in its use."

Special prominence is laid in the report on power and fuel problems. Following a comprehensive review of the progress of conservation in 1917 by Sir Clifford Sifton, are addresses on "Peat as a Source of Fuel," by Dr. Eugene Haanel; "The Fuel Situation in Canada," by Fuel Controller C. A. Magrath; "Power Possibilities on the St. Lawrence," by A. V. White; "The Niagara Power Situation," by the same author; and a comprehensive treatment of the subject of railway electrification by S. T. Dodd, of the General Electric Company, and W. E. Tye, C. E.

The results of the scientific investigations of the Commission to find out how best to regenerate the immense areas of cut-over pulpwood lands in Eastern Canada are also given. Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt deals with the "Conservation of Wild Life in Canada," and Mr. J. P. Babcock with the "Salmon Fishery of the Fraser River District." In addition, a full account of

the work accomplished by the Commission during the year in regard to water-powers, town-planning, mining, agriculture, and game conservation is given. An interesting feature is a chart showing how the German metal-buying combination controlled the metal markets of the world before the war.

FISHERMEN'S TERRIBLE PLIGHT

Halifax, N. S., May 17.—After being adrift in a dory for four days Reginald Buchanan and Russell Conrad, of the Lunenburg schooner *Carranza*, were picked up by a patrol boat yesterday and brought to Halifax. They lost their vessel in a fog and had been the entire time without food or water.

PORTUGAL'S PRESIDENT

Lisbon, May 17.—The election of Dr. Sidonio Pass, as president of Portugal, has made necessary the reconstruction of the cabinet. The Minister of Foreign Affairs is Espirito Santo Lima.

A RECORD OF GROWTH

No New Brunswick business enterprise, and few in Canada, can look back with greater pride on the achievements of the years than can the St. John firm of T. McAvity & Sons, Limited, on their eighty-four years of history. Founded in 1834 by Thomas McAvity, Sr., one of the solid business men of the generation which took up residence here in the early days of the city, the business steadily developed along new lines and now, under the guiding management of sons and grandsons of the founder, has become one of the foremost Canadian enterprises. Plans that are under way for large extension of the manufacturing activities of the company and the splendid achievements of the past justify predictions that these are but the beginnings of an even greater future. The founder of the business rendered efficient public service as Mayor of St. John for four years, embracing the period when His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, visited St. John in 1861, but not more efficient public service than is being rendered by the younger generations of the house of McAvity in developing a great industry on his beginnings and in upholding on the fields of glory the cause of the Empire. The justifiable pride of the house of McAvity in a long, honorable, and successful career is shared by the community, which has grown with the firm's growth and sees yet greater growth as the outcome of their industry and enterprise.—*St. John Globe.*

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He never says "Stop it, I cannot afford it." Nor "I'm getting more papers now than I read." But always says "Send it, the family likes it; in fact we all find it the thing that we need."

How welcome his letter whenever it comes to us. How it makes our heart throb; how it makes our eyes dance. We outwardly thank him; we inwardly bless him. The Steady Subscriber who pays in advance.

"You think too much about yourself," said the Moralist. "The secret of happiness in this world is thinking about other people." "I do think about other people," said the pessimistic person, "but as they all owe me money, such thoughts make me feel more gloomy than ever."—*Birmingham Age Herald.*

"What's a tip, pop?" "You've heard, haven't you, my son, of parting a fool from his money?" "Yes, pop." "Well, a tip is what they do it with."—*Baltimore American.*

"Do you assimilate your food, aunty?" "No, sah, I doesn't. I buys it open and hones', sah."—*Baltimore American.*



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