

PIG-RAISING IN TOWNS AND VILLAGES ADVOCATED

In view of the world shortage of foodstuffs and the importance of bacon in the list of exports to the men at the front and the people of Allied Europe, it is interesting to contrast two striking facts. In Germany, 4,000,000 hogs are maintained as auxiliary to the national food supply by the citizens of urban municipalities. In Canada on the other hand, where the total number of hogs in the country at most is only 3,500,000, the keeping of pigs is practically prohibited within urban municipalities. "Swine," says a typical ordinance, "shall not be kept within the limits of this municipality, except in pens, with floors kept free of standing water and regularly cleansed and disinfected and distant at least one hundred feet from any dwelling house, school house or church."

Public Health acts are provincial enactments and though they may cover regulations as to keeping pigs, they generally place this matter largely under the discretion of municipal authorities. But the trend of municipal regulations has been to discourage the keeping of pigs within the limits not only of cities and their suburbs but also those of even small towns and villages. However well justified such regulations may have been in peace times, the question of their entire wisdom in the circumstances of the present day and the conditions of acute food shortage occasioned by the war, might well be a matter of municipal consideration.

Should Keep Pigs.

"A properly cared for pig is no more unsanitary than a properly cared for dog," says Mr. Herbert Hoover on urging the "keep a pig" movement in the United States.

In view of the estimated waste of food in the garbage of Canadian cities and towns amounting to something over \$50,000,000 per year, it would seem that there was room for the "keep a pig" movement in Canada. There are obviously many places in small towns and on the outskirts of cities where pigs might be kept without menace or annoyance to the community. No one would suggest that pigs be kept where they might become a nuisance. But where there is plenty of space as in many a suburban garden of the typical Canadian town and city there should be no difficulty and there would be a decided practical advantage in keeping pigs and increasing the bacon supply. Food scraps, kitchen refuse and garden cleanings of all sorts usually buried or burned, would thus become of actual value instead of a charge. Where the regulations should be relaxed, and where they should be enforced would be determined in each case individually, and the good sense of an enlightened public would approve official action along those lines.

Increased Production.

Farmers, according to reports from the different provinces, are energetically taking up the campaign for an

increased production of hogs in 1918. There is a general response in rural sections to the patriotic call. Greater production is the duty of the whole Canadian people for 1918. People in the cities, towns and villages responded in 1917 to the appeal to cultivate vacant lots. In 1918 this work might be supplemented by the addition of an effort to increase the production of bacon.

What applies to pigs could also apply to poultry keeping. There are many restrictions which might be reasonably relaxed with all round benefit. A dozen hens can be kept laying on the waste bread and vegetables of the ordinary family, supplemented by a little corn. Poultry keeping could be as well carried out in the large cities as elsewhere. Indeed, while it was found that the "back garden" plan worked surprisingly well in the large cities, only the fringe of the possibilities in food production in urban areas has yet been touched.

The Food Controller does not suggest that either pigs or fowl be kept in places where the remotest chance of injury to health could result or even where the inconveniences might outweigh the advantages. It only requires a small body of level headed, determined citizens in each place to take the matter up with the local authorities, to urge them to get the necessary authority, to relax present hard and fast regulations. The rest is a matter of patriotism, public spirit, care and good sense.

"The Fall of the Romanoffs"

ARTISTS TO GO TO THE FRONT

(Canadian Press direct wire.)
Montreal, Jan. 5.—Sir Edmund Walker, chairman of the board of trustees of the National Gallery Advisory Arts Council, having cabled Lord Beaverbrook that the following Canadian artists, Maurice Cullen, R. C. A., and Charles W. Simpson, A. R. C. A., both of Montreal, J. W. Beatty, R. C. A., and F. H. Varley, both of Toronto, are prepared to proceed to the front in three weeks time to take their part in the important work of commemorating the Canadian armies' achievements in France and Flanders, it only needs now a cable from Lord Beaverbrook to start the machinery in motion to have Canadian artists adequately represented at the front where Canada's soldiers fight.

GOT LOCKED IN THE CHURCH

Three girls passing a church at Malpeque, P.E.I., late one night recently, heard weird cries coming from the sacred edifice. They thought of ghosts—but upon observing a dim light in the church they unlocked the door and found three shivering and pale faced girls, who had been accidentally locked in and were about to arrange a resting place for the night, when rescued.

CANADIAN PATROLS ACTIVE NEAR LENS

(By W. A. Willison, Special Correspondent of the Canadian Press.)

Canadian Headquarters in France, Jan. 4.—Behind the Canadian front another page is being written in the war tragedy of France, and France, knowing it, fights on with unbroken spirit and unfaltering determination to the ultimate end of victory. Again today the enemy was busy shelling Noeux Les Mines, continuing that policy of destroying civilian areas which he has pursued intermittently since the Canadians returned to the Lens area. Hersin, Coupigny, Bruay and other towns in this district, together with Biethune, many miles behind the line, have been shelled and bombarded with a regularity to reduce them to ruins making of, Bethune another Arras or Ypres and of the towns such wastes as Lieven and Vimy within the forward battle area. The French population has been slowly evacuating the shelled areas, while the people remaining are living in sandbagged lower rooms or underground homes. The nights, lacking bright moonlight, the Hun airplanes

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TON TRUCKS VS. THE OLD HOSSES

(Boston Record.)

We aren't very well up on history, But wasn't there Some gink who Yodeled "A hoss, A hoss, my people's Real estate for A hoss?" Anyway It sounds like a King. They don't Care whose stuff They sacrifice—well To get back to the Knotted thread of Our yarn—the King must have Had a couple of Stone quarries he Wanted some poor Plug to haul away. Now, every day You see an auto Truck powerful, Enough to cart Around the Woolworth Building with the Washington monument And Brooklyn Bridge Thrown in, to balance The load, come snorting Up the street with A dinky steel box On back filled to The brim with about A half-ton load—Well, all we got To say is, if it Were a team of Horses, the load Would be so big The wheels would Go square and you'd Have to keep putting Dynamite under the Team or tie a set Of dirigibles on 'em To keep 'em on Their feet— Eh, wot?

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CAMOUFLAGE MINCE PIE NOW

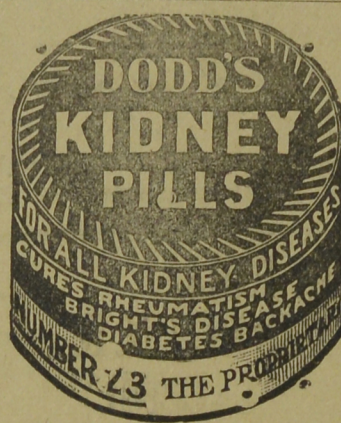
Washington, Jan. 5.—Meatless mince meat, another culinary triumph in the art of food conservation, has been brought to the housewives of the country by the national emergency garden commission as a worthy companion of the pumpkinless pie.

The new mincemeat was tried on 500 troops on a transport, who pronounced it perfect and called for more.

The recipe says: "Half a package of seeded raisins, half a pound of prunes stewed with lemon juice and peel, one-quarter cup sweet cider, four tablespoons brown sugar. Chop the raisins and prunes together. The result is said to be a meatless mince pie which will accord with the food administration's meatless days.

Oh, no they didn't feed 500 troops on just one compounding of this recipe.

During a very severe storm, a man living on a farm walked 14 miles to Morrisville, Vt., to attend church. Most of the people at church that Sunday lived out of town, while those living nearby did not venture out.



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have been quiet but two weeks ago his machines were very busy. Raids on Bethune were of almost nightly occurrence until finally the civilians began leaving in large numbers for places of greater safety, while the city at nightfall seemed deserted, those who remained in it having taken shelter in cellars and dugouts.

Patrols Active.

In the field there is little of interest to report. Our patrols have been unusually active against the alert enemy who had, been sweeping No Man's Land nightly with machine guns. The enemy working parties were dispersed with casualties, while one of our reconnoitering groups came under heavy enemy, "pineapple" bombardment, but escaped without loss. Our artillery has been busy sniping enemy working parties with eighteen pounders, carrying out the usual harassing fire in co-operation with machine guns and trench mortars against the enemy lines of communication, assembly areas and depots. Our own and enemy planes have been active, with frequent engagements, one of which resulted in a hostile machine being brought down in flames. I have already reported how good the health of the troops is, despite the rigors of the winter. Something of the splendid nature of the work being done by the C.A.M.C. can be gathered from the fact that owing to complete typhoid and para-typhoid inoculation our sick wastage is the lowest in the army. During last month there were only two cases of typhoid in all the ranks and corps—an extraordinary record, contrasted with the appalling figures of the African and earlier campaigns, when fever was one of the greatest scourges the armies had to face.

"The Fall of the Romanoffs"

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