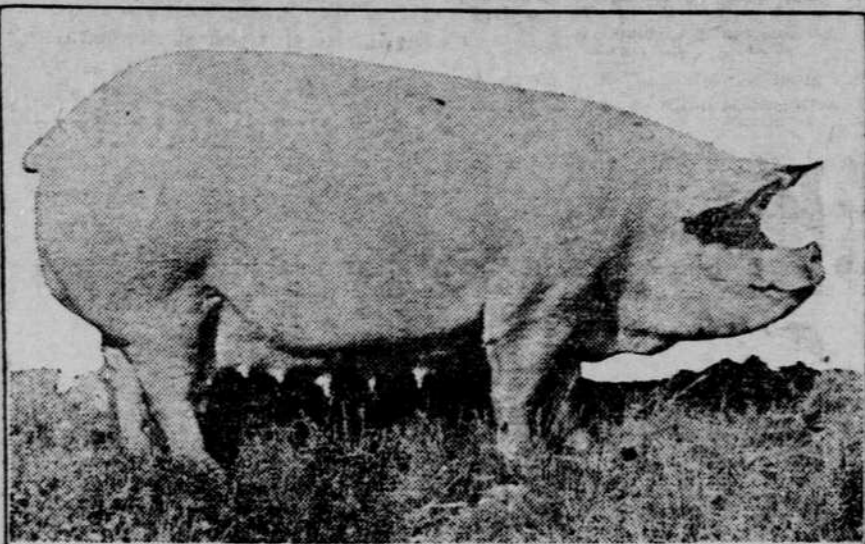


MAKING GOOD START IN HOG BUSINESS



First Prize Yorkshire Sow.

The hog is more an individual than a machine, more perhaps than the average farmer who raises hogs simply because they seem to be one of the farm's many equipments, realizes.

Hogs can be, with common sense attention to its environment, feed and other necessary attentions, produced and marketed as quickly as a crop of grain, and added to this the fact that a grain crop makes an income only once a year and there is no reason why hogs cannot bring in money twice in the year, and all the more should a hog's needs and individual taste be catered to.

A pure bred boar costing \$25 to \$50 and a small herd of grade sows are all that is required for a very decent start in the hog business, but to get out with profit an abundance of feed that the hogs can harvest should be provided before the hogs are bought or bred.

In the selection of the male hog it should be borne in mind that he will be apt to stamp his outward form and appearance on the offspring. The internal structure and all the result of its action will be determined for the most part by the female parent. This is not only theory, but a well-known law of breeding.

Therefore, success in hog raising depends largely on the selection and treatment of the male. It matters less how good the sows may be than is imagined unless careful selection in the males is looked to.

The boar should be of fine external form for this is the result of a superior internal organism. Width between the fore legs and large heart girth just behind them denotes a large, active heart and lungs, the very foundation of any animal.

Straight, strong, clean limbs, with hoofs erect, denote a good, solid frame work. Smooth, mellow skin covered with soft, silky hair denotes the healthy liver and an absence of internal fever.

A short concave face and slightly drooping ear are the sure signs of an easy keeper and of the quiet disposition. Such are some of the features that should be demanded in the male hog, not for appearance but because they indicate qualities of real value.

It is important, of course, that the male hog should be chosen with reference to the females with which he is to be mated. It is always of interest to note the faults of the dam which may be corrected, or at any rate, modified, in the offspring with careful selection of the sire.

If she is sharp-backed and slab-sided he should be broad on the back with well-sprung ribs. If she is long nosed and coarse about the head he should have a short, concave face with a fine ear and a heavy jaw.

If she is too coarse, too lazy, too active, too anything, in fact, the opposite characteristic should be prominent in the male with which she is to be mated.

It is sometimes desired to make a direct cross between two breeds. In this case the male should be selected from the smaller of the two. Where it is not desired to cross breed it is best to have the male somewhat smaller and more compact than the female with which he is to be mated.

The male chosen to fill the responsible position of head of the herd should not only be a good individual animal, but should come of a family that shows uniformity of breeding.

He should also come of a strain that is known to be prolific. It is a losing game to keep a sow a whole year that raises but six or seven pigs in that time. This is often done and the fault is not always on the female side of the house.

The strain that has no two pigs alike, that farrows small, weak litters, that he lacking vital ruggedness, should be shunned with all possible care.

PUT TO THE TEST

By CLARISSA HORTON.

"If you can love me without seeing me or hearing from me for a whole year, then I will marry you," she had said; and the year had passed and Rankin still loved her.

He was standing by the same Ad-ironacks lake where they had met twelve months before. It was a cool day in July; the wind was skimming over the surface of the water, the pines rustled, a loon was crying far away. Everything in nature had contributed to make that day one for perfect remembrance. And it was the same today as it had been.

She was secretary to the president of a corporation, Rankin had learned, and she was recovering from a serious illness. Their hotels were separated by half a mile of undergrowth which covered the projecting flank of Big Mountain. They had met at the point of the lake where Rankin fished, and he had ventured a "good-morning." After that their acquaintance was a rapid one, and love perched in the background till, growing bolder, he stood between them.

"Those days of meeting! That delicious happiness of love confessed! This was no flirtation. They were made for each other. But she would not tell him her name, nor let him come to her hotel.

"I have a very good reason," she answered when he protested. "You must not try to find out anything more about me now. But if you can love me for a whole year, then I will marry you."

"And never know who you are?" he cried.

"O, I'm nobody mysterious, just a plain workaday woman," she answered, smiling.

"And when the year has passed?" "I shall be here next year. I shall wait for you here—let me see, today is July 28. A year from today."

And all his pleas were unavailing. Despair alternated with unspeakable happiness. He praised her beauty, her eyes, blue as the lake water; her hair, soft as yellow silk; her gait, her gestures, all intoxicated him. She heard his compliments musingly, and with a slight frown.

"If you could love me—I mean me, apart from these external things," she sighed.

"I adore you," insisted Rankin. That was on their last day together. He



Stood Staring at His Trophy.

gathered her into his arms and, kissing her, knew that his love was truly returned.

A trout leaped in the lake among the lily pads, and Rankin drew a length of line from his reel.

"I believe I'll have a cast for that fellow," he said, and raised his rod and threw it forward. The line caught behind him. Rankin heard a stifled cry and turned. Upon the barbed fly was the girl's hat, and, under it, a complete toupee of hair.

Before he could stir, the girl, with a low cry, pressed her hands to her head and darted into the undergrowth. Rankin heard it crackle as she ran; then the crackling died away and he stood staring at his hideous trophy.

He understood now what she meant by her disparagement of his praises, and the remembrance, the rising pity, made his love truer and more intense than before. During the year that followed, throughout the fall and the long, cold winter months he dreamed perpetually of a lake studded with sunshine and a girl who stood beside him on its brink. He understood the shame in her heart, her swift disarmament by his discovery of her secret. He longed for her. He looked for her on every street, but he never encountered her.

If she came back now he would prove his fidelity. But he had little hope that she would come. Yet, because his love was stronger than his disbelief, he stood upon the wooded point of the same lake a year later and waited.

The sun dropped in the sky, the loon called, a trout leaped among the lilies, and then, sadly, he turned to go. She would not come. He had known it; and something went out of his life like the sun that suddenly went out of the sky. And then—she stood before him.

"You!" he exclaimed, catching her by the hands and looking at her with utter incredulity.

"You!" she answered, and the joy in her face reflected that upon his own. "O, I never dreamed that you would come."

"Then why did you come?" asked Rankin.

"Because I had pledged my word," she answered. "But you—why have you come here? Surely—surely—"

her voice was tremulous—"that was all a jest last year."

"I have come back to prove that it was no jest," Rankin answered.

"No," she cried, and her cheeks grew scarlet, "you have come back because you are an honorable man."

You think you are pledged. But you cannot want to marry me now." Her voice fell. "You can't want to marry me after—after that," she whispered.

"But I do want you," he answered, taking her by the hands. "I love you just as much, I have dreamed of this meeting all through the months of our separation. Do you think my love is so weak that it is to be influenced by that unhappy accident? If you had never told me, but married me, and I had discovered it afterward, I should have been just as glad."

She faced him squarely, looking full into his eyes. "Suppose I put you to the test," she said. "Dare you look upon me now—as I am—and then say that you wish to marry me?"

"I am ready," Rankin answered quietly. "But surely it is not necessary to put me to such a test as that. It would only cause unnecessary suffering to you. Take me at my word as I took you at yours."

For answer she unpinned her hat and placed it on the ground. Then she shook out her hair, fold upon fold of rippling beauty, till it enveloped her to the waist. She swept it back carelessly and looked tauntingly at him.

"Take it," she said, and held out the glittering strands. Rankin stood watching her, his arms folded; it was, indeed, the supreme test of a man's love, to see his sweetheart disfigured, shorn, her beauty suddenly become grotesque.

Suddenly, with an impetuous motion she flung her arms round him.

"O, my dear, I believe in you now," she cried. "Listen! I told you I had been very ill with typhoid last summer. They cut my hair when I was unconscious. Then I came up here to get well, and—and I wore a wig. And when you discovered my secret I thought I would die of mortification. That, too, was why I wouldn't tell you anything then. But now, my dear, I don't have to wear a toupee, because my hair is mine—do you understand? I can't cause you any humiliation or regrets because—"

"Because I love you," answered Rankin, and the loon's distant laugh seemed less ironical than usual.

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CURIOS CONDENSATIONS.

Texas has 1,034,000 milch cows. There are 721,813 school children in Kentucky.

West Africa in 1912 produced 11,890 bales of cotton. (England) machine shop employs 10,000 men.

New York's mine output in 1912 was valued at \$35,519,382.

In 1912 some 751 ocean vessels were built in German yards.

Missouri in 1912 produced 24,500 tons of barytes, valued at \$117,025.

Washington provides huge stationary umbrellas for traffic policemen.

The new Atlantic coast port of Uruguay is to be named Atlántida. Nebraska expects a 1913 wheat yield of more than thirty bushels to the acre.

German railroads in 1912 received \$474,000,000 from freight traffic. There are now more than two million farmers in the United States using the telephone.

A press weighing 12,000,000 tons has been manufactured in England for bending armor plate.

The newest skyscraper in New York is to be 750 feet high and to consist of 55 stories. It will be only 50 yards shorter than the Eiffel tower.

The foreign commerce of Uruguay in 1912 passed the \$100,000,000 mark, while more recent returns promise that during the current year even those figures will be exceeded.

Every boat engaged in the Jamaican sponge industry has a water glass or pane of glass inserted in the bottom of a box or bucket, through which the sponges are readily detected.

California prune exports in the ten months ending April 30, 1913, were 106,000,000 pounds, and raise exports 27,000,000 pounds, both being about forty per cent. more than in the previous year and about one hundred per cent. more than in 1911.

Heat Pointers for Blondes. It's easy to keep cool and not mind the heat if you know how. Here are some hints from an English physician.

"Being cool," he says, "is largely a condition of mind. Keep still, watch what you eat and drink, avoid meat, ventilate your clothes as well as your home, bathe freely and avoid extremes of heat and cold in the water. Kill the fly and don't get chilled at night.

"If you are a blond, avoid the bright lights, because they are rich in chemical ether waves. In persons that have considerable pigment in their skins—in brunettes—these short, rapid, actinic waves are transformed into long and slow heat waves. These actinic waves have a deleterious effect on the nervous system of those whose skin cannot reduce their potency.

"Blondes should avoid sunlight as much as possible, and when they do go out they should wear colored glasses, hats with orange lining and their clothes outside should be white, to reflect the heat rays. Their underwear should be colored, preferably orange or blue. This is to protect the skin."

Household Cavalry. King George's review of the Household Cavalry recently was the first which has taken place since Queen Victoria reviewed the crack troop in 1880.

The Household Cavalry consists of the First and Second Life Guards and the Horse Guards. It is their duty to guard the royal residences and attend upon the king when he appears in public. On state occasions, the picturesque yeomen of the guard also are employed as a royal bodyguard. They consist of more than 100 officers and men, and wear the quaint uniform of the Tudor period, the same uniform that has been worn since this corps first was established by Henry VII.

Thought Cows Were Mourning. It was Tommy's first day in the country, and everything surprised him. About sunset one day a herd of cows returning from pasture came following their leader slowly and solemnly in single file along the forest path within sight of Tommy and his mother. After watching them for some time in silence the little city boy exclaimed: "Oh, mother, is it a cow funeral?"

Physicians Recommend Castoria

CASTORIA has met with pronounced favor on the part of physicians, pharmaceutical societies and medical authorities. It is used by physicians with results most gratifying. The extended use of Castoria is unquestionably the result of three facts: *First*—The indisputable evidence that it is harmless; *Second*—That it not only allays stomach pains and quiets the nerves, but assimilates the food; *Third*—It is an agreeable and perfect substitute for Castor Oil. It is absolutely safe. It does not contain any Opium, Morphine, or other narcotic and does not stupefy. It is unlike Soothing Syrups, Bateman's Drops, Godfrey's Cordial, etc. This is a good deal for a Medical Journal to say. Our duty, however, is to expose danger and record the means of advancing health. The day for poisoning innocent children through greed or ignorance ought to end. To our knowledge, Castoria is a remedy which produces composure and health, by regulating the system—not by stupefying it—and our readers are entitled to the information.—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

Letters from Prominent Physicians addressed to Chas. H. Fletcher.

Dr. B. Halstead Scott, of Chicago, Ill., says: "I have prescribed your Castoria often for infants during my practice, and find it very satisfactory."

Dr. William Belmont, of Cleveland, Ohio, says: "Your Castoria stands first in its class. In my thirty years of practice I can say I never have found anything that so filled the place."

Dr. J. H. Taft, of Brooklyn, N. Y., says: "I have used your Castoria and found it an excellent remedy in my household and private practice for many years. The formula is excellent."

Dr. R. J. Hamlen, of Detroit, Mich., says: "I prescribe your Castoria extensively, as I have never found anything to equal it for children's troubles. I am aware that there are imitations in the field, but I always see that my patients get Fletcher's."

Dr. Wm. J. McCrann, of Omaha, Neb., says: "As the father of thirteen children I certainly know something about your great medicine, and aside from my own family experience I have in my years of practice found Castoria a popular and efficient remedy in almost every home."

Dr. J. R. Clausen, of Philadelphia, Pa., says: "The name that your Castoria has made for itself in the tens of thousands of homes blessed by the presence of children, scarcely needs to be supplemented by the endorsement of the medical profession, but I, for one, most heartily endorse it and believe it an excellent remedy."

Dr. R. M. Ward, of Kansas City, Mo., says: "Physicians generally do not prescribe proprietary preparations, but in the case of Castoria my experience, like that of many other physicians, has taught me to make an exception. I prescribe your Castoria in my practice because I have found it to be a thoroughly reliable remedy for children's complaints. Any physician who has raised a family, as I have, will join me in heartiest recommendation of Castoria."

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