

# FARM ANIMALS

## PROTECTION OF FEEDER HOGS

Department of Agriculture Conducts System of Vaccination Against Hog Cholera.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

In an effort to protect the swine industry of the country against the possibility of introducing sick hogs into well herds, and at the same time to permit the shipment from stock yards of stocker and feeder hogs, the United States department of agriculture conducts a system of vaccination against cholera as a part of its inspection service at the various stock yard centers. More than 324,000 hogs were immunized for shipment as stockers and feeders from stock yards of 18 cities during the six months from July to December, 1918, inclusive. To accom-



Inoculating a Hog With Cholera Serum.

plish this without spreading disease, in the face of all the attendant dangers, required, of course, such close care that the wisdom of some phases of the inspection system may not have been always apparent to all concerned.

With swine moving by railroads and trainloads from producing areas into public stock yards of the country, says the statement, the pens of such yards are inevitably infected with the common swine diseases, of which cholera is the most important. Owing to this condition federal regulations formerly required the slaughter of swine received, but after the serum and virus treatment against hog cholera was standardized the possibility of re-shipping immature hogs for further feeding resulted in a modification of the rules. Under the plan now in force swine properly vaccinated and disinfected may be reshipped for any purpose, including breeding.

Immunizing hogs against cholera is a veterinary procedure, including the preventive-serum treatment, taking of temperatures and observing the condition of the animal during the test period. Necessarily the official regulations are of technical character, and it has come to the attention of the department of agriculture that in some cases the rules have been misinterpreted so as to make them appear responsible for fluctuation in the stock-hog market.

For the information of the public, the bureau of animal industry outlines briefly the method of inspection:

All public stock yards are considered to be infected and swine are, therefore, exposed to the contagion from the time of their entry into the yards; consequently it is important that they be immunized promptly after arrival at such yards, to protect them against contracting the disease.

For that reason the department opposes the immunization of swine that have been so exposed for more than five days. Hogs, though they may not show physical symptoms of cholera, may in some instances be affected with the disease to such an extent that immunization will not protect them.

It is not permissible to immunize swine for immediate shipment interstate if they show symptoms of contagious or infectious disease.

If a considerable percentage of the animals in a lot is found to have high temperatures, the possible presence of such disease is indicated and the animals are not immunized or permitted to be shipped interstate. It is possible to have hogs with high temperatures as a result of conditions surrounding the shipment to market, in which case they will return to normal within a short time.

## LIVE STOCK NOTES

Start training the colt early.

A farrowing rail in the pen is a good thing to protect the young pigs.

Pigs will die if allowed access to their dams after weaning. The old milk is poisonous.

Until the lambs are about three weeks old they should be fed four times daily, one-half pint of milk being given each lamb at each feed.

## WORDS HAVE MANY MEANINGS

Imagination Cuts Big Figure When Terms of More or Less Pictorialness Are Employed.

An amusing and plausible analysis has been made of the way many people in the United States use and understand the words "ranch," "plantation" and "farm." In the imagination of easterners, says the analyst in effect, a plantation or a ranch suggests wide acres and a gentleman on horseback riding about to oversee their cultivation by picturesque hirelings, whereas a farm suggests a comparatively small field of growing vegetables personally conducted to harvest by a plain man in overalls. Yet many a ranch or plantation is no bigger than a small farm, and many a large farm is as big as a corresponding plantation or ranch; and the word "gentleman" fits as many farmers as ranchers or planters. The farm, however, says this observer, may easily get into society by being spoken of in the plural; and all the farmer needs to do to attain this distinction is to build a fence across his land and then call it the Something-or-other Farms. —Christian Science Monitor.

## No More Dark Continent.

One may no longer believe in the existence of a strange white people in Africa. Rider Haggard's splendid race is probably only the Bahima, originally discovered by Speke in southwestern Uganda. At least Sir Harry Johnston claims to have discovered in them the clue to many of the mysterious white-race legends found in the dark continent. He was engaged in nothing more thrilling than a tour of inspection of Ankole when he came across them. They are of a very light complexion, and are the aristocrats of this region. Sir Harry holds that they are obviously descendants from a Gala, Somali or other Hamitic stock, and adds that some of them are more like Egyptians than is the case with Galas and Somalis. Romance disappears before the tread of the explorer. The dark continent is dark no more.

## Sir Redvers Buller's Ghost Story.

Some time after the Franco-German war of 1870, writes Lady Buller in an English paper, Sir Redvers (then Captain) Buller left England to visit the battlefields, and on arriving at the town of — gave directions that his letters should not be forwarded, and started on his tour of inspection. After he had been away some days, he awoke suddenly one night, thinking he saw Lord Wolseley (then Sir Garnet), and that he heard him say: "I wonder where that fellow Buller is. I can't think why he has not answered my letter." This so impressed him that he returned at once to the town of —, where he found a letter awaiting him from Lord Wolseley, saying that he must return to London immediately, as an expedition against the Ashantees was imminent.

## Famous Sapphires.

Fine sapphires are more valuable than diamonds of equal weight and quality, only rubies being more precious. But ruby crystals (in the rough) are rarely more than half an inch long, whereas those of sapphire occasionally reach three inches. Most prized are the "velvet blue" sapphire and those of "cornflower" tint.

One of the most famous gems of this variety is the "wooden spoon sapphire," which gets its name from the circumstance that it was picked up by Ceylonese dealers in wooden spoons, according to an exchange. A while ago it was in the Hope collection. It is violet by day but red by artificial light.

## DID NOT QUITE UNDERSTAND

But Mrs. Smithers Meant Well, and No Doubt Her Good Intentions Are of Record.

On one side of the hall in the new apartment building lived Mr. and Mrs. Smithers; on the other side of the hall lived two girls who taught in the public schools and who were having their first experience in "baking it." Mrs. Smithers didn't know them very well, but she took a motherly interest in them to the extent of hoping that they had enough to eat and that their necessarily hasty and amateurish spread would not give them indigestion.

The other day, out of kindness of heart, she took them a batch of fresh biscuits she had just baked. And while she was there, she showed them how to use the stove, gave them some hints on marketing, wrote down a lot of recipes for simple viands, and gave them a lecture on food values and the preparation of leftovers.

They were very grateful to the dear lady, and they told us all about it. And they made us promise solemnly that we would never tell her that they were teachers of domestic science. —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

## Start of Big Industry.

Upon the invention of a machine for sewing leather shoes, for which the patent was issued to Gordon McKay, April 20, 1862, was built the great boot and shoe industry of the United States. McKay purchased, in 1859, Blake's sewing machine, which was one simply using wax thread, with a stationary horn attached. While the machine intended for sewing boots and shoes operated well in parts of the work, it failed in stitching the heels and toes. McKay changed the feeding apparatus, introduced automatic contrivances, and finally was successful in adapting it to all kinds of work. After the breaking out of the Civil war, McKay began to make army shoes, and in 1862 made contracts with 62 firms for their use. In 1876, 1,500 were in operation. These machines have been used in foreign countries, and more than 100,000,000 shoes are annually made on them in the United States.

## Fashion.

Manners have been somewhat cynically defined to be a contrivance of wise men to keep fools at a distance. Fashion is shrewd to detect those who do not belong to her train, and seldom wastes her attentions. Society is very swift in its instincts, and, if you do not belong to it, resists and sneers at you, or quietly drops you. The first weapon enrages the party attacked; the second is still more effective, but is not to be resisted, as the date of the transaction is not easily found. People grow up and grow old under this infliction, and never suspect the truth, ascribing the solitude which acts on them very injuriously to any cause but the right one. —Ralph Waldo Emerson.

## Queer Notions.

It is a superstition that as soon as a death takes place in a house, all the looking glasses should be covered up or turned with the face to the wall if they are hanging glasses, and must remain covered or reversed till the body has been taken out to burial, and that no person left in the house must on any account look in the glasses during the time between death and funeral. It is strange, and somewhat akin to the idea, that it is safe to cover looking glasses during a thunderstorm. I never knew of a looking glass which was known to have drawn a lightning "stroke," though the same is possible. Queer notions are often founded on facts. —Yorkshire Post Correspondent.

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