

FARM NEWS

BIG DEMAND FOR BREEDING STOCK

The recent strength of hog prices has greatly stimulated the demand for breeding stock. Apparently many producers feel that it is a good time to lay stress on quality. The 28th annual spring sale of registered bred sows held at Regina on March 25th by the Saskatchewan Swine Breeders' Association reflected the current optimistic trend, for the average of \$137.85 was the second highest in history. The champion sow netted a record \$400 for the owners, Charles Harlton & Son of Belle Plaine, Saskatchewan. Reports from hog survey correspondents across the country indicate that the demand for bred sows and feeder pigs is very keen at present, with prices sharply higher and not too many available.

In the United States, despite relatively high beef prices, per capita consumption of beef has increased more over pre-war figures than pork. This is attributed by some authorities to the American preference for beef over pork, in which the excessively fat cuts from lard hogs is a factor. Recently meat-type hogs have been commanding a premium on U.S. markets.

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Consumption Increase In Pork, Canned Meat

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics recently released the following estimates of per capita consumption of meats in Canada in 1952, with corresponding averages for 1935-1939 in brackets: beef 44.8 lb. (54.7 lb.); veal 6.7 lb. (10.5 lb.); Muttons and lamb 1.9 lb. (5.6 lb.); pork 62.2 lb. (39.8 lb.); offals 5.4 lb. (5.8 lb.); canned meats 7.2 lb. (1.9 lb.).

The estimates are based upon the production in inspected channels, which is definitely known, plus estimates of the amount produced in non-inspected channels and killed on farms. The latter figures are never definitely known, but can be approximated from census data and other records. At the moment previous estimates for 1951 and other recent years are being revised to make them more comparable with 1952 figures.

It is of interest to note that compared to pre-war consumption figures, pork and canned meats show quite sizeable increases, while consumption of beef, veal, lamb and offals has declined. The substantial price rise in beef relative to pork since the war placed pork in a strong competitive position for a share of the consumer's dollar but recently beef prices have been returning to a more normal relation-

Wilkins Brothers Show Travelogue of India

So popular was the travelogue "India Beyond the Khyber" presented here by the Wilkins Brothers last week, that arrangements are already underway to have a return visit in the fall when the brothers will tell about the last half of their trip "The Far East."

Under sponsorship of the Stone School Association, a full house greeted Warren and Douglas Wilkins in the Legion Auditorium. These young University of Toronto graduates have made a hobby of travel and have visited 65 different countries and crossed the Atlantic fifteen times.

Their last trip, made in a second hand Land Rover, an English jeep, started in August, 1951. They worked their passage to Europe on a Norwegian freighter, and began a 25,000 mile overland journey to the Far East, taking coloured movies along the way which have been cleverly edited to bring a fresh and frank viewpoint not usually seen on the moving picture screen today.

The brothers, accomplished commentators, each took half of the show on the platform. A few glimpses of England, France, Turkey and Afghanistan introduced the main part of the travelogue. In India, the boys photographed cities, maharajahs, holy men of Benares, a tiger hunt, snake charmers, mosques, and the man on the street. Parked outside the Legion Hall was their jeep on which they have painted a small flag of each country visited and in which they still travel extensively in their lecture tours.

A novel feature of the evening was recordings made in India of native music, which were played during and intermission.

The brothers have been interested in travel since their early teens. Previous travelogues have dealt with a hitchhiking trip to Panama and another trip to Egypt.

Mr. Warren Wilkins will be married this summer to Miss Ann Walker, whose family has a summer home at Limehouse.

New Blood Test Found To Detect Diseases

Doctors in the near future may have a new blood test that will detect the presence of various diseases and also measure the effectiveness of different methods of medical treatment.

The basis for the new blood test, known as the "universal reaction," comes from 25 years of continuous effort by Dr. Reuben L. Kahn, developer of the "Kahn test" and chief of the serology laboratory at the University of Michigan.

The following is a simplified explanation of how Dr. Kahn's "universal reaction" works: 1) in a normal, healthy individual, there is daily tissue wear and tear resulting in the death of certain body tissue cells; 2) when the cells are thus destroyed, they break up and release their contents into body fluids, including the blood stream; 3) certain fat-like substances called "lipids" are part of the released cell contents; (4) some of these "lipids" become foreign to the body tissues and call forth the production of antibodies, presumably to neutralize or destroy the lipids; and 5) presence of these antibodies is measured by the "universal reaction."

Being A Little Grimy Is Fun To Youngster

Bathing regularly may be a custom in the United States, but it is hard to make a little boy believe it. Children between the ages of three and twelve seem almost to prefer being a little grimy.

It helps if parents remember that the dislike of dirtiness is a taste that is developed slowly. The youngster should be given "fair warning" of the impending bath so that he will have time to finish what he is doing and get adjusted to the idea. Parents should "compromise" on the number of baths Junior is to take weekly, in order to enlist his cheerful cooperation. By the time they reach junior high school age, boys begin to take an interest in cleanliness and appearance, and are probably ready to accept daily bathing as a matter of course.

Fed by Agency

In one part of 1950's world, men's efforts had considerable success in rendering thousands of children homeless and orphaned. But in other areas, at least, other men were ministering to the youthful victims of past wars and civil wars on an unprecedented scale. To more than 2,400,000 children in Greece, Yugoslavia, and the Middle East, agents of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund last year doled out one good meal a day. Elsewhere they set up dairy machinery capable of supplying safe milk to 4,000,000 youngsters, vaccinated over 11,000,000 kids against tuberculosis, provided enough cotton, wool and leather to give 5,000,000 children an article of clothing or a pair of shoes—sometimes both.

New Insecticide

A new insecticide, heptachlor, looks so promising that more than a million pounds of it will be made before it is announced to the public. A close relative of chlordane, it has the advantage of being an effective insect killer outdoors, without remaining poisonous as long as chlordane. At a concentration of 1/10 pound of actual heptachlor per acre, grasshoppers were killed completely, while 4 ounces to the acre killed such tough pests as cotton boll weevil and thrips.

Paint—Then and Now

The forerunner of the modern living room was known in Colonial days as the "keeping room" or "sitting room." Its paneled and painted walls, beamed ceiling and wide board floor—scrubbed white or painted—has set the style for many a living room today. The keeping room was sometimes the great kitchen, but generally it was the best room in the house, placed in front of the kitchen.

Hammurabi Had It

Although the average man today seems to regard inflation as a relatively current problem designed deliberately for his personal harassment, research experts point out that the problem of inflation has been with us for almost four thousand years. In fact, it started way back in the days of King Hammurabi, literally the moment money was introduced as a common medium of exchange in the Babylonian marts of trade.

Way Back When

The Anglo-Saxons held the month of April sacred to Eostre, goddess of the teeming life that bloomed anew in the spring. Her great festival was celebrated by the exchange of (colored) eggs which were the heathen symbol for the beginning of life. With the advent of Christianity, the pagan custom evolved in England into the beautiful festival of Christian significance observed with the gladness of a new solemnity and called Easter.

Owls Have Talents

Owls have other talents beside their ability to see in the dark. They are as swift as swallows in flight, and as sensitive to sound as a radio receiving set.

—Don't forget "Peanut Day" is coming. Auspices the Lions Club.

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