

meal. As a general policy meal is fed with whey to all pigs, varying with the supply of other food available and the necessity of topping off stores. Molasses constitute a good winter standby for whey or skim milk, being mixed with water and fed out for about three months.

"It is impossible to lay down hard-and-fast rules in pig feeding," Mr. Reid explained; "it all varies according to how you have to sell your pigs. You have to watch your costs, the supply of whey, the number of pigs on hand, and the market to decide what you are going to do from time to time. With winter feed supplies the whey man can often turn his pigs off most profitably as large stores to be fattened on skim milk, but it depends on the market a lot."

In 1944 production has been favoured by an additional supply of dairy by-product secured from a factory on a basis not involving any cash costs. This has amounted to an average of about 5 cans of whey per day during the dairy season to augment the supply from the 140 cows on the farm. In the past winter, mainly in June and July, about 6 cans of separated

milk have been available every second day from the same source.

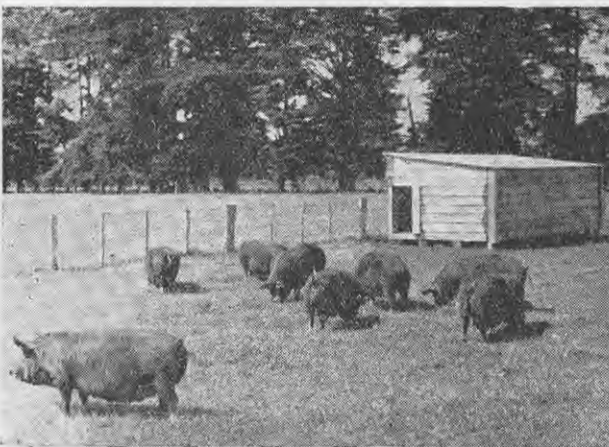
Excluding pigs sold as sows, boars, and choppers, the net sales returns from 89 pigs carried through the winter of 1943 amounted to £346. Those carried through the winter of 1944 have netted £397 16s. and 7 sows and 5 boars remain on hand. In August there were 20 sows on hand, 16 of them Canadian Berkshire, 2 Duroc, and 2 Large White. It is proposed to experiment with the Duroc and Canadian Berkshire cross to see how they measure up to export requirements.

"You must have good sows," Mr. Reid said. "Farmers know they have to have good cows, why not good sows? The same applies to boars. You have to feed cows right to get the results and that goes for pigs too, yet you sometimes see a man with plenty of hay, silage, and crops for his cows in the winter while the pigs starve. If everyone was as particular about pigs as they are about cows, production and profits would be much greater.

"The co-operation of the farmer is very necessary, because you must have a good layout and finance to build it. If a share-milker has that, it's up to him for his own benefit and not many would fail to respond."

It would not be proper to conclude this account without paying a tribute to the thorough manner in which the use of crops and meal has been planned and executed, especially in view of what was at the time a pioneer undertaking. As an example of the enthusiasm obvious to a visitor one might instance a book kept recording all manner of information concerning the sows—their earmarks, breeding and origin, date of services, the number in the litter, and the number weaned. Not only has the venture been a financial success, but every satisfaction has been gained from the fact that for several years the only loss from disease has been a partial carcass condemnation, but never a death.

The evidence on this farm would absolutely recommend the use of pig crops to any farmer prepared to work along similar lines.



The illustrations on this page show the general layout of Mr. Reid's piggery and some of the stock and feeding methods. In the general layout note the double-unit houses and the method of avoiding mud by spreading gravel in each pen 20ft. back from the central race.