

On the Land

Mr. D. Prouse, of West Eyreton, has threshed from a fifteen-acre crop of this season's linseed 13½ tons.

Statistics show that of the 140 odd million pigs in the world, only 4,022,159 were credited to the United Kingdom, and of these Ireland possesses 1,200,005.

Imports of bacon and its allied products into the United Kingdom represent a value of £20,000,000. In addition to these, lard, to the value of £4,250,000, comes from foreign countries.

The 'feel' of the hide and coat in dairy cattle is of great importance. The hide of a good milker should be thin, elastic, and loose, also soft and pliable to the touch. The coat should have plenty of soft hair.

In an experiment with potato growing at Mount Barker, South Australia, a considerable difference in growth between seed that was boxed and that which was not boxed was noticed. The boxed seed came up in eight days, while the other took twelve days to come through.

Mr. D. Buddo, M.P., thinks that every farmer and every farm have special features. It was not always possible to rear the same kind of live stock on closely-adjointing farms, by reason of the condition of the soil or situation of the land, and he contended that experts could only in some instances give general, and not special, directions on stock-rearing, or what land should produce. He instanced, also, that for this reason some farmers succeeded on farms upon which others had failed, by a better practical acquaintance with the capabilities of the soil and its treatment.

There was an improvement in prices for lambs, fat sheep, and fat cattle at Burnside last week, as compared with previous sale. The yarding of fat cattle totalled 189, consisting chiefly of cows and heifers. Prime bullocks sold up to 10s a head better than previous week; best cows and heifers, £7 to £8 10s; extra heavy, £12 10s to £13 17s 6d; medium to good, £8 to £9 5s. There was a yarding of 3675 fat sheep. The bulk was made up of ewes—chiefly good to prime. Prime wethers met good competition at prices 1s per head in advance of late values. Best wethers, 19s to 21s; extra, 22s to 23s 6d; medium to good, 17s to 18s. The fat lambs forward totalled 2016. There were a large number of good to prime suitable for export, and these met with good competition. Prime lambs, 15s 6d to 17s 6d; extra prime, 18s to 19s 9d; medium, 13s to 15s. The pigs penned numbered 157. Porkers and baconers had not the keen demand experienced lately, and prices were 5s to 10s lower.

At the Addington sale last week there were large entries of fat sheep and lambs, good entries of store sheep, and an average yarding in the other departments. Fat cattle met with a dragging sale; store sheep of all classes sold well; fat lambs were a shade easier; fat sheep were firmer; and pigs, and store and dairy cattle sold well. The entries of fat cattle aggregated 185. The yarding consisted largely of stores, mostly of a useful class. Steers realised £7 15s to £11 15s; heifers, £5 5s to £11 12s 6d. There was an exceedingly large yarding of fat sheep, including a good proportion of very prime wethers and ewes. The bulk of the entry consisted of good average freezing wethers and ewes. The market opened a bit slack, but later on competition on the part of export buyers became keener, and prices for wethers were very firm. Ewes fit for freezing, and heavy weights also sold well. The range of prices was: Prime wethers, 18s to 21s; extra, to 30s; others, 15s 10d to 17s 6d. There was a very large entry of fat lambs, totalling 10,154. Competition lacked the keenness shown the previous week, and the sale was somewhat irregular, prices, even for prime quality, being easier by about 6d per head. The range of prices was: Togs, 17s 3d to 19s 7d; extra, to 20s 10d; average weights, 14s to 17s. Fat pigs were represented in a moderate entry, and there was a good demand, bid-

dings being free. Choppers realised 60s to 80s, one pig of extra good quality and weight making £5 14s. Heavy baconers made 62s 6d to 70s, and lighter sorts 50s to 60s—equal to 5½d per lb.

ADVANTAGES OF LIMING.

The great majority of soils are deficient in lime, and are consequently benefited by its application. Lime does not enrich land of itself, but brings the plant food in the soil and added manures into effective activity. If the crop does not show a great improvement by the liming of the soil, it is a sign that neither the crop nor the soil is in immediate need of lime. But if the crop is greatly helped, or is increased very much by the liming, it is an indication that the soil is still too much in need of lime, or rather of the benefits which lime confers, to make the after crops as yet a complete success.

Lime is useful by its chemical action, and its physical effects on soils. Lime is necessary to plant growth, and if it is wholly lacking in soils, even though an abundance of all other essential elements is present, the plant cannot materially improve. The physical condition of the lime is that it liberates the potash which exists in soils and places it at the disposal of plants. If a soil containing a certain amount of inert phosphate of iron also is limed, this phosphate will be changed into a form which the plant can utilise. Lime further helps to unlock stores of phosphoric acid in certain soils which plants would otherwise be unable to use.

Retentive soils which become water-logged in wet weather and caked in dry are difficult to till, and liming, by its physical effects, is a preventive or remedy for these unfavorable conditions. Upon certain loamy soils, containing considerable clay, liming renders the surface more friable and less liable to form a crust upon drying. It also allows the water from heavy rains to sink into the soil, and thus prevents surface washing, and the consequent carrying away of the finer particles. Sandy soils are rendered more compact by liming. On such soils pulverised lime is preferable to crushed, burnt lime and clay marl, where it can be obtained, containing a fair amount of carbonates of lime, is considered even a better material for the purpose. The clay as well as the lime tends to materially improve the physical condition of the soil.

HOUSING PIGS.

We do not all seem to realise the fact that the pig of all the domestic animals is the one that requires the most shelter and warmth to thrive. This is of course due to the fact that its skin is more or less naked, and looking at the opposite extreme in the case of the sheep with its thick coat of wool one can understand that cold and exposure which would only be bracing to a sheep might easily kill a pig. Some of the breeds have a little hair on them. The aboriginal wild pig was a hairy animal, but the ordinary breeds have little protection from either sun or frost. In yards or fields where the animal is free to rove about it will always find a warm bed for itself by burying into a heap of straw, while if there are several together they will crowd one another for the sake of the general warmth. Equally so when the sun is hot on a summer's day they will seek the shade. In a closed-in house and pen, however, they have to take the shelter that is given them, and therefore plenty of litter is of the first moment. At the same time, the pens must lie to the sun so that they may get warmth and light as well as shade and cover.

If you were I and I were you,
And I were well and you had 'flu,'
What would you do?
Would you regain your health like me,
By the same means that set me free
From coughs and colds?
Why to be sure!
By taking Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.