

## Check Health Status Of Swine Additions

From time to time, commercial pork producers find it necessary to introduce new bloodlines into their herds. The health of individual animals, as well as health of the herd from which they originate, is important and should be evaluated before the purchase is finalized, says Dr. P. G. Oliver, swine diseases consultant, Veterinary Services Branch, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Producers should make enquiries about the health status of herds supplying breeding animals. Herds involved in government performance testing programs are inspected by veterinarians of the Veterinary Services Branch.

Dr. Oliver emphasizes that the inspection is only a visual appraisal. When a herd is given an inspection report indicating that the herd health is satisfactory, it does not mean that the herd is disease free.

It indicates only that the herd at the time of inspection did not exhibit signs of a disease which might endanger the health of other herds.

In order to reduce the risk of disease being introduced into a herd by new additions, producers should consider the following recommendations:

Maintain a closed herd - raise your own replacement animals.

Use artificial insemination.

If you purchase animals from other herds, obtain as much information as possible regarding herd health. Isolate all additions for 30 days.

## THE Washday ADVICE BUREAU



Mildew stains can be removed by pre-soaking in Borateem and hottest water fabric can take.

## Preparing for Winter

MILDEW is caused by spores of molds, always present in the air. In warm, humid weather, experienced by most of Canada during the summer months, these spores flourish on any substance providing the simple nutrients they require. They grow on leather, paper, wood and textiles, especially in places that are poorly ventilated and lighted.

The stains and discoloration molds cause are often apparent on winter clothing that has been stored away for the summer. Their presence is often accompanied by a musty odor.

To prevent mildew on clothes, ensure that they are stored away clean, in a dry and well-ventilated place. Even mildew-resistant synthetics can be attacked if they are allowed to lie around damp and soiled. Food stains, particularly, are prime spots for mildew to strike.

Clothes that have recently become mildewed can be treated, and success is quite possible especially with washable fabrics, except where the fabric itself is eaten away. Brush off spots of mildew, preferably in the open air to avoid scattering spores, then

air and sun thoroughly. Borax or a borax-based additive with a bacteriostat will help retard mildew development. Pre-soak clothes with one cup of Borateem in the hottest water the fabric will take and launder in the usual fashion with plenty of suds.

Musty odors may or may not accompany mildew. They usually result from the same set of circumstances - damp and improper storage. Sometimes just hanging things out in the open air will serve to dispel these odors. If not, dryclean if necessary, or wash in hottest water suitable for fabrics, using a concentrated detergent such as Twenty Mule Team.

Often a thorough airing and sufficient heating will serve to eliminate mold growth in those areas of your house where mildew has been forming on your stored items. Where there is a serious problem, you could either buy a dehumidifier, or consider using a chemical moisture absorber such as silica gel, activated alumina or calcium chloride. These can be obtained from drugstores and department stores under various trade names.

In Ontario many herds enrolled under the Certified Herd Policy for swine represent good sources of new bloodlines, says Dr. Oliver. The principal breeds are available and many of the herds are performance tested. These enrolled Specific Pathogen Free (S.P.F.) herds are isolated from conventional herds and are inspected regularly.

In addition, postmortem examinations of heads and lungs are made for the presence of atrophic rhinitis

formance and loss of income to the owner.

Infected nursing pigs grow poorly. The mange infection also leaves the young pigs susceptible to other infections.

The best method of controlling the mange mite is treatment of the entire herd. Spray treatment is preferred. Malathion, Co-Ral, Lindane and Korlan are approved products. As with all chemicals, read the label and follow the instructions carefully.

The best time to treat sows is two to three weeks before farrowing. When this is done on a regular basis, the nursing sows will be relatively clear of mites. There is also a good chance they will wean litters free, or almost free, of mange mites.

When a new herd of pigs is being established, consideration should be given to starting with Specified Pathogen Free (S.P.F.) pigs that are free of both mites and lice. These are two pests that are often overlooked when new herds are established.

If there is fear of bringing either lice or mange into existing conventional herds, replacements should also come from S.P.F. herds.

BURNETT - Mr. and Mrs. Steve Burnett of Hagersville are pleased to announce the birth of their son 9lbs. 7 ozs. on December 18 at West Haldimand General Hospital. A brother for Chuckie, Ronnie and Michael.

## No Change

Continued From Page 1

mand contained in the townships of North Cayuga, South Cayuga, Rainham, Walpole, Seneca and that part of the township of Oneida lying southeasterly of Indian Reserves No. 40 and No. 40A; the town of Caledonia; and the Villages of Cayuga, Hagersville and Jarvis; (b) the County of Norfolk excluding the town of Tillsonburg with a total population of 74,568.

## Control Of Mange In Pigs

Swine producers should be on the lookout for outbreaks of mange in their pigs, says J. G. Norrish, swine specialist with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

The common kind of mange found in Canadian pigs is caused by a mite that burrows in under the skin. The burrowing action irritates the pig, and an infested animal will rub against anything to get relief. Heavily infested pigs can severely damage pen partitions by rubbing and scratching.

The pig's skin will become red and scaly. In severe cases, the skin becomes crusty and will sometimes crack and bleed. Infection occurs on the legs, in the ears and along the sides and back of the animal.

Most conventional herds will have some degree of infection. Mild infections are not too much to worry about, says Mr. Norrish. However, when nursing pigs become heavily infected, there is a decrease in per-

## Births

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and virus pneumonia (enzootic). The herds are also free of lice and mange. Swine dysentery (bloody scours) is not a problem.

Purebred herds, not enrolled under the Certified Herd Policy for swine, do not have regular postmortem examination of heads and lungs. They are not certified to be free of rhinitis and virus pneumonia.

Dr. Oliver suggests that commercial pork producers examine the entire herd, as well as

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## Tracks For Trains

TORONTO - A rail-way right-of-way is no place for snowmobiles, warns J.W. Deck, superintendent CN police.

"Because of the noise a snowmobile makes and because most drivers wear well insulated helmets, it is almost impossible to hear an approaching train, even when its whistle is blowing," he says.

Last year, several people were apprehended for operating their snowmobiles on railway property and were subsequently prosecuted. Fines ranged from \$5 to \$100, depending on the circumstances.

## Rockford Personals

The plant in the church on Sunday morning was in memory of Andrew Buck and was placed there by the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Thomson had supper on Friday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Earl Fisher. Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Caswell and Gary spent New Year's Day with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Walker of Jarvis.

Mrs. Ivan Hall visited her mother, Mrs. Edna Parrington in Norfolk General Hospital, Simcoe on Monday afternoon.

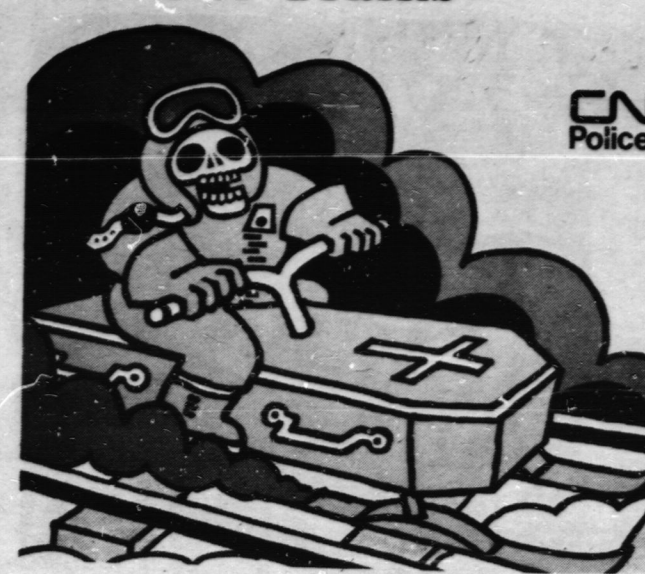
Donna Petheram is spending a few days with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Petheram of Simcoe. New Year's Day guests of Mr. and Mrs. Clair Fearman were Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Fearman, Ken and Mike of Toronto, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Fearman, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Fearman and Mr. and Mrs. Willard Marshall of Hagersville and Mrs. Wilbert Howard and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Howard.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Fisher had New Year's dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Roy Kenny.

Robina Bernard of Sarnia and Janet Bernard of Confederation College, Thunder Bay spent the Christmas holidays with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bernard and Daphne.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Johnson and family had New Year's dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Johnson, Mrs. Mildred Hammond and Dale.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Petheram and children were New Year's dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Davis of Simcoe. New Year's Day visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Don Chambers and family were Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Brazier of Brantford, Mrs. Wilbert North of Garnet, Gordon North and Wendy and Norman Willatt of Bealton.



The amended Railway Act clearly stipulates that the practice is illegal. Section 359

ed when their snowmobiles were struck by trains. Several more were injured.

## Hagersville Library News

Almost 60 children enjoyed the puppet show that was held in the Hagersville Library on Thursday, Dec. 28.

The performance of a modern version of The Night Before Christmas was followed by a variety of song and dance acts. The puppeteers, Mrs. Ann Corlis and Miss Betsy Harrison, brought the show to us from the Caledonia Public Library.

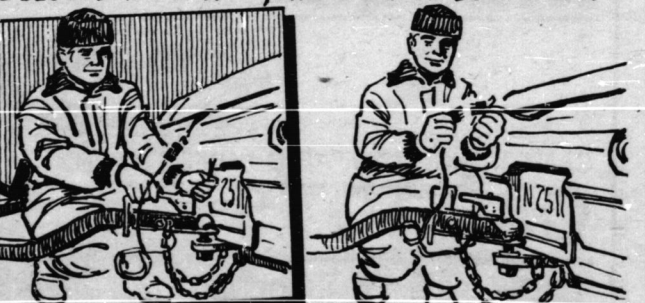
After this part of the program, Mrs. Martha Allan, president of the Hagersville Library Guild, with Mrs. Karen King and Mrs. Fran Hunter, assisted the children in making paperbag puppets to take home, using scraps of fur fabric and mat-



WHEN LOADING A SNOWMOBILE ON A TILT-BED TRAILER, THE EXPERTS AT MERCURY SNOWMOBILES RECOMMEND EITHER USE A WINCH OR PUSH IT ON BY HAND. NEVER DRIVE THE SNOWMOBILE ON TO THE TRAILER.



SECURELY TIE DOWN THE MACHINE USING NYLON ROPE, CHAIN OR RUBBER SNUBBINGS. THE SNOWMOBILE SHOULD BE SECURE IN THE BACK, FRONT AND ON BOTH SIDES.



BEFORE HEADING HOME, MAKE SURE THE TRAILER HITCH IS SECURELY FASTENED AND SAFETY CHAINS ATTACHED. CHECK TRAILER LIGHT CONNECTION, AND TEST TO SEE THAT LIGHTS WORK PROPERLY.

## Protect Baby Pigs

Scours in baby pigs is probably the most serious problem encountered by swine producers. It is an important cause of death in newborn and young pigs. These losses can be minimized, says P. Simmons, swine specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. If possible, swine producers should quarantine the pregnant sow herd and nursing sows.

A newborn pig gets immunity or resistance to disease from its mother. Within minutes after ingestion of the sow's colostrum, protective antibodies against bacteria and

disease-producing organisms are transferred to the bloodstream of the piglet. Within 24 hours the baby pig has as high immunity as the sow, but only to the specific organisms to which she is immune.

In modern, multiple farrowing units, the baby pig is exposed not only to its mother's disease germs, but also to the bacteria other sows are carrying. The baby pig has no immunity to these organisms. A sow can also become infected by these germs, to which she has no resistance. To minimize the potential danger to the sow and her pigs, producers should try to immunize all the sows against all organisms present in the pregnant sow herd.

A method has been tested by the University of Illinois and has proven successful in many swine operations. Sows that are destined for

the farrowing house at the same time are housed in close confinement for 1 week. This is done five weeks before farrowing. The sows are fed on the floor; the pens are not cleaned for that week. Sows in close contact with each other will "exchange" the disease bacteria, become infected and develop immunity through exposure.

It takes about three weeks for a sow to develop maximum resistance and to produce specific antibodies that can be passed on through the colostrum to her litter. Some of the sows may get sick, but they soon recover. It is better that they get sick at this time, rather than after the litters are born, exposing the baby pigs to disease bacteria they cannot combat.

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