

**Timely Farm Questions  
State College Answers**

Q. What equipment is needed to do a satisfactory job of butchering hogs on the farm?  
A. A sharp six- or eight-inch butcher knife, a sharp eight-inch boning knife, a smooth steel for straightening edge of knives, a good sandstone or carborundum, a hay hook for handling hog in barrel, one or two bell-shaped hog scrapers, several hog gambrel sticks or single-trees, and a saw, preferably a meat saw. In addition, you will need a kettle or vat for heating water, a barrel or tank for scalding, a wall for scraping, and some type of support for hanging up the carcass.

Q. Why should meat be smoked?  
A. The purpose of smoking is to add flavor as well as to give a more desirable appearance to the meat. Smoking also improves the keeping qualities of the meat. Hickory, hard maple, apple, and other hardwoods are satisfactory for smoking meat, although hickory has been regarded as the best. Green wood and sawdust are desirable since they give a better smoke.

Q. What procedure is recommended for smoking meat?  
A. After the meat has been removed from the brine or dry cure it should be soaked in cold water for several hours, rubbed with a clean stiff brush, and then hung to dry overnight in the smokehouse. Care should be taken to prevent the cuts of meat from touching since this will cause spoilage. It is possible to smoke meats by either of two methods. It may be smoked 24 to 48 hours at a temperature of approximately 125 to 135 degrees Fahrenheit. This will give a light mahogany-color smoke. If the meat is to be stored for summer use it is generally more satisfactory, however, to smoke it at a temperature of 80 to 100 degrees Fahrenheit, at intervals of approximately five to 10 days over a period of several weeks. After

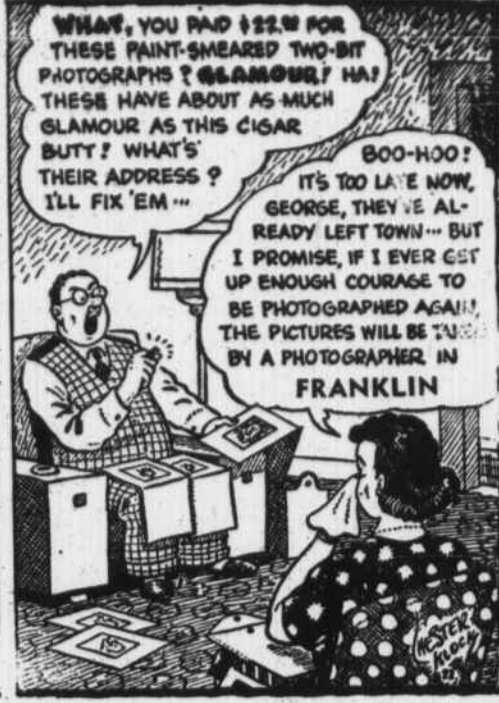
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**By HAL**



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the meat is smoked many people like to season it heavily with black pepper.

Q. What will happen if I plant some second generation hybrid corn seed?

A. You'll be cheating yourself. It is the nature of hybrids to break up in the second generation, and a big drop in yield always results. The decline in yield of both ears and fodder may run from 15 to 30 per cent. The only safe and sensible thing to do is to use only firsts.

**Wilson Takes Part In Mock War Operation**

C. E. Wilson, airman of the U. S. navy, recently participated in "Operation Combine III", a mock war conducted in north-west Florida, according to an announcement received here. Mr. Wilson is the husband of Mrs. Nora Lee Wilson, of Franklin.

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