

SUMMARY

Listeria monocytogenes in pure culture has been isolated from a bantam hen from which the virus of Newcastle disease was also obtained. The possibility of fowls and swine as "carriers" of listeria organisms is discussed.

Bibliography

- (1) Biester, H. E. Schwarte, L. H. 1948 "Diseases of Poultry"—The Iowa State College Press, Ames.
- (2) Bigland, C. H. 1950 "A Report on the Isolation of *Listeria* (*Listerella*) Organisms from a Canary and a Chicken in the Province of Alberta"—Canadian Journal of Comparative Medicine Vol. 14 No. 10 pp. 318-323.
- (3) Bolin, F. M. and Eveleth, D. F. "Listeria Monocytogenes Obtained from the Liver of a Pig Dying of Lye Poisoning"—in press, Journal American Veterinary Association.

THOSE "PUNY" VIKINGS

That Viking ship a Danish tourist association built as a stunt and rowed across the North sea to England was accurately constructed on the model of authentic Viking ships found in burial mounds and embroidered on tapestries.

Only at the last minute they had to alter it. The modern Danes who rowed in 1949 could not use the same spacing of oarlocks and rowers benches as Hengist and Horsa's Jutes did in the year 449. They found the oars kept banging into the back of the rower astern.

Modern Danes average bigger physically than the mighty Viking raiders of 15 centuries ago.

This confirms for a different century and a different land the evidence of the suits of late medieval plate armor which still exist in some quantity—but are too small for most modern men.

Measurements of school boys, army recruits, and athletes in our country suggest that this change in average size of western European man is even more widespread and quite recent. If son is bigger than dad, and dad than grandad, that isn't an optical illusion—it's history.—Des Moines Register.

FEEDING POTATOES TO BEEF CATTLE

The authors of this report studied the value of cull and surplus potatoes for fattening yearling steers. Whole fresh potatoes were fed with oats straw, a limited amount of grain, with and without linseed meal or with no grain. These rations were compared to a standard ration of grain, protein supplement and good quality hay. The steers fed the ration of grain and hay were slightly better finished and had a higher market valuation but those fed whole potatoes made considerably cheaper gains. Steers fed linseed meal with whole potatoes, straw, and a limited amount of grain were better finished than those fed the same ration without linseed meal. The greatest profit per head and the highest valuation for the potatoes fed were obtained with steers fed oat straw, whole potatoes and a limited amount of oats and barley. Cattle fed large amounts of potatoes and straw did tend to become paunchy and were therefore a slightly less desirable market animal than those fed the standard ration of grain and hay. No trouble was encountered from feeding potatoes which were rotted from disease or storage or from potatoes that had been frozen solid and later thawed out. (Abstract by Earle W. Klosterman. From a mimeographed report by A. L. Harvey and E. F. Ferrin, Div. of Animal Husbandry, Univ. of Minn.; and O. M. Kiser, H. D. Fausch, and T. M. McCall, Northwest School and Station, Crookston, Minn.)