

### Tamworth Swine.

Contrary to what most people imagine, we find that, among the improved breeds of swine, the Tamworth is one of the oldest established. Although of more recent introduction into Canada or American than others, we find that this breed of swine was introduced into England about the year 1812, by Sir Robert Peel, and were brought from Ireland during the time that he was secretary of that country for the Crown. His attention was first attracted by their distinct type, hardiness, easy-fleshing qualities, and superior quality of bacon. Among the peasant farmers of old Ireland, and noticing the affectionate relationship between Patrick and his favorite pig, Sir Robert was much interested in farming, and up to 1850, the time of his death, he kept this breed of hogs, which were called from that time the Tamworth. Under their better care and treatment,



A Typical Tamworth Sow.

they were much improved during this time, and soon became one of the established breeds of that shire or county he lived in, Tamworth, England, where they still are the most popular breed of that community. At the Royal Show, in England, they stand as one of the foremost breeds of the country, and it is no unusual occurrence to carry off the champion prize, competing against all breeds.

In just what year they were first brought to Canada we know no correct data. I find, according to the second volume of the Canadian Swine Record, the late John Bell, of Amber, Ont., was one of the first importers, and, I believe, the first exhibitor of the breed at the Toronto Exhibition, where they were much criticised and ridiculed. These were closely followed by an importation by James Calvert, of Thedford, Ont. In the early nineties, we find Canada first woke up to the important opportunity of establishing a bacon trade with England, if the prime-quality hogs were produced. Previous to this, about the only demand for pork was in a local way, and to supply the lumber shanties; the heavier and fatter the hog, the better suited for the trade. The then popular prevailing breeds of the country, Berkshire, Poland-China, Chester White and Duroc Jersey, would not suit for this high-class trade. The Ingersoll Packing-house, in search of a breed that would produce a larger percentage of prime bacon hogs, learned of the special merits of the Tamworth, and they imported a large number of boars and sows, and had them placed in the hands of farmers in that district. This experiment proved most satisfactory, the result being that the breed rapidly became popular, and were soon scattered all over the Dominion, so that in a few years they outclassed all breeds at the great exhibitions. Among the pioneer Ontario exhibitors were J. C. Nichol, of Hubrey, and the Georges, of Crampton. The writer started breeding and importing in 1893. Later came Andrew Elliott, Galt; Norman Blain, St. George, Colwill Bros., Newcastle; R. O. Morrow, Hilton, and a host of others. Of more recent years, much credit is due to Douglass Bros., Mitchell; H. German, St. George; Chas. Currie, Morriston, and many others who were fast coming to the front and making grand exhibits at our large exhibitions. That the Tamworths have done much to revolutionize the correct type of bacon hogs in this country is beyond dispute by one who has been a close observer of the swine industry. A typical Tamworth hog is nearer the type of a model bacon pig than any other breed of swine in existence. Breeders of other swine have modified and modelled their breeds very much after some of the desirable points of the Tamworth. They are not only popular in Canada, but are fast becoming famous in the United States, rapidly replacing the lard hog in the corn belts, large numbers being shipped there from Canada and England for breeding purposes.

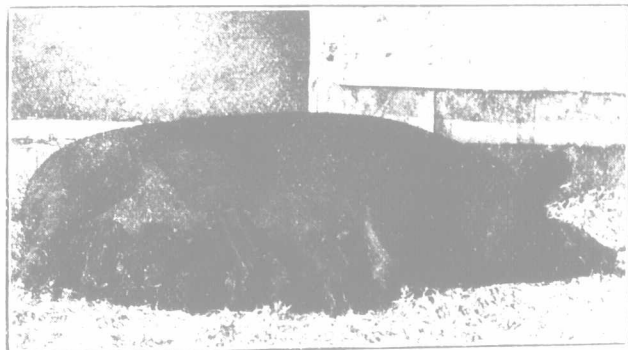
The form should show the type that is re-

quired for bacon production, which means a hog that is exceedingly light in offal, with a long, trim body, and especially very smoothly covered with firm flesh, indicating a desirable mixture of fat and lean. The head should be slim, a light jowl, the snout fine and not unduly long, the ear of appropriate size for the head, with the neck sharp between the ears, and light, swelling easily to cover a deep shoulder smoothly. Depth of shoulder is desirable, but without roughness. The shoulder should not bulge out beyond the body or the hips, as this detracts from the general appearance of trimness and smoothness which is so desirable. The back should be long and strong, with a gradually-rising arch over the shoulder to the loin, and then a correspondingly descending line from there to the root of the tail. Width of back is not demanded, but extreme smoothness and even covering of firm flesh is very essential. The ribs should drop as deep as possible, making the body appear, from the ribs, as if it had abundance of depth. The loin even with the shoulder and back well covered. Length of ham and gambrel is a peculiar feature which should be looked for; a long ham, firmly fleshed towards the hock, without folds of fat, is eminently desirable. The leading features of the type throughout are fair length and depth, with smoothness and trimness in all regions.

Objections.—Black spots, very light or ginger hair, curly coat, coarse mane, slouchy or drooping ears, turned-up snout, heavy shoulders, wrinkled skin, inbent knees, weak pasterns, hollowness of back and shoulders.

Tamworth swine are great rustlers, a splendid grazing pig. They mature early, grow to an enormous size at maturity, are very docile, good mothers, and raise large litters. According to many experiments conducted, the records show they produce pork as cheaply as the so-called lard hog, and of a much superior quality for commercial purposes.

I believe there is a great future for the Tamworth. Many who have tried them, and for some reason discontinued breeding them, are coming back again. I would very strongly recommend cross-breeding with other breeds. Where a good Tamworth boar is used on other breeds, we find



A Business Proposition.

some of the most desirable bacon hogs, not only best in type, but in economical and cheap production. I favor a Yorkshire-Tamworth cross; others claim equal or better results with Tamworth and Berkshire or Chester White crosses. I am fully convinced that, for pork only, a cross between two pure breeds will outgrow either breed, partaking more freely of the vigor of both breeds.

In conclusion, I would very strongly urge farmers to grow more pigs, and better ones, more suited for prime export bacon. It is a lamentable fact, but nevertheless true, that for many years there has not been such a scarcity, and through this we are in great danger of losing our well-established connection in England.

A. C. HALLMAN.

### Fitting Stock for Sale.

Will you kindly favor me space in your valuable columns with an outline of method of feeding, feed, amount per meal, etc., to put horses, cattle, hogs, in shape for sale in least possible time. Through death of a brother, I am called upon to close up his estate, and the stock, though in fair flesh, are not in market shape; horses not groomed, nor cattle; hogs scruffy. There is plenty of oats, hay and straw on the place. I must say that, though a new subscriber, I enjoy your paper, and am sure to profit by it.

D. D. S.

Animals of any kind cannot be put into first-class condition in a short time. If we attempt to hurry matters too much, the chances are we may cause sickness, which will set them back further than the point from which we started, and may possibly result in loss. The information furnished by this inquirer is very indefinite. The amount of feed required by a horse will depend upon his weight, larger horses requiring more than smaller ones. It is not stated, either, whether these horses will be allowed to run idle, or whether they will be required to work, which will also make a very great difference. For idle

horses, weighing from 1,000 to 1,200 pounds, 12 to 15 pounds of oats per day should be a fairly liberal allowance. The oats should be divided into three feeds per day. We are assuming, of course, that it is important to increase the horses in condition as rapidly as possible, and, to do this, we must feed a fairly heavy ration, and must give the horses regular exercise. If the horses are allowed to stand in the stable, and an attempt is made to fatten them as you would fatten bullocks, the results will be very unsatisfactory. The horse must have daily exercise, along with liberal feeding, in order to put him into condition quickly and satisfactorily. Three or four times a week it would be well to give a feed of boiled oats in place of the dry oats, and a small handful of flaxseed added to the boiled oats given to each horse, would make an improvement. It must be remembered that the boiled oats are not fed in addition to the amount of oats recommended, but, on the days when boiled oats are fed, the horse would receive only two-thirds of the regular ration of uncooked grain, the remaining third being made up of boiled feed. If these horses have been fed very little grain up to the present, it would be unsafe to start with the full ration, as recommended. They should be started on a light ration, increased as the horses become accustomed to it. If they have been fairly liberally fed up to the present, then it would be quite safe to start in with the full amount stated. A turnip or mangel once a day will also be found beneficial. The hay ration should be of good quality, and rather limited in quantity. The feeder must use his judgment in this matter, and be sure that the horse is not kept with hay before him all the time, but is simply given what hay he requires. If it is impossible to hitch the horses every day to give them exercise, then they should be turned into a lot or yard for the purpose of getting exercise. The larger the lot, the better, as it will encourage the horses to move about more.

As to cattle, we are not told what kind of cattle they are, and it is difficult to cover all possible cases. If we suppose they are ordinary breeding cattle, a good meal ration could be made up of oats and bran. For fattening purposes, the addition of a certain amount of corn in the meal ration would be an improvement, though one could get along with a mixture of, say, three parts of oats to one part of bran. This makes a very safe meal ration, and a person might feed a pound of meal per day for every 100 pounds live weight of the animals, starting, of course, with a smaller quantity, and gradually coming up to the maximum. The addition of about a pound of oil cake per day to each animal's ration, will improve it. Nothing is said about roots, and, to get the best results, roots or silage would be a great help. A fairly liberal supply of roots, say from 40 to 50 pounds, to a full-grown animal per day, would make a very great improvement in the ration. The bulky part of the ration may consist of the best available hay, clover hay preferred.



A Yearling Tamworth.

As to hogs, nothing is said regarding their age. If they are very young, wheat middlings and skim milk would make about the best ration that could be used. A very few finely-ground oats could be mixed with the middlings to advantage. For pigs, say three months old, a mixture of about three parts of wheat middlings to one part of ground barley, combined with skim milk, would make a good ration. Almost any kind of grain could be combined with the middlings, and proportion of grain gradually increased as pigs grow older. The pigs must be allowed to regulate their own quantity, the feeder giving them only what they will eat up clean three times a day.

In the case of the horses and cattle, daily grooming will help to improve the appearance of the animals very much, and will also increase their thrift. As to the scurvy pigs, would advise greasing them all over with a mixture of raw linseed oil and sulphur, mixed in the proportion of