

The Agricultural Gazette

The Official Bulletin of the Dominion Cattle, Sheep, and Swine Breeders' Associations, and of the Farmers' Institute System of the Province of Ontario.

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THE DOMINION CATTLE, SHEEP, AND SWINE BREEDERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

Annual Membership Fees:—Cattle Breeders' \$1; Sheep Breeders', \$1; Swine Breeders', \$1.
BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP.

Each member receives a free copy of each publication issued by the Association to which he belongs, during the year in which he is a member. In the case of the Swine Breeders' Association this includes a copy of the Swine Record.

A member of the Swine Breeders' Association is allowed to register pigs at 50c. per head; non-members are charged \$1.00 per head.

A member of the Sheep Breeders' Associations allowed to register sheep at 50c. per head, while non-members are charged \$1.00.

The name and address of each member, and the stock he has for sale, are published once a month. Over 10,000 copies of this directory are mailed monthly. Copies are sent to each Agricultural College and each Experiment Station in Canada and the United States, also to prominent breeders and probable buyers resident in Canada, the United States and elsewhere.

A member of an Association will only be allowed to advertise stock corresponding to the Association to which he belongs; that is, to advertise cattle he must be a member of the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association, to advertise sheep he must be a member of the Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association, and to advertise swine he must be a member of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association.

The list of cattle, sheep, and swine for sale will be published in the third issue of each month. Members having stock for sale, in order that they may be included in the Gazette, are required to notify the undersigned by letter on or before the 9th of each month, of the number, breed, age, and sex of the animals. Should a member fail to do this his name will not appear in that issue. The data will be published in the most condensed form.

F. W. HOBSON, Secretary.
Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ont.

FARM HELP EXCHANGE

Help Wanted.

A good man wanted for general farm work. Good wages. (Waterloo County.) Apply with references to this office. 2

Man wanted, experienced in mixed farming, and thoroughly good stockman. Must be able, honest and reliable, skilful and pushing. Wages \$12 to \$20 and permanent position if satisfactory. (Victoria County.) Apply with references to this office. 2

Wanted, a married man to do teaming and other work on a 60 acre dairy and fruit farm. R. A. Lehmann, Orillia P. O. 2

Wanted—Two men, married or single, for general farm work. Must be thorough farmers and good hands with cows and horses. L. F. Bogart, Gasport, Ont. 2

Wanted—About Nov. 1st, experienced farm hand, one capable of leading the work and taking charge subject to owner's instructions; must thoroughly understand the care of live stock. Single man preferred. Address with references to John Duff, Myrtle, Ont. 2

Wanted—A working manager to take charge of a 640 acre farm, 4 miles from Melita, Manitoba. For particulars address Jos. Brimson, Manager Port Arthur Fish Company, Port Arthur, Canada. 2

Wanted—A strong boy about 14 to learn farming in the Northwest. Must have some knowledge of horses. Apply with references to this office. 1

Situations Wanted.

Position wanted as manager of a poultry farm by one who has had experience in feeding and breeding for egg production, early maturity and fattening for market. Apply with references to this office. 2

The Production of Bacon for the British Market.

The great expansion of dairying in Canada of late years has, as a natural sequence, brought about a corresponding increase in swine breeding and feeding in this country. Almost contemporaneously with this development of the swine industry came into existence a change in the type of the hog most in demand both for shipping purposes and for home consumption. The big, fat, thick hog, which it was once the aim of every breeder to produce, had to give way to a pig of quite a different build, one possessing plenty of length, greater depth than formerly, with a corresponding decrease of width of back, lighter in the shoulders and with less weight of jaw; all these characteristics being accompanied by a less amount of fat interspersed with the lean meat.

This change in the conformation of our hogs was brought about by the efforts of our pork packers to secure a market in Great Britain for our surplus bacon. At first the consignments consisted of bacon and hams from the old style of pig, as there were none then of the kind now so popular to be obtained in this country. It was soon found, however, that the British taste desired meat of a leaner nature, and so some enterprising breeders and some of our pork packers took steps to meet this demand by importing animals of the type which the British bacon curers pronounced the ideal ones for their purpose.

The importation of these pigs gradually worked a revolution in the conformation of the swine in this country, especially in Ontario, which province was the first to receive the benefit derived from this change. The thick, fat hog has now pretty well fallen into disrepute everywhere, and, except for the lumber shanties, its fat carcass is no longer in demand, and is subject to a heavy discount in the markets when it is placed on sale.

At first the advent of these new

breeds (new, that is, to Canada) was not heartily welcomed. It is true that there was a pretty steady demand for them, but it was, in the beginning, rather the demand which always arises for something new than the recognition of the value of these pigs to this country. Then again, there was the determined opposition of breeders of old-established breeds to overcome, who could see no merit of usefulness in the new type of hog. Time, however, wrought wonderful changes, and now we see these same breeders devoting their best efforts and with considerable success, to mould their pigs into the style called for by the packers, while the agricultural press and teachers and lecturers on swine breeding all dwell on the importance of breeding only such pigs as conform to the requirements of the packers.

The consequence of all this co-operation is seen in the great increase of our export trade in bacon with Great Britain. Our bacon is fast displacing the Danish in the markets of the Old Country, and would do so much more rapidly if Canadian feeders took care, in the first place, to feed only the right kind of hog, and next, to feed only such food as will make firm bacon of the best quality. The method of feeding and curing employed in Britain secures for the home-grown bacon considerably better prices than can be obtained for ours. There is no reason, however, why we should not, by employing better methods, get as good prices for our product as the British feeder does. While many Canadian feeders are quite up-to-date in this respect, too many are careless about their swine, as regards the type of pigs, the feed given them, and the proper time to finish them for the market.

It is with a view of assisting such that this article has been prepared. It aims to give practical, well-established facts about bacon hogs and the feeding of the same. Some of the most prominent pork packers in Ontario have written special articles on the subject, and, in connection with these articles will be found numerous illustrations of desirable and undesirable types of bacon hogs, and of the products of the same. It is hoped that a study of these may show the enquirer what type of pig he should handle and what he should avoid.

THE TYPE OF PIG REQUIRED.—The type of pig which the bacon curers engaged in the export trade to Great Britain find the most profitable in their business, is one of great length and depth, light in the shoulder and jaw (which are cheap cuts) not too wide in the back, and carrying its width evenly along from shoulder to tail. This ensures a deep, long ham instead of the