

BREED RIGHT.

To insure success we must begin before the sheep are born, by selecting ewes of the right sort to breed them from. These need not of necessity be pure bred, nor of any particular breed. The best of the common stock of the country are suitable for this purpose. If they have a good dash of Down blood in them so much the better, but the selection of the ram is of vital importance. He should be a pure-bred sheep, not simply because he is pure-bred and registered as such, as there are plenty of these very inferior, and not fit to breed mutton sheep from. A few dollars extra for a good ram is money well spent. It is not necessary to pay a fancy price, he may be lacking in some of the less important points, such as the shape or size of ear, the color or the way he is wooled on the face or legs. He should be full of quality as regards the points of a mutton sheep, however. He should be strong and masculine in character, on short, strong, well-set legs, wide and level back, with good quarters, and especially the hind quarters. He should be pure-bred to insure the reproduction of his good qualities. Perhaps there is nothing that fills the bill better than the Southdown, others may think differently. To insure a good crop of lambs ewes should be in good thriving condition when coupled with the ram, which may be about the first of November. The labour of caring for the flock in winter is very light indeed. A good, deep, open shed with a yard attached is all the shelter required. A constant supply of salt and pure water is needed. The food may consist of well-cured pea-straw cut on the green side, and if a few peas are left in threshing they will not be wasted. A few roots give variety. As the season advances, good, well-cured green cut clover hay should form the bulk of the ration, and as they near the lambing this should be supplemented with a small allowance of bran and oats, till the grass is ready.

FITTING THE LAMBS.

The lambs when from two to four weeks old should be docked and all ram lambs castrated. To fit these for export they should have the run of fresh pasture and frequent change from one lot to another is good. Rape, corn, peas, or other green food may be provided in case of extreme drouth. Rape should be green for fall feed. A good way is to sow a pound or two of rape seed in the oats. This will make good sheep pasture after the oats are harvested. If lambs have plenty of rape and fresh pasture nothing more is required until winter approaches, but if pasture is bare they should be fed a small feed of grain of whatever kind is the cheapest at the time. For winter food, clover hay and roots, with say a pint of grain mixed with bran and nutted oil cake, if the price justifies it, is good. If to be shipped going on grass the grain feed should be increased when corn may be added for the last month or six weeks, and last but not least, keep them clean and tidy. The use of the shears to smooth up the outside makes them attractive to the buyer.

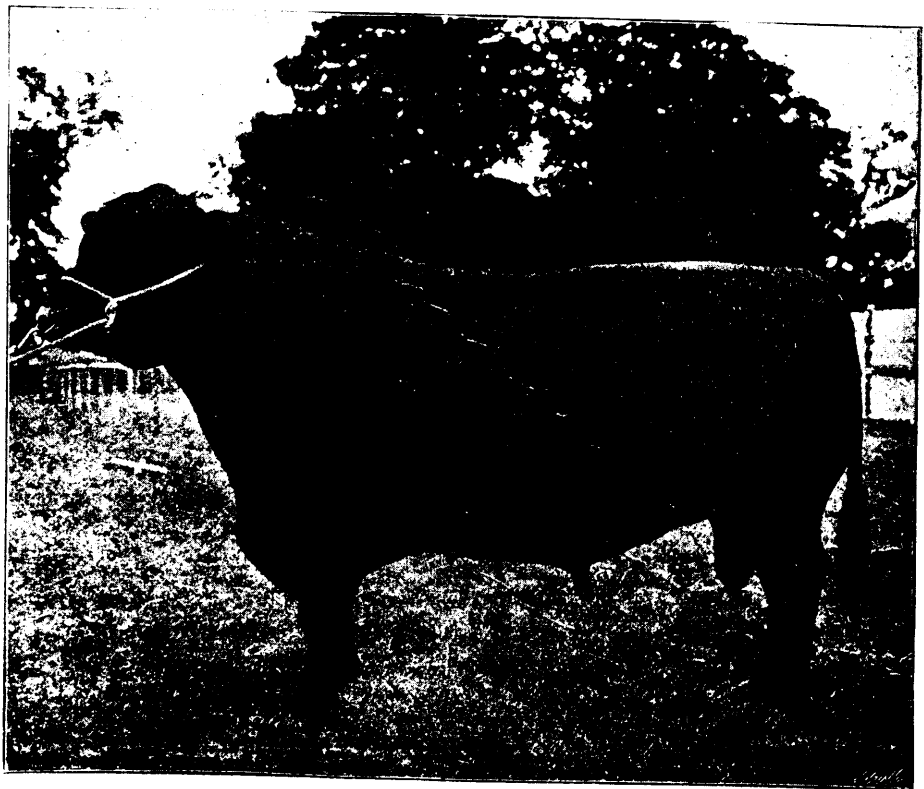
Notes on Our Bacon Trade

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A great deal has been said and written regarding the production of export bacon, yet withal the subject is an extremely unsatisfactory one with which to deal. There is so much confusion of ideas regarding right and wrong methods of breeding and feeding swine, and so little definite proof that any of the propounded theories are correct, that it becomes a difficult matter to approach the subject with unprejudiced mind, and to separate what is absolutely known from what is purely theoretical. Our experiment stations are busily engaged investigating problems which vex the packer and the farmer; but investigations require time, and as yet our knowledge is anything but complete. All that can be attempted at the present time is to present for consideration a few leading points in connection with our bacon industry, in the hope that they may tend to bring about a more rational conception of the whole matter.

STATUS OF THE CANADIAN BACON TRADE.

In the first place it may be assumed that the market of the world for bacon and pig products is England, and comparatively few countries occupy an important place in this market. Loudon M. Douglas, in the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society, places the leading bacon-curing countries in the following order of importance: 1. The United States; 2, Canada; 3, Denmark; 4, England; 5, Sweden. The same writer goes on to say: "The principal source of our supplies of cheap bacon is in the United States," and in another place he states: "It is safe to say that the coming rival of all other countries in the production of bacon is Canada. . . . 'Pea-fed Canadian' is fast displacing Danish meats and taking the leading place in the English market. No doubt the supplies from Canada will continue to increase by the same leaps and bounds as of late years, so long as the Dominion farmers devote as much attention to the *quality* of hog produced." Such is the view



Aberdeen-Angus Bull. Proud Duke of Ballindalloch, 1st Prize and Champion Royal Show, 1899.

The old Greeks said that a man had two ears and one mouth, that he might hear twice and speak once; and there is a great deal of good sense in it. You will find that if you will simply hold your peace you will pass over nine out of ten of the provocations of life.—Henry Ward Beecher.

of this prominent English authority, and the quotations convey one or two ideas which will bear enlarging. The first point to be noticed is that the United States supply England with the great bulk of her *cheap* bacon. Canada, on the other hand, aims to supply an entirely different class of bacon, and hence we find that the Canadian farmer