

them in a good position, but when the next stage is reached (cut 9) it is different. Dead hogs are always good, and permit any kind of a picture to be made without objection. This shows up here very well in a general way, but owing to its being fed about two weeks too long it has to go into the class known as "stoats," which cuts down its price $\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ c. per pound, and such figures are sufficient comment; we need not aim to feed stoats.

The group of six Singers, three of which are seen clearly in cut 10, the other three being rather indistinct, show up some nice meat, as the carcasses shown in illustration 11 prove.

Nos. 1, 2 and 4 are especially fine, and all are good in quality, but except Nos. 1 and 2 are too short, 6 being especially so. Why are long hogs wanted? They are more profitable, for no matter how long, there is only one head to lose money; the shoulder is not much in demand and does not seem to be materially increased with the increase in length. It is the middles and hams that are wanted, and perhaps the middle cut brings the most money all the time, and herein lies the reason for the demand for long pigs.

SOFT AND LIGHT HOGS.

There are still two classes of pigs that are constantly being marketed that cause much annoyance and loss to the trade, and are a damage to the reputation of Canadian bacon generally, viz., soft hogs and light skinny ones of 70 to 140 pounds each. In our opinion soft hogs are the result of soft feed in nearly every case, and are produced by those who are lacking in common honesty. They are trying to get something for nothing, and when they feed cooked roots and other soft, mushy food only, and say they think it makes first quality of meat, they disclose their ignorance, or rather, they do know that by such means the weight of their hogs is easily and cheaply increased, and that is as far as they are concerned. Grass feeding is also a cause of soft pork, and in addition to being soft the fat turns to a greenish yellow. Grass is well enough in its way, but pigs should be kept off it at least a month before being sold to the packers. Soft pork is produced just because it costs less than the right kind, and if the trade is thus ruined, those who are guilty will try and look surprised. Why so many light hogs are forced upon the market has always been a mystery; lack of food or lack of money on the part of the feeder will account for some of them but not all. The meat of immature pigs is not satisfactory, being soft, flabby and of poor flavor. It is bad policy to market any animals before they are in a fit condition.

As to the feeding of corn; this is a very important matter. We do not claim that the soft, trashy stuff that is marketed is fed wholly on corn, but we wish to call attention to the farmers who persist in feeding corn alone, that they should not expect to get more for their hogs than American corn-fed

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