

or warehouses; (b) and it shall be lawful for the company to add to its charges for carrying such grain any sum chargeable for demurrage under the provisions hereof.

5. Every railway company to whom this Act applies shall on reasonable notice on that behalf provide and furnish a car or cars for receiving and shipping grain at and from any station on its line of railway, and such railway company shall permit any person shipping such grain who desires to do so to load the same direct from his vehicle into the car or over a portable platform erected by him at his own expense.

6. In the event of the cars not being loaded within a reasonable time, customary demurrage charges may be exacted from the shippers by the railway company.

7. The tolls or rates to be charged by any person who, under the provisions of this Act, is possessed of a warehouse or elevator on the station grounds of the company or on the grounds to which the company have built a side track or spur, as provided for herein, shall not exceed the following sums:

(a) For receiving and shipping grain, including twenty days' storage, one cent per bushel.

(b) For cleaning the same (when equipped with proper machinery) if required by the shipper, half cent per bushel.

(c) For storing beyond twenty days, if stored at the request of the shippers, half cent per bushel for each additional thirty days thereafter or parts thereof.

8. The provisions of this Act shall apply to every elevator or warehouse now situate on the station grounds or property of the railway company mentioned in the first section hereof and to which this Act applies.

9. Nothing herein contained shall interfere with the duties and obligations of the railway company as common carriers at common law and under the provisions of "The Consolidated Railway Act."

We trust the sympathy and vigorous co-operation of Eastern M. P.'s and others will be given in the above matter until the grievance complained of is redressed. It is another example of cases that could be dealt with promptly and effectively by a Railway Commission clothed with power to compel the enforcement of their mandates to transportation companies; but it is not necessary to wait for the appointment of a Commission. The Government of the day should insist upon the remedy required being given.

STOCK.

Reciprocity of Records.

The United States customs regulations in regard to the admission of pure-bred registered stock free of duty are of such an exacting nature as to cause much inconvenience and vexation to breeders wishing to import such stock into that country, and are proving a serious hindrance to trade in these lines between that country and Canada. While our records under the management of the various breeders' associations have equally as high a standard as any of those in the United States, and higher than many of them, and while most of the American stock associations are accepting registrations in the Canadian Herd Books of the same breed as sufficient to entitle the animals to registration in their Herd Books without further investigation, yet the customs regulations require that in order to pass free of duty all animals imported into that country must be registered in American records. In order to comply with these terms, it is in many cases necessary to record also the pedigrees of several ancestors which have not previously been registered in the American records, which entails considerable expense and causes vexatious delay in shipping. Men who come here to buy stock, as a rule, want to ship the animals while they are here to take charge of them en route, which, under present regulations, cannot be done if they are not registered in American records, except by depositing the amount of the duty with the Collector of Customs and filing with him a written stipulation to produce certificates of registry in approved American records within six months of the date of entry, when the amount deposited will be refunded. This is a tedious and inconvenient arrangement, calculated to deter many from purchasing on account of the trouble and the uncertainty of the outcome, and interferes with the free intercourse of business which is desirable on all hands.

It is difficult to conceive that the existing regulations can be satisfactory to the breeders and dealers in pure-bred stock on the other side of the lines who come here to make purchases, since the question of registration in American records is one that concerns them most, and the delays and annoyances incident to the rules affect them more than they do the sellers here.

It is little wonder that Canadian breeders indignantly protest against such illiberal and un-

reasonable regulations in view of the fact that animals are freely admitted from the United States into this country, if registered in any of the recognized records of either country, on presentation of certificate of registry and identification.

Our own opinion, which we believe is shared by breeders in Canada generally, is that the inspiration of these regulations came from a limited circle of men who are financially interested in certain pedigree records, many of which are owned and operated by joint stock companies and whose directors are actuated in this matter by selfish motives rather than the welfare and convenience of stockmen generally. We are not disposed to favor the unamiable and ungenerous principle of retaliation, and do not wish to be understood as advocating that policy, but we think it fair to remind the powers that be on the other side of the line that this is a game that two can play at, and that quite a considerable number of animals for breeding purposes, of horses, dairy cattle, and pigs, have been imported from the United States to Canada in the past few months, and that under the present rational customs regulations the probability is that this trade will increase; but there is no valid reason why it should not be reciprocal, and we are quite sure it would be in the interest of stockmen on both sides of the invisible line to have it so. We understand that the Dominion Stock Breeders' Associations have a committee charged with the agitation of this question among others, and we commend to the Dominion Minister of Agriculture the vital importance of this matter now that other international differences are being adjusted. The present is an opportune time for diplomatic action in regard to this vexatious and irritating question, and we submit that "unrestricted reciprocity" is now in order.

Prizes for Bacon Hogs.

The action of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association in granting some \$400 to be offered as prizes for bacon hogs at the next Ontario Provincial Fat Stock Show, at Brantford, as indicated in our report of their recent meeting in another column, is of interest to breeders and feeders of swine. The classification of the prize list provides for competition by each breed separately. The prizes are liberal, and it is expected that they will be supplemented by donations from several of the leading pork-packing establishments in Ontario. Provision has also been made for a block test, and liberal prizes are offered for the two best dressed hogs, to be killed on the second day of the show; and arrangements have been made whereby the animals competing in this contest can be sold in Brantford for the highest market price for dressed pork. The object of these prizes is to encourage the breeding and feeding of the type of hog required by the market for the production of the best quality of bacon. The prizes will be awarded by pork-packers or their buyers, and no animal deemed unsuitable for bacon purposes by the judges shall be awarded a premium. We have long contended that hogs of any of the breeds may, by judicious breeding and feeding, be brought nearer to the desired type for bacon purposes, and we heartily commend the action of the Breeders' Association in this movement to secure uniformity of product, which we confidently believe can be accomplished in the near future by the exercise of intelligent methods. Let the work of preparation be commenced at an early date by the selection of those which come nearest to the desired type, giving them a free run on clover pastures supplemented by moderate rations of nitrogenous foods, such as bran, shorts, ground oats and barley, with plenty of skim milk—remembering that the ideal weights range from 160 to 220 lbs.—and we shall doubtless see that progress can be made in the direction desired even in the few months intervening between the present and the date of the show, a progress which will be accentuated as the years go by.

Reduced Rates on Pedigreed Stock

FROM ONTARIO AND EASTERN POINTS TO MANITOBA VIA GRAND TRUNK AND NORTHERN PACIFIC.

The following letter was recently received by the Secretary of the Pure-bred Cattle Breeders' Association of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories from the General Agent of the Northern Pacific Railway, Winnipeg:—

Mr. George H. Greig, Secretary Pure-bred Cattle Breeders' Association, Winnipeg, Man.:

DEAR SIR,—Some time ago you were making inquiry regarding the handling of pedigreed stock in carloads from points in Ontario to Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, and Brandon. I am advised by our Head Office that the Grand Trunk Railway are agreeable to handling the same at the same rates as settlers' effects, providing stock is released to the value of ordinary cattle. It would be necessary, however, to route this business by way of the Grand Trunk Railway to Chicago. There is no arrangement on L. C. L. other than full tariff rates. I trust the above arrangement will meet with your wishes.

Yours truly,
H. SWINFORD, General Agent.

The Preparation of Dairy Cattle for the Showing.

BY F. S. PEER, MOUNT MORRIS, N. Y.

To tell a man how to fit a dairy cow for the showing is easy enough, but to tell him how to know when she is fit and not too fit is like trying to tell a boy how to swim. It cannot be done. You can give a boy some pointers about undressing and about hiding his clothes so the other boys won't tie knots in his shirt, and how to dry his hair so his mother will never suspect he has been swimming, but to tell him just how to swim so he can do it the first time he tries is quite another thing. I have a very vivid recollection of how I learnt to swim. I asked one of the big boys to tell me how, and he said "All right," and threw me in the swimming hole, and when I came to the surface he shouted "Now swim." However, I will try and give your readers some pointers that have come to me from much experience in fitting cattle, horses, and sheep for the showing, but the art and science of the thing can only be acquired by practice; that is to say, most anyone with feed and care can fit a cow for show, but there are comparatively few who can bring her to her "bloom" at just the right time and not go beyond it. This is the secret of fitting any animal for show, and a secret that dies with most men who possess it. It is a gift that is born of keen observation and practice. What I shall attempt, therefore, will be to give your readers a few pointers on fitting, together with a few don'ts. First let us ask ourselves what it is that a judge is going to look for when our cattle come into the ring? How can we make our animals show to the best advantage in the things the judge considers the most important?

What a Judge Looks For.—Most breeders have noticed that, as a rule, about the first thing a judge looks for is capacity. He wants to see a cow with a big paunch; he reasons that if a cow is to manufacture a large quantity of milk, and do it economically, she must have capacity for a great quantity of coarse fodder. She must be a good feeder, which is also indicated by the same sign. This applies to calves and young things as well as mature cows, for he likes to see in them an indication that they are gross feeders. Now the question comes, How can we fit our cows and calves to show to the best advantage in this respect? I reply, by giving them all the coarse fodder they will eat in a manner best suited to their taste. The best plan that I know of is to feed cut or chaffed hay, with a mixture of bran and crushed oats, a pinch of salt, and a handful of oil-cake meal. The principal thing in training a cow for capacity, or a calf either, is that they be made to eat a good deal to get a little. Of course, you are to avoid feeding your dairy cows much grain, that is to the extent that they begin to take on flesh. When they do this the judges say "they are general purpose cows; that nowadays we want cows that are genuine dairy machines pure and simple." So your grain ration should be light, and only up to what the animal can digest and assimilate without taking on flesh. The idea that a dairy cow or a calf must be in good flesh to show is a very mistaken notion. We have learnt better, and no one but a novice or a beef breeder will think of bringing a dairy cow (in milk) into the ring carrying a lot of fat. Two-year-old heifers with first calf may be pardoned if they are a bit meaty, for it soon "milks away." Therefore, in fitting your dairy cattle for the ring, try and show what big feeders they are without getting fat, for in the dairy the cow that eats the most and keeps the poorest is the best; while for beef, the cow that eats the least and keeps the fattest is the best. As to your calves, make them show that they are good feeders and have a powerful digestive apparatus, and therefore capacity for food, by making them also eat a good deal to get a little—skim milk, a little bran, oil-cake meal, but make them drink a pail of skim milk or slop to get it. Keep them growing, but never feed rich, concentrated foods—that makes small stomachs and fattens. There has been many and many a prize lost by feeding too much of quality and not enough in quantity. A dairy cow or calf shows best when she shows great feeding capacity and at the same time shows her ribs; therefore, if you want your cow or calf to catch the judge's eye and keep it, feed her to show capacity, never to show beef.

Udder Development.—The next thing a judge will look for will be the udder development. The most you can do for this is to feed the same as you would to produce a large flow of milk. Here, again, you must not feed rich, concentrated foods. If you undertake to do this with corn meal and oats, pea meal, etc., your cow will come into the ring all gaunted up, and the judge will say he doesn't want a cow that has to make milk and butter from corn meal; he wants to see a practical cow that can make it from hay and grass and cornstalks. Your cow will look like a poor feeder when she may be a good one, for if you satisfy her appetite on four quarts of meal, she will not eat four bushels of hay afterwards. Better make her eat six bushels of cut hay to get two quarts of bran. Your rich, concentrated grain ration may fill the udder, but you must remember it is the shape of the udder that counts more than the size, so that in attempting to fit a cow for show on a high grain ration you accomplish nothing, waste your grain, and your cow goes to the rubbish pile because she has no capacity. Many a prize has also been lost by having the udder too full, so that the teats were pointed in every direction, except hanging straight and naturally as they