

for work, or profits in succeeding years will decrease; second in following this practice, a herd can not be built up, and the breeder must purchase new breeding animals every two or three years. Cross-breeding can be practiced to greatest advantage with a group of second-rate, cheap,



A Car-load of Choice Lard Hogs

*Photo by courtesy
North-West Farmer*

pure-blood sows, when by using a good boar of a different breed on them the pigs will often be better than if they were bred to a boar of the same breed as themselves.

A third type of breeding that proves very successful is the practice of grading up a herd. This implies beginning with a group of rather common sows of any breeding, and mating them with a pure-blood boar of some well established breed. It implies, then, the continued use of pure-blood boars of the same breed year after year. It will readily be seen that this practice will tend to make the offspring of the herd more nearly pure-blood with every generation, and in time



A Uniform Group of Berkshire Barrows Ready for Market

a herd may be developed that is practically pure-blood, though the animals in it can never be registered as pure-blood because there will always remain in each animal produced in the herd, a trace of the mongrel blood possessed by the first sows used.