

much larger extent than we are, and who consequently will suffer more than we shall from this slump, do not appear to feel any over-anxious upon this matter, and confidently await the return to the former prices, which it is already predicted, will take place gradually in a short while.

Despite these ups and downs inevitable in any industry, the bacon industry has gradually and rapidly followed an ascending march since 1890, when owing to the Danes' failure to supply the quality of bacon required we first got a foothold on the English market. According to the statistics, there was then exported out of Canada during the year 1890, for \$645,360 of bacon; during the course of last year the value of these exports had risen to \$10,473,211, and the preparation of bacon ranks to-day as one of the most important of Canadian industries. What is the share of Quebec in these exports? It can only be estimated owing to the lack of provincial statistics, but this estimation cannot be a large one: not more than a year ago the Laing Packing Co. of Montreal, stated that only from 5 to 10 per cent of the bacon hogs which it required could be had in Quebec, while all the rest came from Ontario. It is sad to think that we should let our Ontario neighbours supply our own manufactures and thus secure a profit which it would require only a little more exertion from our part to make ours. The production of bacon should be an adjunct of the Dairy Industry, and as the latter has been in a high state of prosperity in our Province during the last three years, there is no reason why the bacon industry should not have developed accordingly. What are the causes which have tended to retard this development? The chief one has undoubtedly been the prejudice entertained by our farmers against raising hogs of the lean type, such as are required for bacon. It was long claimed that there was no profit to be had in trying to fatten such hogs: yet the example of Ontario breeders is there to show us that there is some profit. Not only is there

more money to be made in raising the bacon hog, but it is our only chance of making any profit in hog raising. There is an unlimited demand in England for choice, first class bacon, and the supply is yet small. On the other hand, the United States are flooding the market with inferior bacon, sold at low prices. To compete against them in the production of cheap meat is for us an impossibility. Our only chance lies in the production of first class bacon.

For the production of first class bacon, two things are necessary, the right kind of pig and the right kind of feed. The pig may or may not belong to any particular breed, but he should have certain characteristics, the chief ones being as follows: a long body, of medium width, with deep flanks, and sides straight from top to bottom. Such are the characteristics of the Tamworth, and a cross between this breed and the Berkshires, or the Yorkshires, seems to have the preference among Ontario farmers. A pig of this kind reaches a weight of from 160 to 200 lbs. at 7 or 8 months old, when he should be sold.

Upon the feed depends in a large degree the quality of the meat, whether firm or soft. The causes of soft meat have not all been ascertained, but it seems to be generally produced by lack of exercise, and feeding of fattening food, like corn, during the first months of the life of the animal. It has been pretty conclusively proved that with hogs that have had plenty of exercise during the first period of their growth, and that have been fed on green fodder or shorts, bran, with skim milk, until four or five months old, there is little danger of soft bacon, no matter whether they are fattened with barley and peas, or corn at the last.

C. M.

A MODEL DAIRY AT THE PAN-AMER.

Aside and distinct from the regular cattle exhibit at the Pan-American Exposition, it has been decided to conduct a model dairy throughout the entire six months of the