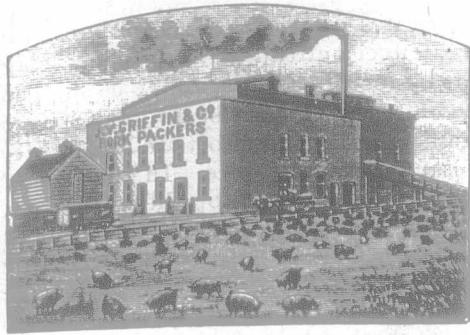


Manitoba Pork Industry.

The Manitoba hog has now an opportunity to make for itself a name, to transform Winnipeg into a Chicago, and to lift the mortgage from the farm. May his contented grunt forever banish the dissatisfied squeal of the exclusive wheat grower.

On the east bank of the Red River, near the Louise Bridge, Messrs. J. Y. Griffin & Co. have erected a large pork packing establishment, with a capacity of about 1,000 per week, or between 25,000



or 30,000 during the killing season, with facilities for adding to the building whenever the supply of hogs warrant it. The building is 120x60 feet, three stories and a basement; the basement walls are of stone and the floor concrete, while the superstructure is solid brick. There is also a brick smoke-house, twenty feet square, three stories in height, attached. The upper stories are divided into the following departments:—On the first floor, boiler and engine-room, shipping-room, tank, lard and cold storage rooms, with doors into the smoke-room and stairways leading to the floors above and below. On the second floor are the slaughter rooms, modelled after the most approved systems in use in the great packing houses of Chicago. The hogs are driven up a chute from the yards below, and as they pass into the building they are shackled, strung up, stuck, dumped into the scalding tanks; then onto the scraping tables, gambrel sticks put in, and they are then hung on a track, opened, cleaned and washed, passed along on the track and switched off into the chill rooms, which are situated in the centre of this flat; after becoming thoroughly dried and chilled, they are run along the chopping blocks, here cut up and run into the salting rooms, and the trimmings, heads, feet, etc., are conveyed into the large rendering vats, the grease run off for the soap works, and the refuse disposed of.

In rendering the lard quite an elaborate process of drying, purifying and cooling is gone through, and a first-class article is produced. The cold storage system is most perfect, and every floor is thoroughly drained and the best systems of ventilation provided. A capital idea of the building can be had by reference to our illustration of the factory in this issue, the building to the left being the large ice-house. The property comprises about five acres of land, and the C. P. R. have built a switch to the factory.

This great Western country, from Lake Superior to the Pacific, presents an almost unlimited market for pork. We have now a factory ready to handle a large number of hogs, and it remains for the farmer to supply the raw material. We are now importing large quantities of bacon and hams from the East—bacon retailing at twenty-two cents a pound in Winnipeg to-day. One bushel of wheat will make fifteen pounds of pork. We pay the railroads twenty-five or thirty cents per bushel to draw our wheat to market, and pay them two cents a pound for bringing the bacon and hams back to us, besides paying the Eastern farmers for feeding the hog, and all the long string of commission men. But just take your pencil and figure the hog business out.

The Ontario Fat Stock Show.

The above exhibition, to be held in Guelph on Wednesday and Thursday, December 6th and 7th next, promises to be the best winter show ever conducted on this continent. It will be under the combined auspices of the Dominion Sheep and Swine Breeders' Associations, the Provincial Agriculture and Arts Association, and the Guelph Fat Stock Club. All the foremost breeders of Canada are expected to attend. The prizes for the cattle classes are exceedingly liberal, and \$1,750 cash is offered in prizes in the sheep and swine department alone, besides valuable "specials." There is ample time after the Columbian and Canadian Exhibitions to prepare for the show at Guelph, and our breeders will put their "best foot" forward on that occasion. For prize lists and entry blanks, apply to Henry Wade, corner Queen and Yonge streets, Toronto; Jas. Russell, President Sheep Breeders' Association, Richmond Hill, Ont.; J. C. Snell, President Swine Breeders' Association, Edmonton, Ont., or F. W. Hodson, Secretary Sheep and Swine Breeders' Associations, London.

Brandon Experimental Farm.

From the Brandon Experimental Farm we receive reports of a wonderfully good season in all experimental lines. Harvesting was finished about August 23rd, and some barley that was threshed early yielded from fifty to sixty bushels per acre, but the sample, though bright in color, is light in weight. No damage from frost, but the hot winds of August 7th shriveled the wheat in many cases.

Horticultural Exhibition Wanted.

BY B. B., ELM CREEK.

I am sure every one who visited the agricultural hall and the building which contained the few exhibits of flowers and fruit in the exhibition grounds last month, must have come to a very speedy conclusion that July is certainly not the month to ensure a successful exhibition of either vegetables (field or garden) or flowers (garden or house plants) in this province, or in that of its sister, the N. W. T. It must be admitted on all sides that many of the exhibits looked more like the thinnings from carrot or parsnip beds, than anything else. Such a display of horticultural and floricultural subjects as was witnessed by thousands of people last month at the great Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition simply ruins the cause, and brings discredit to our country generally, and growers in particular. A large number of the classes mentioned in the catalogue were not and naturally could not be filled, while others were filled only in a way, and were totally unfit for exhibition, the judging of which was only a mere farce. I do not blame either the judge or the exhibitors; in fact, if anyone was at fault the directors are the party in offering premiums for material which could not be had even in a half-grown state. The scarcity of exhibits and the miserable samples in most of the classes ought surely to make true lovers of their country, and of the useful and beautiful too, bestir themselves and consider carefully how to improve this state of things, and see what is the best thing to be done in the event of the directors of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition continuing to hold their annual exhibition in midsummer; and from all I can hear, I understand that is their intention, and, of course, it may be best for such a meeting as the last, which savored a great deal more of a variety show and race meeting than anything agricultural, and was taken advantage of by storekeepers and professional men, and farmers were conspicuous by their absence. Now, Mr. Editor, what is to be done? I would propose that an association be got up, entitled the Winnipeg Horticultural and Floricultural Society; that there be four exhibiting sections in it, viz., nurserymen, market gardeners, farmers and amateurs, having classes for the various vegetables, house plants and cut flowers in each. This would virtually include both town and country folks, and by this division every one has a fair chance for an honest and straight competition—the artisan and the farmer, as well as the professional nurseryman and market gardener. Of course, I would say let the amateur compete if he chooses with the professional, and enter the classes accordingly, but on no account *vice versa*, as this would effectually scare those from exhibiting who, in all probability, would make good working members all round. As to the best date for holding an annual show it is difficult to say; of course, every person cannot be suited, and the seasons differ in each year, but after taking everything into consideration I am inclined to favor the middle of September, as there are more vegetables and flowers in their full vigor and at maturity than at any other time of the year, but of course I would leave this matter to the judgment of the society's committee. The principal matter is to have an exhibition when it will be of some service, and not a mere farce and laughing stock. By having a show in the fall you stimulate the work throughout the entire season, and give everyone a fair opportunity of exerting himself or herself with a prospective view of a successful issue, and at least gaining a greater amount of knowledge and information, and thereby spreading an influence throughout our land that will tell for good upon many a home and family, both for the present and for time to come. While attending the exhibition I mentioned the matter to a large number of the visitors of the various sections, and all seemed well pleased with the scheme, and I now ask you, Mr. Editor, if you will kindly lend a helping hand by calling a meeting of those interested upon an early date, and let us hear their views regarding it, as I am satisfied that we would have twenty entries in most of the classes in the fall for every one in midsummer, and the country would have a fair chance of showing really what it could produce, while the people would see with pleasure the true effect of their labors.

Autumn Care of Stock.

Owing to the drouth that has so adversely affected the pasture over the greater part of our country during the last few months supplemental feeding of stock is necessary. It is very poor economy to allow animals to enter the winter in low condition, as in all probability, if they are allowed to lose their grass flesh, they will continue to be poor all winter, as a pound of flesh saved during the autumn counts for more than a pound put on during the cold weather. With changeable weather, stock requires more attention. Chilly nights will demand an increase of grain food, especially for young animals. Exposure to cold rains is detrimental to the healthfulness of all stock. The fall colts and calves, with their dams, require more care, and can not, as a rule, be fed too liberally. It is better that young colts and calves be kept off the pasture, from evening milking time till nine or ten a.m., when frosty nights arrive.

Suggestions for the Winnipeg Industrial Board to Consider.

BY EXHIBITOR.

It has, I believe, been contemplated holding next year's exhibition in the fall, though I can hardly think seriously so, for, to say the least, it would be a step backwards. If there is to be an agricultural exhibition, it must be held when the breeders of stock have time to make an exhibit, and if it is to be an educational institution, it should be held when the ordinary farmer has time to attend it—and that time is certainly not the fall, which, in Manitoba, is the farmer's busiest season. Those from the west who attended the Industrial in the fall of 1891 will remember that the wheat was in the shock at the time, and that from the train in crossing the Portage Plains the country was covered with shocks as far as the eye could see. How could farmers attend an exhibition under such circumstances? It is true there was a very good exhibit of stock and other agricultural products that year, but it must be remembered that it was the first Industrial Exhibition, and that having exhibits carried free was a new thing, and farmers and stockmen made an extra effort to get there, which they would not do if the show was continuously held in the fall. It may also be said of the exhibition of 1891 that there were no farmers there except those who were exhibiting.

It is not to be supposed that the government will help to support an institution whose main object is horse racing and circus performances, for that is what it will come to if held in the fall, and I am sure it is not the best season of the year for these kinds of things. Each year a few more of the agricultural societies fall into line and hold their shows in the summer, and the time will come when in Manitoba and the Territories there will not be such a thing as a fall show. Brandon, which led the way, has held its fifth summer fair, and they there who have the most experience with summer shows would be the last to go back to the old rut, if a rut it is.

The present horse and cattle rings are larger than there is any need of, and it would be much better if there were two small cattle rings instead of as it has been—two classes of cattle being judged in the same ring at the same time. It was the same with horses this last show, there being but one ring, while there were three judges at work, two of them having no enclosures to work in.

The sheep and pig men have very serious cause for complaint—the sheds for these animals being open in front and facing the east, they are quite unfit for their tenants during the forenoon, and they are also very inconvenient for getting the animals in or out of. Nor are these sheds, which are simply rough lean-to's against the fence, at all in keeping with the Industrial of the province. There is a good opportunity to right two grievances at the same time by turning the present unsatisfactory cattle sheds into sheep and pig-pens, and building new cattle stables on the plan of the last one built. The present stables would be most suitable for sheep and pigs, for, by taking out the internal arrangements, they are wide enough for good, roomy pens, with a good passage down the centre, which would be wide enough to judge in, or, if the judge preferred it, they could be judged outside by taking them through the present side-doors—the half-doors also being just what is needed to give plenty of air to sheep and pigs, should there be that intense heat to which we are so liable during July.

The sheep exhibitors think that some of the prizes are a trifle small—take the third prizes for instance, they are very small figures to offer for what may be a valuable imported sheep that is probably but slightly inferior to the first-prize animal. Sheep have always been considered the poorest live stock exhibit in the province, but a good stride was made in this department this year, and from the way the sheep men talk, a still greater one will be made next year, therefore they should be encouraged as much as possible.

Manitoba Wool.

An eastern man, while attending the Manitoba summer fairs, found great fault with the fleeces of the sheep that he had occasion to examine, as lacking in "yolk"; this referred alike to all breeds, and from all localities. We visited John Hallam's large hide and wool establishment in Winnipeg recently, and were shown by the manager samples of wool from all parts of the province and territories. The wool from the different localities varied greatly, much of it was deficient in yolk and of poor texture. It was also quite evident what the nature of the soil was on which the sheep were raised by the color of the wool, that from black, heavy soil being very dark, as though the fine, black dust had penetrated to the very roots, while that from the lighter soils was white and clean looking. The manager pointed out some well-yolked wool of extra quality from the flock of Jas. Riddle, of Lintrathen, Man., and gave it as his opinion that wherever sheep were well wintered on suitable feed sufficient yolk would be found in the wool. We should not consider wool such a very important factor in this country where it only fetches eight or ten cents a pound, but as yolk is an indication of the general thrift, its absence shows something lacking in the feed, management or climate. We would like to hear what our sheep breeders have to say on this subject.