

consideration must always be the market demand. With conditions as they are in Manitoba at present, the market is neither very strict nor discriminative as to type. It is true, though, that a hog with a long body, a deep side, smoothly finished and reaching the market at from 190 to 225 pounds in weight, will always command the top price of the market, and one aiming to produce market toppers will do well to select breeding animals of well-defined bacon type. On the other hand, hogs of the shorter, broader-bodied type, if of good quality and properly finished, will command just about as high a price as first-class bacon hogs, and it is claimed for them that they are quicker and cheaper feeders. It is safe to say, though, that with a larger number of hogs marketed each year our packers would soon discriminate more in favor of the prime bacon hogs.

So far as suitability to climate and feeds is concerned, any of the breeds of hogs, bacon or lard, are suitable to climatic conditions in Manitoba, and as to feeds, the same is practically true. It is only fair to state that the bacon breeds are, as a rule, a little better rustlers than the lard breeds, and where large bush pastures are to be used for pasturing hogs in summer, this might be a small point in favor of



A Car-load of Choice Bacon Hogs

*Photo by courtesy
North West Farmer*

the bacon breeds. A point to be considered in the selection of a breed is the personal likes of the man choosing the breed. If, for some reason or other, he is convinced that the Berkshire breed, for instance, is the best breed, he will do well to select that breed. Yet where farmers select breeds entirely from the standpoint of their personal likes and dislikes we soon get a great variety of types and breeds in every locality, and where this condition exists we never get the same degree of uniformity and excellence in the hogs produced