

The returns from these figures are instructive. The dressed-carcase returns showed $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. higher rate in favour of the fat type, but in every instance after the bacon type was superior. The bacon type, although a heavier pig, showed a loss of 12 lb., or 8.5 per cent., against 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb., or 18 per cent., in the fat type. The percentages in untrimmed loins were 13.5 for the bacon type and 12.8 for the fat type; trimmed loins showed 10.7 for the bacon type and 7.2 for the fat type. The experiment showed all through that the bacon type was better in its meat-yield.

The foregoing description should make it clear that any indiscriminate exporting of bacon pigs of the various types (notwithstanding that they have passed the veterinary inspection and are good weights and well conditioned) would be a very unwise policy, and unless a system of grading were adopted our producers and shippers might find themselves in a very unsatisfactory position in regard to their relations with British buyers, thus spoiling the good reputation already obtained from some of the pioneer shipments. That grading is playing an important part in other countries is instanced by a report on the official records at various stock centres in Canada, which show that over the whole of that Dominion only 11.1 per cent. of select bacon pigs are produced. This is from a table comprising the following classes: Selects, thick, smooth, heavy, shop pigs, lights, and feeders. It is shown that where farmers are endeavouring to produce the select type much larger percentages have been obtained, as instanced in the districts of Toronto and Montreal, which show 20.5 and 19.5 respectively, as against Edmonton with 2.4 per cent. If one compares the 11.1 per cent. of selects marketed with the fact that 85 per cent. of the Danish pigs grade select—that is, suitable for export to Britain—one then begins to realize what our position is and what our problems may be in the future.

CROSS-BREEDING FOR BACON TYPE.

It has been well demonstrated by those countries which are leading in the production of the best-type bacon carcass that no purebred pig of any special breed conforms to the present requirements, which can be met only by a crossbred. The various types of purebred pigs all more or less have points which debar them from being classed as selects for export bacon carcasses. There is no one special cross which excels all others in its ability to produce a first-grade carcass; the latter can be obtained in various ways. In Denmark, which produces the highest percentage of selects, a cross with the Large White boar on the native Landrace sow is general. It took a long time finally to decide on this, and the decision was only arrived at after considerable investigation and experiments, but it is now the rule. Ireland is credited with producing the longest carcass, and the Irish breeders, following out the system practised by the Danes, use Large White and Large Black (Devon) boars on their native Large Ulster sows. Canadian breeders, while using Large White and Large Black boars on different type sows, such as Berkshire and Yorkshire (Middle White), also use largely the Tamworth boar on Berkshire and Yorkshire sows.