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A TRIP

... THROUGH THE ...

UNION STOCK YARDS,

AND SLAUGHTER
HOUSES



CHICAGO,
U. S. A.

By GEORGE WM. LAMBERT.

ILLUSTRATED.



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... INTRODUCTION ...

Among the many interesting sights of Chicago, few are more interesting than a trip through the Union Stock Yards and Slaughter Houses. No one should fail to avail themselves of the opportunity to visit this great Stock Yards and Packing Town, which is a city in itself, there being between twenty and twenty-five thousand people employed here in the busy part of the year.

Since the writer first visited the Stock Yards and Slaughter Houses he saw the great need of a guide to explain all he wished to know about the place, and now, after nearly five years' study about it, he takes pleasure in submitting to those who contemplate a trip through the Stock Yards and Slaughter Houses this book, which gives a very true account of all the interesting sights of the place, and he hopes the book will prove a valuable help to such.

GEO. W. LAMBERT.

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The Union Stock Yards.

The Union Stock Yards were built in 1865 and opened for traffic in December of that year. Business has continued to date and has steadily grown in volume. The Stock Yards property, or what is known as the original Stock Yards purchase, comprises 320 acres, bounded on the north by Thirty-ninth street, east by Halsted street, south by Forty-seventh street and west by Centre avenue. Since making the original purchase the Stock Yards Company have added to their possessions by the purchase of several smaller tracts of land for railroad yard purposes, so that now the Stock Yards cover more than 450 acres of land. The Stock Yards and Packing Town occupy all of the section of land bounded by Thirty-ninth street, Halsted street, Forty seventh street and Ashland avenue, except about 80 acres in the southwest corner, 40 of which have been subdivided and the balance is a cabbage field.

The entire system of all the railroads in the West center here. The large capacity of the yards, the facilities for unloading, feeding and re-shipping are unlimited. No other place in the world can receive, handle and care for such an amount of live stock as is cared for at the Chicago Union Stock Yards. This immense market received the following head of live stock during the year 1892 :

Number of Cattle.....					3,571,796
“ “ Hogs					7,714,435
“ “ Sheep.....					2,145,079
“ “ Calves.....					197,576
“ “ Horses					86,998
Largest receipts of Stock	1 day,	1 week,	1 month,	1 year.	
“ “ “ Cattle	32,679	95,524	385,466	3,571,796	
“ “ “ Calves	3,068	8,479	31,398	205,383	
“ “ “ Hogs	66,597	300,488	1,111,997	8,600,805	
“ “ “ Sheep	18,797	58,683	227,316	2,182,667	
“ “ “ Horses	1,237	3,679	12,927	101,566	

The capacity per day for live stock at the Chicago Union Stock Yards is as follows:

50,000 Cattle, 200,000 Hogs, 30,000 Sheep, 4,000 Horses.

A regular Horse Market is now established here. During the past year the Company has erected a new Horse Exchange Pavilion 185x530 feet, at a cost of over \$100,000, containing a display track 36 feet wide and over 500 feet long, with three places for turning, all covered by an iron dome and skylight, containing an amphitheatre capable of seating 3,000 people, every seat commanding a fine view of the track. The building is to be known as "Dexter Park Horse Exchange and Pavilion." It will be heated throughout with the Sturtevant hot-air blast, making it always comfortable in the most extreme cold weather. It is also lighted with the arc and incandescent electric light; has an elegant buffet, lunch counter and fruit stand connected with it, also waiting and toilet rooms, thus making it the most perfect and complete place for selling and displaying horses and mules under roof in the world.

The Officers of the Union Stock Yards Company are as follows:

N. Thayer, President.

John B. Sherman, Vice-President and Gen'l Manager.

Geo. T. Williams. Secretary and Treasurer.

J. C. Denison. Ass't Sec'y and Ass't Treas.

Jas. H. Ashby, General Superintendent.

The Slaughter of Cattle.

Cattle received at the Union Stock Yards come from all parts of the country and may be divided into two classes: class 1, Native cattle; class 2, Range cattle. The Native cattle are those produced in the States near to Illinois, which are Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Range cattle are those from the plains of Texas, Colorado, Montana and Wyoming. About three-fourths of all the cattle received at the Stock Yards are Native cattle. These are shipped by small farmers for market and are as fine a grade of cattle as can be found anywhere in the world. From this grade of cattle come the meats which are shipped all over the country in Refrigerator cars, and the quality of which is unsurpassed. The Range cattle are generally thin and unfit for cutting into the best grades of meat.

The rules of the Stock Yards are, that the animals must be fed and watered before they are weighed, and without such weighing they cannot be sold. The lowest time that cattle can be pushed through the stock yard stage of their progress from the ranch to the killing-pen is twenty-four hours, and this, if any reason therefor appears may extend to several days. Then there is a rigid inspection by reliable officials that prevents any diseased beast being sent to the slaughter house for conversion



FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMEYER & WYMAN.

DRESSING BEEVES.

into human food. From this point on all depends on the skill and care with which the converting of him is done. In either of the large slaughtering establishments, Swift's, Armour's or Morris's, known as the "Big Three," the processes may be said to have attained perfection. Let us review the killing in the first named establishment.

Each beast for slaughter is driven into a narrow separate pen, the cleanest pen he was ever in, where there is no sight or scent of blood to alarm or excite him. A man standing on a board walk above stuns him

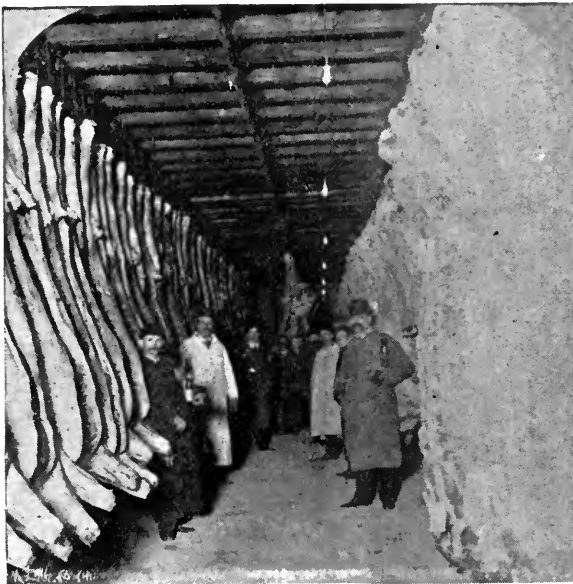
by a blow delivered with a heavy sledge upon his forehead. The concussion causes an abnormal rush of blood to his head and neck. Before he regains consciousness the door is raised, causing the animal to slide out upon the floor of the slaughter house. Then to make sure that the animal is powerless his skull is again crushed in; a chain is then fastened to his hind legs and he is hoisted from the floor; his fore legs are spread wide apart and a man thrusts a sharp knife into his throat. The blood gushes out in a torrent; a man is draining the blood out of both arteries and veins by scraping on the outside of the hide with a shovel. The utmost care is taken that this shall be thoroughly effected, as upon it depends in a great measure prevention of the tendency to decomposition that is inevitable where the blood is left standing among the muscular tissues.

There seems to be an almost morbid fear of harboring somewhere about the place germs of decomposition that might taint the meat. The first element of security attained, that of thorough draining out of the blood is shown by the condition of the meat, and the fact that the heart when taken out is always found to be perfectly empty. But that is only the beginning. The men whose department of the necessary handling compels them to get blood on their hands must wash them instantly at the spouting hose close by. In all the subsequent handling for removal of the intestines and other internal parts, skinning, dividing into halves, washing and drying, from the time the animal was first hoisted until he is stowed away in the cooler, his flesh never touches the floor, and of all the forty-two men who handle him on the way, each doing some one particular part and all working with the regularity of machinery and the speed of lightning, not one has laid a dirty finger upon him.

The blood is washed down into a gutter which leads to a tank, from which it is pumped into covered carts and taken to the fertilizer house, to be put under treatment for conversion into a valuable fertilizer called "dried blood."

Confining our attention to the one special steer, the next thing we see is the head being taken off; after this he is lowered to the floor and placed upon his back propped against sticks fastened to the floor. He is left in this position until his legs are broken, stomach opened and the hide skinned from the edges. Then with two hooks, one stuck behind each of the joints of the hind legs, he is hoisted to a position convenient for the butchers. After the tail is cut off, intestines taken out and the hide pulled off a little more, he is hoisted from the floor, never to touch

it again. On two tracks above are wheels from which hooks are hanging; these hooks are placed in and the others taken from the joints of the hind legs; then two men pull the hide while another man pounds and separates it from the flesh with a cleaver. The hide is then straightened out upon the floor by men with long poles; this is done to see if there are any cuts in the hide and if there be any it is kept separate from the others. The hides are sent to a cellar where they are salted and folded, then they are ready to be sold.



FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMAYER & WYMAN.

IN THE BEEF COOLER.

While the hide was being inspected a man was dividing the steer into halves by using a large heavy cleaver. The next moment we see men trimming the ragged edges and carefully washing and drying the meat. The meat is then numbered, tagged, weighed and hung in a cooler, at a temperature of 38 degrees F., where it remains forty-eight hours; at the end of this time it is again weighed; this is done to find the percentage of loss in weight, which will average about 3 per cent. Just eight minutes

have passed from the time the animal was knocked until he was finally stowed away in the cooler, although it can be done in five minutes. Two thousand five hundred cattle are killed in ten hours at this house.

The King of Butchers.

I here present to the reader the biography and record of the great butcher champion, M. F. Mullins, of Chicago. Mr. Mullins was born in Canandaigua, N. Y., in 1863. He moved west with his parents in 1869, settling in Hammond, Lake county, Indiana. At the age of 18 years Mr. Mullins started out in life for himself, and chose for his vocation the butcher business. He commenced his apprenticeship with the firm of Swift & Co., when their cattle business did not exceed sixty head per day. He has been in the service of this company continuously since, and has seen the business increase to the present capacity of 7,000 head per day. After eight years service with the company he was promoted to the position of foreman, which he has held to the present day. His first contest took place in the Exposition building in Chicago, Illinois, August 22d, 1883, there being eight contestants for prizes, as follows: First prize, gold medal, valued at \$250; second prize, \$100; third prize, \$50. The contestants worked their bullocks in the following order:

		Min.	Sec.
Walter Dennis,	Bridgeport, Ill.	7	39
William Rader,	Bridgeport, Ill.	7	54
Michael Sheck,	Armour & Co., Chicago,	6	12
M. F. Mullins,	Swift & Co., Chicago,	4	5
Pete Magee,	Bridgeport, Ill.	8	40
Rod Laverty,	Boston, Mass.	3	38
Frank Noonan,	Armour & Co.	8	40
Joe Malone,	Bridgeport, Ill.	12	22

This contest was principally considered on the best time made; good work was not regarded. Rod Laverty lost first prize by a foul claimed for not skinning out one hind leg. Mr. Mullins was awarded first prize,

Rod Laverty second, and Michael Sheck third. This contest was before an audience of about three thousand people.

This mode of contest has been discontinued, owing to the unsatisfactory work done. It is now supplanted by contests under American rules, which are as follows:

1. There shall be three judges, who shall be considered fairminded and honorable men, and thoroughly acquainted with the business.
2. Cattle shall weigh not less than 1,400 pounds.
3. Contestants will be allowed eight minutes to dress the bullock; judges to call time when the bullock is drawn up, front feet off and right hindleg broken; dresser to call time when finished.
4. After dresser calls time he will not be allowed near carcass or hide until after judges have made their inspection when, by having everything perfect, dresser will be credited with 100 points in time of eight minutes; points to be considered as follows:

1st.	For opening, reining and siding bullock,	15 points.
2d.	“ leging,	5 points.
3d.	“ rumping and backing	15 points.
4th.	“ splitting,	15 points.
5th.	“ clearing shank and dropping hide,	10 points.
6th.	“ time,	20 points.
7th.	“ general neatness.	10 points.
8th.	“ condition of hide,	10 points.

This constitutes the 100 points to credit. The following points will be deducted for the following defects: Twenty points off for every minute over the allotted eight minutes, and ten points in his favor for every minute less than allotted time. Under these rules Mr. Mullins's second match took place October 19, 1887, at the Exposition building in Chicago, Ill., with the exception that twenty-five minutes instead of eight were allowed to dress the bullock. There were nine contestants in this match. The judges were men of good standing and judgment and decided to the satisfaction of contestants and audience. One of them was from Boston, one from New York and one from Chicago.

A TRIP THROUGH THE

	Min.	Sec.	Points.
Mr. Mullins won first prize, \$100,	10		97
Larry Noonan won second, \$50,	12		94
Joe Smith won third. \$25,	11	45	81

At this contest there were over 3,000 people. These American rules which governed this contest as well as all others since bring out a better class of workmen, who find it to their advantage to do good work, besides being swift.

Mr. Mullins's third match took place in the Exposition building, Chicago, Ill., October 15th, 1889, before an audience of 8,000 people. Mr. Mullins worked his bullock last, and after the decision was given by the judges, there was great shouting by Mr. Mullins's admirers. Three cheers were then given for the champion beef dresser of the world, Mr. M. F. Mullins. After the excitement had quieted down Mr. Mullins thanked the judges and audience in a neat little speech, also his coworkers. Then Mr. G. F. Swift walked up to the judges's stand and presented Mr. Mullins with a handsome roll of bills. He was closely followed by Mr. E. C. Swift, of Boston, who also gave Mr. Mullins another roll of bills in admiration of his skill and activity as a beef dresser, and for so nobly representing their firm in the contest. The prizes were as follows:

	Min.	Sec.	Points.
First prize, \$300, Mr. M. F. Mullins,	8	50	119
Second " \$200, Mr. J. Smith,	10		116
Third " \$100, Mr. Larry Noonan,	9	50	104

Mr. Mullins's fourth contest took place in Union Park, San Francisco, Cal., May 18th, 1890, before an audience of 12,000 people, for \$1,000. This contest was between Mr. Mullins and Mr. Westphall, of San Francisco, who was champion of the Pacific slope. The match was under the same rules as the two preceding contests, excepting that contestants were allowed but eight minutes to dress the bullock instead of twenty-five. In the toss for choice of bullocks Mr. Westphall won, and in the toss for working last Mr. Mullins won. The time was as follows:

Mr. Westphall,	6	minutes,	42	seconds,	making	85	points.
Mr. Mullins,	7	"	7	"		127	"

After the judges had inspected the bullocks it was found that Mr. Westphall had done very poor splitting and siding and had scored the hide greatly, for which he lost several points. Four proprietors of the largest tanneries in San Francisco inspected Mr. Mullins's hide and pronounced it as being the best work done on any hide ever taken off in the country. Mr. Mullins was then declared winner and the champion of the world, being presented with a fine gold medal.

Mr. Mullins's fifth and last match took place at Willow Springs, Chicago, July 26th, 1890, under the auspices of the County Commissioners of Cook County, Illinois, in honor of Governor Palmer, who was at that time a candidate for the United States Senate, and has since been elected. This contest was between Mr. Westphall and Mr. Mullins. Mr. Westphall still thought he could beat Mr. Mullins and win back some of the money lost in the previous contest, as well as the championship honors. The audience numbered 15,000 people. In this race Mr. Westphall got choice of bullocks again and worked first. Time as follows:

Mr. Westphall	6 minutes, 43 seconds,	scored 107 points.
Mr. Mullins	5 minutes, 42 seconds,	scored 121 points.

SCORE CARD OF THIS RACE:

		Mullins.	Westphall.
Opening, reining and siding	15	12	12
Working of legs	5	5	5
Rumping and backing	15	15	14
Splitting	15	15	12
Dropping hides, clearing shanks	10	10	10
Condition of hide	10	10	10
General neatness	10	10	10
Time	20	20	20
Fast time, 10 points gained per minute		24	14
Slow time, 20 points lost per minute		--	--
		----	----
Total points		121	107

In this as in all other cases, all was excitement when the decision was made. Mr. Westphall made an eloquent speech declaring that Mr. Mullins was his superior, and that he had had a fair and square match both in San Francisco and Chicago. He also added that he was confident there was not a man in this country who could beat Mr. Mullins in a beef dressing contest. Mr. Mullins was then presented with a fine gold watch by the four County Commissioners, valued at \$250, and Mr. Westphall was presented with \$200 in cash as a token of sincere regard for his good work, he being the only man who gave Mr. Mullins a close fight.

How the Various Parts of the Animal are Utilized.

Now we want to know what becomes of the other parts of the animal, or have a brief idea at least.

The livers, hearts and kidneys are cleaned and trimmed and sold for food. The tallow which is trimmed from the intestines is sent to the oil houses to be converted into different grades of oleo oil. The bladders are filled with air, trimmed, dried and sold to bladder factories. The paunches and pecks, which are the first and second stomachs respectively of the cattle, are emptied and washed, then they are sent to the tripe room where they are pickled and sold as tripe. All other parts that cannot be sold for human food are sent to the tank room, where they are cooked in large tanks; then it is called tankage, and after it is pressed it is taken to the fertilizer house, dried, ground and sold to farmers as a fertilizer. The grease is taken from the top of the tank water and used for making tallow. The tank water is pumped to the fertilizer house, where it is boiled down to a dark, thick jelly-like substance; it is then put into small pans holding about twenty-five pounds each, and placed in hot ovens, where it remains for about twenty-four hours; it is then perfectly dry, and after being ground it is sold to farmers as the most valuable of fertilizers, called concentrated tankage.

The skulls, jawbones, horns, hoofs, in fact, all the bones are sent to the bone house, where they are cleaned, dried and made to look almost as white as snow. Neatsfoot and other oils are made in this building, from the marrow and fat taken from the bones.

Butterine Factory.

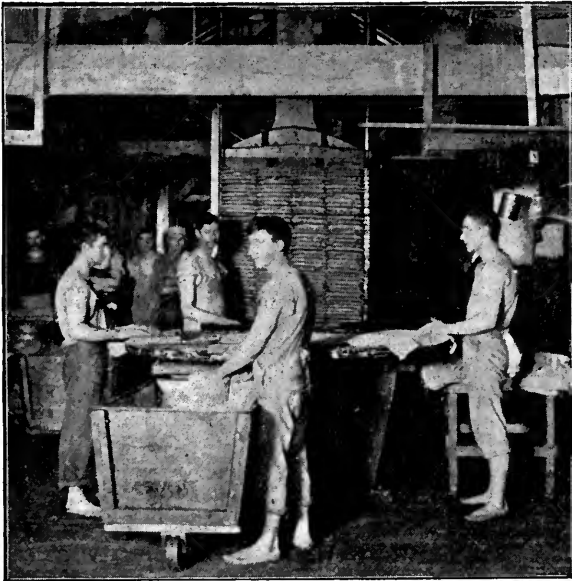
FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMAYER & WYMAN.

COOLING ROOM, BUTTERINE DEPARTMENT.

In visiting the Butterine factory, we start from the top floor and take in the sights as we go down through the different floors; in this way we start from the very beginning. When we get off of elevator at the top floor we first see the "souring room;" this room is filled with vats, or wooden tubs lined with tin or zinc. The "milk," for there is plenty of it used in the manufacture of butterine, is put into these vats; the room is then heated to a hot temperature, thus causing the milk to sour quickly. It is then put into churns and churned by machinery; when this is done it is transferred to mixing tanks and mixed with lard and oleo oil. These tanks are very large, made of iron; on the inside are revolving ladles,

giving the stock a thorough mixing. Then the mixture is allowed to run out from the bottom of tanks into ice water, which causes the stock to harden and form on top. Next it is taken from the water by men with sieves and sent to a very warm room; the heat of this room causes the separate lumps to mix, after which the mixture is sent down to the "butter workers," which are tables that are kept rolling around under two cone shaped rollers. Over these tables are round sieves, containing enough salt for one table of butterine. After this is thoroughly worked the butterine is sent down to the packing room, where it is put up in different size packages, and then sent to the shipping room to be branded and stamped; then it is ready for shipment. The retail price of butterine is from 14 cts. to 19 cts. per pound. The 14 cts. per pound being the common grade, and 19 cts. being the very best, or Extra Creamery Butterine.

Oil Houses.



FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMAYER & WYMAN.

PRESS ROOM, OIL HOUSE.

The oil houses are the cleanest places in Packing Town; the floors are kept so clean that a stranger sometimes hesitates to walk upon them. The press room men work in their bare feet and very light clothing, the temperature being between 80 and 90 degrees F. On the top floor of the building the fat is being hashed and running from the hasher into slanting troughs, which lead to open kettles. By cooking this fat it is converted into oil; then it is drawn off from the bottom of kettles on the floor below and put in square wooden troughs which are lined with galvanized tin. This oil is called "oleo stock." While the stock gradually hardens men will stir it with their hands and arms occasionally. When it becomes mushy it is put into cloths, folded and then put into presses and pressed by machinery. It requires nearly two hours pressing before all the oil is all separated from the cloths. As the oil separates from the cloths it drops into a tank and is drawn off into barrels. It is of a yellowish color and has a very rich flavor; it is called oleo, or butter oil, and is used in the manufacture of butterine. When the oil is all pressed out, there is nothing in the cloth but a very hard white cake. This is called oleo stearine; it is used largely in the manufacture of candles, and also for compound lard.

Glue Factory.

The glue factory is a very interesting place for one having an opportunity to visit it. A great many people have an idea that every glue factory sends out a sickening odor that is felt for miles around; but such is not the case with the glue factories of Packing Town, as all the material used is fresh from the slaughter houses. The different parts of the animal material used are pieces of hides, ears, horn piths, sinews of the feet of cattle, pigs' feet, sheep feet and other scraps that cannot be used for anything else. Nearly all of these are put through different processes. To explain each would require more space than is herein given. When the glue is made, it is drawn off into square pans, holding about fifty pounds each. When the pans are filled they remain in the chill room until the glue hardens; then they are taken to the top floor and held in hot water until the glue loosens from the side of the pans. The lump is then put into a machine, which cuts it into small thin cakes. These cakes are put upon wire racks in cages by girls, and when the cages are full they are lowered to the next floor by elevators for that purpose, and sent to the drying room where hundreds of cages of glue are hung and dried in a day. After the glue is dried it is ground into small pieces and is ready for shipment.

The Slaughter of Hogs.

The hogs are generally shipped in double-deck cars by farmers from all parts of the country to the Stock Yards. When they arrive they are



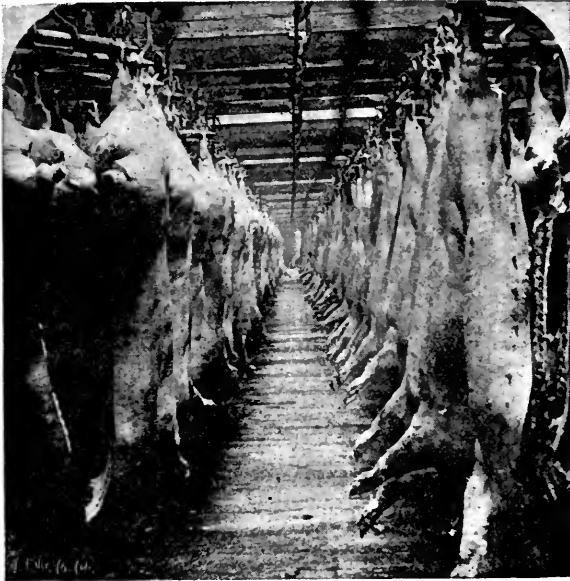
FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMEYER & NYMAN.

STICKING THE HOG.

fed and weighed and when sold are sent direct to the shackling pen of the slaughter houses through viaducts erected for that purpose. These viaducts are more than a mile in length. By using these viaducts a drove can be kept together and also be free from danger in crossing the railroad tracks.

The shackling pen is filled with hogs, and a boy in among them fastens a shackle upon one of the hind legs of the hog; a chain is hooked into a ring of the shackle and the hog is hoisted by machinery to a man who places the shackled hog upon a greased slanting rail; the end of the chain is then loosened and thrown back to the shackler again. When the hog is placed upon this greased slanting rail he slides down to the "sticker." Of course the hog is yelling more and louder than ever before,

but as soon as he quits kicking and tries to think what has happened the sticker plunges a knife sharpened on both edges into his throat. After stopping a few seconds to let the blood drain out the hog is allowed to slide down the greased rail until he reaches a boy who places a hook in



FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMAYER & WYMAN.

A HALF MILE OF PORK.

the ring of the shackle, and then allows the hog to slide off the end of the rail. The sudden jerk caused by the drop of the hog causes the shackle to slip off of his leg and he falls into a pan of hot water. He is then kept rolling in the water by men with poles until he reaches the end of the pen where there is an apparatus for throwing him out upon a table. The hair is then taken from his ears, after which he is fastened to the "scraper," a machine so arranged as to take almost all the hair off. After this he is scraped off by hand, of all the hair remaining in small bunches—his head is then taken off. Next he is put upon a rail and pushed

along to the "washing box," which is a small place containing iron pipes pointing out in different directions; the hog passes between these pipes, while the water rushes upon him with considerable force, giving him a



FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMEYER & WYMAN.

CHOPPING MEAT, SAUSAGE DEPARTMENT.

thorough washing. From here he is sent to men who might be called "hog barbers," for they do nothing but shave hogs. When these men are through with him he looks very clean and white. Next his stomach is opened and the intestines taken out. This is done in short order by one man, and when through with him a swift stream of water is forced all over him, giving the hog the last washing he is to have. He is then dried on the inside with cloths, and on the outside with knives run over him just as the barbers did; the knives take all the water off much better than the cloths do. After this is done the hog is sent to two men who pull the lard out; one man will pull from the right side with the right hand while the other man pulls the lard from the left side of the hog with the left hand. After the lard is taken out the hog is weighed. The lard is sep-

arately weighed and put into large kettles and rendered, making the "Pure Kettle Rendered Leaf Lard." The hog after being weighed is sent to the hanging room, where all the scraps and ragged edges are trimmed off; he is then divided into halves in this room. From here he is lowered to the chill room, or cooler, where he remains for a time varying from twenty-four hours to six days. The chill room is kept at a temperature of from 33 to 35 degrees F. About three minutes pass from the time the hog's throat was cut until he was ready to be sent to the chill room. The hogs are handled in one house by about thirty-five men, who



FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMEYER & WYMAN.

FILLING SKINS, SAUSAGE DEPARTMENT.

get through with about 9,000 hogs in ten hours.

Some of the hogs are sent to the cutting room, where they are cut up into different parts, such as bellies, pork loins, hams, shoulders and spare ribs. The pig's feet are pickled; the remaining parts are used in the sausage room for making bologna and sausage meat. The hams, shoulders and bacon are smoked in houses built for that purpose.

Smoke House.

There is not much to be said of the smoke house, but to begin with, let us make smoke. Corncobs are the best material that can be used for making the right kind of smoke, as they give the meat a sweeter flavor than anything else, but corncobs are not plentiful enough to be used the whole year round, and in this case, sawdust and logs of wood are used instead. The house must be thoroughly dried out before the meat is allowed to be smoked. This is done by burning logs of wood in the building for about five hours. There are five floors in this building, separated from each other by thin iron rails, so as to allow the smoke to pass through the different floors until it reaches the top of the building, where it slowly escapes through several chimneys on the roof. Each ham is hung in the center of a small stick, which is placed across the rail, side by side. The hams, shoulders, bacon and beef tongues require from twenty-four to twenty-six hours smoking. As the hams require the most smoke, they are hung on the floor nearest the fire. The shoulders may be hung on this floor, also the next. The fourth floor is for bacon, and the fifth for tongues. The different floors can be regulated for the amount of smoke needed. There are from 5,000 to 10,000 hams smoked in this building every day.

The Slaughter of Sheep.

The sheep, when they arrive at the Stock Yards, are first fed and weighed, after which they are sold and then driven to the slaughter house through viaducts. When they reach the gate at the end of the viaduct, they see one or two sheep in a pen a few yards from them, each having a bell attached around their necks. These trained sheep are called the "leaders." When the gate is thrown open, all of the sheep run down to the "leaders" and follow them to the pen from which they are to be taken and slaughtered. The "leaders," after leading the sheep to this pen, get away from the others through a trick taught them, and then return to their own pen, where more sheep may be waiting. These leaders are used to save time, and it will be noticed how quickly the sheep will follow them to the pen, much more quickly than they could be driven there by men. The leaders become so attached to their keepers that they take up the habit of chewing tobacco.

Now let the reader prepare for some unpleasant but interesting sights—the slaughter of an innocent sheep. First, a shackle is put on one of the hind legs of each of the two sheep, which are hoisted up together by means of a chain attached to the ring of the shackle, to a boy, whose duty it is to place small wheels with hooks attached, on the track overhead, from which the sheep are to hang. Then the sticker plunges a sharp knife into one side of the throat, cutting clean through, the head

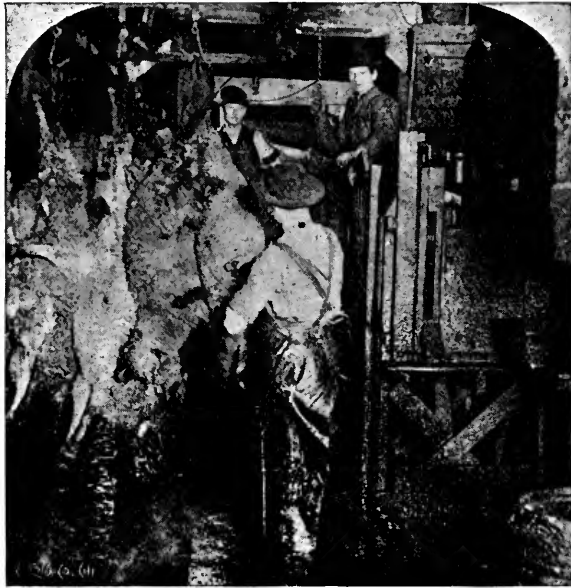


FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMEYER & WYMAN.

DRIVING SHEEP TO SLAUGHTER.

being almost severed from the body. This is a very pitiful sight to strangers; many persons have fainted away immediately after witnessing the slaughter of sheep, while the same persons will laugh and enjoy themselves at the sight of hog slaughtering. Another method sometimes used to cut the throat is as follows: Two or three men go into the pen, and each carry out one sheep in his arms; it is then laid upon a bench, where there are two iron stakes which are wide enough apart to allow the neck to enter. Then the sticker will bend the head backward, and thrust

the knife deep into the throat, after which the sheep is hung up to allow the blood to drain out. One way is as pitiful as the other. The sheep, after their throats are cut, are sent to boys, who rip the hide up the legs, then the legs are broken, after which a hook is placed behind the joints of each of the forelegs. He is then sent to a man to have the skin pulled from the neck and chest. Next he is sent to another man, who will trim the skin again from the neck and feet, and the hook to which



FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMEYER & WYMAN.

KILLING SHEEP.

the hind legs were fastened is taken away and two long hooks attached to a wheel on the track overhead are placed in, and the other hooks are taken from the joints of the forelegs. From here the carcass is sent to men who take it from the long hooks and hang the hind legs upon small stationary hooks, which are on a beam about five feet from the floor. The skin is then torn off with marvelous rapidity, and horrible to relate, however, in less time than it takes to tell it, the head is taken off and the breast bone split open, after which the intestines are taken out. Then he carcass is washed, dried and all the ragged edges are trimmed off.

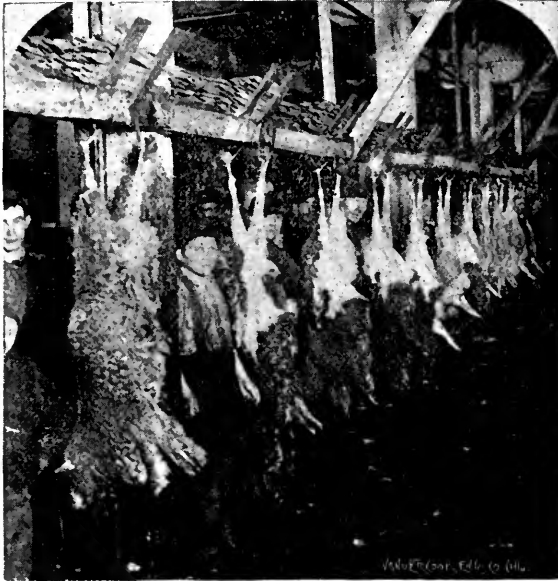
After this is done, the carcasses are hung on racks and weighed, eight or ten at a time; then they are sent into the cooler, where they remain twenty-four hours at a temperature of 38 degrees F. When the sheep is finally stowed away in the cooler, he has been handled by twenty different men on the way, each taking some one particular part, and only five minutes have passed since the poor sheep drew his last breath. A cer-



FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMAYER & WYMAN.

AFTER SLAUGHTER.

tain person has said that he marked the wool of a live sheep, just as it was being shackled, and ten minutes from that time he saw the very same wool he had marked on top of a load of sheep skins, which were being taken to the wool house. This may seem exaggerated to some extent, but when one takes into consideration the fact that only two minutes had passed when the skin was torn off, and that about 2,500 sheep are killed in ten hours at this house, it will be admitted that such a thing is possible.



FROM AN ORIGINAL PHOTO TAKEN BY STROHMAYER & WYMAN.

DRESSING THE SHEEP.

Wool House.

Now let us have a brief account of the wool house, which is a very interesting place to visit, although there is not a great deal to be seen at this place, and for this reason the writer will not be able to give a lengthy account, but will explain all of the most interesting facts.

The sheep skins are taken to the wool house and put into large vats to be washed; then after being washed, they are put into a linking machine. This is made of iron and built somewhat similar to a common tub, on the inside of which is another tub fastened by a pivot. The wool is put into the inner tub, which is then made to go around very fast, causing the wool to press against the side of the tub and the water to pass into the outer tub, which remains stationary. From this machine

the skins are sent to the fourth floor, where they are washed with acid which loosens the wool from the skin. Next they are taken to the top floor to have the wool scraped off. The wool is then gathered up and put through a separator, which loosens and separates the wool. From the separator the wool is sent to a room below, then it returns through chutes through which the wool is sent to a large dryer, where the temperature is 214 degrees F. The wool is sent through this dryer five times, and after it has passed through the fifth time it is thoroughly dry. Then it is allowed to drop from the dryer into large bins on the floor below, where it is packed in large bags, which, when full, will weigh about 200 pounds each. After the wool is taken off of the skins, they are put through a pickling process, after which they are cleaned and then sold to tanneries.



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