

Condition of the Ranges.

Professor McEachran, who has just returned to Ottawa from the Territories, has furnished the subjoined report to the department of agriculture:

You will be pleased to hear that following on the mildest winter we have experienced since starting ranching the cattle business in Alberta is in a most flourishing condition. Perhaps next to the mild winter as a factor in producing the large calf crop which all the ranches have this year (the Walrond branded 2,000, Cochrane 1,500, Oxley 1,500, and others proportionately large), is the killing of 1,000 wolves during the past fourteen months, for which the Northwest Territorial government have paid out \$8,000. Never was government money spent to better advantage, as had this not been done, wolves would have driven stockraisers out of the business and country within a few years. Messrs. Gordon & Ironsides have bought nearly all the exportable cattle amounting to nearly 10,000 head. During June and July rain fell in abundance and grass and water are plentiful. Horse breeders are much more hopeful. Numbers of horses have been shipped east for exportation to Belgium and France as well as to England, and better prices are being paid. The Walrond Ranch company will ship two carloads of nearly pure bred Clyde and Shire geldings to Montreal in a few weeks. The sheep industry is progressing very satisfactorily there. The entire wool crop has been sold to Toronto firms for satisfactory prices. Sheep throughout the territories are in excellent condition. S. A. is now exterminated almost completely. The crops in Manitoba are most promising. Throughout the whole northwest there is a feeling of confidence and jubilation such as has not existed for several years.

[NOTE - Dr. McEachran's remark regarding wool is not exactly correct, Winnipeg and Minneapolis dealers having bought a large quantity, as well as Toronto parties.]

The People's Bank.

The stock of this Montreal institution, which sold as low as 10 was later placed at 16, a gain of 6 points. There are various opinions as to the bank's chances of resuming business, and from the way certain customers are endeavoring to dispose of their deposits, one would conclude that they had not much faith in the affairs of the institution. A few deposit accounts, it is said, have changed hands at 90 per cent., but since then it is stated that some parties were willing to accept 60. It will be some time before the affairs of the bank are in a shape to enable the directors to say whether the bank's doors will again be opened for business.—Trade Bulletin.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin of July 27 says: "The freight market for grain is quiet, although a little more business is reported. The rates are quoted at 9d to Liverpool, 9d to 1s to Glasgow and Bristol, and 1s to 1s 6d to London. To the continent is bid at the nominal rate. Engagements are reported in cheese at 15s to Liverpool, 20s to London, 25s to Glasgow, and 20s to Bristol. Provisions 8c Liverpool, and 15s London to Glasgow. Cattle 42s 6d to 45s. A considerable quantity of wheat is on the way to this port from Duluth and Chicago at 5 1/2c from the former port and at about 1 1/2 to 5c from the latter. An engagement of 100,000 bushels wheat was also made at Duluth for shipment to Buffalo at 2 1/2c. Freights generally are firmer, engagements being reported from Chicago to Buffalo at 2 1/2c wheat and 1 1/2c corn, which is 1/2c advance on the week. Wheat has also been engaged at 1c from Chicago to Buffalo, and at 1 1/2c to Toledo.

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