

at a place where not enough produce is grown to keep it running? Were no estimates made as to the command of the raw material which it was to put up? Did some promoter make a profit, or is it the usual state of things that what is everybody's business is nobody's business? A common fault of co-operative concerns would appear to be that they are generally promoted, either by a visionary man, who only grasps one side of the undertaking or by someone who has little to lose and much to gain. At any rate history shows they have been too often money-losers for those who invested in them. It is trite to say that he who invests in something he knows nothing about simply buys trouble.

NORTHWEST STOCK GROWERS.

Some interesting figures were given by President D. W. Marsh, of Calgary, at the meeting of the Western Stock Growers' Association, held at Medicine Hat, Assa., on April 15. By arrangements made with the Territorial Department of Agriculture he was able to give the total number of cattle that had been shipped out of the Territories from July 1st to March 31st. Here is the list he gave: Cattle—Steers, 24,184; cows and heifers, 5,520; calves, 246; bulls, 49; stags, 16; total cattle, 30,015. Next came statistics of horses: Geldings, 1,789; mares, 923; colts, 87; ponies, 87; total, 2,869. The stock was shipped from the following points:

	Cattle.	Horses.	Total.
Maple Creek	4,441	250	4,691
Lethbridge	4,255	269	4,524
Medicine Hat	3,761	315	4,076
Pincher Creek	3,517	126	3,643
Calgary	3,172	349	3,521
Claresholm	2,717	186	2,903
Macleod	351	1,221	1,572
Cayley	1,396	3	1,399
Cochrane	1,122	...	1,122
Rush Lake	1,026	...	1,026
Walsh	980	...	980
Dundurn	840	...	840
Whitewood	757	...	757
Stair	406	51	457
Olds	438	...	438
Alameda	213	...	213
Weyburn	190	...	190
Swift Current	115	...	115
Morden	137	...	137
Other points	181	99	280
	30,015	2,869	32,884

From High River, Prince Albert, Gull Lake, Estevan and Fleming the numbers shipped were small, being under 100 head each and only 280 in all. The total is a noteworthy one, and gives some indication of what the industry will grow to in the future.

FISHERIES IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

In an article on the fishing industry the Western Star, published at Bay of Islands, Newfoundland, protests vigorously against lack of respect to the fisheries laws, particularly with regard to the herring fishery. It says: "If our laws are not sufficiently stringent to prevent thousands of barrels of herring from being taken and left on the beaches to rot and on the fishing grounds to pollute the waters, they should be made so, and their more thorough enforcement insisted upon. The wanton spoliation that has so nearly destroyed the beautiful gift of Providence in other bays must not be permitted in Bay of Islands."

That the fisheries are of a value to make them worthy of preservation is demonstrated by the following figures: "The number of barrels of pickled herring reported for six months ending 31st of January, at Bay of Islands alone, was 20,292, having a value of say \$3 per barrel, amounting to \$60,876. Of bulk

herring there were reported 25,510 barrels, valued at \$2 per barrel, showing a total value of \$51,020." The output of frozen herring, greatly diminished by lack of the necessary frost, amounted in that period to 11,267 barrels, valued at \$14,083.75. Lobsters of the value of \$4,800 were also reported, as well as salmon \$1,500 worth, and \$12,401 worth of dry cod. The total value of fish reported at the custom house amounted to \$145,059.50. With an industry of this magnitude endangered The Star would seem to be justified in its protest.

PORK PACKING IN THE WEST.

To appreciate the magnitude of the pork packing industry in the Great West of the United States it is only needful to study the figures furnished by the Cincinnati Price-Current in its annual report on the matter. When one reads that during the year ending 1st March, 22,200,000 hogs have been packed in the United States the mind fails to grapple with the quantity. The year had one predecessor, that of 1898-99, in which a greater number of hogs than this were handled, but in no previous year was there a greater outlay for the buying of hogs in that country. The cost of hogs purchased by western packers last year aggregated \$212,850,000. In 1899 lower prices prevailed, the average paid being \$3.71 as against \$4.11; and though more hogs were handled in the latter year the outlay amounted to only \$203,696,000. To show the growth of the industry it might be well to mention that ten years ago the outlay for hogs in the west was \$134,169,000, and in the east \$47,000,000. The amount paid in the east this year is estimated at \$55,000,000, and in the west \$212,850,000.

That the packing in the west for the past year shows a slight falling off in quantities is hardly to be wondered at, 1899 having been a phenomenal year in this respect, showing an increase over its predecessor of \$29,314,000 in values.

The total production of lard for the past year was: West, 794,000,000 lbs; east, 150,000,000 lbs; making a total of 944,000,000 lbs, as against 963,000,000 lbs for the preceding year. This shows a decrease of 19,000,000 pounds, a smaller percentage proportionately than the decrease in the number of hogs; which is accounted for by the fact that the average weight of the hogs was 235.67 pounds, as against 232.65 pounds average.

Of the pork packing cities Chicago of course leads the list, its total being 711,000,000 pounds for the year. Kansas City comes next with nearly three millions to her credit, while among the other places St. Joseph, also in Missouri, is perhaps making the most rapid strides towards the front. Last year its pack amounted to 1,346,733 pounds; in 1892 it was only 266,000 pounds. Fifteen cities, among them Omaha, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Cleveland, almost control the packing, doing 20,602,517 pounds out of a total of 22,200,821 pounds.

The production of green meats, fresh from the block, in the east and west for the year ending March 1st, are respectively, 595,000,000 pounds and 2,898,000,000 pounds, indicating a decrease of 193,000,000 pounds compared with the preceding year. What the entire industry amounts to is hard to comprehend, but these figures help one to realize its present proportions and wonder at its possibilities.

PROFITS AND SPENDINGS.

When, sometimes, we are called upon to describe black sheep among Canadian traders, their clever rascality, their extravagance with the money of others, their lack of conscience, we feel a pang of shame that such scallawags should be Canadians. But experience shows that we are not the only nation that has cause to be ashamed of some of its traders. A London contemporary describes the doings of a pair in the soft goods trade of that city, who went into business in the year 1886, Christian and Augustus Kropf by name. Their total net profits during fourteen years amounted to £7,256, whilst the drawings of the two partners reached almost £20,000, for Christian Kropf drew out £13,038, whilst Augustus Kropf absorbed £6,256. This means that for every sovereign they made they spent three! According to accountant's statement the firm has been insolvent since 1898. In that year—that is 1898-9—their turnover amounted to £26,000, on which there was a loss of £2,467; and, notwithstanding that heavy loss, one partner drew out that year