



HORSE RANCH NEAR CASTOR.

quality of oats. A yield of 115 bushels per acre is not uncommon in the central district, and from 50 to 60 is regularly obtained. While 34 pounds is the standard weight for a bushel of oats, those that won the first prize at the Provincial Seed Fair, weighed by the Dominion Grain Inspector for the province, tipped the scale at 48 pounds. The same official stated that Alberta was prepared to advocate a standard grade of oats calling for a weight of 42 pounds to the bushel, and also made the statement under oath that 85 per cent. of the Alberta oats examined by him would weigh over 42 pounds to the bushel. It is this fact which has led to the establishment in the province of large oatmeal mills. It is not unusual to see a large field of oats standing over five feet high. There is a large market for oats in the Province of British Columbia and the Yukon territories, also in the Orient, Eastern Canada and Great Britain.

BARLEY.—There are two varieties of barley produced in the province, the six-rowed barley, principally used for feeding purposes, and the two-rowed barley, utilized entirely for malting. The six-rowed is the principal barley crop in Central Alberta at the present time, and probably preponderates also in Southern Alberta, although the production of a high grade two-rowed barley in the latter district is rapidly coming to the front. Barley is a heavy yielder in Alberta. Instances are on record during the past year (1900) where crops have threshed out as high as 78 bushels to the acre, 40 to 55 bushels are, however, considered satisfactory returns.

LIVE STOCK IN ALBERTA.

HORSES.—In breeding horses, Alberta occupies a somewhat similar position to Canada that Kentucky does to the United States. Owing to the high altitude, dry and invigorating atmosphere, short

and mild winters, the nutritious grasses and inexhaustible supply of clear, cold water, Alberta is pre-eminently noted for her horses, which have become famous for their endurance, lung power, clean bone, and perfect freedom from hereditary and other diseases. There are, in Alberta, several grades of horses, varying in point of quality from the hardy Indian pony (cayuse) to the beautiful well-formed thoroughbred.

Heavy draft horses are now finding a ready sale at highly paying prices. Teams, weighing 3,000 lbs. and upwards, are worth \$500 and more. Between 2,500 lbs and 3,000 lbs., the average price would be \$400, and the value of teams weighing between 2,000 lbs. and 2,400 lbs. is \$250 and upward, according to quality.

CATTLE.—Southern and Central Alberta now supply the Province of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory with beef. In addition, a large export business to Great Britain is done. It is a fact, that the cattle of this province are of much better quality and breeding than the average run of range stock in the Western States. The best pure-bred bulls are being used. It is an interesting fact, that the City of Calgary is the home of the largest individual pure-bred cattle auction in the world. This takes place in the month of April each year, and on that occasion stockmen gather from far and near to purchase their bulls, and to transact other business. Shorthorns, Herefords, Polled Angus, and Galloways are the chief beef breeds, while Holsteins and Ayrshires are produced for dairy purposes.

SHEEP.—Sheep, in common with other stock, have always prospered on native Alberta grasses. With the growth of alfalfa and field peas on the irrigated lands will come a marked extension of the sheep-raising industry, and the ever-increasing population