

proof fence. Sheep can be kept in at much less cost than coyotes can be kept out, however, and a much smaller investment in fencing would suffice in districts where the coyote problem is not acute. Such a fence as above indicated is no more than every well equipped farm should have, whether or no sheep are kept, and such fences are being erected to an ever increasing extent in the older districts of the west.

One enterprising keeper of a large band of farm sheep near Carlyle offers the following as his solution of the fencing problem. It is worthy of careful consideration. For smaller flocks less woven fences would be required. He says: "This is a bluff country on the edge of Moose Mountain and is badly infested with coyotes. I use a woven wire fence 49 inches high, 11 strands, cut into lengths of 10 rods each, and never let the sheep out of it without a herder. I have them in this portable fence without a herder, but find a daily visit necessary. I have one and a half miles of the woven wire and three men can take down the fence and enclose a fresh 40 acre pasture in less than a day. It is not stretched tight and can be hung on any barbed wire fence with an occasional 3 inch nail at the bottom to keep it close to the ground (use 2½ inch or 3 inch nails, not staples). When there is no fence to hang it on, a stake every 15 feet, lightly driven in, will suffice. With the portable fence everp patch of rough land or summerfallow that will keep the sheep a week can be made use of. I have had my flock on a neighbour's weedy stubble before summerfallowing for a month at no cost. We do not put the sheep in a corral at night and have only lost one lamb in four years and it was taken when the sheep were in the open and the herder was at dinner."

Inquiry of the hide and wool dealers in Winnipeg elicited the information that Eastern Canada is the ultimate destination of all the wool sheared in the west; that during the clipping season is the best time to sell the wool, as then the buyers are looking for it; and that from 12 to 12½ cents per pound at point of shipment was the average price paid by them for wool during the past season. A considerable disparity will be noted between these wool prices and those given by the sheep raisers themselves. In figuring up the average proceeds obtained from a flock of sheep the lower prices—those given by the farmers—were used.

As the transition of the sheep industry from a ranching to a farming basis gradually takes place a decline both in quantity and quality of the wool crop must be looked for. At the same time wool is an important product for which there is at all times a market and in the attempt to secure large, heavy and well fleshed carcasses the demand for wool should not be lost sight of even though, with the disappearance of range conditions, the necessity for some long woolled strain of blood in the flock no longer exists. The Shropshire or Suffolk and Merino cross gives a sheep recommended alike by the butcher, as yielding a desirable carcass, and by the wool dealer, as supplying a desirable fleece.

Some interesting data was secured from the leading firms buying western sheep and also from those importing eastern mutton. The extent to which the West falls short of supplying even the existing