

year from Moosejaw alone. The bones have all been gathered within a radius of from ten to twenty miles around the station. Estimating that it takes the bones of 50 buffalo to make a ton, and we have the enormous number of 20,000 buffalo which have left their bones within a few miles of Moosejaw. And yet this is only a drop in the ocean as compared with the whole country. What immense herds of these animals must have once wandered over the prairies of the great Northwest! Surely a country furnishing nourishment for millions of wild cattle, will yet support vast herds of domestic animals.

The crops around Moosejaw have not turned out worth much this year, and a great portion of the grain has not been cut. In the spring the crops looked very fine and the farmers were consequently jubilant, but hot winds and drought destroyed their bright hopes. Merchants therefore do not regard the situation as very encouraging for the coming season, but the majority of them will endeavor to hold out to see what another year will bring forth. Many of the farmers took their teams and went out to work on the extension of the M. & N. W. R'y when they saw that the grain would not be worth cutting. Commercial changes at Moosejaw have been few. The old houses of Messrs. R. Bogue, J. J. McLean and E. M. Robinson still hold the ford. Woods & McKenzie, brewers, are still doing a large trade all over the Northwest. They have the most complete brewery in the territories.

#### REGINA.

Coming eastward we shall stop for a glance over the capital of the Northwest Territories. The district around Regina, in common with other parts of the western country, has suffered greatly from drought this season. A good deal of grain has not been worth cutting, and the portion cut will yield very lightly. This has proved somewhat discouraging to the business men as well as to the farmers, and will check for this season a number of contemplated local improvements. However, the people are generally hopeful and confident for the future of the town. Besides a failure of the crops, although undoubtedly a great drawback, will not be felt so keenly at Regina as at towns depending almost entirely on farmers' trade, owing to the fact that a considerable portion of the trade of the former is done with the Mounted Police, Indian department, and other Government expenditures. Building operations at Regina this season have therefore been limited in extent, the principal work going on in this line being at the Mounted Police barracks, where about \$30,000 will be expended by the Government in new building.

One of the live institutions of Regina is the Board of Trade. Nearly all the leading business men have united with this organization, and a good deal of useful work has been done through the labors of this body in forwarding the interests of the town. Through the instrumentality of the board a trail has been opened to Wood Mountain, including bridging and other improvements to render travel over it safe and easy. A trail has also been opened more lately through to the Saskatoon settlement. This shows what may be accomplished by the united action of the business men in the

interests of a town. In addition to being on the main line of the C.P.R'y, Regina is also at railway terminus. The Regina & Long Lake R'y Co. have worked along so quietly that it was hardly known outside that they were doing anything. Nevertheless some twenty odd miles of the road have been built and equipped and a daily train now runs out to the end of track. An effort will be made to push the road forward next season, with the intention of ultimately reaching the North Saskatchewan. In industries Regina boasts the westernmost flour mill in the Northwest. This new mill is constructed on the improved roller process system, and is capable of turning out 100 barrels per day. Financially the corporation of Regina has been managed carefully and the town is now in a good position in this respect. The debenture debt of the town amounts to \$10,000, which sum was voted some time ago for local improvements. The money was expended judiciously in grading streets, building sidewalks, providing protection against fire, and building a town hall. This careful management has left the town in a position to help itself in the future, in case further expenditure should be deemed imperative. One drawback in regard to taxation is the amount of property held by the Northwest Land Co. This lauded monopoly has heretofore refused to pay taxes, on the ground that the company is entitled to the same exemptions as the C. P. R. Co., from which latter company the lands were obtained. It is understood that the matter will be tested in the courts and an effort made to compel the Land Co. to bear its share of taxation. One of the bugaboos of Regina has been the supposed lack of water, but this idea has been pretty well exploded, practical tests having proved that there is almost a certainty of obtaining a plentiful supply of water by going down about 125 feet. A well put down by the town corporation this summer proved very successful, a flowing stream having been struck at a depth of 120 feet, which filled the well in a short time, and the level is not perceptibly reduced by pumping.

A commercial sketch of Regina would be incomplete without a glance at the wholesale drug house of Dawson, Bole & Co. This firm commenced jobbing about three years ago, and since that time their trade has grown steadily till now they do the largest straight wholesale business in the territories. In addition to handling drugs they carry lines of staple stationery, and also do a very large trade in cigars. In the latter goods they have the exclusive agency in the territories for several popular brands. Their jobbing trade extends from Oak Lake in Manitoba to away into the Mountains in British Columbia, and to the North Saskatchewan. This season the firm have made extensive improvements in extending their building accommodation, rendered necessary through their increasing business. A large fire proof warehouse has been erected at a little distance from the main building, and also a laboratory provided wherein are manufactured the proprietary medicines largely handled by the firm. Commodious offices and stock rooms have also been added. The success which has attended the operations of this house shows what may be accomplished in wholesale business in the territories.

#### The Ranches:

About 2,000 head of Montana sheep have been shipped to Chicago from Medicine Hat.

A car load of horses from the Stewart rancho for English Cavalry service, was shipped east on Tuesday last.

Several car loads of sheep for breeding have lately been imported from Ontario, for distribution over Manitoba.

The grass on the ranges is said to be good this fall. The plentiful rains are daily lessening the chances of a big burn up.

The Montana wool clip for next year is put at 10,000,000 pounds, and its value is estimated not to fall far short of \$2,500,000.

A herd of cattle belonging to the Montana Cattle Co., numbering 1,700 head, will be shipped to Chicago from Medicine Hat.

A new ranching company has been organized by Sheriff Chapleau, of Regina. The promoters are Americans. The rancho will be located in Alberta.

In the Pincher Creek district a large number of calves are being branded. In fact the fall branding throughout the country promises to be most satisfactory.

The Medicine Hat Rancho Company have secured from the Dominion Government a lease of 17,000 acres of land. They will increase their herd this fall.

Reports from the round up are to the effect that cattle are in splendid fix. One foreman told us that he did not remember ever seeing cattle in better condition at this time of the year.—*Gazette*.

W. L. Nichol, of Medicine Hat, has been notified that he would receive a lease for nine sections of land in a few days. This lease will be used as a sheep rancho and 1,600 head of sheep will be placed on it at once.

An eastern paper is authority for the statement that "upwards of 65,000 pounds of fine graded merino wool has been procured from this season's clip in Alberta Territory. It is the same class of wool as in the United States bought from 22 to 25c. per pound. A wool growers' association has been formed in the district. The flocks in Alberta are, we are told, all imported Montana sheep, and produce the grade of wool which bears the now well recognized name of Montana."

There are now in the vicinity of Maple Creek, Assa, fifteen thousand head of cattle, all reported doing well and in a flourishing condition. The Cypress Hills, which are a short distance south of the town, contain good grass and showers have kept it green. Mr. Oxarant has taken a lease in the vicinity and will bring in about 1,500 head of horses this fall. It is expected two droves of cattle will be in from Northern Montana about 6th of September, for shipment to Chicago via the C.P.R. Stockmen say that fully as many cattle will be shipped this year as last.

The following from the *Macleod Gazette* will be interesting in view of the recent discussion regarding the establishment of stock yards at Winnipeg:—" (What will be the surplus of steers, say in this district, this fall,)" asked a *Gazette* reporter of a well informed cowman the