

NWp
2014

and windswept bunchgrass ranges, of streams and lakes and mighty rivers, of sun-kissed benches and lush meadow lands, of gloomy forests ready for the woodman's axe, and scarred rocks waiting the miners' pick, a country of wealth inestimable and attractions undeniable.

Ranching

FOR three-quarters of a century Kamloops has been the centre of the ranching industry of the interior of British Columbia, great herds of cattle have been bred and reared and fattened on the bunch grass slopes of the district and shipped from the city to supply the markets of the coast. The climate is conducive to successful cattle rearing at a minimum of expense as the winter feeding season is short and winter shelter almost unnecessary. The bunch grass of the ranges forms a ration which without any addition puts the beef animal in prime shape for the market or the breeding one in condition to face the short winter. The herds have for a long time been bred from a good class of sires and always with a view to beef production. Horses too are shipped in large numbers from the district and the quality of the mountain bred range fed animal leaves nothing to be desired. Of whatever breed the animal may be it is generally above the average in activity, strength and endurance in these respects, surpassing the horse bred and reared on the level plains. Breeding has been carefully looked after and the cayuse scrub sire of the early days has been almost entirely replaced by well selected clydesdales, percherons, thoroughbreds or roadsters, and the progeny has now lost the characteristics of the hardy but undesirable native horse.

Mixed Farming

OF late years the fencing of wide areas of leased lands on the ranges by the large cattle owners had forced the smaller land owner to turn by degrees to mixed farming and the settlers who have come into the district recently are nearly all devoting themselves to this branch of agriculture. In all directions there are small areas of choice land which are available for the purposes of the general farmer, and improved, or partly improved places can be secured on reasonable terms. In the parts of the district where irrigation is necessary water rights are sold with the place and of course add to its value. Close to the city the land available for homesteading is pretty well taken up but in the North Thompson Valley and at various points on the Shuswap lakes there are still locations open for settlement which, with time and energy properly directed, will develop into fertile and profitable farms. This is particularly true of the North Thompson Valley and the smaller ones tributary thereto. In this section there are several extensive tracts of extensive bottom land particularly suited for hay raising, and many miles of lightly timbered land suitable for diversified farming, dairying and hog raising. The soil in this valley is of two

