

Nearly all correspondents reported that the local butcher shop afforded a sufficient market for all they produced, though Winnipeg, Brandon, Prince Albert and Regina occasionally were named as shipping centres. The ranchers in the south-western portion of the province, of course, find in Winnipeg their principal market for both mutton and wool. With the local markets not fully supplied and the number of sheep for shipment east declining each year, there is no danger of over production for years to come. This is further borne out by the testimony of the packers to which reference will be made further on.

The most popular breeds among Saskatchewan farmers are: Shropshire, Oxford, Southdown, Leicester, Merino, Cheviot, and Rambouillet, and they are named in the above order of frequency. Thus the short woolled mutton breeds largely predominate. Pure bred rams are very generally used when obtainable, but many correspondents report a desire to use such but no knowledge of where they may be obtained. Here is further evidence of the need for a bulletin dealing with the whole subject.

Coyotes or prairie wolves were named as almost the sole source of loss by the sheepman of the province. A number of other sources were named by different correspondents, but each was reported by but one man, so these cannot be regarded as sources of more than very occasional loss. Dogs, unseasonable weather at lambing time, ewes too fat when lambing, poison, spear grass, castration and stealing were the sources of loss named by one or another, but coyotes were named as a source of loss or as a disadvantage of sheep raising by fully half those reporting.

Coyotes are undoubtedly a factor that must be reckoned with in this connection. Two methods of disposing of this pest are available. One is to increase the present bounty and thus encourage greater slaughter of them, and the other is for the individual sheep owner to fence against them. It requires but little better fencing to keep coyotes out than to keep sheep in and the cost of such fencing when its durability, appearance and usefulness in many ways other than as an essential of successful sheep keeping are considered is not excessive. These two methods of solving the coyote problem should go hand in hand. Their extermination should be encouraged in every way, while the individual should gradually equip his farm with such a system of permanent fences as will permit him to place sheep or other stock on any field requiring to be pastured off or on which pasture for the use of the sheep at certain times has been grown. The inner division fences need not be of so strong and expensive a type as the line fence. From the data submitted by a number of fence companies it is estimated that the entire cost in labour and material, including good cedar posts and all necessary braces, etc., of a first class coyote proof 10 or 12 strand fence, 44 to 48 inches in height, at points having about the same freight rate from the east as Regina has would be not more than \$300 per mile. By the farmer supplying his own labour, and in a variety of other ways, this figure could be materially reduced. It is named as the outside figure for a first class, durable, woven wire, coyote