

THE PRAIRIE.

(ILLUSTRATED)

WEEKLY JOURNAL OF INTEREST TO ALL.

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ERNEST BEAUFORT, Manager.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1891.
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AT THE Rod and Gun Club meeting, held last week, the question of certain amendments to the game ordinance was brought up again. The most important amendment is that dealing with the sale of game, and is one which calls for the serious consideration of our law-makers. Last year the club sent down to Regina a large and influentially signed petition, praying that the sale of game might be prohibited. Although the club received assurance from several members of the Legislative Assembly that they would support the petition, as far as we can learn it received but scant consideration. The petition was presented and referred to the proper committee—and dropped. At least, this is what we imagine, as the petition was never heard of again. It was said by some that the petition was sent down at too late a day to allow the House to properly deal with it. The club will probably take a "pointer" from this, and see that it is sent down this year in good time. If the suggestion of the club, as regards the sale of prairie chicken, is not acted upon, it simply means the extermination of that bird before many years are past. There is no doubt that the fact of there being plenty of shooting in the Northwest is a great inducement to a number of people to settle here. Surely it would be better to protect the game for all time than to allow it to be slaughtered in car-load lots for a few years. An argument used against the alteration of the law is that many people make a living by killing game, and that they have a right to do so. That is certainly so, as the law stands at present, but surely if that right works to the detriment of the general public, our law-makers should, in their wisdom, repeal the law, so as to work for the good of the whole com-

munity. What on earth will the benefit of the "right" be to anyone, if in say, five years time, there is not a chicken on the prairie? We sincerely trust that the Legislative Assembly will duly consider the matter at the next session, and that there will be no disallowance of the amendment when it reaches Ottawa.



THE census will soon be taken and we are assured of largely increased representation at Ottawa (next time). If our population goes on increasing at this rate, and the populations of British Columbia and Manitoba, respectively, receive their full quota of M's. P., it will certainly not be long before the "tail" does a good deal towards "wagging the dog." Take the hint, Sir John.

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(Items Gleaned from Our Exchanges)

PROFESSOR DAWSON, in his geological report of 1884, estimated the probable minimum amount of coal to the square mile at Lethbridge to be 5,000,000 tons. With an output of 2,000 tons per day, and calculating 300 working days in a year, it will take over nine years to mine the coal in one square mile. Considering the vast area of coal lands in this vicinity, there is not much danger of the supply becoming exhausted for some generations yet.

THE Lethbridge telephone system will be in operation in a week or two.

IT IS reported that the half-breeds in the vicinity of Pincher Creek are in a destitute condition.

THE weather during the past two weeks has been all that could be desired at Macleod. No wind, clear, cloudless skies, with the thermometer registering 50° zero nearly every day. There is, however, between six and eight inches of snow on the ground, making travelling rather difficult. The range cattle are in good fix, and unless some unusually severe weather comes on, will pull through the winter without any loss whatever.

DURING the storm at Lethbridge last week, a Mrs. Arthur Cave and her child had a narrow escape from being lost on the prairie. Mr. Cave notified the police that they were lost and a search party was sent out. They were found some six miles out of