

hogs are worth \$5.25 per 100 pounds. Inferior lots are ruling at 4½ to 5c.

MILCH COWS.—There is not much demand for cows and the market is almost nominal. From \$30 to \$15 about represents the value.

HORSES.—There is very little demand for horses at present and the market is quiet. Halter broken broncos are worth from \$65 to \$125 each, according to weight and quality.

CATTLE BREEDERS MEET.

The annual meeting of this association was held in the city hall, Winnipeg, on Wednesday, the 20th inst. The president in his annual address said in part: Since last we met our province has seen one of the most unfavorable seasons in her history, but it is, I think, a matter of congratulation that the cattle industry has been less affected by the adverse season of 1900 than any other branch upon which the farmers depend, although the pastures suffered to a certain extent from the excessive dry and hot weather in the early part of the season, still the grasses were very nutritious, with the result that those who were turning out on grass-fed beef cattle found them ready for market as early and in some cases earlier than in what seemed to be more favorable seasons. The rain in midsummer and the excessive rainfall during harvest and fall, while it seriously interfered with our crop of 1 hard wheat, provided an abundance of fall pasture and a scarcity of winter feed in some districts and a poor quality of it on account of unfavorable weather is about the only disadvantage the industry has met with during the year. It might be well for me to briefly refer to the progress of this association and the interests that are closely allied with it since the organization meeting in 1890. Starting in with a membership of 30 in that year the year 1900 saw it increased to 98, which, I think, is a creditable showing, although undoubtedly there are still quite a number of breeders who are not yet members of this association. I have been unable to find any available statistics showing the number of pure bred cattle in the province, but I feel safe in saying that there has been a great increase in their numbers proportionate to the increase in the grade cattle of the province, and pure bred bulls are, I think, with very few exceptions the only stock now used. The number of cattle in the province has shown a gratifying increase of some 125,000 in 1890 to 275,000 in 1900; the number of cattle exported has shown an increase of from 11,000 in 1894 to 44,500 in 1900, the latter number being made up as follows: Beef cattle exported, 10,500; stockers shipped to the United States, 10,000; stockers shipped to the United States, 10,000. It is, I think, a conservative estimate to say that the value of those cattle alone would exceed a million dollars. When we add to this the value of the dairy products, which are as much the products of the industry as the beef and stocker cattle, we find that the value of the former has increased from over \$500,000 in 1890 to over \$1,000,000 in 1900; this, I think, all things considered, is a creditable showing. Returning to what more closely concerns the members of the association, viz., the pure bred interests, I doubt if any province in Canada can show a greater advance during the past year than Manitoba. At the latter exhibition every year one sees fewer culls and the past year, I think, showed a larger percentage of high class cattle than any previous year. In this country of magnificent distances, the question of freight rates, particularly on single animals, has always been a very live question, and it is, I think, very gratifying to the members of this association that the railway authorities are now fully convinced of the fact that it is to their interests as well as to the interests of the province at large, to encourage the use of high class pure bred males for breeding purposes.

The secretary's report, which followed, went into the executive transactions of the association for the past year, and showed that good work had been done in the interests of this important industry.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Andrew Graham, formerly first vice-president, F. W.

Brown, Portage la Prairie; second vice-president, J. E. Marples, Deleau.

The name of the association was amended on motion so as to limit its scope to Manitoba only, the breeders of the Territories having formed another association of their own. A resolution disapproving of government aided live stock auction sales was passed. The provincial government was petitioned to establish an agricultural school for the province.

In the evening a joint meeting with the sheep and swine breeders was held a report of which has already been given in The Commercial.

MINING MATTERS.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

It is reported that a scheme is on foot to establish a smelter at Fernie.

The shipments of ore from the Minor Graves properties in Phoenix camp, for the week ending last Wednesday amounted to 3,900 tons.

The True Blue property, Rossland district, is to be developed this year by the Canadian Gold Fields Syndicate.

An important event took place at Greenwood last week when the new machinery at the Mother Lode mine was set in motion. This is said to be the finest machinery plant now in use in any British Columbia mine.

The Hillside mine, Rossland district, is to be started up again at once with a full force of men. Up to the present some \$20,000 has been spent on this property, most of the money was spent on development work. The two tunnels are 700 and 450 feet in length and very good showings of ore. For some time irregular shipments of ore have been made.

Since its reorganization the Winnipeg mine has paid off an indebtedness of \$7,208.51. The first payment was \$4,000, the second \$1,500, and the third \$1,708.51. Besides this the pay rolls amounting to \$3,000, have been met. The Winnipeg is now free of debt.

An important find of gold ore has been made on the Indian Chief mine, Rossland, the yield being reported to be \$143 to the ton. This is taken to prove that the rich ore bodies of that locality extend over wider areas than has heretofore been supposed.

On the morning of the 18th inst. the smelter of the British Columbia Copper Company, at Greenwood, was, what is technically termed, "blown in" and active operations are in progress. There is now on hand a considerable quantity of ore from the Mother Lode mine and an almost unlimited quantity can be obtained from other mines if the company should decide to do so. The daily capacity of the smelter is 250 to 300 tons. The plant has been arranged with a view to increasing the capacity to five times this amount. It is reached by a spur of the Columbia and Western branch of the C. P. R.

L. M. Rice, C. E., now of Seattle, Wash., well known in the Canadian district, where in 1890-1900 he was engineer in charge of Canadian Pacific Railway surveys before and during the construction of the Columbia and Western Railway, lately spent a few days in Greenwood, speaking of the proposed Greenwood and Fernie electric tramway. It is announced that Mr. Rice will bring in a staff of assistants about March 1st, and will then proceed with the survey of the tramway route preliminary to early construction.

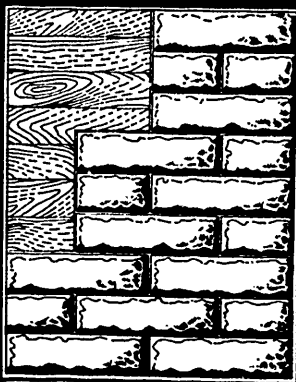
Gilbert Matron, manager of the Jewel mine, Lost Lake, Boundary district, will probably leave for England shortly to confer with the management there of the Jewel mine, Limited, as to the installation of a suitable plant for treatment of the ore. The resumption of an active policy of development of the mine which is regarded as about the most promising gold quartz property in the district. About 2,500 feet of work have already been done in underground development and a large quantity of ore has been blocked out ready for stoping.

Some efforts are being made by interested parties to induce the Dominion government to grant a bounty on the smelting of silver lead ores in Canada, with a view to counteracting the heavy duties now imposed on the export of this industry by the government of the United States.

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TORONTO, Canada.

of Winnipeg, was in Greenwood on Feb. 18. It is understood that his visit to the Boundary district was primarily in connection with the Wynkoop-Stephens Company's general mercantile business, at Phoenix. Jas. Lawrence, of the Lawrence Hardware Company, Nelson, B. C., in which Mr. Ashdown is also interested, has, too, been at Phoenix on similar business.

The fourth annual meeting of the War Eagle Mining Co. was held at the company's offices, Toronto, on Tuesday. The financial statement showed an indebtedness of \$583,700. The profit and loss account for the year showed a debit balance of \$147,514, owing largely to the stopping of shipments. The net proceeds from ore sales amounted to \$74,431, while the cost of mining and developing, including salaries was \$272,266. The report of the manager, Edmund B. Kirby, said there was an estimated ore reserve of 35,000 tons averaging \$14 a ton. At the close of the proceedings some of those present in conversation expressed very great satisfaction with the method of presenting the accounts. For the purchase of a controlling interest in Monks, Murugan and Rosland Red Mountain an increase of \$243,000 of indebtedness was admitted. The objection to this is that last year nothing was mentioned in the report nor did the accounts show these properties had been purchased for War Eagle stockholders although the purchase had been made a considerable time ago. Those complaining blame the management for withholding the statement last year that these properties had been purchased on account of the War Eagle and putting it in this year. When the general report is so unfavorable that the loading up of the War Eagle company with unproductive properties may be expected to adversely affect the stock much more than it would have done last year.

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LATE WESTERN BUSINESS ITEMS

Tenders are being called for the purchase of the stock and book debts of W. G. Leaney, grocer, Port Arthur, Ont., insolvent.

E. Jobin is opening in furniture at St. Claude, Man.

Hawkes & Barker have formed a partnership to carry on the general store business of the former at Whitehouse, Assn.

The annual meeting of the Elkhorn board of trade has been held. F. W. Climgan was elected president, C. F. Travis vice, and G. Silvester, secretary-treas.

TENDERS.

Tenders will be received up to 2 o'clock p. m., on March 16, by the trustees of Moira school district, Man., for the erection and completion of a school house at Waskada, to be built of frame upon a stone basement, contractor to supply all material. H. Wheeler, Secy.-Treas.

Tenders for a brick building for H. A. Manville, Carberry, Man., will be received till 6 p. m. Friday, March 8.

A. Leadlay, of H. & A. Leadlay, hide and wool dealers, Winnipeg, returned on Thursday from a visit to Toronto of several weeks duration. Mr. Leadlay thinks there is no place like Winnipeg for climate, and found the eastern weather much harder to endure than the clear cold weather of the west. He was very successful in the transaction of his business there.

T. B. Horn, grain inspector, Winnipeg, returned on Wednesday from Montreal, where he has been sitting on the grain commission which recently made enquiries on behalf of the Dominion government into the grain inspection system at that port.

T. B. Devaney, representative at Winnipeg, of W. H. Brock & Co. of Toronto, left for the east on Monday.

In the British Columbia legislature the presentation of provincial accounts showed an expenditure last year of \$1,881,265.30. The expenditures exceeded appropriations by \$247,479.30. The largest item was interest on public debt, totalling \$472,665.14.