

SHEEP RAISING IN CANADA



THE sheep raising industry in Western Canada has not yet attained to the same proportions that other departments of live stock occupy; but there are not signs wanting that there is a steady movement in progress to make Western Canada a great sheep country. There is no reason why it should not be. It abounds with food of all varieties suitable for sheep, while climatic and other conditions are exceedingly favorable. The number of head is increasing every year, which is evidence that the industry is receiving a due share of attention. The experiment has been tried during the last couple of years by a big sheep ranch near Cluny, Alberta, of shipping its entire wool-clip to London, England. This is the first instance on record of a shipment being made to the English market either from the Province of Alberta or the Dominion. Compared with some of the very big ranches in Australia, this one, carrying some 12,000 head, is small; and being moreover established only a short time, it was new to the business. However, the wool in question was all sold at good prices.

The Wool Record, of Bradford, speaking of the shipment, said: "Through the courtesy of Messrs. Messers and Company Ltd., we are able to say that the wool was grown in Alberta, having been sorted and scoured by a man who has had many years experience in New Zealand in classing and scouring wool. We understand that the foundation of the flock which produced the clip was laid by sheep from Montana, in the United States, and this is plain to be seen by any man having a practical knowledge of Western Territory wool. The whole parcel showing very good quality. The wool was well sorted and well classed, and baled in a highly creditable way in new packs specially imported from New Zealand. We believe that this is the first shipment of wool from the Province of Alberta and hope it is the beginning of a good trade."

In mentioning the sale of Canadian wool in Coleman Street, some reference should be made to the fact that for some years Messrs. H. Swartz & Co. have offered wools from British Columbia, which have received a hearty reception. The rule the work is well done, but the wool is not of the highest quality. There is nothing like presenting sheep wool attractively, and so ensuring the attention of all buyers. We see no reason why a very important business cannot be developed between this country and Canada, and while, no doubt, the Canadian Manufacturers will consume the bulk of the raw material as grown, London is a good market in which to dispose of any that can be exported.

Sheep raising is growing in favor not only in the Prairie Provinces, but also in British Columbia, for sheep dry belt range and alfalfa, is a money-making combination. One of the largest ranches in the interior is the R. and A. farm of 17,000 acres which "horseheads" Swan Lake, north of Vernon. On this ranch 2,000 Lincoln and Shropshire sheep, about 60 per cent, ewes and the balance with-



ters, bought in July, 1913, at a cost running into five figures, have already paid for themselves, and the present flock containing 900 ewes and 900 lambs, stands as clear profit to the owner.

Spring of 1914 found the flock in good physical trim and with an insignificant number of losses from coyotes or other causes, 1,300 lambs were produced. At shearing the flock averaged 5 1/2 lbs. of wool, worth 16 1/2 cents a pound; and in May there was a big cash return from the day ewes and wethers, all of which were slaughtered, the average weight dressed being 60 lbs. and the price 14 cents.

Practical ranchers who are familiar with the Okanagan, Similkameen and Nicola Valley say there is a chance for considerable expansion of the sheep raising industry in this section. Several million acres of timber grass land, disliked by cattle, but satisfactory to sheep, exist which is capable of providing good range for three or four months in the year. The country has now been rendered even more attractive by the appearance of new

steel of the Kettle Valley Railway. There are several new factors now which act to the encouragement of sheepraising. One is the Wilson tariff in effect about a year and a half, which nearly doubled the price of wool to the British Columbia producer. The market price for mutton was also improved by this legislation.

There are several pure-bred flocks of sheep in the Fraser Valley and on Vancouver Island. The breeders have exhibited with much success at the provincial fairs, defeating competitors from Washington, Oregon and the prairie provinces and Ontario. Some interesting history is woven around the early days of sheep raising in Canada, particularly with respect to British Columbia. The Hudson's Bay Company brought sheep to Victoria shortly after their establishment of a post there in 1843. By 1850 the initial flock, in which Leicester, Merino and Southdown blood predominated, had grown into several hundred head. Some of the Vancouver Island Indians had by this time cultivated an appetite for mutton, and a year or two later a band of them

raided a flock, murdered the shepherd, and carried off several sheep. A British warboat from Victoria visited the Indian village immediately afterwards, secured the guilty Indians and hanged them to a tree on the spot.

It is also recorded that in the early days smuggling of lambs into Victoria from Puget Sound was common. The ruse was to take them first to one or another of the Gulf Islands, whence they were shipped to Victoria as the progeny of local flocks. Some astute person compared the number of lambs sold with the number of ewes in the islands and the secret was out.

Vancouver Island thus has the oldest traditions concerning sheep. It also has the only co-operative association of sheep raisers, the Vancouver Island Flock Masters Association, organized at Duncan in 1909. This association has imported pure-bred rams, offered extra bounties for panthers, and provided prizes for sheep at fairs. It has been receiving an annual grant from the provincial government.

The First

Of the New Year brings Stock Taking. It also brings a very Special Price Inducement throughout the store that will be approved by People that KNOW

Make it a point to see the three large tables of odd pieces of China in the clearing you will find something to meet your requirements. A clean-up after the Xmas rush Half Price.

The Three Bee Eiderdown wool in all the leading colors, including black and white. Regular 12 1/2c and 15c; for per skein 9c.

Imported Down Quilts in neat floral effect, art combine, reversible, ventilated, guaranteed in every detail; an extraordinary value at \$5.00; special \$3.48. Women's Knit Drawers, in white only, ankle length, closed, slightly imperfect. Regular 40c; for per pair 19c.

Odd Neck Pieces and Muffs. Regular values up to \$5.00 and \$8.50; rush sale of odds and ends that begins Monday, choice \$1.98.

A special Waist Sale. In the lot you will find silks and flannels. Regular up to \$3.50, for \$1.59.

A clean-up sale of Women's Silk Underskirts, blacks and leading colors. Regular \$3.50 for \$1.79.

12 only Women's Warm Winter Coats. These are values priced from \$15.00 to \$18.00. On sale Monday, choice \$9.79.

New, all wool Serge Skirts, in black and navy; give you all sizes, extraordinary value. Regular \$4.00 clearing before inventory at \$2.59.

Men's LaMode Mufflers in colors of black, navy, cardinal, sky and grey; - a 50c value; two styles to clear, each 10c and 15c.

Just come to hand a large shipment of Men's overalls and cottonade pants, to sell at \$1.00 a pair; during stock-taking, price will be, per pair 89c.

4 pairs only Men's Raccoon Gauntlet Mitts, a snap. Regular \$6.00 pair; for the special selling to clear up, per pair, \$2.49.

Odd lines and odd sizes in Men's Linen Collars, 4 fold; retailed in the ordinary way at 2 for 25c; priced to move at 6 for 25c.

Women's Flannelette Night Gowns, extra well made, in neat stripe effects. Regular 50c for 39c. Remnant week begins Monday. A special remnant sale in all departments, very important values.

Genuine English Mahogany Furniture, imported, worth double, 7 pieces only, chairs, and frames. Regular \$21.50 to \$24.50; choice \$14.99.

Toilet Cases, all satin lined. These are priced at \$1.00 to \$1.50 prior to taking stock; a speedy clearance, - a 68c.

Bundries, consisting of stove polish, stove varnish, and a moth protecting powder, all priced at regular 10c to clear up, choice 5c.

Special offering in Silk Underskirts, all the newest styles and latest colors, regular \$5.50 to \$6.50; choice for \$3.95.

A sale of solid Brass Beds, space will not permit detail. Here they are; see them without fail. \$32.50 for \$26.50; \$34.50 for \$27.50; \$29.00 for \$21.75; \$23.50 for \$19.00; and \$31.00 for \$24.00.

1 only, Royal Oak Bookcase and Writing Desk combined; priced at \$13.50; for quick sale, \$5.95.

1 only quarter cut oak Bookcase and Writing Desk combined, a very neat combination, a well constructed piece of furniture; special at \$27.50; marked for quick clearance \$19.98.

Before Inventory Selling, Certain Fine Furniture at a Great Saving

Some very fine Furniture. 15 pieces of high-class furniture, the products of a renowned maker, we wish to clear before inventory. To those who are anticipating furniture requirements of the extraordinary quality kind. It is with a feeling of genuine satisfaction that we can here quote you such prices on beautiful furniture. Look over the list then give a personal inspection. It will be money well saved.

- Circassian Walnut Dresser \$65.00 for \$49.00
- Circassian Walnut Bed, \$45.00 for \$34.00
- Circassian Walnut Cheffonier, \$55.00 for \$42.00
- 1 Bird's-eye Maple Dresser, \$25.00 for \$19.50
- 1 Bird's-eye Maple Cheffonier, \$24.50 for \$19.00
- 1 Mahogany Dresser, \$48.50 for \$29.00
- 1 Mahogany Bed, \$21.00 for \$16.90
- 1 Oak Cheffonier, \$35.00 for \$27.50
- 1 Oak Dresser, \$4.00 for \$29.50
- 1 Oak Dressing Table, \$22.50 for \$16.90
- 1 Fumed Oak Dresser, \$25.00 for \$19.00
- 1 Fumed Oak Cheffonier, \$25.00 for \$19.00
- 1 Parlor Suite, Mahogany, covered with No. 1 leather; to be sold for \$39.00.

It will be many moons before equal furniture values will be around again. See the fine display on 3rd floor.

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DR. FRED L. WILLIAMSON, Dentist, 3 Blocks west of King St. Station Hamilton.

Grand Trunk Railway System TIME TABLE

	Departs 7:40 a.m.	Departs 7:10 p.m.
No. 69 to Hamilton	7:40 a.m.	7:10 p.m.
No. 71 to Hamilton	8:20 a.m.	7:50 p.m.
No. 73 to Hamilton	9:00 a.m.	8:30 p.m.
No. 65 to St. Thomas	9:40 a.m.	9:10 p.m.
No. 67 to St. Thomas	10:20 a.m.	9:50 p.m.
No. 126 to Canfield Junction	11:00 a.m.	10:30 p.m.
No. 128 to Canfield Junction	11:40 a.m.	11:10 p.m.
No. 130 to Port Dover	12:20 p.m.	11:50 p.m.
No. 132 to Port Dover	1:00 p.m.	12:30 p.m.
No. 72 to Port Dover via Pt. Dover and Simcoe	1:40 p.m.	1:10 p.m.

NOTICE TO

Farmers!

I have secured a first class harness maker and wish to announce that I am prepared to take orders for all kinds of harness, single or double, all hand made, and of guaranteed first class work.

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RUBBERS—Plain, Storm and Jersey Cloth. OVERSHOES—1, 2 and 3 buckle, Hightop Felt, Sheepskin Sox, Mackinaw Sox.

The Best of Winter Footwear

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Call and see samples and get prices of Tweed and Worsted Suitings and Overcoatings.

I am making a specialty of CLEANING & PRESSING CLOTHES

WANTED—25 head of cattle to board for winter at \$1.50 each per month. Basement stable and good care; any number taken from one party. Apply to Elsie Fern, J. R. R. No. 1, Port Dover.

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