

THIS YEAR'S WOOL CLIP.

The wool season in Montana is virtually over, though at the various shipping points there is yet a considerable quantity of wool which the owners are holding for various reasons, principally because they are of the opinion that in 60 days they will get more money for it than they would if they were to let it go now.

This has been the best year the Montana wool growers have had for a long time, and one of the best in the history of the industry in the state. The growers have in some other years received more for their wool, but all the conditions have not been so favorable. They have not only done well with their wool, but what is of greatest importance in the business, they are assured of an abundance of feed through the coming winter, which they will be able to provide at a low cost, owing to the immense hay crop. As a rule the lamb crop is good, and sheep will go into the winter in fine condition, not only has wool brought a good figure, but sheep of all sorts are bringing good prices, and the prospect is that the market will keep up for a long time.

While estimates of the wool clip vary from 20,000,000 to 25,000,000 pounds as the total clip of Montana this year, a conservative estimate puts it at 22,500,000 pounds. The greater part of this wool has gone east, either having been sold direct, or on consignment. There is still two or three million pounds in the state, representing the clip of big companies who can afford to hold, and who are of the opinion that 20 cents is about the figure they will get if they wait a little longer. The top price of the year, so far as reported, was 18 cents and at that figure a number of sales were made. The price during the season ran from that figure down to 14 cents, which was the lowest for average clips. Taking the season through, and the price, it may be said that the average for the clip of the state has been 15 1/2 cents a pound, which was better than the growers expected to receive when the season opened and higher than a great majority had placed their figures. For a fact, Montana wool growers as a rule put their price at 15 cents. Early in the season some sold at 14 cents. But that price did not rule long, and it soon went up to 15 cents. Then it went to 16 cents, then to 16 1/2 and later to 17 cents. Many of the growers claim even at the latter price the buyers in Montana did not pay the eastern price, and contend that there was a combination among the representatives of eastern houses by which they were forced to sell for a cent or two under the eastern market.

However that may be, it is a fact that the Montana wool grower this year received more for his wool than did the grower in any of the other northwestern states. In Colorado and Utah, where the season is in advance of that in Montana, the buyers got the wool for from 10 to 12 cents, while in Wyoming the latter was a ruling figure.

While the difference in price in favor of the Montana wool grower was due in part to the better condition of the eastern market, that is not altogether the reason Montana wool commanded a so much better price. The fact is that while Colorado and Utah have been trying for the past five years to breed mutton sheep and have succeeded, it has been at the expense of the wool. On the other hand, Montana growers have been all the while improving their flocks for the wool product, and the result is that now Montana wool ranks far ahead of that produced in neighboring states. That is one reason why Montana growers received more for their clip this year than growers in other states, and another was the wool was in fine condition. The spring rains washed it thoroughly on the sheeps' backs and when the buyers sampled it they found a nice, bright, clean article that was safe to buy, because it would appeal to the eastern manufacturer.—Helena Independent.

I will pay market price for wolf and coyote bounty certificates.
JOHN HOBBS.
Office at Burds Store.

To Whip Anything Afloat.

The navy department will ask congress to authorize the construction of the largest and most formidable battleships and cruisers afloat—vessels without equals in any foreign fleets, and incomparably superior in offensive power, speed and endurance to any of the magnificent ships which a few weeks ago destroyed Corvera's squadron. The decision, reached at a meeting of the naval board of construction a week ago, will be urged upon congress for prompt action, supported by arguments of the most achieving character.

The board practically agreed to begin the designs of three battleships of between 13,000 and 14,000 tons displacement, with at least nineteen knots maintained speed, a radical advance from the 11,525-ton sixteen-knot ships of the Alabama and Kearsarge class, which now represent the maximum-powered unite of the American navy. It was also determined to recommend three first-class cruisers of about 12,000 tons and of not less than twenty-two knots speed, nearly half again as large as the New York and Brooklyn, and of from three to four knots greater speed. In addition to these a class of protected and partly armored cruisers of between 5,000 and 6,000 tons, similar to the Olympia, Admiral Dewey's flagship, but of much higher speed, was favorably considered, as well as a new class of 2,500-ton cruisers, a little larger than the Detroit and the Marblehead and smaller than the Atlanta and the Boston.

Every member of the board warmly endorsed the necessity of sheathing every one of these vessels in the interest of speed and economy, and to have them practically independent of dry docks. They will, therefore, be the best sheathed vessels in the United States fleet. The members of the board are of the opinion that no more important naval lesson has been learned from the recent war than that the rapid deterioration below the water line of warships in tropical waters through the accumulation of marine growth upon their hulls, reducing their speed in every instance, after a few months, more than 25 per cent., and in some instances as high as 60 per cent.

The question of gun calibers and armor on the new battleships and first-class cruisers is still unsettled, but the chief of ordinance, Captain O'Neill, who is president of the board, announced his readiness to agree to a maximum caliber of 12 inches, if thereby a more widely extended disposition of armor could be obtained, with greater speed and greater coal endurance. He also favored an attempt to secure the unprecedented speed of twenty-four knots for the hugh armored cruisers and a minimum of twenty knots for the battleships.

The battleships will be designed to whip any fighting vessel in the world, of whatever class, and the cruisers are to be more formidable than any vessel of their speed designed up to this time in Europe. The board made no reference to torpedo boats, and is not disposed to recommend any further increase of the 51 vessels of that type now built or authorized.

LOST

Three Dun mares, branded L on left side of neck, and two yearling colts not branded. A liberal reward will be paid for the return of same.
E. H. LAWRENCE,
Chalmers' Ranch, Burton

THE BEAUPRE HOUSE,
H. BEAUPRE, PROP.

First class in every respect.
Board by day or week at reasonable rates.

Proposals for Building Bridge.

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the undersigned at Choteau, Teton county, Montana, until 10 o'clock, Tuesday, September 24th, 1893, for the construction of a steel or iron bridge over the Marias river, at a point near James A. Johnson's ranch on the road from Pondera to Shelby. High water width of river, two hundred and sixty feet. Width of roadway of bridge, sixteen feet, height of roadway over river, at least nine feet. Length of pile approach on south side about two hundred and fifty feet, together with the necessary grades at each end. Proposals to be endorsed "Proposals for bridge" and bidders must accompany their bids with full and complete plans and specifications of said proposed bridge; also by a certified check in favor of Teton county for 5 per cent of the amount of the bid as an earnest of good faith. No bids will be considered unless accompanied by full and complete plans and specifications. The successful bidder will be required to enter into a written contract, binding himself to construct said bridge in accordance with the plans and specifications and give a bond with local securities, in a sum double the contract price, conditioned on the faithful performance of said contract. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. By order of the board of commissioners of Teton county. A. C. WARNER, County Clerk. Choteau, Montana, July 28, 1893.

M. H. ORMSBY,

CHOTEAU, MONTANA.
BLACKSMITHING.
Horse Shoeing...
A Specialty

H. W. YEAGER
Announces that his
New THRESHER
will be started about SEPT. 15th, and that he will be better equipped than ever to handle the crops of Oats, Wheat and Barley of his Patrons of last year, and of as many other farmers as will give him their work. He has purchased a New Case Separator and will guarantee his work.
3 CENTS STRAIGHT
for Wheat, Oats and Barley.

CENTRAL Meat -- Market,
C. H. DUNLAP, Proprietor.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL BUTCHER.
Beef, Mutton, Pork and Veal Sausage.
Fish, Game and Poultry in Season.
CHOTEAU, MONTANA.

GLAB & GIES,
GREAT FALLS, MONT.
Wholesale Dealers in

Liquors & Cigars
Bottlers of all kinds of Soda and Mineral Waters
Bar Glassware.

D. A. RICHARDSON, BROKER,
Live Stock and Ranches a Specialty.
—Sheep & Cattle for Sale—
GREAT FALLS, MONTANA.
OPPOSITE PARK HOTEL.

BUCKS!
Thoroughbred Shropshire and Grade Bucks
FOR SALE
...A T...
LOWRY, MONT.
Flowerree's Sheep & Horse Co.
JOE ARNOLD... Carpenter AND CONTRACTOR
Estimates Cheerfully Furnished. Burial Caskets to Order on Short Notice.
Shop on Upper Main St., Choteau.

Our Stock...
IS New, Substantial AND Well Finished
We have an assortment which gives ample room for choice, and the quality is from good to best, with price the lowest.
We Can Make You and Your Home Comfortable.
We sell only such goods as we know to be reliable from every standpoint.
A. P. CURTIN & CO.
—THE BIG STORE—
GREAT FALLS, MONTANA.

The CHOTEAU HOUSE
Wm Hodgskiss, Prop
Centrally Located and the Best Accommodations of any House in the County. Service and Cuisine surpassed by no other House.
Liquors and Cigars
Furnished for the Convenience of its Customers.
Livery and Feed Stable
Run in Connection. Largest and most Convenient Barn in Town. Careful and Painstaking man in charge. Reasonable Charges.

Blacksmith Supplies
And **Eastern Coal.**
Ranch Supplies and Sheep Camp Outfits, Tents, Rope, Sheep Paint, House Paints, Stock Saddles and Harness of all Kinds. Special Attention given to Mail Orders.
GREAT FALLS HARDWARE CO.,
Agents for "Gidgee" Sheep Shears.Great Falls, Montana.

THE GOODRICH LUMBER CO
Great Falls & Collins, Mont.
Wholesale and Retail Dealers in all kinds of Lumber and Building Material, including Lath, Shingles, Flooring, Ceiling, Siding, Finishing Lumber, Nails, Hardware, etc., at Great Falls. We carry the Largest stock Stock in Northern Montana. Factory in connection for special work.
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BREWERS & BOTTLERS OF
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Great Falls, Montana.
On tap at all leading resorts in Choteau.