

Exports of horses. 396. The total number of horses that have been exported from this country since Confederation is 299,914, of which 289,361 have gone to the United States, 5,353 to Great Britain and 5,200 to other countries. The total number imported during the same period, principally for the improvement of stock, is 36,116.

Horse-breeding. 397. Horse-breeding prevails more or less generally in Canada, but it is being made a special industry in Alberta, N.W.T., where it is rapidly becoming of importance, and it is expected that in a few years a large number of serviceable horses will be available. Though owing to the jealousy of British agriculturalists, the Imperial Government has discontinued, for the present, the purchase of horses in Canada for the army, there is not much doubt that the demand will be ultimately revived, and it is to be hoped that Canadian farmers will employ the interval in profiting by the advice and remarks of the officers sent out to purchase, with reference to the style of animal required, so that when the time does come again, as it inevitably will, a far larger supply will be found available than was the case in the first instance; and even if the animals thus produced are not required for the army, they will be found greatly improved for general purposes. The market is sure to come, and there is likely to be much money made out of the trade. From official returns to the War Office it appears that there are now 24,400 horses, exclusive of those owned by officers, actually at work in the British Military Service, being 1,200 below the number voted in the Army Estimates, and considerably below the number required for active service. Some idea, therefore, can be formed of the opening that exists for horses suitable both for army and general purposes.

Ranches, N.-W.T. 398. The number of ranches in operation was 115, comprising 3,113,878 acres, and the quantity of stock in the grazing districts of Alberta and Assiniboia was, as far as returns were available, 106,968 cattle, 13,322 horses and 44,822 sheep.