

BOUGHT WESTERN HORSES.

Secretary Wilson Secures Teams from Iowa Agricultural College.

The Iowa Agricultural College, located at Ames, Iowa, recently sold to Secretary Wilson two superior pairs of horses for service in the Department of Agriculture at Washington. These horses are out of a lot that has been used in an investigation conducted by the experiment station at Ames that is of vital interest and practical value to the horse breeders of Iowa and the Middle West.

A few years ago, when horses were a drug on the market, at any price, an experiment was undertaken to determine the qualities and value of Western range-bred horses, obtained from the range as colts and developed under Iowa farm conditions. Horses in the range territory and elsewhere were then selling for as low as \$5 a head. The experiment station at that time obtained a carload of well-bred colts as weanlings and yearlings from the ranges of Montana and Wyoming and brought them to the college for development and investigation. They were carefully and intelligently selected as colts, care being taken to combine good breeding with a high degree of individual excellence.

These horses have been greatly admired as they have been developed and used at the college. Those sold to Secretary Wilson are a pair of steel gray grade perch-erons for hauling the department's mail and express, and a pair of well matched seal brown coach horses that will be used in Secretary Wilson's carriage. It is the opinion of good horsemen that the Secretary will ride behind as handsome a pair as there is in Washington. A complete record of the cost of raising these horses and the methods of treatment and handling, with photographs in different states of development, will be published in due time in the station bulletins for free distribution.