By 1876 stock was to the country what the mines used to be and bunch grass became the mine that could be worked with the least labor and expense and with greatest profit.

New grazing lands moved most of their cattle up to the Okanogan country but their winter loss was severe as they returned.

The fence or no fence question provoked local elections throughout Central and Eastern Washington in 1880, it being most heated in regions where it would be necessary to haul wood and fencing material 20 or 30 miles. Farming was coming in strong and it was cheaper for the cattlemen to herd his stock than fence.

The introduction of the barbed wire fence sharpened the controversy between hardmen and farmers at the opening of the 80s. The Yakima valley was overstocked in 1875, close feeding destroyed the vitality of the bunch grass and stock faced the winters with bare ground or short or bare fields.

Controversies over fencing and with three thousand sheep breeders prompted the cattlemen to organize, the Stock Breeders association of Washington was organized at Ellensburg in 1892.

Farmers were thinning in terms of dairying before 1900 and grading of dairy stock was noted by the state dairy commissioner.

The interior department sent grazing experts to the Northwest in 1899 as the cattle-sheep grazing controversy continued and came up with the finding that the ranges are overstocked. The department canceled the permits of 68 sheepmen who grazed 260,000 head of sheep on the Rainier forest reservation but because of pressure the order was revoked. Cattlemen in small
One of the horsemen in the Columbia Basin was S.J. Crutcher of Pine City, the predecessor of Rosalia. He was author of the first barbed wire fence law that described a lawful barbed wire fence of posts, not more than 30 feet apart with three wires stretched between, the first 22 inches from the ground, the second 34 and the third 48 and the four light strips must be fastened to the fire between the posts.

The herd laws, up for debate at that time were being argued—whether the must whether the livestock men should be compelled to herd his stock or the grain farmer fence his fields.

William Masterson was another horse breeder. Frank Dabcock ran horses in the Kock Lake country, Kamiakin's last refuge. James Milne had horses near Colfax, the "ransfield brothers operated near Endicott and Dr. Bunnell at Colfax. There were sheep operators too and their bands helped graze over the land in later years.

The inroads on the Indians' natural food didn't stop there, the mother earth and the gifts of food she held was not secure from the new civilization. The rich camas beds around the Moscow country were attracted hog growers whose swine rooted deep in the soil, tearing up the earth and fattening on the roots that for generations had been the heritage of the land.
Snipes was the main horse raiser on the lower Yakima valley range although some Indians had large herds of inferior stock. Snipes had big rangy animals that were sold for carriage and buggy horses, they were tall, long-bodied and long-legged.

Horses were a big source of revenue for the stockmen of Central and Eastern Washington in the time when there was one horse for 30 every five persons in the United States and the eastern markets drew on the west for all kinds of stock.
Cattle boating.

Cattle and horses, herded from the Oregon country to The Dalles, were loaded out there and shipped up river by the Oregon Steamship Navigation company in big numbers as early as 1867. Capt. A.P. Ankney of the company estimated the 30,000 were sent east of the mountains, half the number by boat. In one week alone in March 1,000 head of cattle and 100 horses were loaded out at the OSN warf. hogs too hundreds. Stock for the Puget Sound country, when ready for market, went downstream by boat, Tilley & Co. being one of the buyers.

The OSN Co's steamship, Idaho, was one of the boats taking stock from the Willamette valley into Eastern Washington. 600 cattle alone handled on one boat besides horses, and mules and hogs. They were ferried across at The Dalles and headed for the Yakima country. The Daisy Ainsworth, operating between The Dalles and the Cascades in 1876, could transport 205 head of cattle. It was wrecked when the a sunken reef near the Cascades was struck midship, 42 cows were drowned and the rest swam to shore. The cattle were bound for Astoria where Kinney & Co was buying them for canning, paying $3 to $3.50 per hundred. During the first 10 months of the year 60,000 head of stock moved from the cattle country to the Pacific coast beef markets.
Eastern Washington valleys organized associations aimed at obtaining their share of grazing lands as the issue became a political issue for dairying.

The Washington State Dairymen's association was organized in 1898 and by 1898 was holding exhibition of dairy products in connection with its sixth annual convention.

Cattlemen and sheepmen named committees to meet with representatives of the department and apportion the grazing lands. Both, faced by eastern pressure to close the grazing lands because of conservation, joined in common cause to settle their disputes. The same year that soldiers went into the Yosemite Valley in California to expel stockmen, in the Yakima, they agreed upon cattle and sheep roadways to summer grazing lands in the mountains and apportioned lands in the Cowiche, Nesah, Anahum and set up ranges. The sheepmen took the land on the headwaters of the Antanum and Cowiche and in 1898 the cattlemen the Klickitat country; the Ghe rainier forest reserve working out a schedule to graze 245,600 sheep and 5,170 head of cattle.

Coffin Bros. were running 23,000 sheep, John Cleman 13,000, D.G. Goodman 9,000, Charles MacArthur, 9,000, A.L. Bunnell 3,000, W. Smythe & Son 6,000 and others had one band of 1,000 or more. Cattlemen had small herds from 15 to 50, a few with 250 or 400.

Some cattlemen were purchasing land from the Northern Pacific. Others, down in Oregon, just fenced in government land and special agents from the interior department went there to order the fences removed removed from the public domain. Cattlemen in Eastern Oregon, around the Malheur, Crook and Harney counties and Grant counties had fenced in whole townships and 500,000 acres.
By 1903 sheep and cattlemen realized that the days of promiscuous grazing were over and all were fencing for their own protection. The 36 shareholders of the Horse and Cattle Range association at Ellensburg disbanded in 1909, relinquishing claims to 36 sections near the city. The association owned 6,400 acres and the rest of the land was leased from the state. The natural rise in the value of the land for timber and farms and the decrease in the value of the range stock brought about the disbandment.

By 1910 the Cattle & Horse Grazing association of Yakima and Kittitas counties had been organized to deal with the interior department to secure grazing lands on the Ranier reserve where 4,000 head of cattle and 40,000 head of sheep were permitted, the charge being 30 cents for cattle and 40 cents for horses from April 1 to October 31. The year-long fee was 45 cents for cattle and 60 for horses and the charge for sheep, from July 1 to October 31 was eight cents.
horses: prices Army

After war, best sales in California, cavalry horses average $95.58. Artillery horses average $227.94. Total of 15,269 horses, mules, oxen sold May 1, 1865 to Aug 1, 1866. Average price per horse $55.89; mule $74.64. Broken down sold fifty cents to five dollars. Begin cultivation p 50-51

Expense...larger part, &c at close of fiscal year 30th June 1865 armies generally en route home... p 55

p 55—A very heavy expenditure has attended occupation of the country on the route to the new mining regions of Montana and Idaho.

39th Congress hr 020 2d sess ex doc no. 1, "ash 1866
The cattle boom shutter'd again in 1867 because of a combination of a hard winter and the growing sheep industry that began to destroy eat away the range.

A. Cleman brought the first sheep into the Yakima country in 1867 and S........
Typical of the changing conditions is Bob Sisk of Vantage, the Brown Brothers and Sisk who turned to sheep operations from cattle.

Sisk settled in Shoestring canyon in the "enas with his father who used the Heart Brand. Bob Sisk took the quarter circle later and then because of complications in registration took the quarter circle Zy brand.

Sisk's grand grandfather was typical of the cattle advent, Charles Van Winkle came up from California, shos two Red Devonshire cows and brought them overland from Red Bluffs, brought 16 mules and the cows helped pull the wagons. They were his start in the cattle business.

Then Sisk sold out and went into the sheep business he went to
Cattle and horses go best on bunch grass. It used to be best from Yakima all the way east to the Columbia river and over into the Cold creek country. It was so high you could ride for miles with your feet dragging in it. There it's barren land now, all grazed off. Cheat grass was too short on cattle.
The best ropes came from California, they were six or four strand rawhide. And while they were "imported" from California, the names weren't. They were called ropes, not riatas.

The demand for Yakima valley saddle horses was brisk until the