

Cattle in Dalles streets

Hardly a day passes over but we see a crowd of men watching several vaqueros driving some half-wild cattle at a furious pace through our streets in broad daylight...Somebody's children will surely be gored or trampled...One of the proprietors of the new steam ferry boat assures us that as soon as she is completed she will land all cattle at the corral below town, thus avoiding the danger of driving them through the streets...

--The Dalles Inland Empire, May 24, 18979

Eastern Cattle Drives 1879

(Seattle news)

Mr. George Smith of Yakima informs us that there are a large number of eastern cattle buyers now in that section buying up stock. The drive east, he says, will be considerably larger this year than ever before.

--Portland Oregonian, June 7, 1879

Eastern Drives 1879

A Walla Walla exchange says--

The drove of 4,000 cattle bought in this country by Rand, Briggs & Co. has been started for Cheyenne. They are a fine lot of cattle. Some of their drivers came out by stage from Cheyenne, where they are called 'cowboys'. These wattle will reach the Chicago market by rail after being fed one season in Wyoming territory.

-- Spokane Times, June 19, 1879

Cattle Drives

Seattle, Aug. 13-- George Smith, eight days from Yakima, arrived here last evening via Snoqualmie pass with 100 head of cattle for this market...The ranges are good and cattle fat. At least 20,000 head will be driven out of the county next winter, he states, for eastern markets.

The mining prospects continue excellent. Moses Bollman recently took an \$185 nugget out of a discovery claim in Swauk district...

-- Portland Oregonian, Aug. 14, 1879

Yakima correspondence -

The railroad prospects are stimulating the people to renewed exertions. They see, in the near future, favorable opportunities to sell at good prices potatoes, beans and other garden sass...The demand for beef on the sound is quite limited compared with other years. Beef, I am informed, is $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound on foot, 3 cents when slaughtered. Oats can be had here for 50¢ per bushel and hay at \$5 to \$10 per ton...There will be cut some 300 tons of timothy this year. The wild hay and the mixed quality is worth \$5 to \$7 per ton.

--Portland Oregonian, Aug. 19, 1879

Lang & Ryan drive

...To drive the (cattle of Lang & Ryan) to the Yellowstone country, where they will winter, will require 800 head of horses and the services of 120 men. Most of these "cowboys" are Kansas men, who have been in the employ of this concern for the past six years. Forty wagons accompany the drive and about 160 stands of loaded rifles will always be on hand, good for about 30,000 shots at any band of hostile Indians that may attack them. The drive will be cut up into three squads or bands of cattle, the first lot having two days start of the ~~first~~ third. This brings them in easy range of the rear from the front. In April they will begin to gather up for the start and by the 25th of that month the greatest body of cattle ever banded together will be slowly marching eastward. Up to the 20th of June the drive will be about 9 miles per day but as the heat of summer comes along they will decrease it to about 5. Therefore a steer travels no more on a drive of this kind than he would upon the range and is sure to be in good order when he reaches the Yellowstone, where there is an abundance of bunch grass as soon as the Grande Ronde is passed.

--Portland Oregonian, March 9, 1880

(some sources estimated number of cattle on this one drive at over 30,000)

The Stock Industry

The heavy fall of snow last week will no doubt be disastrous to cattle. The fall weather was not conducive to the growth of grass and now that the ground is covered with an average of 2 feet of snow it will be difficult for stock to find feed...Where stockmen have been provident in laying up a good supply of hay no great suffering will happen. Heretofore our cattlemen have depended upon the usual favorable winters and are not prepared for an emergency like the present.

-- The Dalles Times, Dec. 7, 1880

Mr. John Splawn of Yakima City started last Tuesday for the Yakima valley with a drove of 80 head of beef cattle for the Portland market and arrived in "ockland last Thursday night, where he was river-bound. The ice was not strong enough to bear the weight of his cattle, and was sufficient to stop the ferry boat from running.

-- The Dalles Times, Dec. 14, 1880

High Prairie -- This is the name of a settlement situated about 10 miles from this city...near the mouth of the Klickitat river. Last Tuesday a young man of this city paid this place a hasty visit and from him we learn that the settlers number 200 and have large bands of cattle and horses...The cattle and horses are looking very poor...

-- The Dalles Times, Dec. 28, 1880

From a party who came over last week we learn that the late severe weather has been very disastrous to cattle and sheep in our neighboring county across the river...

-- The Dalles Times, Jan. 4, 1881

Cattle

The first of last week after the chinook gave appearance of earnest work, Purdy Flint, who had about half of his herd of cattle up and was feeding them about \$100 worth of hay daily drove them back to the hills again..Republican in Tacoma News, Jan 22, 1885.

Most of those engaged in the cattle business have profited by their previous experience and have provided feed for their cattle--Republican in Tacoma News, Jan. 15, 1885.

From everyone who has come in off the range we hear of large losses of cattle, caused by theunprecedented severity of the winter. Some cattlemen already place the loss at one third and say if the present weather continues they will be glad if one-half of their stock is saved. The present winter has learned our stockmen a severe lesson, and one which we hope they profit by and that is to feed their stock. It is absolutely cruel to turn out dumb brutes in such weather as we have had this winter to shift for themselves--Record, January 15, 1881.

The business of slickearing has notably fallen off during the past year. Not that there has been less activity and vigilance displayed by the cowboys than usual, but the snows of last winter ruined the business in this locality. The mourners are numerous in this locality over destruction of the stock. The winter so decimated the numbers..that the profits have been almost entirely ~~and~~ annihilated..Record. Dec. 24, 1881.

The agents of Lang & Ryan, cattle dealers, are now in the Yakima and Kittitas valleys purchasing an immense drove of cattle, which they intend to drive to St. Louis early in the spring. They expect to start with fifteen or perhaps twenty thousand head. Last year they purchased about one-fourth that number for the same market. The effect of this drain will be in a few years hence to make beef cattle extremely scarce.-- Washington Standard (Olympia), Jan. 12, 1878

(Jan. 26, 1878 Standard says Lang & Ryan bought 12,000 head of cattle. "At an average cost of \$13 per head this would give a total of \$156,000 disbursed by them since the first of October.")

Mr. R.M. Tilley arrived in town last evening, the 18th inst. with 97 head of beef cattle. He started with 100 head but lost three on the road. He brought them over the Snoqualmie pass to this side and drove them thence to Olympia where they arrived in good condition for market. The Tribune, reprinted in Intelligencer, Oct. 24, 1870.

The Klickitat Sentinel of last week informs us that John Clemens one of Yakima's Cattle Kings passed through Coldendale Wednesday morning with 175 head of beef cattle destined for the Portland market. Record, April 7, 1883.

Polly & Splawn drove through town yesterday with 100 head of fine beef cattle intended for the Astoria market. The cattle will be driven by land to the Dalles, thence by steamer to their destination. They have been fed all winter and are in splendid condition--Record, February 7, 1880.

One hundred head of horses belonging to Polly & Imbrie passed through town on Wednesday evening bound for Sanday's ranch on the lower Yakima and near the mouth of the Topnish. They had been driven from the Cowychee and were in tolerable fair condition--The Record, Jan 22, 1881.

Snoqualmie Drives 1881

Over 3,000 head of beef cattle have been driven over the Snoqualmie pass from Yakima to Seattle during the past season. The last drive of the season arrived at the latter place on the 27th and consisted of a band of 206.

— The Dalles Times-Mountaineer, Nov. 2, 1881

Livestock

From Mr. John Clemens (cop) of the Wenas we learn that the stock in the hills are now doing well as the bunch grass is uncovered and entirely accessible to animals.

Ben Snipes, the Yakima cattle king offers boys \$10 per head for all the stock they bring in through the winter in ~~1000~~ ¹⁰⁰⁰ did he furnishing the hay. This will be a bonanza for the boys and makethem look well to stock. With the possibility of beef holding at 10 cents by the first of March Snipes will not lose by his generosity. The Washington Farmer, January 17, 1885.

Livestock

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Eastern Cattle Buyers Here 1885

Rosenbaum Myer & Co., cattle dealers of Chicago, have recently bought 6,000 head of cattle in the Yakima and White Bluff ranges which will be taken to Nebraska.

--Walla Walla Journal and Watchman, April 10, 1885

Cattle & Horses to East 1885

...Sanborn and Loud? of Miles City...have bought about 4,000 head of cattle in Washington territory this season and have finished their purchased for the present.

--Walla Walla Journal and Watchman, Aug. 7, 1885

Wallula, August 2, 1885

There still continues to be shipped large herds of cattle and horses. What will we do for beef in the sweet bye and bye.

--Walla Walla Journal and Watchman, August 7, 1885

"Shipping Live Cattle to Alaska"

Willis Thorp, formerly of Yakima, is making arrangements to establish a slaughterhouse at Juneau City, Alaska. He will ship the cattle from this Territory and contemplates the supplying of the principal Alaskan towns. At present dressed beef is shipped to Alaska, but its quality deteriorates in transit. Mr. Thorp thinks that he can create a market for 50 head of cattle a month--Yakima Signal

--Northwest Magazine, July 1886, P .28

Drive to Big Bend

Prineville News: Perry Read sold 124 head of stock cattle recently, cows and yearlings, to Col. Fulton who resides at the mouth of Deschutes. Col. Fulton will drive the cattle to Big Bend on the Washington side of the Columbia river.

— The Dalles Times Mountaineer, May 7, 1887

Senator Watson C. Squire and family left for Washington last Saturday in a private car. Senator Squire will occupy a residence belonging to W.C. Hill of Seattle and John C. Carrere of Spokane Falls will be private secretary.

The Seattle Post Intelligencer says the senator owns a 324 acre farm half a mile from Renton on Black river , which is stocked with a large number of full-blooded and valuable Holstein cattle. Netherland Prince, a Holstein bull was acquired by the senator at a cost of \$1,000 and he has other animals fully as valuable.

The farm produced some of the finest hops in the country last year. Ninety acres of land in the city of Seattle are also owned by the senator.

he dairy now produces sixty five gallons of milk daily.
Herald, November 28, 1889.