

My recently published (Feb. 5, 1963) Strangers on the Land, issued by the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakima Nation, contains a chapter of some 7,500 words, Hoofbeats on the Land, pp. 69-81.

It contains considerable information, some of use for your term paper, and should be obtainable from your local library on inter-library loan.

a few random notes" p 71 ... The term, "wild horse" is an anomer, loosely used.

The wild horse of the West was the offspring of many breeds through passing generations. They are so close to extinction the Bureau of Land Management of the United States Department of Interior is considering creation of a horse refuge. (This has since been done, and the reserve is being set up in Utah).

It is estimated there are less than 20,000 free range horses remaining throughout the Northwest, West and Southwest. There were at least 150,000 in 1934 before the Taylor Grazing Act. This gave the government control of ranges outside Indian reservations. Thus the ranges became cleared of the voracious grass eaters. In fur trading days and the covered wagon and land settlement period after the Civil War, herds were too immense to be counted.

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The wild horse is nearing for the same reason Indians are compelled to fight for existence. The land is wanted. No one knows what to do with wild horses or Indians.

Even the oldest tribesmen (referring to the Yakimas and other Indians on reservations in the state) and who once regarded horses as wealth and depended upon them for transportation, are helping clear the ranges to make way for reservation developments. Cattle raising is more profitable.

"...a great upsurge of saddle horse clubs, posses and trail riders

is providing a reprieve for the wild horse. Standards are being established.

"...American wild horses, in reality, are undomesticated examples of species which have never undergone selective breeding practices except among the Yakimas, Nez Perce and a few other tribes, ~~which~~ never credited with intelligence.

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"...In Civil War days there were as many as 12,000 horses on the Yakima Reservation. American stallions were ~~delivered~~ bought to build size for work and freight teams. Others were bred for race and stock horses, and much later for polo ponies. Whenever the horse market failed the animals were turned loose to roam and they multiplied and intermixed.

"They became such nuisances cattle men and farmers held roundups. Stragglers were shot. The Reservation became the final haven.

"The last big round-up in the Northwest was held in the Big Bend and Columbia Basin country in 1906 at a time Jehu Switzler ranged up to 15,000 head across two hundred miles of land in Southwestern Washington and Northeastern Oregon. In 1899 he contracted to deliver 3,000 horses at \$2.50 apiece to Portland canneries, selling the scrubs and outcasts. The finest he disposed of to carriage trade at Seattle or shipped east. Matched pairs of carriage horses well trained, were worth \$300."

(Of these so called "wild horses" only from 200 to 400 are now known on the Yakima Reservation, and only a very small number, perhaps two dozen, are known on the million acre Colville Reservation)

Your Agricultural Extension Office should be able to give you the information on 1963 "horse census" in the state. One agricultural agent is detailed to "horse work" and would have these figures.

A significant thing to remember, ethnologists and anthropologists frequently place Indian culture as ~~Qe000~~ "pre-horse" and "after horse" period. Known or written history of the period is "post horse" or "after horse." It is generally conceded that horses were introduced to the Northwest, and into the state of Washington, by Indian tribes around 1730. The acquisition of the horse began in the Southwest around 1690, through gift or theft, or pickup of escaped horses from the Spanish ~~c000~~ Conquistadors. The horse spread into California and southern Oregon by 1775, into Idaho, Utah and Arizona by ~~1660~~ 1690 and 1700, and thence northward into present Washington, Montana and British Columbia.

These horses were too small for farm, freight wagon and "heavy" use in land settlement days (1847-1900) and heavier draft lines, Percherons, etc. were brought in through land settlers, army forces, fur traders. Then there were those who after cities began to grow desired carriage horses, riding horses, etc. (Here you get Morgans, Tennessee "walkers," thoroughbreds. Quarter Horses are a later development, fast, quick, short distance cow horses. Now Quarter Horses are a registered breed, and mixed with thoroughbred, are used as race horses for Quarter Horse races. They are used in the 300 and 440 yard races. Thoroughbreds are used in 3, 4, furlong and mile races. Cutting Horses are Quarter Horses trained for cutting cattle and calves and must have special qualifications and training.

Horse breeds are established by setting up standards and registration. Hence various breeds are becoming accepted as breeds, but all originated in Europe, Arabia etc. as a common stock.

The American Mustang is now a recognized breed. So is the Appaloosa, the original "Nez Perce horse," of pre-horse days, the "spotted horse." Within months the Pinto has achieved recognition as a Breed. The Arabian

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long ago was established as a Breed and registration.

Prices vary with the breed. ~~XXXX~~ For instance a registered Arabian costs from \$200 to \$10,000 or even \$20,000, depending upon age, sire, dam etc. A highly valued stallion is worth the most. Normally if one went to an auction to purchase a registered Arabian suitable for show purposes the price would be from \$1,000 to \$2,500 or \$3,000.

Quarter Horses, "run of the mill," are very high in the Northwest now because of their demand among riding clubs, in posses etc. They cost from \$200 to \$500. A registered Quarter Horse would cost around \$600 to \$1,200 from good stock. One Yakima area man not long ago paid \$10,000 for a Quarter Horse stallion. And in California not long ago a racing stock Quarter Horse sold for \$100,000.

Appaloosas, because of current popularity, are "sky high" now, and anything suitable in an Appaloosa line costs from \$300 to \$800, with up to \$2,000 to \$5,000 for good stallions.

American Saddlers or ~~xxxx~~ American Bred are your show or gaited horses. Their price is dependant upon breeding and training to gait, three or five gaited. Untrained or partially trained American Bred horses can be purchased for \$100 to \$300, but as soon as they are well trained, develop show records etc., they are worth \$500 on up.

Standard Breds are your trotting and pacing horses. Here again, registration and breeding govern the price, and of course ones with good track records command high prices.

As to areas of "horse population" Yakima County is one of the most extensive. There are at least 30 4-H Horse clubs alone in this county, so many there is a regular 4-H Horse Council, and an estimated 400 boys and girls interested in this phase of 4-H work alone. They have junior posses, drill teams, junior horse shows etc. And there are more than 2,000 horse owners in Yakima County. Kittitas, Klickitat,

and Spokane counties are counties of extensive horse raising.

The enclosed clippings may be of some small help to you. You may keep them.

Sorry your inquiry involves so much I cannot do justice to it, but I have endeavored to give you enough for a good starter and with a few calls, 1, to your Extension Agent in charge of horses, 2, your library for a book or so, you should be able to turn a very complete paper.

References: These books should be available from your local library, or could be requested therefrom on inter-library loan. (Comments as to content will allow you to make your selection to fit your needs. The contents, of course, are too extensive to permit copying from my books)

Denhardt, Robert Moorman. The Horse of the Americas. University of Oklahoma Press, 1947. (One of the most complete books about horses in America, and their history, with which I am familiar.

Roe, Frank Gilbert. The Indian and the Horse. University of Oklahoma Press, 1951. (Covers especially the acquisition of the horse by the American Indians in various regions. Deals in the Indian's use of the horse, its economics to the Indian, use as a medium of wealth etc.

Furlong, Charles Wellington, Let 'Er Buck, G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1921. Deals especially with the history of the Pendleton Rodeo but contains much about horses as used by cattlemen and cowboys in the Northwest.

Your best bet: Inquire of your local extension service office, the Agricultural Extension Service, that handles 4-H and farm activities. Ask there for the United States Department of Agriculture Farmers Bulletin No. 2127, Light Horses. This was written by M.E. Ensminger, chairman, Department of Animal Science, Washington State University, Pullman, Wash., in cooperation with Animal Husbandry Research Division, Agricultural Research Service.

It includes: Breeds and their classifications, How to select a horse, How to measure, how to determine age, breeding horses, feeding horses, feeds, minerals, vitamins, water, pastures, care of feet, exercise etc. It gives pictures of various breeds of horses.