

Drives to Yakima 1865

The Pastures to the North--For ~~the~~ weeks past large bands of sheep, cattle and horses have been crossing the Columbia river at this point to be driven to the rich pastures in the Yakima, Attanum and Keetatas. This is a move in the right direction and will tend to bring the district to the north of us into notice among stock-growers...

--The Dalles Daily Mountaineer, Nov. 24, 1865

...^{people}(Willamette valley will come in spring)...Satisfied with the drenching rains, the Oregon mist and the fathomless mudholes of that country they will come east of the Cascades to enjoy a glimpse of sunshine...

--The Daily Mountaineer, Nov. 29, 1865

Livestock

Jock Morgan, whose place is 33 miles below Yakima City informs us that he is feeding 250 head of cattle and hashay for 60 days. He was over among 2,000 head of Snipes & Allen's cattle on the reservation the other day and saw not more than a dozen dead ones. He thinks cattle on our neighboring ranges are doing fairly well as the Chinook has cleared the ground of snow and owners are driving their herds back to the hills.

From ex-Governor Newell who returned from the Simcoe agency Monday we learn that 1,900 head of cattle and 8,000 Indian ponies and several thousand head of cattle belonging to individual Indians are doing well.

The Messrs Taylor of the Wenas report that their heres are not suffering and that while the animals were somewhat reduced during the unpredecend storm they will pull through in good shape w.

Near Walla Walla the following herds that started to winter are very fat: Messrs Dooley & Kirkman who have 3,000 head of beef cattle across Snake river in the Crab creek country and 4,000 head on the Malheur river. Chris Ennis & Co. have 2,000 head across Snake river and in the same vicinity Neace & Kennedy have 2,000 head; Bob Kennedy and McCool 300; Tom Turner and James Cornwall 600; Tom McManamon 800; Bob Green 500 head in the Palouse country. A week ago Mr. Dooley asked \$180,000 for all his stock and then he considered that the purchaser would have a bargain.

Fifty sheep belonging to Mr. Tyrrell in Tygh valley near The Dalles were killed by the slide.

A large band of horses have been brought down from Hood Gulch country to Goldendale to be fed. Among them are 145 belonging

to Gus Smythe, 40 owned by Joe Lowengart, 54 are the property of D.W. Collins and Warren Jobe has about 50. They will be distrubuted to the ranches of J.E. Carlie McDonald, Pierce and others. mr. Smythe has left at Wood Gulch (his place) enough horses and cattle to consume six loads of feed a day.

...last week George Rowland's old cow attempted to cross the river on the ice from Rockland to see some of her Dalle City cousins. She went under and is now in paradise while so many of ~~the~~ other poor brutes are still suffering at the half-way station, purgatory.. Washington Farmer, January 10, 1885.

California-Boise drives 1864

8

Several drives of sheep and cattle, on the way from California via the Goose Lake route to Owyhee and Boise mines, are reported to be scattered along the road. It is feared that the small parties engaged in driving the stock have been killed by Indians.

-- Walla Walla Statesman, June 24, 1864

Stock to Walla Walla 1865

The shipment of stock-- horses and cattle--from the Willamette valley to the upper country has already commenced. Several large bands will be brought up.

-- Walla Walla Statesman, March 17, 1865

Mr. Lorenzo Teale, whose farm is near the "Lone Tree" in this valley also returned from the Umpqua valley, Ore., on Tuesday last ~~wich~~ after an absence of two months, bringing along a band of stock-- 100 head-- consisting chiefly of young beef cattle and milch cows.

-- Walla Walla Statesman, July 28, 1865

We are told that several large bands of cattle and sheep are on the way to this valley from ~~Mo~~Oregon; one drove of 1,500 head of sheep is mentioned among the rest.

-- Walla Walla Statesman, August 18, 1865

Sheep & Cattle Thru Dalles 1877

During the week one lot of 250 large fat wehmers destined for the Sound; also another band numbering 600...bound for Victoria... (also cattle shipped down)

--Oregon Weekly Tribune(The Dalles) March 24, 1877
(more next week to Portland and Victoria and more in the weeks following that)

Ranges

Portland, Ore. June 22- Edward Dixon a special agent of the interior department is now in Eastern Oregon warning cattlemen and others who have fenced in government lands to tear down the obstructions. Those who fail to obey the ~~law~~ order will be prosecuted, both civil and criminal proceedings being instituted.

The instructions given Mr. Dixon are explicit. He is instructed to remain on the ground and personally superintend the work of cattlemen in destroying the fences that have been built on the public domain.

In the event anyone refuses to obey, he is directed to notify the district attorney's office. Over 500,000 acres will be thrown open to entry by this action of federal officials in Grant, Sherman, Lake, Malheur, Crook and Harney counties. In many instances cattlemen have fenced in entire townships and are using them as private ranges. The Yakima Herald, June 24, 1903.

Sheep and cattle

Sheep men's organization meeting expanding counties. "anlier
forest reserve allotments for ranging of sheep, cattle and horses,
wenas, naoh "atchez range etc. about 4 col account listing
names of raisers and number of stock--yakima "erald, May 20, 1902.

Agriculture

Grazing

J.S. Cotton, superintendent of range experiments in this state came up from the Rattlesnake country on Monday to transact business relative to work in this county.

He came over from the agricultural college at Pullman two weeks ago and began preparations at the Rattlesnake experiment station to plant the seeds of grasses under test. So far he has had discouraging success in putting the seed in the soil because of the high winds that prevail at this season of the year.

There are twenty acres under experiment and about half of this has been planted.

He expects to complete the work in a short time and will remain there during the summer to watch developments.

In this ground 10 varieties will be planted with the object of ascertaining that which is best suited to re-grass the bare hills which at one time supported a luxuriant growth. Grazing has completely wiped out the native grasses and now the hills are so bare that a goat could scarcely eke out an existence on them.

The experiments made last year in the same line did not prove satisfactory owing to the lateness of the time the seed was planted. But this year something definite is expected.

During the summer Mr. Cotton will travel extensively over the county to ascertain the condition of the ranges so as to make a report to the department on returning to Pullman later in the season--the Yakima Herald, April 1, 1902.

Grazing lands

The Oregon Railway and Navigation Company has joined the Northern Pacific in the commendable work of experimenting with forage plants.

The agricultural department of the O R and N Co has put in 26 acres of sand binding grasses near Rowena, Wasco county and experiments will be made in other places to see if the sandy lands along the Columbia cannot be made to pay tribute to the wealth of the

state and also to ascertain if the big sand dunes along the line can not be so rooted down as to prevent their constant shifting, which in the past has caused so much trouble and expense to the company and delay to traffic.

Prof A.B. Leckenby, who has been conducting similar experiments for the Northern Pacific railway company at North Yakima and elsewhere recently announced that he had found a number of forage plants which are adapted by nature to the semi-arid lands of Eastern Washington and Oregon and Southern and Central Idaho. The importance of these experiments can hardly be over stated. The native bunch grass has been eaten and stamped out by range stock and if other forage plants are not introduced on these broad plains many million acres of once productive ranges will become of no value. At this point science is stepping in to reinforce nature and there is no reason to believe that before many years these plains will be soddied to productive grasses which will be more productive than the native bunch grass--Spokesman Review, Oct. 1898.

Grazing

Prof. Lawson Scribner, chief of graminology of the interior department has been studying the grazing problem on the Pacific coast.

An associated dispatch says he found that the ranges are over stocked in a startling manner.

Upon the advice of Professor Scribner, Secretary Wilson will recommend in his forthcoming report that the government cease the policy of allowing free grazing and substitute a system of leases.

This would place the land leased entirely under the control of the lessee and make it to the interest not to overstock his range. As a further incentive it is suggested that it might be well to give the lessee the preference when the land is sold.

Since the above was put in type the following Associated Press dispatch was received from Washington City.:

"The secretary of the interior has canceled the 68 permits that have been granted sheepmen to graze within the Rainier forest reservation, Washington and hereafter all sheep shall be excluded from the reservation.

The 68 permits represents 260,000 sheep now on the reservation.

In making his exclusion order the secretary said:

"The granting of each such permits was not in conformity but rather interfered with the objects for which forest reservations are created."

It was mainly through the instrumentality of Commissioner Hermann that these permits were granted in the first place, they coming from the general land office. Hermann has been of the opinion that sheep grazing in the open areas of forest reservation was not injurious to the forests but should special agents of the interior department have made extensive investigations and reported to the contrary.

Secretary Wilson of the agricultural department strenuously opposed sheep grazing on the reservations and in the face of such opposition

sheep will have to go. The decision of Secretary Hitchcock is but a precedent and it will be only a matter of time before sheep will be excluded from all the forest reserves in the country, including the great Cascade reserve in Oregon. The secretary is convinced that sheep kill the young growth of trees, shrubs and grass and therefore will exclude them. Yakima Herald, Sept. 7, 1899.

The secretary of the interior has rescinded the order to revoke the sheep grazing permits. Now let it stay revoked--Yakima Herald, Sept. 14, 1899.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson spent three days in Oregon recently and after giving the matter careful thought and critical examination from the balcony of the Hotel Portland states that sheep are ruinous to the forest reserves and must be excluded therefrom.

He likely got his opinions at second hand from those who have special interest in the exclusion of sheep or are simply theorists like himself. The opinions of men who have seen and know the effects of grazing are worthless to them.

This threatened expulsion of sheep from the reserves and leasing of range are measures aimed directly at the sheep industry.

Cattle and horses roam at will on the reserves and cannot be prevented unless they are fenced at government expense, hence the sheep will have to go. The industry has great political significance.

It has been and is today a prime factor of republican success, especially in Oregon. Flock masters all over the Union have been appealed to with good effect and now have the hand they fawned on is raised to deal a deadly blow. And it will be death. College professors of the east measly East, sportsmen of the wild and woolly West and damp hools everywhere assert that the sheep pulls up the young pine seedlings. They must go. Prineville, Ore. Journal, Sept. 1899.

E.F. Benson arrived in the city Wednesday to spend a few days conferring with the sheep and cattle men regarding the leasing of Northern Pacific grazing lands .

He says the leases entered into in Eastern Washington have proven beneficial to all the stock interests and the parties to the arrangement are well satisfied as it operates as a protection to them from the migrating bands of sheep.

The rentals are low being only sufficient to pay the taxes on a valuation of 25 cents per acre and cover small incidental expenses--
Yakima Herald, April 1, 1897.

Nicholas McCoy took 225 head of cattle to the Columbia river range last week and he said that not only was the season unusually backward for grass but that the sheep had eaten every spear of the very little that had put in its appearance--Yakima Herald, April 8, 1897.

stock on boats

During the present week the boats of the O.S.N. Co. have landed at the Dalles about 1,500 head of cattle and 205 head of hogs. This begins to lookg a little like business again.

—The Dalles Mountaineer, March 2, 1867

Stock up Columbia 1866

Up to Saturday the OSN company had brought up to the Dalles on their stock boat this season 910 horses, 253 beef cattle, 1,600 sheep and 100 hogs.

--Daily Mountaineer (The Dalles) March 27, 1866

Livestock

The Agriculture Department in its recently published statement of the number and value of farm animals in the United States shows the following remarkable growth in the farming industry in the state of Washington:

In the two and one half years following June 1, 1900, the value of farm animals in Washington increased from \$22,159,207 to \$30,538,161, being an increase of 38 per cent while the increase for the whole of the United States was only a little more than 4 per cent. This shows that the increase in this state was greater than that in any other state in the Union--The Yakima Herald, April 15, 1903.

Stock to Montana 1885

A trainload of stock for the Montana ranges will be shipped daily from Yakima the next 10 days.

--The Walla Walla Journal and Watchman May 1, 1885