

for each floor, supplied with light from bay windows and roof lights. Care has been taken that the arrangements shall be such as to place this hospital on an equality with any other of like nature in the country. Its staff of physicians embraces the most eminent practitioners in the city, which is an excellent recommendation to those having occasion to avail themselves of the services of such an institution. While the management is under the direction of the Catholic Sisters, the sick and afflicted of every rank, creed and color are made welcome, and all receive the care and attention their cases require. The style of architecture is Flemish renaissance, and with its pressed brick walls and terra cotta trimmings the building will present a striking appearance, and will reflect great credit upon its designer, Mr. Justus Krumbein, the well-known architect of this city.

CHANGES ON THE STOCK RANGES.

One who observes the stock interests of the northwest cannot but note the change that is taking place on the ranges. In fact the range stock business is fast losing its distinctive character. The glory that attached to the life of a cowboy, or vaquero, and sheep herder of even half a decade ago is already a thing of the past in most sections of the northwest country. The cattle king has abdicated his throne and the business is broken up and popularized. Of course there are still large live stock interests on the bunch grass lands. But soil that will grow good bunch grass will raise good wheat, and the settlers are fast pushing the herders to the mountains.

The papers of Eastern Washington, Eastern Oregon and Montana are constantly chronicling the shipment of large numbers of live stock eastward. Probably the eastward movement of sheep is more noticeable than that of any other animal. They do not go east directly to market either. The Dakotas offer the most attractive grazing ground now for sheep, and hundreds of thousands of these animals are annually being sent thither from the ranges of Oregon, Washington and Montana. Even the Judith basin in Montana, the valley of the Yellowstone and the northern plain, are sending their sheep to more eastern pastures. The Northern Pacific and the Great Northern railways are carrying train-load after train-load east, the shipments beginning immediately after shearing in the spring and continuing till snow flies. The movement of cattle and horses is less marked but it is by no means imperceptible. Those animals more uniformly go to market when sent east.

Probably one reason for sending so many sheep east is that the climate of the Pacific slope is more favorable to breeding animals and that it is found profitable to breed here and send to a more rigorous climate, if needs be, to pasture. This reason, however, will not apply to Montana shipments, and it is really a minor one in any case. The most likely cause for the transfer may be found in the comparative conditions of the two regions as regards their occupancy by settlers who actually till the soil. The record of the Dakotas, especially of the northern twin, since admission to statehood, has not been such as to establish any great degree of confidence in the breasts of oncoming thousands in search of homes. So now they pass through what was two or three years ago regarded as the promised land and occupy the newer and more attractive region to the west. The Dakotas are prime grazing states anyway, and, being nearer the market, their stock is driven to the shambles faster than it grows and they have to draw on the western ranges for recruits. The Bad lands of Western Dakota and Eastern Montana offer superb advantages for the sheepmen, who are fast covering the knobs and gullies with western sheep. There is a good deal of what might be called grazing in transit done in the sheep business—for instance, leaving Oregon in the spring by rail, stopping till fall in the Bad lands and then continuing to market.

There are always losses in shipping animals such great distances. For sheep the cars are "double-decked" and all animals have to be unloaded at a number of feeding stations on the road. From 4,000 to 6,000 sheep constitute an ordinary train load and two or three men accompany each train to attend to the animals. Care must be taken not to let any of them lie down while in the car, for then their companions are sure to trample them to death. Stock trains are special and there are more or less of them on the road constantly. Some shipments are made from the inland empire to the coast market. The whole trend of the business now is toward an improvement in the blood of range stock and reduction of the size of bunches, private ownership and improvement of pasturage and the production of better meat and wool and horses. It will be many years before all the features of the old style of range business will disappear, but many of the characteristics have already faded and it is only a matter of time when the rest will follow.

But the country is not getting poorer by the change in the live stock business. From Texas to Wyoming and from Oregon to Dakota the bands move. They return to Texas for the winter but they do not return to Oregon and Washington. Texas remains a wild grass-grown plain. The northwest is filling with people who make the land yield vastly more under tillage than when grazing animals roamed over it at will. And the stock interest, like any other, must readjust itself to the changing conditions.



WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, MONTANA.

The traveler passing through the valley between the Great and Little Belt mountains, is surprised to see in the south-central part of Meagher county a clean, beautiful, well-built town, out, as it were, in the wilderness. It lies between the north and south forks of Smith river, a short distance from their junction, with majestic mountains looming high east and west. The site is a gentle declivity which slopes westward. Here are the springs which give the name to the town. Nine of these are in a park in the western part of the town, in which there is a bath-house, containing tubs and a small plunge, a bath in either of which is delicious. The water of all of them is hot, ranging from 110 to 125 degrees Fahrenheit. The surroundings seem dirty, though they are not, the appearance resulting from the corrosive effects of the water, which is strongly impregnated with sulphur. About one square north of the park there are springs which are used to give mud baths, and cures are sometimes effected by them when the others fail. These springs were known to the Indians, and the ground to them was sacred, where there was always peace. It has been known to the whites from the earliest times, but not until recently were the virtues of the waters fully known and appreciated. About these springs have gathered a people who have laid off a splendid townsite, and have erected good buildings which are kept in first-class order. Here has sprung up a trade which reaches far and wide, and is larger than that of any place of its size in the state. There are two papers, the *Rocky Mountain Husbandman*, and the *Meagher County News*. An excellent court house, and a school house that is a monument to the taste and intelligence of the people, have been built.—*Mining Review*.

A large body of asbestos was discovered last week on the Skagit river about three miles from Sedro, Washington. It is said to be of excellent quality, the fibres being long, fine and very flexible. This mineral is found in large quantities in Switzerland, Scotland, Virginia, Vermont, and on Staten island, off the New Jersey coast. The finest quality yet discovered comes from Italy. The use of this material has been familiar for many years in all countries. It has been extensively applied in the manufacture of fire-proof roofing, flooring, steam packing, clothing and lamp-wicking. It is now principally used as a non-conducting envelope of steam pipes, and for the filling up of safes.

There are 1,316 cars, built expressly for fruit transportation, now engaged in carrying California fruits to the eastern markets, besides other cars pressed into the service. Over twenty carloads are sent east from Sacramento daily. This industry has done as much as any other one agency to make California known to the world, and could its importance and the sure remuneration it brings to the grower be fully impressed upon the minds of Oregon farmers, the number of cars required to supply the eastern demand from this state would greatly exceed that of our southern neighbor.

At the Tacoma mill, the Norwegian ship *Thor*, is ready for sea with the finest cargo of lumber ever shipped from that port. She has 800,000 feet of lumber, taken from the best timber to be found in the state of Washington. Among the cargo are 400,000 feet of timber ranging from 16x16 to 24x24 inches and from sixty-five to 120 feet long.

An agent of a New York commission house has bought a carload of apples at Medford, Oregon, for shipment to England. He is highly pleased with Oregon's fruit, and says the apples are superior to any he has seen on the coast.

The Vancouver Land & Securities Co., limited, of England, have opened a bank in the city of Vancouver, B. C., with a capital stock of \$2,500,000.

The *Weekly News* is a new eight page paper which made its first appearance at Halsey, Linn county, Oregon, last Saturday.

A new bank is soon to be established in Salem, Oregon.