

Oregon Cattle And Their Markets.

Read before the Crook County Cattlemen's Convention, at Prineville, Oregon, February 4th, 1903, by C. J. Millis.

It occurs to me that the questions which we can with greatest profit discuss today are those having to do with the whole aim and purpose of your present efforts; the production and sale of cattle.

I take it few of you are in the business purely for health, or for the pleasure of days in the saddle and nights on guard. The round-up has some agreeable features, so also has the long dusty drive, but these are incidental, and serve after all simply as a means to the end, and that end we will consider for a short time.

You have doubtless all observed with satisfaction that in New York and Chicago, as well as at home, beef is higher. Have you stopped to analyze the situation, and ascertain why beef is higher, and if the conditions affecting that commodity will continue, if it is a permanent or temporary advance, and how it may or can be made to further your interests in Crook County? Can the Western producer share in the benefit or is it only for the manipulator? Are you realizing the maximum values possible to secure from your herds? If not, what is necessary to correct the evil which prevents.

Mr. G. W. Ogden says, "The receipts of cattle at five western markets for the ten years ending 1891 were 6,500,000. For the ten years ending 1901, 7,166,856, a gain of 666,856. Compare this slight increase with the gain in the country's population for the corresponding length of time, and add to it an increase of 25 per cent in the export trade, and you have the primary cause of high-priced beef." Mr. Ogden is correct in his hypothesis, but fails to credit the Pacific Coast conditions as a factor simply because we are or have been almost exclusively a breeding ground for the middle ranges where the animal gets his weight and reputation as beef, and Mr. Ogden has not gone deep enough to find the real source of much of the best western supply.

While our meat-consuming population increases, our open range decreases. With the increased demand we fail to enlarge our production. These conditions are general, not local, consequently it is not reasonable to expect any material change so far as the original supply is concerned, and inasmuch as a goodly portion of our western land is particularly adapted to stock breeding and grazing, as it is particularly unfitted for any other purpose, it is perfectly reasonable for you to regard that industry as permanent. Therefore, the wise and proper thing to do is to put the business on the most profitable basis possible, whether the output is to be high class beef or because of limited feeding facilities, high-class feeders and stockers, and for this consider first, quality.

If Crook County can establish and sustain a reputation for gilts-edge high grade cattle only, and it is known that no inferior blood can be found among your herds, you will have no trouble in disposing of your surplus at top figures whenever offered in proper form.

Because of our peculiar conditions and the active demand for such holdings, our people have for many years past carried heavy breeding herds, and turned off the young stuff as early as possible for maturing on northern ranges, but of late the rapidly increasing home consumption and export demand has so stipulated our western markets that up to date cattlemen are finding decidedly better profit in finishing at home, and answering the constantly increasing call for beef.

While it is hard to refuse \$20 for a good yearling steer, it is harder still to have nothing to offer the following year, when good fat "two's" are worth \$35 and

"three's" bring \$50. Your alfalfa means good money when it's under the hide half finished stuff means half profit. Old methods must give way—these are days of progress, breed and feed along improved lines, and keep up with the times. You are making your own market. Why is it that our own packing houses bring fat cattle from Utah and Idaho—why do you send Coast buyers to Montana for beef. Freight rates are high, and the shrink is expensive. Why are these people unable to fill their wants at home? Portland is hunting the country over as with a search-light for good fat cattle and sheep, and still we cry for more and larger markets. Gentlemen, the trouble is at home, the markets are largely in your own hands, and you can mold them as you will.

Oregon is noted for "self-raising" cattle, and is deserving the reputation. Her range stock are unexcelled as such, but you send them to Montana, to Idaho and to Colorado, where they are finished and go to the slaughter yards as Montana, Idaho and Colorado products, having lost their original identity, and at the same time losing a nice large profit to the original owner. I undertake to say that the most advanced and prosperous section of our great state in this particular industry is Butter Creek in the counties of Umatilla and Morrow. In this little valley conditions have been made almost ideal, and prosperity fairly slopes over the edges.

Furthermore, it has been observed that our most progressive cattlemen do not stay at home 365 days in the year, filling the place of a hired man, but broaden out and secure the education acquired by comparison. They go to market frequently with their own stuff, and meet their competitors. They attend fat stock shows, visit their successful neighbors, and observe other methods than their own. They are active personalities at every convention possible to attend. They take the best livestock paper they can find, and in a word, are up to date.

I like to see a man raise the kind of cattle he likes best, either of the standards are good, but to be successful, a cattle raiser must be an enthusiast, and to be intelligently enthusiastic requires not only long study and a thorough acquaintance with the subject, but perfect confidence in his methods as well. "Be sure you are right then go ahead" was never more true than now, and to no business is it more applicable than that of cattle raising.

Study well your situation and conditions, determine by actual experience just what is "right" then push the business to the front. Make your name stand for quality, avoiding the common error of trying to carry too much for your capacity, thus sacrificing quality to quantity. You will find in the long run, that five first-class fat and well finished steers are worth more to you than seven ordinary half-good animals of the same age.

It is farthest from my wish to unduly criticize any man's business methods, but experience and observation mold my opinions, and I could not hope to be of assistance to you were my remarks other than honest and frank; hence it is that I place such stress on the matter of better preparation for the market. I want Crook County cattlemen to have every dollar that is coming to them. I want Crook County cattle to bring every dollar they are worth, and I want to see them worth their last dollar—their maximum before you let go of them, and I honestly believe you can vastly improve on your present methods by putting into alfalfa every acre possible to bring under cultivation; then put every ton of the product under a cowhide, and if this cowhide cover a shorthorn or a whiteface, I will answer for the result.

Finally, gentlemen of the range, you have in your own hands more power than is held by any com-

bine or beef trust, whether private or political. None of them can legislate a single steer into existence, while you control the food of the nation. Intelligent co-operation as well as individual action, will make you as nearly masters of the situation as the justice of an All-wise Ruler will accord to any man or organization.

Saw Death Near.

"It often made my heart ache," writes L. C. Overstreet, of Elgin, Tenn., "to hear my wife cough until it seemed her weak and sore lungs would collapse. Good doctors said she was so far gone with Consumption that no medicine or earthly help could save her, but a friend recommended Dr. King's New Discovery and persistent use of this excellent medicine saved her life." It's absolutely guaranteed for coughs and all throat and lung diseases. 50c and \$1.00 at Adamson & Winnek Co. Trial bottles free.

Eulogies on Tongue.

Washington, Feb. 3.—It is said that the House will hold eulogies on the late Representative Tongue Sunday, February 15, or the following Sunday. This depends on the will of the Iowa delegation. Eulogies by the late Representative Moody, Chairman Burton and other members of the House.

A Woman's Awful Peril.

"There is only one way to save your life and that is through an operation" were the startling words heard by Mrs. I. B. Hunt, of Lime Ridge, Wis., from her doctor after he had vainly tried to cure her of a frightful case of stomach trouble and yellow jaundice. Gall stones had formed and she constantly grew worse. Then she began to use Electric Bitters which wholly cured her. It's a wonderful Stomach, Liver and Kidney remedy. Cures Dyspepsia, Loss of Appetite. Try it. Only 50c. Guaranteed. For sale by Adamson & Winnek Co.

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Passengers waybilled for Post, Paulina, Fife, Riley, Burns and all way points.
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Call when you're in town and you'll come again.
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The washer can be found already in many homes in Crook county and is giving entire satisfaction. We have agents in the various settlements in this county who will show the merits of the washer or parties interested may send orders to me at Hay Creek, Oregon.
H. G. Kibbee, General Ag't for Crook Co

Prineville Meat Market

P. B. DOAK, PROP.
New Shop and is Up-to-date and Clean
Grinding your teeth on tough beefsteak is certainly annoying but have you tried ours?
Our Meats are Selected
by careful judges and we use every endeavor to furnish none but what is fresh, tender and nutritious.
NEXT DOOR TO BONNEY'S

A bill will be introduced in the Idaho Legislature at the present session making it a misdemeanor to herd or graze sheep upon the lands or possessory claims of others, or within two miles of inhabited dwellings.

Says He Was Tortured.

"I suffered such pains from corns I could hardly walk," writes H. Robinson, Hillsborough, Ill., "but Bucklen's Arnica Salve completely cured them." Acts like magic on sprains, bruises, cuts, sores, scalds, burns, boils, ulcers. Perfect healer of skin diseases and piles. Cure guaranteed by Adamson & Winnek Co. Price 25c.

Laundry Solicited.

Mrs. Dora Lyons wishes to announce to the public that she will do washing and ironing at reasonable prices: Washings will be delivered.

Lumber \$10 Per M.

After January 1, 1903, we will sell lumber at our mill on Ochoco for \$10 per thousand. Give us a call.

HAWKINS BROTHERS.

Dissolution Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the firm of Cornett & Elkins, doing a general blacksmithing business in Prineville is this day dissolved by mutual consent, the business, stock and fixtures having been sold to J. H. Wigle. All accounts due the late firm will be collected by Frank Elkins and all accounts owing by said firm will be paid by said Frank Elkins. All accounts now due the late firm have been placed in the hands of M. R. Elliott for immediate collection.

G. M. Cornett
Frank Elkins.
Dated December 9, 1902.

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