

HOGS ARE MONEY MAKERS

POWELL BUTTE RANCHERS GIVE ATTENTION
TO PORKERS WITH PROFIT---SOME
RECORDS OF RANCHERS GIVEN

(Staff Correspondence)

POWELL BUTTE, Oct. 20.—

Oh, hog, it is to thee

We come on bended knee,

And of thee sing.

We love to hear your grunt

Because you are no runt;

And dollars we don't hunt,

It to thee we cling.

This is the song of the Powell

Butte farmer nowadays. With the

cry of the many mouths that must be

fed, and these mouths demanding

pork for their feeding, he has come

to realize that there is no better way

to get money into his own pocket

than to have the hog root it out of

the pockets of the thousands, for him

to pick up as easily as he would a

lump of dirt on his farm, as it were.

In my amblings around this part

of the country I found that there

are more than hogs being

raised hereabouts. A few years ago,

I was told—not more than two,

possibly—a hog was nearly as scarce

here as a jackrabbit is in New York

City. With a keen mind to see into

the future, the Powell Butte settlers

realized that one of the best ways

for them to pave a road to prosperity

was by raising hogs. Some ventured

more fearlessly than others, and a

few made a start without knowing

it—they bought a couple of hogs to

eat unmarketable produce, quickly

heard the ring of the gold under

their hoofs and have gone into the

swine industry with all sails set.

The Bulletin has recounted several

times the success which the Hobbs

brothers have had with their hogs.

Every one in this territory knows

about them, and down in Portland

people are going to learn, too.

Here is brief resume of Powell

Butte hogdom:

George Hobbs 285

Lee Hobbs 219

George Brazee 165

Allen Wilcoxson 125

Earl Saunders 100

Alvin Riggs 90

Reeves Wilcoxson 70

Allen Landfare 60

N. P. Alley 60

No doubt there are a number of

other farmers who have entered the

hog business with small numbers and

whose places the writer missed on his

trip.

About a year ago George Hobbs

started in this industry. He has 23

sows, 152 fall pigs and 110 spring

pigs. He does not have any ready

to market now, but in January will

have a carload—the average carload

is 80—and another in April. He

pastures them on alfalfa and also

feeds them alfalfa hay. He is now

feeding the third cutting of this hay,

and the hogs, big and little, eat it

with just as much avidity as if it

were corn. Agricultural college ex-

perts have said that this third cut-

ting of alfalfa is worth \$20 a ton

when bran is worth \$22. The hogs

are fattened on grain, mostly chop-

ped barley. Mr. Hobbs has a grinder

for putting his grain into the best

feeding condition.

A feature of his equipment is a

hog house 72 feet long and 15 feet

wide. It has 24 compartments, each

of which will care for a sow and her

brood.

Mr. Hobbs had the misfortune to

lose 25 pigs this summer by drown-

ing. A hard rain, resembling a

cloudburst, came up and the water

rose in the pen where they were,

killing them in a few minutes.

At the Lee Hobbs place I saw 60

head in prime condition for being

marketed, these being taken to Port-

land this week to the stock yards.

These were all January and March

pigs and were fattened on black and

white barley. Thirty of them were

"tops," the others being smaller and

lighter in weight.

Nearly all of the Hobbs brothers'

hogs are the Duroc Jersey Reds.

Several weeks ago Allen Wilcoxson

took 55 hogs to the Portland market.

For them he obtained an average of

7.50 cents a pound net. At that

time the market was weak, but even

at that figure he netted a good profit.

Mr. Wilcoxson purchased a few hogs

last year to eat potatoes for which

he found no market, and he now has

125. He will have another bunch

ready to market before Christmas.

Most of his are the Duroc Jersey.

Mr. Wilcoxson's experience shows

what can be done with a small tract

of land. He has only 40 acres and

is utilizing it to good advantage.

Most of it is seeded to alfalfa and

this furnishes the feed for his hogs

during the summer months. He in-

tends to engage in dairying a little

later when he gets prepared to

handle cows properly.

In April, 1912, George Brazee,

who has 50 acres of irrigated land,

made his start in hog raising with

five sows. He now has 165 head of

swine, all of the Duroc Jersey breed.

He pastures them on clover and al-

falga and fattens them on grain.

Reeves Wilcoxson's swine are the

O. I. C. or Chester Whites. He has

only recently started, buying most of

the 70 which are on his farm. A

short time ago he took 11 dressed

hogs to Bend for which he received

10 1/2 cents a pound. They averaged

about 125 pounds, bringing him more

than \$13 a head.

Allen Landfare, who came here last

year, buying the E. A. Russett farm,

has the Poland Chinas. He has 60

head now, having sold off a consider-

able number. It will be recalled by

readers of The Bulletin that he lost

25 in the summer, the exact cause

of death never having been deter-

mined. "Farmer" Smith of the O-W. R.

& N. Co. thought it due to unbal-

anced ration, but Mr. Landfare thinks

it was some kind of cholera. The

effect of the disease is still to be

seen on some of the hogs, but he has

not lost any recently.

N. P. Alley's 60 head consist of

Duroc Jerseys and Poland Chinas.

Earl Saunders' 100 are mostly Duroc

Jerseys.

The raising of hogs is confined al-

most wholly to the irrigated district.

The reason for this is two fold: Much

water is required for the swine, and

water is necessary for the growing

of alfalfa. George Hobbs' place is

in the non-irrigated district but he

keeps his stock on a 40 of irrigated

land. The present outlook is that

this profitable industry will be con-

fined to the watered district, with

the grain required being raised prob-

ably on the dry farming area to a

great extent.

JIM HILL MUSTARD MENACE

Weed Should Be Eradicated in Coun-

try and Town, Says Settler.

That the Jim Hill mustard is be-

coming a real menace is the state-

ment of Mrs. Agnes M. Sottong,

whose home is some three miles east

of Bend. Mrs. Sottong points out

that both in fields and along the high-

roads in her district the weed is get-

ting a dangerous start. It is said

to be flourishing on the land of one

man, who, it is understood, has been

notified to destroy it, as is required

by law.

Road Supervisor R. M. Elder, it is

understood, has been directed to "get

after" the weed. In such cases any

work done on private property can

be assessed directly against the land

should the owner object to paying.

Mrs. Sottong showed that a consider-

able quantity of the mustard is grow-

ing on Bend streets and alleys, and

when the attention of H. A. Miller,

chairman of the streets committee,

was called to this, the city arranged

to employ a man to cut down and

burn the weed.

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