The Times-Herald.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24 1903.

JULIAN BYRD — — — — Manager

Range cattle interests are continually crying for measures that will preserve their business. Free use of the government domain has been boldly demanded as a right, and when those first established in any region have felt competition they have frequently not hesitated to fence public land and by might take advantages that were not theirs by right. Now that this species of usurpation will not longer be tolerated, there is a despert effort to get sanction of the law for the practice. It is now to be called land leasing. The stockmen are striving to get in this manner the control of vast areas, under conditions that will enable them to use the land without limit and at a much less cost than would be involved in its ownership.

Livestock interests of this country are large and are entitled to consideration. But the general public also has interests that are quite as important to protect. The whole theory of the stockmen's contention is that the grazing country of the great West is fit only for the use now made of it. Granting that assumption, their reasoning has merit, but that is not a sound basis. It cannot be assumed that the best possible use is now made of the soil of Oregon or Montana, or even of Nebraska. Wide stretches now given over to range stock will some day be occupied by small farms, which will have more livestock than are now supported there, and in addition all the products and activities of general agriculture.

In the current number of the Review of Reviews is an elaborate argument by Chancellor E. Benjamin Andrews, of the University of Nebraska, to establish the proposition that the preservation of the beef supply of the nation requires some arrangement for leasing the public domain for pasture. It is inaccurate as to facts, and it adds something to the fame of the author as a lame logician. At best it is but a partial statement of facts. The essence of the article is that the overstocking of the great semi-arid grazing belt is killing the grass and depriving the country of the power of supporting livestock; from which it is concluded that the remedy lies in giving stockmen such interest in the public domain as will induce them to protect it from abuse. This leads naturally it is assumed, to the land leasing policy, though just what assurance of non-abuse would be secured by that plan is not quite clear.

An impressive map or diagram showing the number of cattle in the great range states appears in connection with Chancellor Andrews' argument. It purports to have been complied from the twelth census of the United States but it was not, for in not one instance are the census figures quoted. With the proper corrections and the area of each state added the table is here given:

	Square miles.	Number cattle.
Arizona	113,020	742,625
California	158,693	1,444,524
Colorado	103,925	1,427,513
Idaho	84,800	872,564
Kansas	82,158	4,401,028
Montana	147,011	998,087
Nebraska	77,601	3,175,240
Nevada	110,690	955,192
New Mexico	122,057	993,567
North Dakota	70,837	627,464
Oklahoma	39,030	1,709,738
Oregon	96,699	700,002
South Dakota	77,650	1,646,060
Texas	265,780	3,478,186
Utah	84,970	542,080
Washington	66,836	194,928
Wyoming	97,890	667,284
Total	1,959,740	26,401,801

These figures refer only to neat cattle, of course. They show that in the range stock states of the great West each square mile of land supports only 16 2-3 head of cattle. This, together with the facts that the range is being eaten out and the demand for beef is running far ahead of the supply, is taken to mean that the great American producer must be protected from destruction.

It is profitable in this connection, however, to make comparison with other sections of the United States, which is something Chancellor Andrews is at some pains to steer clear of. In the states between the Appalachain Mountains and the range cattle country we find nearly as many cattle as are in the range states, on an area less than half as great, as follows:

	Square miles.	Number cattle.
Alabama	51,756	873,356
Arkansas	53,228	894,525
Illinois	56,364	2,104,610
Indiana	36,567	1,684,478
Indian Territory	31,154	1,499,864
Iowa	56,270	3,367,639
Kentucky	40,352	1,782,248
Louisiana	49,626	670,295
Michigan	57,980	1,576,408
Minnesota	86,352	1,871,825
Mississippi	46,919	873,356
Missouri	69,137	2,974,589
Ohio	41,464	2,055,213
Tennessee	42,036	912,193
Wisconsin	56,065	2,344,155
Total	803,013	27,643,167

Here we have 33 2-3 head of neat cattle to the square mile, or almost exactly double the number on the ranges of the West. East of the Appalachains there are 10,770,121 cattle on 459,967 square miles of territory, an average of 23.4 head to the square mile. Of course, it may be said that the beef supply of the country comes from the Western ranges rather than from the farms of the Mississippi Valley, but too much is usually made of that statement. It is probably true that as many animals bred in the states of the second foregoing list go to the shambles every year as go from the Western ranges. But they are to a much greater extent handled by the local markets and they are not massed in certain channels to make a great showing as is done in the west.

Efforts toward land leasing are not directed to the development of a new country. They rather tend to arrest industrial development by making the conditions unattractive to the settler and holding the land to uses that are rough and wasteful. We should have irrigation to reclaim the land and settlers to occupy it. Then there would be no trouble about the beef supply. But if the ranges are tied up with leases to cattlemen, it will be a long time before their hold is shaken off again. The livestock industry should not ask the Government to endow it at so heavy an expense to the general public.—Oregonian.

The convention of the National Livestock Association, now in session at Kansas City, has before it the solution of a problem of a magnitude and a far reaching effect as great as many questions which excite international interest in our national legislature, namely the plan for drafting legislation which will, to some extent, adjust the differences between the cattle men and sheep men of the great West.

This problem has become, from year to year, more and more urgent and difficult of solution and a complete regulation of it, which will be satisfactory to both factions cannot be looked for for many years to come, but the subject of range rights and of the right to fence or restrict the public use of government lands or to lease them in large tracts is one which the convention is more greatly interested in than any other and from this fact, and the efforts being made to interest all stock men in the matter, it is plain that some measure will be brought before the Congress at no very distant time to settle this troublesome question.

Any legislation upon the matter must be expected to be, at first, unsatisfactory as range conditions differ so greatly in different sections of the country.—Winnemucca Silver State.

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Geo D Hagey, Burns, cattle branded W on left hip; connected, on left hip; earmark, upper half crop off left ear, under half crop off right ear, wattle under half crop; range Emigrant and vicinity, also west and south of Burns.

B R Porter, Burns, cattle, heart bar on left shoulder; horses, PC on left hip; earmarks, upper and under bit in each ear, crop off either ear, wattle between eyes; range Emigrant creek and north of Burns.

Peter Clemens, Burns, horses, PC on left hip; cattle same on either hip; earmark, crop and split in left ear, swallow fork and under bit in right.

L C Grout, Burns, Horses TJ connected on hip; cattle, Hip Strap over the rump, extending down on both hips; earmarks, under bit and underbit in each ear.

M Fenwick, Burns, horses, double diagonal bar on left shoulder, cattle, L on right; earmarks, two underbits in each ear; sheep branded bar T on right ribs; earmark, crop and half crop in left ear.

J H Bunyard, Burns, cattle, 7 on left hip; marks, crop off left ear, swallow fork in right.

J P Withers, Harney, horses, combined on left shoulder; cattle, half circle over either hip; earmarks, upperbit in right, underbit in left.

Martin Bros., Burns, cattle, double diagonal bar on either hip; earmarks, upper and under bit in right ear, swallow fork in left, wattle under jaw; also some branded circle N on right hip.

O L Shingledecker, Burns, horses, 5 on shoulder; cattle, 5 on right side and hip; marks, crop off right ear, crop and underbit off left.

Fred Deustedt, Burns, horses, FD on left shoulder; cattle FD on left side; earmarks, under half crop in each ear.

R J Williams, Riley, horses, CB on left shoulder; cattle, CB on left hip; earmarks, crop off left ear, under half crop off right, wattle under chin; also cattle branded SS, crop and underbit in left ear, under half crop in right; cattle JT on left ribs, crop and split in left, under half crop in right.

H H Elliott, Narrows, horses, Th combined on left stifle; cattle Th combined on left hip; mark, upper slope on each ear, wattle under jaw and bell collar.

Sylvester Smith, Narrows, horses, H on left leg; cattle V bar, earmark, under half crop, short over slope in each ear, jughandle under dewlap.

P G Smith, Burns, horses, quarter circle on right hind leg and left shoulder; cattle, quarter circle S on either hip; earmark, crop off each ear, split in under side of left; two double underbits in each ear.

A E Young, Burns, horses, Y on left hip, J-C connected on right shoulder; also Y on left shoulder; cattle, rocking chair on left hip; earmark, right ear drooped down, left ear sloping towards head on upper side; wattle under side of neck; all animals dehorned.

C P Rutherford, Burns, cattle, bar 2 on left side; earmark, under half crop right ear; horses, bar 2 on left shoulder.

Michael Moylan, horses, 25 on left stifle; cattle, 25 on left hip; mark, right ear with fish hook, left drooped down, jughandle on brisket.

Thos Wingfield, Burns, horses, ⊖ (chain) on left shoulder; cattle, same on left side; earmark, crop off left ear, short overslope in right.

John Craddock, Silvies, horses, S-S on left shoulder; cattle, S-S on right side; mark, crop off right ear, swallow fork in left, crescent on brisket.

W E Smith, Burns, cattle, XI on right hip; mark, split in right ear, wattle on nose.

G Hudspeth, Burns, cattle, scissors on left side; mark, crop and split in each ear.

Simon Lewis, Burns, cattle SL on right hip; mark, crop and underbit in left ear, crop and under half crop off right.

T G Kribs, Burns, cattle, quarter circle on left hip; marks, crop off left ear, hole in right.

John Witzeil, Burns, horses, W bar on left stifle; cattle, diamond bar on left hip; mark, split in each ear, wattle under chin.

D M McMenamy, Burns, horses, reversed L on left stifle; cattle, 69 on left hip; mark, crop off each ear, underbit in each ear. With full name and address.

Varien Bros., Burns, horses, LF on right stifle; cattle, LF on right hip; mark, crop, upperbit and underbit in right ear.

J W Jones, Burns, cattle, quarter circle on right hip; mark, crop and slit in left ear, underbit in right.

J A Williams, Van, horses, 71 bar on left; cattle, bar 71 on left ribs; mark, underbit in each ear, under slope in right.

H Elliott, Burns, horses, H4 combined on left stifle; cattle, L on left side; mark, under half crop in right ear, left split in half lower part in each ear, hole down against side of head.

C S Johnson, Van, horses, SJ on left shoulder; cattle, SJ on left hip; mark, crop and half crop in right ear, underbit in left.

C J Johnson, Riley, cattle, O bar on left; marks, swallow fork in right ear, split in left.

W B Johnson, cattle, JK combined on left; mark, crop off right ear, two splits and underbit crop in left.

W A Campbell, Narrows, horses, NC combined on left shoulder; cattle, bar NC combined on left shoulder; mark, upper half crop in each ear.

John Buoy, Burns, horses, CB on left shoulder, CB on right hip or side; mark, crop off each ear, hole in right.

Mrs I N Hughet, Warm Springs, cattle, fork on left side; mark, wattle under chin.

John Hipsman, Burns, horses, OJ on left shoulder; cattle, OJ on right side; mark, crop off left ear, two underbits in right.

Sam King, Burns, cattle, S7 on left hip; crop and underbit in each ear, wattle under jaw.

J P Dickenson, Narrows, horses, anvil on stifle; cattle, bar through diamond on left shoulder; mark, underbit in each ear; sheep branded on left side and hip.

Rose Sitz, Narrows, horses, R bar on left; cattle, same on left hip or side; mark, split in each ear, dewlap on brisket.

D Finnemore, Burns, horses, QF combined on stifle; cattle same on left hip; mark, crop off each ear, under slope in right, wattle under throat.

[illegible], Burns, horses, bar H on left stifle; cattle, same on left hip; mark, crop off each ear, under half crop in right ear.

[illegible], Burns, horses, OH on left stifle; cattle, mule shoe on left hip; mark, crop and under half crop in left ear, split in right, dewlap under throat.

[illegible], Burns, horses, bar H on left; cattle, same on left hip; mark, crop off each ear, split in each ear.

W W Greer, Burns, horses, [illegible] on left jaw, [illegible] on left hip; mark, crop off each ear, split in each ear, swallow fork in right, running W on shoulder.

W D Hanner, Burns, horses, bell A on left; cattle, same on left hip; mark, crop off each ear, split in right ear, swallow fork in left; cattle, LY on left hip; mark, swallow fork in both ears.

J C Cressman, Burns, cattle, JY combined on left side or hip; mark, crop and slit in right, swallow slit in left.

L L Clark, Narrows, horses, bar C on the shoulder.

John Gilcrest, (P. L. S. Co.) Burns, horses, wrench on left stifle; cattle same on left hip; mark, square crop off right ear, notch or slope on left.

French-Glenn Live Stock Co., J. G. Scott superintendent, F. C. Lusk, general manager, Burns, horses, P on left stifle; cattle, PS on left hip; mark, under half crop off each left ear, dew lap cut under; cattle, P on left hip; mark same as above; cattle, figure 9 on left hip; mark, swallow fork in left ear, wattle under throat; cattle, T on left hip; mark, square crop off left ear, wattle on left jaw.

C. H. Voegtly, Burns, horses branded C on left shoulder.

E C Bulkley, Silvies, cattle, 44 on left hip, right rump; mark, smooth crop in each ear, wattle; horses, 44 on left stifle.

C. A. Bonnett, Crane, horses branded Jr on either left shoulder or stifle; cattle same on each hip; mark, smooth crop off left, and under slope in right.

Fred Oakerman, Riley, horse brand bar on either left shoulder or stifle; also Y JJ monogram below Y; same plane or on left jaw; cattle, bar P on left shoulder or ribs; mark two underbits in left and one in right; also two underbits in each ear.

Dazer & Woldenberg Jr., Burns, cattle, 7 engine on right hip; mark crop off each ear; horses same brand on right stifle.

Job printing—The Times-Herald