

Champion Arabian String Moved To Medford Ranch

By MARY ALICE BRUSHA
"What—Royalty in Medford at midnight?" That it was, and not too long ago, and the scene at the Big Y Shopping Center at Medford was one of the most spectacular horse events ever in the history of Medford.

Ten horse trailers and two pickup trucks were loaded with Arabians, the King of all Horses. This fabulous string of bloodlines, beauty and performance had just been delivered to the owners, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Sigman, Box 1466, Medford. The 12 man patrol escorting the chariots were from the AFIPF Temple of Tacoma-Shriners Mounted Horse Patrol of Yakima, Wash. The Shrine patrol had left Yakima at 6:30 a. m., under the direction of Captain Dwight Jordan.

Leads Welcome
Potestate of the Hillah Temple, Lynn W. Newbury, Ashland, also Oregon state senator, led the welcome committee of members from the Jackson County Shrine Club, and many other visiting Shrine groups. Acting chairman for the local Shrine group was Earl Yoakley, vice president, who was assisted by Ivan Harrington, Dr. Leonard Mayfield, superintendent of the Medford city schools, Jack Walker, Les Taylor, J. E. Jorgensen, Woody Morse, Chester Hubbard, Tony Lausmann, Hal Edwards, Jerry Cottingham, Elbert Lennox, William Laurine, and Len Melville.

Maneuvers of this type require much time, and especially when the cargo is a shipment of 19 prize Arabian horses. There are many factors to be considered, not only the safety of the animals, but all the members of the caravan. Only persons expert in the field of horse transportation should undertake such a movement.

The men of the Yakima Shrine Mounted Horse Patrol are trained horsemen, fully able and qualified to cope with any situation that might arise pertaining to ventures of this kind. The entire trip covering 477 miles was made without the slightest hitch or incident, and nine of these horses had never been hauled before.

Donate To Hospital
For the past five years the All-Arabian Horse Show at Yakima, Wash., has been sponsored by the Yakima Shrine Club, and the Washington Arabian Association. All benefits are marked for the Shrine's Hospital for Crippled Children at Spokane, Wash. Each year the Sigman Arabians have played an important part in the annual event.

In fact, the cost of \$2,000 for the transportation of these famous horses paid the Shriners patrol was also turned over to the hospital, a joint contribution from Sigman and the Shrine Club, Yakima, Wash.

The Sigman Arabians are bringing to this area some of the most coveted honors, titles, and ribbons known in the world of horses. These imperial horses range in age from tiny colts to a grand old grey mare, "Arifa", who after the long ride came bounding out of the trailer like a two-year-old. Arifa was sired by the famous stud, "Zarife", who was imported from the Arabian desert. She is 23 years old. She is nursing her 17th colt, and has already been bred back to "Alicantes Ghazal", a grey senior stud. He is the son of an imported dam from Spain.

All the colts from the cross of this remarkable stud have been grey, regardless of the color of the mare. Some of his colts have been top 10 winners, both in the United States and Canada.

"Krishan" is a handsome five-year-old stallion. He was shown three times in '63. At the all Arab Horse Show, Santa Rosa, Calif., he won reserve champion in the three-gaited stallion class. At the Arab Horse Show, Salem, Ore., he took fourth place in the

three-gaited stallion class, and fifth in the stallions and geldings. At the Cow Palace, San Francisco, Calif., the largest western horse event on the Pacific coast, he was second in the three-gaited stallion class and fourth in the \$500 stake. He was also champion five-year-old stallion, and reserve champion of the show.

"Sharri" is the daughter of Alicantes Ghazal, sire, and dam Arifa. This aristocratic grey mare has been grand champion mare 25 times. She is eligible for the western and English Pleasure Championship. "Arifa" is a 10-year-old champion gelding, three-gaited and fine harness. "Mishal"—10416, Sigman's sire of champions. He is the only horse to win the title, "Pacific Northwest Champion Stallion" three years in a row, 1959, 1960 and 1961. Sharri, Krishan, Kreta and Mishal are all eligible for the Canadian and U. S. Champion.

No Novice
Mr. Sigman is no novice in the field of horses. He was raised on a farm in Idaho, where he was associated with many breeds and types. He breeds, breaks, trains, rides and shows his own horses.

Although he has only purebred Arabian horses, he says he isn't partial to any one special breed. "I like all horses, all breeds. Horses have been good for me. They are good for any man. Really I have no preference," he said.

Maybe that is the reason so many men and women are drawn to horses more than any other form of livestock.

Many theories enshrine the origin of the Arabian horse. According to the noted historian, Ed Keble, (A.D. 786) records of the Arabian horse pedigrees date back nearly 5,000 years. The original first record was written about King Solomon's time, (1,000 B.C.). It is claimed that the Arabian horse is the most ancient of all breeds. The strain came from the descendants of the Baz mare and those of Rakib, a stallion given to Beni Azid from King Solomon. Before that the Kohlan Ajiz strain belonged to the Beni Helal prior to his migration to the west. He is the most famous of all five Arabian strains.

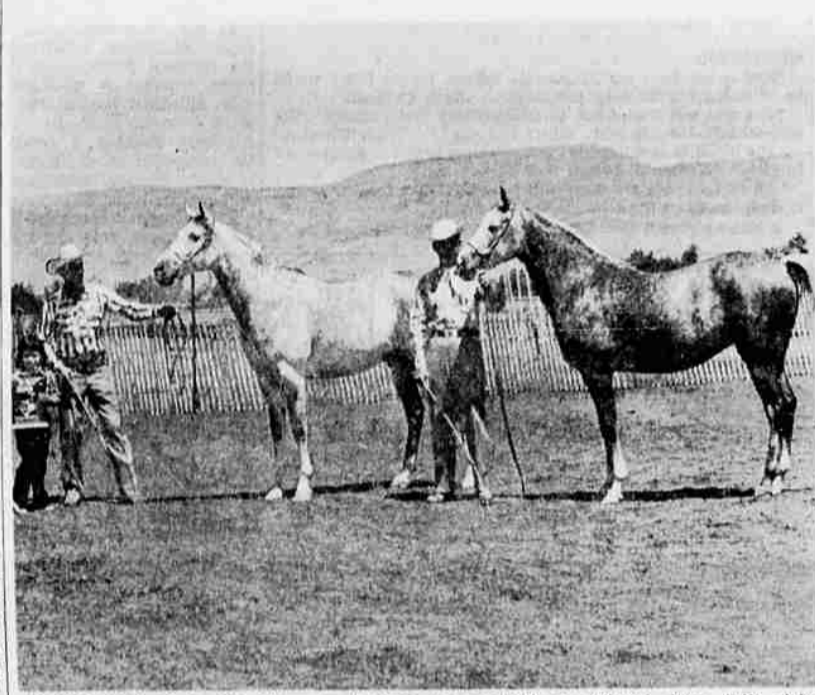
Only Way
The only way to produce a purebred Arabian is to start with a purebred sire and a purebred dam that have pedigrees stemming from the purebreds of the Arabian desert. Since ancient times the home of the Arabian horse has been Arabia. Today more Arabian horses are found in the United States than any other country. California is the leading Arabian state.

Incomparable Horse
The action of the Arabian horse is incomparable. In the mountains or on the desert, endurance is his middle name. When properly trained he can (ill) and meet any need or requirement made of him. Because of his size he makes an ideal horse for children. The Arabian is superior to other breeds. There is no sixth vertebrae in him. He has a complete shaft of the uina. His tail is short since it is made up of 16 vertebrae instead of 18. It has often been said that "Riding on an Arabian horse is like riding on wings and springs". He can glide and be as smooth as the oil on the sea, and swell like the wave on the ocean, yet seemingly be as detached from the earth all the while.

Splendid appendages make him float like the wind. Large and mighty are his tendons, and fetlock joints, yet in harmony and keeping with the slimmness of his legs. It is comfortable riding for the pasterns will tend on any of the roughness of the terrain he so masterfully travels. The Arabian is also priceless



SHRINE EVENT — Representatives of the champions. It is the only horse to win the title of Pacific Northwest champion stallion three years in a row. Front row, from left: J. E. Jorgensen, Woody Morse, Jack Walker and Earl Yoakley, vice president of the Jackson County Shrine club. Sigman is in the back-ground.



KINGLY PAIR—Part of the Champion Arabian string owned by C. H. Sigman, Ross Lane, Medford, is this pair. "Arifa", left, was sired by the great Alicantes Ghazal. Dam, Arifa, right, is 23 years old and has foaled 17 colts. It has been bred back already.



THREE-GAITED — "Kreta," three-gaited Arabian owned by the Sigmans is shown in the fine harness and combination class at a recent horse show. Rider is Mrs. Lellani Sigman Letter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Sigman.

for its infinite beauty, endurance and versatility.
Has Solid Color
Except for his face and legs the Arabian horse is solid in color, grey, chestnut, bay, and sometimes a rare black. His coat is fine and satiny in health. He has a fine expressive and extremely intelligent head. His silky nostrils capable of drinking in the wind. A deep jaw capable of great strength, adding only to the beauty of its wedge shaped head. Eyes are wide apart and seem to perceive everything below, above and around them. Arched and long is his neck with a fine throat. It permits the slightest lowered without the slightest interference to his breathing. It has long, deep and powerful shoulders permitting free and easy action. Broad is his chest and deep, yet capable of storing a great volume of air. His ribs are well sprung, yet not wider than the hips when viewed from the rear. They can support great weight.

No other breed deserves the title "King of Horses". In every case where the blood is pure it presents the most perfect type, and in every mixture its offspring shows some remarkable qualities.

In the parades, garbed in the regal dress of his native homeland, he steals the show. Is it any wonder that many of the desert men have been known to trade as many as 12 slave girls for the possession of one Arabian horse?
This incomparable string of Arabian horses are now all settled in their new barn on the Sigman ranch near Medford. The afore mentioned list does not cover all the winners or achievements of these horses. There are all the Sigman string here. There are six others now in other parts of the country.

Midway Auction Has Active Market

The Midway Auction yard sold 1,623 cattle during its feeder sale Friday, Oct. 25. Owner-Manager Bill Bray reported a very active market on good quality cattle. Straus Brothers calves topped the sale for the sixth consecutive year with a pen of 24 head weighing 423 pounds at \$27.50 and a pen of 11 head of 510 pound calves at \$25.50. The balance of the good steer calves under 450 pounds sold from \$25 to \$26.80. Heavier calves sold for \$23 to \$24.75. Straus Brothers also topped the heifer calf market with a pen of 18 head weighing 400 pounds at \$23.50. Most of the good heifer calves which weighed under 450 pounds sold from \$21.50 to \$23. Heifer calves and light yearling heifers weighing from 460 to 550 pounds sold from \$20 to \$22.40. The yearling steer market was better than expected. Steers weighing 500 to 650 pounds sold from \$22.50 to \$24.25. A good number of 700 pound steers sold from \$21 to \$22.30. Yearling heifers were a little slow. Heifers at 550 to 600 pounds sold for mostly \$19 to \$20.50. Holstein steer calves sold for \$17 to \$19.50. Yearling Holstein steers went out at mostly \$16.50 to \$17.50. "Lots of buyers attended the sale," Bray commented. "The prices paid were very generous when compared with other markets and the price of slaughter cattle. Many of the buyers expressed their satisfaction with the quality of cattle and the way we had them sorted. Several mentioned their surprise at the efficiency of our crew and their ability to get each buyer's orders put up and ready to load."

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Body of Tugboat Deck Hand Recovered
PORTLAND (UPI) — The Portland Harbor Patrol recovered the body of a tugboat deck hand from the Willamette River Monday night. William R. Reed, 46, Portland, fell overboard from the tug Tulalatin early Monday.

Chit Chat

By JCE COWLEY
Mail Tribune Farm Editor

The publication of the beef book by the Oregon Beef Council comes at an ideal time.

It comes just before the Oregon Cattlemen's 50th annual convention in Baker Nov. 6-8. Also, and what is even more important, it comes when even Soviet newspapers are reporting a slaughter of Russian cattle due to lack of fodder. Perhaps we will be sending beef as well as wheat to Russia.

The attractive, well-illustrated booklet gives a history of beef development in the world, United States and in Oregon. Its contents include a summary of today's beef industry and other facts of interest to those in the business, but it also has important information for the housewife such as meat cuts, guides to beef identification, guide to buying, home storage, how to cook, carving and recipes.

This booklet points up the fact that U.S. cattlemen produce enough beef to feed everyone in their country and at prices everyone can afford. This, apparently, is much better than the Russian farmer can do.

We wonder if one big reason the Russians pulled back from the moon landing program is that they have to concentrate more on providing enough food for their nation. We have felt for some time that this nation takes too much for granted in the "food race" while watching closely the "space race." The American farmer's accomplishments in producing a maximum amount of food and fiber from a minimum amount of land is as important as rockets to the national defense efforts. An army still marches on its stomach.

In case you haven't read the news account, a Soviet newspaper has pictured lines of trucks filled with cattle waiting in front of slaughterhouses in the Kursk area.

"The unauthorized slaughter of cattle is a traditional danger signal in the Russian countryside. It has accompanied every agricultural crisis since the 1917 revolution," according to one correspondent.

Last year Khrushchev attempted to give the farmer more of an incentive to produce more wheat by turning to a "typical capitalist trick" — paying the farmer more money for beef. But, this caused the Russian farmer to produce more cattle than there is feed for them.

Perhaps an important part of this problem is Russian cattle require more feed to make a pound of beef. This is where the U.S. cattleman whips 'em in the food race. Through scientific breeding programs, development of better pasture grasses and more advanced feeding the cattleman has been able to gradually increase the feed conversion rate.

Jackson county cattlemen, for instance, feel that seven pounds of feed to produce one pound of beef is a good rate and a 6 to 1 rate is excellent. Jackson county cattlemen favor a pasture of ladino clover, orchard grass and rye grass, plus an adequate fertilization program to maintain the balance of these grasses. Good irrigation also helps.

The OCA members can look back on 50 years of solid progress when they meet in Baker Nov. 6, much more progress, apparently, than their Russian counterparts.

Jackson county stockmen can mark considerable progress the last 10 years particularly in their breeding programs. They are buying higher quality bulls as noted in recent local and regional bull sales. Almost all of last year's Cal-Ore bull sale animals went to local buyers and many to local farmers this year. You can see the difference in the feeder sales.

There is also a great difference between the original Long Horn steer and the blocky looking beef animal today, which, in some cases, has no horns at all. "He stood six feet at the shoulder, a shaggy, massive animal with wary eyes and a span of horns 10 feet wide between the tips," according to the beef booklet.

Now there are five main breeds recognized in this country, the Hereford, American Brahma, Angus, Shorthorn and Charolais. The red and white Hereford, from Herefordshire, England has a deep, rectangular body, is broad-shouldered and thick-fleshed. The black Angus is from Aberdeen county, Scotland. It is cylindrical-shaped, heavily muscled throughout and stands close to the ground. The Brahma, recognized from roodees, is from India. It's American ancestor is the Santa Gertrudis, a Shorthorn-Brahma cross. The Shorthorn has an exceptionally thick loin and full hind-quarter. The Charolais is white has a long, flat back and is barrel-shaped.

The beef cattle business started in southern and eastern Oregon with the discovery of gold. By 1870 the cattle business was well under way in eastern Oregon. In those days cattle were driven across the Rockies to eastern markets. Now a rancher can leave home in the morning with a load of cattle, get to market and make a sale. He can be home that night. The livestock yards such as Rogue Valley Livestock, Inc. at Phoenix and the Midway Auction Yard on Table Rock rd. perform a valuable service in bringing the cattle seller and buyer together.

Oregon ranks 21st in beef cattle production and has 1,157,000 head. The state's beef industry has an income of approximately \$90 million a year. This doesn't include the money spent to supply and equip this industry.

One development, for sure, the housewife buys more quality in meat than ever before. The politicians say that there is no longer a farm bloc in Congress, the farmer no longer has a strong voice politically. However, as the consumers become better educated as to what they need for food they realize how important the rancher and farmer is to them. Perhaps they will take his part. Food is a nation's biggest asset in peace and in war.

A man who sits down to a good steak dinner, fills his stomach with good beef steaks or carves thick slices from a tender beef roast can well understand why the English Yeomen of the Guard were proud to be called "beef-eaters" and why King James I became so delighted with a succulent loin roast that he pulled out his sword and dubbed it "Sir Loin."

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Siskiyou Bull Sale Averages \$490

SISKIYOU COUNTY — The Hoy Hereford Ranch of Weed, the Dudley - Parker Ranch of Gazelle and the Kuck Hereford Ranch of Montague, local breeders sold 16 head of range bulls at the 19th annual Modoc County Range Bull Sale on Sunday, Oct. 13. Champion bull consigned by Frank Turner of Sattley brought

the top price of \$1,275 and reserve champion consigned by Bennett Hereford Ranch of Chico brought \$800. The total of 80 bulls averaged \$490. This sale is unique in that the test bulls are run on sagebrush-jumper range on the Weber Brothers Ranch near Alturas for three months and then fed on a dry lot for the final two months. Weighing, testing and screening takes place in the days just prior to the sale.

Other consignors include E. and K. Farms and Silliman Herefords both of Watsonville; Flying Circle M. Loomis; Chamberlain Estate, Auburn; Wm. S. Orvis and Sons, Farmington; Hellman Hereford Ranch, Hopland; Tejon Ranch Co., Bakersfield; L. W. Earnest, McArthur; H-Bar Hereford Ranch, Covelo; Pitchfork Cattle Company, Vinton; Kenwood Hereford Ranch, Kenwood; R Hereford Ranch, Sloat; all of California and Fred Dressler of Gardnerville, Nevada.

Earl Flock, Hart Cattle Co., and Orlo Davis were among the purchasers of this sale from this area. The test and sale are sponsored by the Modoc County Cattlemen's Association and is conducted in cooperation with the University of California farm advisers office.

Weed Control Session Slated For Nov. 7-8

CORVALLIS—Perennial weed control will be emphasized during the 12th annual Oregon Weed Conference Nov. 7 and 8 at the Willard Hotel in Klamath Falls, reported Rex Warren, Oregon State University extension farm crops specialist and conference secretary.

Also receiving special attention this year will be control of weeds in range areas and in irrigation districts. The meeting is open to growers, chemical applicators and industry representatives, stressed O. K. Petersen, Junction City, conference president.

Each year the conference is held in a different section of the state. About 200 persons usually attend. This year's program will hold special interest to producers in the Klamath Basin and adjoining areas in Northern California, Warren believes.

Two talks on chemicals and weed control are scheduled. Dr. C. L. Foy of the University of California, Davis, will speak on plant responses to chemical use and Dr. Virgil Freed, head of the OSU Department of Agricultural Chemicals, will stress selecting chemicals for plant control.

Progress in biological weed control will be the topic of James K. Holloway, of the entomology research division, USDA Agricultural Research Service at Albany, Calif.

Conference participants will also hear reports on national weed problems and what is being done about them. Weed problems in the Klamath Basin and two panel discussions features industry representatives who will describe new herbicides and their uses.

Keith Sims, Portland, is vice president of the Oregon Weed Conference Association. Directors are Paulen Kaseburg, Wasco; Ed Hoef, Pilot Rock; George Moore, Woodburn, and W. H. Koesen, Salem. J. D. Vertrees, Douglas county extension agent, and Bud Jones, Oswego, serve as ex-officio directors.

Farm & Garden

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