

Summer Range Open

Thousands of head of fat beef stock, sleek from winter pasture in Northern California and getting fatter on the lush summer pasture in the Klamath country, have been transported north within the past several weeks and are now knee high in grass. By fall market season the steers will have rounded out to prime stuff and mean more than a half million dollars to cattle growers of this area.

Some 25,000 head of beef cattle have returned here from winter pasture, and 3000 head have been shipped into Lake county. In addition to this there is approximately 10,000 head of California stock feeding in the Klamath basin and approximately 1500 head was shipped into Lake county for range feeding recently.

License Figure Gains

Cupid's preference for the month of June is well known. There are some who believe Cupid is a fairy tale, but apparently there are more people who believe otherwise. At any rate, we are informed by Mrs. Donald Hancock, our private-eye at the county clerk's office, that thus far this month there has been a definite increase in the number of marriage licenses issued in Klamath county.

"There must be something about the month of June," remarked Mrs. Hancock, "because our 'business' is booming."

So far this month 19 marriage licenses have been issued. For the same period last month only five licenses were given. The increase is on the up and up, too. Ethyl Lehner, who keeps us informed on the divorce rate in Klamath county, maintains there has been no unusual increase in the number of divorce complaints filed. Thus far this month 19 complaints have been filed, as compared with 16 for a similar period last month.

It looks like Cupid is winning—by an arrow.

Highway Plunge Fatal For Woman

FLORENCE, June 16 (AP)—Mrs. Cassie Smith, 57, was fatally injured yesterday when the automobile she was driving went into a ditch and trapped her inside. She died of a crushed chest and a skull fracture.

The wrecked car of the Mapleton hotel and cafe operator was discovered by Willard Wallen, Eugene, about 1:30 p. m. A physician arrived an hour later and found she was dying. A daughter, Jerry Lundborg, Dayton, survives.

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disease in Mexico, that source is eliminated and naturally brings to bear a greater demand on the local stock. This week's going price per pound was 24 cents on the hoof. Figuring that the average yearling weighs around 800 pounds and the average two-year-old around 1173 pounds, a good mathematician can figure out the 1947 income from stock in these parts.

There will be a great deal of export come fall and the southern market will probably see some of the finest cattle on the coast going from here due to excellent range conditions this season.

The 1947 cattle population, put at 65,000, is a decided gain over the 1935 figure which set the number of head in the Klamath country at 56,000.

Sheep Going Down
The sheep population has taken a beating in comparison. In 1936, stockmen estimated there were 100,000 sheep in the Klamath country. The ewes—there is no figure on lambs at the present—feeding here at this time are estimated at 33,000. Many factors enter into this decrease, principally because of drought in years past, low prices which made it economically unsound to raise sheep, depletion of the ewe population which in turn sharply reduced breeding stock, overgrazing and the high cost of labor. Sheepmen, in other words, have turned into cattlemen and have found it much more profitable.

Decrease in sheep here has been noticed with the establishment of

the Taylor grazing act a number of years ago.

Along with cattle, carloads of sheep entered this section of Southern Oregon as winter pasture season drew to a close. The estimate puts some 10,000 ewes and lambs brought in from winter ranges.

The greatest decrease of any type of stock here in 10 years' time is noted in dairy cattle. At the present time there are only 3200 producing milk cows in the basin compared to 68,000 in 1935-6. This picture has been drawn many times and involves principally the high cost of feed, work involved in handling cattle and dairy products, and the realization that it is less work and means more money if the farmer turns to straight beef cattle growing than getting himself involved in the intricacies of dairying.

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