

World's Finest Rodeo Performers to Be in Action at the Fairgrounds Here July 2, 3 and 4



GOOD START—Two Roundup princesses who had never stroked a golf ball before, tied for first place in a novel putting tourney at Reames Golf and Country Club. The two princesses each took 26 puts for nine holes. Shown above are the winners and their sponsors, 11 to 1 Mrs. John Shaw, Princess Carol Hamilton, Mrs. Dick Reeder and Princess Aurelia Patterson. The clubwomen entertained the entire Roundup Royalty Court and escorts the day before the Queen's Ball.



SAM MORRISON, who with his wife operates the Pony Ride on S. 8th Street, seems to be having as much fun as his guest, 5-year-old Lynn Passarelli, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Passarelli, 2111 Darrow Street.



A ROYAL DISH—Steward Mike Regan, of the Klamath Yacht Club, gives two princesses a preview of better things to come. The princesses are (left) Janet Dierdorf and (right) Aurelia Patterson. The girls and all the other Roundup princesses had worked up demanding appetites on a long cruise on the lake with Mrs. Howard Parnell at the helm of the Parnell's cabin cruiser. Occasion for the cruise and feast was the entertaining of the Roundup girls by the Yacht Club.



RESTING ON A RAIL are three queen candidates: Left to right, Marianna Hellekson, Carol Hamilton and Anne Curry.

New Twists Used in Branding

By MALCOLM EPLEY JR.

Branding is almost as old as the cattle industry, and there's been little change in the methods used to mark ownership of cattle since the West was wild and woolly.

A favorite way even today is to throw a couple of ropes on a calf and burn on the brand with a hot iron. But there have been a few changes in details.

For instance, instead of using wood fire these days, oilfines gas flames are used, and in some cases even electric rigs. A new twist used especially in putting a brand on dairy animals—but not so much on beef—is the use of chemical burning agents.

Another new, and more literal, twist in branding is the use of the "table" and branding chutes. The table is merely a chute into which the animal is run, trapped, and then the whole shebang pivots over on its side. That eliminates the throwing and roping of calves. Also, a couple of lay hands that never saw a brand can still "burn the table" without such skill.

The chute, of course, merely holds the animal upright while the branding iron is applied.

The young calves are usually branded on the open range, particularly to keep them from wandering into other herds or from being picked up, innocently or otherwise, by cowhands hunting stragglers.

In colder seasons cattle hair grows long and sometimes brands are difficult to read. To facilitate identification, there are other ways of marking animals. Dewlaps and earmarks are common, and some-

times both are used in combination with a brand.

A dewlap is a fleshmark made by cutting a piece of flesh part way off of a cow's neck, shoulder, breast or wherever the owner wants to place it. They are easily thrown from a distance, hanging furred flesh dangling from the animal's chin or other parts of the body. They are fairly common in the Klamath country.

Earmarks are many and varied, and are made by sitting, cropping or clipping out parts of the ears. There are crops, splits, half crops (over and under), over bits, swallowforks, under bits, over bits, swallowforks—and combination of any two or three of those and more.

Heavy flesh marks, called "tablets," will set cattle back a few days in development. Their use has been somewhat discontinued because fewer cattle are grazed on the open range in this day of feed lots and concentrated pasture feeds.

Feed lot men like to run the cattle through, brand them and let 'em go to feed right at the beginning. There's no branding or mauling of fat cattle during the operation later when they're to be sold.

According to Livestock Inspector Chas. Leichter, who has headquarters here in Klamath Falls, estimates there are about 10,000 brands recorded in Oregon at present. He noted it's against the law to brand live stock unless first the brand is recorded with the state department of agriculture. There have been lots of cases, he says, where two or three duplicate brands have been re-

corded. These are being eliminated today under the present recording system.

Identical brands are commonplace, but can be placed in different positions on the animals and actually be a new identification. For instance, a Diamond R brand on the right hip may mean the cow belongs to one rancher, and the same brand on the left flank may mean it belongs to another.

In cases where cattle from other states are brought in to summer, such as here in the Klamath Basin, earmarks and dewlaps can spell the difference in identification. Recording within the state would prevent mixup.

Leichter explains this with a formula—brand equals design plus position. Fleishmarks and earmarks don't need to be recorded along with the brands, though Leichter explained it makes things a lot simpler if the marks were described in the brand application or renewal.

Unlike the days of rustling and chasing off cattle, there is very little "stealing" of brands today. Laws and enforcement hold down illegal cattle movements to a minimum, and even the Oregon State Police carry brand inspection books in Klamath County presented them by the Klamath County Cattlemen's Assoc. for close checking in case of suspicious actions on the part of cattle shippers and handlers.

The next brand recording period will start in July, 1954, and run until January 1, 1955. Thereafter, brands may be renewed each five years.



MARGY BROWN, 1951 Roundup queen, looks the part as she watches some rodeo preparations.

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