



BEN PICKETT

Cattle Raising No Picnic In Early Days

There were no tranquilizers to quiet a nervous beef critter, no black molasses to mix with concentrates nor a hammer mill in the country to chew up hay for a bovine when Ben Pickett came to the Klamath country but there was plenty of bunch grass to stick to the ribs of a white face or a red durham.

Ben Pickett, whose parents, Charles and Carrie Pickett, came to Poe Valley long before the arrival of the Czech colonists, recalls the beginning of the family cattle business. No rancher attempted to raise anything that couldn't walk to market in those days.

The nucleus of the Pickett livestock holdings came from a herd of about 1,000 head of cows owned

by a widow. Charles Pickett paid a premium of a dollar or so a head for the privilege of picking the herd. For \$15 a head, he picked fat, three-year-old cows, each with a heifer calf by side.

He traded 12 mules for 320 acres of land, gave \$1,000 for another 160 acres north of the present town of Malin and that land is still part of the Pickett estate.

Thousands of head of cattle being trailed from Eastern Oregon to Montague in California, terminal of the railroad, passed through Harpole Gap and the Pickett place in Poe Valley daily from mid-August to January 1, stirring the dust in drifts, bedding at night on ranches.

The Pickett boys, riding herd for the big cattle outfits, earned

\$35 a month, 'bed and board on the trail.

There were no scales to weigh an animal and cattle, lumped off to the buyer by the head, brought \$16-\$18 for a fat, 1,200 pound 2 or 3-year-old steer. Baby beef was an unknown quantity when the Klamath country was young.

The Pickett ranch was a mecca for the traveling Klamaths bound for Tuie Lake to hunt and fish and to gather duck eggs. A thousand egg harvest per family was not uncommon. The Klamaths often worked for the farmers in the Malin area and there are still living on the reservation descendants of those who were friends of Ben Pickett's family.

Mrs. Pickett (Anna) is the daughter of one of the original couples, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Pospisil.



LOVENESS COMPANY plant taken from hill above lumber mill looking across fertile fields of Malin ranches. The plant cut 14 million board feet of lumber in 1948, 40 per cent pine, 40 per cent white fir and 20 per cent cedar and Douglas fir. Logs are being hauled at present from White Horse, California.



Remember When ...
POTATOES

were just a crop grown in gardens?

AS MODERN FARMING has progressed, so have our Services!



KLAMATH POTATO DISTRIBUTORS

Walt Lassett and Cecil Cheyne

Progress Reported On Klamath Basin Mill

Malin's sawmill operated by the Loveness Company was built in the late 1920's and operated by George McCollum. At first the millworks were powered by several small motors, and the lumber and logs were handled by horses and manpower. Logs were skidded from where the trees were felled in the forest to the loading site by teams of horses. Logs were hauled to the mill in short 16-foot lengths on cableless trucks. Men with cant hooks rolled the logs off the truck into the log pond. When the logs were ready for the sawmill they were again rolled by hand onto the carriage. Lumber was moved from the green chain to the drying yards on horse drawn carts where it was piled by hand.

The first big improvement in

operations came in 1933 when the millworks were converted to steam power. Eventually a Caterpillar Sixty diesel tractor replaced horses in the woods. The plant operated thusly until 1946 when the Loveness Brothers purchased it.

Lumber carriers replaced the horse drawn lumber carts in the drying yard, and lumber is now stacked by fork trucks. By 1950 the entire plant was converted from steam to electric and air power. These changes enabled the plant to increase its average production from 35,000 bd. ft. to 65,000 bd. ft. per shift.

At first the majority of the plant's products were shipped locally to the box factory and moulding plants in Klamath Falls. Presently, lumber cut in Malin is shipped to practically all 48 states—as far as the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic seaboard and some is sold overseas in foreign markets.

With large national forests to the south and east of Malin, operated by the federal government on a sustained yield basis, it is believed that there will be lumber produced in Malin for many more years.

ACTOR'S ANAGRAM

HOLLYWOOD (UPI)—Mladen (q) Sekulovich stars in "The Hanging Tree" but under a name he concocted from his real one. Sekulovich is known professionally as Karl Malden. "I took my new last name from my old first name," he said. "Just changed two letters. And I chose Karl for my first name because I liked it."

CHILD HAS BAD SPELL

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (UPI)—Mrs. Iia Huff, a Girls Club director, knew one of the small girls filling out a registration card for membership. The youngster put down church membership as "Babstist." "Honey," said Mrs. Huff, "you're not a Baptist, are you?" The girl said: "No, I'm Episcopalian, but I can't spell it."

CITATION OF MERIT

ROCHESTER, N. Y. (UPI)—An organization representing 3,000 nursery school teachers has awarded a citation of merit to Bob Keeshan, who portrays Captain Kangaroo on CBS-TV. The award is the first of its kind to be presented by the New York State Council for Children. Keeshan is cited "... for distinguished service in the field of children's television programming."

IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS....



Suitors used to come courting on bicycles high as their shoulders, and wore metal garters to hold their trousers snug around the ankles while cycling. Modern dress, modern habits, and modern social customs have altered greatly - yet one thing stands true —

FOLKS LIKE TO TRADE WHERE THEY HAVE A FINE SELECTION OF QUALITY MERCHANDISE SUCH AS YOU FIND AT OUR STORE!

WILDE'S

CLOTHING FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

MALIN, OREGON