

# Ranche and Range.

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## KITTITAS FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

### Proceedings of the Three Days' Session Held at Ellensburg.

The Farmers' Institute held at Ellensburg last week was most successful. The keenest interest was shown in the addresses and papers given, and the discussions were participated in by all present. It was everybody's meeting, and as everybody talked, it was a lively meeting. Opinions were freely exchanged and the issues on questions were fought out in a good-natured, free-for-all manner. Professors Spillman and Fulmer seemed charged with information inexhaustible, and although the queries were propounded thick

county, and of the finest quality. In connection with the soil of a country, always to be considered, is the question of moisture. This valley has been wonderfully provided for by nature, the Yakima river taking its course from the northwest to the southwest through the valley, dividing it into what is known as East and West Kittitas, with mountain streams subdividing these divisions into several parts, affording to the agriculturist the best possible water system. These streams are supplied from the summit of the the Cascade range where the winter's snowfall lies deep in the mountain gorges until midsummer, and furnishing a never-failing water supply. The dryness of our summer climate renders it necessary for the agriculturist to depend largely upon irrigation to water his crops. The cli-



*Hon. Richard P. Bland, of Missouri, Cutting his Hay with an Osborne No. 4, Mower.*

and fast, the answers were uniformly satisfactory and enlightening. Messrs. Adam Stevens and Montgomery, and Mrs. S. S. Keister, three of the most prominent people Kittitas county is blessed with, were the committee having the institute in charge.

FIRST DAY—WEDNESDAY—Adam Stevens, as chairman, called the meeting to order and introduced J. P. Sharp, who delivered an interesting address, the substance of which we give below:

#### AGRICULTURAL ADVANTAGES OF KITTITAS.

We find as the first requisite for agricultural success that Kittitas county has been endowed with a soil of great productive qualities. All of the grains, grasses, fruits and vegetables grown in the north temperate zone can be, and are, produced in profusion in Kittitas

matic conditions are such as to enable a farmer to obtain the best possible results, from a proper cultivation of the soil. Our winters are generally cold, and the snowfall is often quite heavy, which are also wise provisions. The snowfall is simply a storage of the water supply for the ensuing summer, which is absolutely essential to our prosperity. Aside from the winter months, ours is practically a dry climate. We have a little rain in the spring and fall, but very seldom much rain during the summer, which enables the maturing and harvesting of our crops in absolutely perfect condition—rain rarely interfering with the harvest, from the first crop of alfalfa or clover in June until the third cutting of alfalfa in September. It would hardly be

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