

# Ranche and Range.

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY.

In the interests of the Farmers, Horticulturists and Stockmen of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Utah and British Columbia.

Official organ of the Northwest Fruit Growers' Association, embracing Washington, Oregon, Idaho and British Columbia.

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Branch office at North Yakima, Wash.

Just watch us grow! Forty-two new names this week.

Those having livestock, lands, farm machinery or anything else for sale would better send in their advertisement at once, as we are preparing to issue net month 5,000 extra copies each week for general distribution at fairs, farmers' meetings, etc.

While we do not ask any farmer to discontinue his eastern agricultural and livestock journals, we do say that we believe that for the same investment we can give service much more applicable to his demands than any eastern publication possibly can. Then every dollar spent for our paper goes toward building up a home institution that will become more and more creditable as increased support is given it.

RANCHE AND RANGE will issue during each week in October 5,000 extra copies for distribution throughout the Northwest.

The recent session of the Legislature passed a law relating to the foreclosure of mortgages in this state and its provisions are such that it has resulted in the withdrawal from active business of nearly all the principal loan companies. It is having the effect of preventing loans being made on farming lands and other property, and it matters not how bad a farmer may want money, as a rule he can't get it. While this may be bad in one way it certainly will prevent farmers mortgaging their homes and later losing them by being unable to make necessary payments on the money borrowed. It compels the cash system being adopted and no more borrowing in the future can be done. It is a good thing for the next generation, who will not have to take up the burdens left by those who have gone before.

On Wm. Calkins' farm near LaConner, Skagit county, there were raised this season 3,484 bushels of oats on 27 acres, or an average of 134 bushels to the acre. As oats have been selling the past few days for \$22.00 per ton, it is not likely that the farmer is worrying much about Klondike or politics. The report of this yield is something that will make the eyes of our eastern readers stick away out. Doubtless some of them will not believe it, including perhaps the editor of the Michigan Farmer. But it is true, strictly true. Even this extraordinary yield has been exceeded by lands of the Skagit delta, one acre having produced in 1892 147 bushels to the acre.

The earnings of the livestock men are in keeping with those of the grain farmer in the Northwest this year. Last week C. W. Thompson, a Chicago buyer, paid out \$30,000 for cattle at Ashland, Or. It will take 40 cars to transport this stock. The price paid was 2½ cents.

According to the September report of the Department of Agriculture the condition of Washington's wheat crop is far in the lead of that of any other state in the Union, averaging 146 points, while the average of the next highest state is 122, a difference in our favor of 24 points. That is about the way Washington's score card leads in everything anyway.

Next week's issue will be a special Spokane Fruit Fair edition. RANCHE AND RANGE will don a bright colored cover that will make it especially attractive. A number of

fine illustrations will be given, and some able articles presented, including one from John L. Smith, of Spokane, one of the most successful dairymen and farmers in the state, on "Tillage." It is in the nature of a reply to a letter written by Prof. J. A. Balmer, of Pullman on "Summer Fallow a Fallacy." Also we will have a good descriptive article of the Riverton herd of Jerseys, owned by Dillworth Bros., Spokane, with a photo engraving of the head of the herd. An illustrated review of the remarkable progress of "Vine-land," a district in Southeastern Washington, but recently reclaimed from a desert waste by irrigation, will be given, with beautiful scenic illustrations of the canal and reproductions of luscious fruits grown there.

W. H. Brown, fruit inspector for King County and quite a horticultural student, will review the fruit pest question.

In addition the usual spicy, sparkling correspondence from our regular crops of writers may be expected.

We believe our subscribers will be pleased and appreciate our efforts to give them a high class publication sufficiently to take renewed interest in securing new patronage and enlarge our subscription list in their respective fields, thus enabling us to make a continuous advancement.

The Michigan Farmer is not slow of perception. In its last issue the editor reeled off the following off-hand comment about us:

"RANCHE AND RANGE is a paper published at Seattle, Wash. It represents a great constituency. It is published, its editorial columns say, 'in the interests of the farmers, horticulturists and stockmen of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Utah and British Columbia,' which, we presume, includes the Klondike gold region, the Chilkoot Pass, and the open polar sea around the north pole. Its editorial utterances are as breezy as the limitless country it represents."

And then it proceeds to fill up a quarter column of its valuable editorial space with a lot of our short notes on current topics just to show our "style."

The patience of some folks is astonishing. They keep right on bucking up against the same old difficulties year after year and make no progress in the end. This is not business; it doesn't pay. The vim and energy that brings success nowadays finds a way over or around every obstacle or shoves it out of the way.

A unique plowing contest took place at Wheatland, near Aurora, Ill., last week, at which time over 5,000 people saw the sturdy farmers of Kane, Will, Du Page and Kendall Counties match their skill in turning a furrow on the broad acres of David Fry's farm at the annual Wheatland plowing match and ladies' fair. There were five contests, in each of which three prizes were offered. Alvin Clark, a sturdy young farmer of Tamarack, got the lion's share of the awards. There is much to admire in the big annual picnic of Wheatland, one of the most prosperous farming communities in the state of Illinois. There are no fixed fair grounds. The farmers simply take turns in giving the use of their premises for the fete, where the good housewives exhibit their jellies, their needlework and their cookery in an immense tent, and the plowmen match their skill in the fields. Prizes are given also for the best kept farms in the town of Wheatland. The affair, originally a small one, has so grown in its proportions that it now attracts an even larger crowd than some of the more pretentious county fairs. No admission is charged, no fakes or advertising allowed on the grounds, and the premiums awarded are all donated.

A RANCHE AND RANGE representative was in Renton a few days ago, and while there called at a couple of the fine dairy ranches.

The first visited was that of Mr. E. M. Smithers. Mr. Smithers pins his faith and hopes of prosperity to the Durhams. For 30 years he has been breeding a milking strain of these cattle, and has now a fine herd, and, as they filed past to the milking barn, we noticed that all the fine points on the scoring card were there. After seeing this lot of milkers we are convinced that the Durham is no slouch as a dairy cow. The next place visited was the Sartori dairy ranch, managed by R. Sartori, of Seattle. This ranch is an ideal location for dairying. About 60 cows, Jersey and Durham, are milked at this place, and they are a fine lot of cattle. Mr. Sartori is making some improvements on the place. Both these dairies are neat and clean, and both market their product in Seattle.