

trainload of sheep, to feed his sheep before he loaded them. And just before Mr. Fry got away with his team another sheepman came with a large band of sheep. So Mr. Fry offered the other man some of his hay. But he said to Mr. Fry: "I fed them at Tampico with alfalfa, and they would not eat it. So I drove them down to Winchester and bought two ton there and they left half of it again, so I think it is no use to buy any hay for them here as I do not believe they will eat it."

Mr. Fry said: "I just sold two ton to the man over there and his sheep eat my hay all right."

"Well, I will go over and see that man," said he, so over he went.

"Did your sheep eat the hay this man sold to you?"

"Yes sir, only they didn't get enough of it—they picked it up as fast as the man threw it off of the wagon," was the reply.

"All right, you may bring me two ton right away."

Mr. Fry went home and got the hay for the man, but no sooner did he begin to unload than the sheep piled around him and followed him right at his heels and ate up his hay "slick and clean," right after him. "For God's sake, what kind of hay have you got here?" said the astonished sheepman, "my sheep have never eaten hay like this before." Said Mr. Fry: "I will tell you now, but if I had told you this before perhaps you would not have bought any hay of me. I never cut my hay until everybody else is about through. Then my alfalfa is in full bloom, and all kinds of stock likes it, and they do better on it."

Before that man got away with his sheep—as he could not get the cars right away—Mr. Fry sold to him nine tons of this hay.

Mr. H. S. Simmons thinks that stock do not bloat on alfalfa hay, but Mr. Simmons is mistaken there. Stock will not bloat on green alfalfa that is in full bloom, nor on its hay, but it will bloat on either before it is matured or in full bloom.

Mr. Waters, on the Eaton ranch, lost two cows in one month on such hay, and Mr. J. E. Shannon lost his best Jersey cow, worth \$125, on such hay last winter. The time is not far away when it will be considered folly to cut alfalfa before it is matured or in full bloom. Then there is another mistake that many make, and that is: Too much irrigation will keep alfalfa from maturing. And then again, last year two carloads of alfalfa seed were shipped here to North Yakima from California and Utah. Why can we not raise our own seed?
J. P. BERG.

Pullman, Wash., Nov. 23, 1897.

Editor RANCH AND RANGE: You deserve congratulations on the alfalfa number. The value of the information contained in the letters from practical alfalfa growers is very great. It shows that, while there is much difference of opinion on some minor points, farmers are agreed, that where alfalfa thrives, it is THE crop. It was interesting to note, amongst the many remedies suggested for bloat, the prevalence of the "broom stick bit" and of the knife or trocar. Most were agreed that the dry hay does not cause bloat. This, however, is not strictly the case. It is true that cattle seldom bloat on the dry hay, but when a cow has been off feed for a few days, and then gorges herself with the hay, there is danger of bloat.

The variety of opinions regarding the value of the different cuttings interested me. Some claimed the three cuttings are of equal value, while each cutting found advocates which pronounced it the best. The majority seemed to consider the first and second of about equal value, while the third was somewhat less valuable. These conflicting opinions lead me to think that there is not much difference in the value of the different cuttings provided they are equally well cured, and cut at the same stage.

I shall preserve the alfalfa number of RANCH AND RANGE as one of my very valuable papers.

W. J. SPILLMAN.

E. Yount, of Ogden, Utah, was in the city this week. He is a live stock dealer, familiar to all cattle and sheep men on the Pacific Coast, operating principally in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Nevada. He is here conferring with Frye & Bruhn in regard to a purchase he recently made for them of 1,000 goats of Angora stock. They will dress 65 to 75 pounds and shear about seven pounds of mohair worth 40c per pound.

These animals were the property of three different parties, J. S. Harris, of Oakley; C. Nielson, of Salt Lake, and Geo. M. Scott, of Malta, Idaho, and they are the direct progeny of the first shipment of Angoras from Angora, Asia. It is the pur-

pose of Frye & Bruhn to feed them at Pendleton all winter and in the spring start them for Alaska via the Dalton trail. It is reasoned that the goats cover more territory in a day and stand the trip better than sheep, and they will arrive at a time when the miners will be willing to pay almost any price for meat.

C. Nielson accompanied Mr. Yount. He has at Grouse Creek, Utah, about 1,500 goats, almost pure Angora stock.

CORRECTION.

The article on the first page entitled the "Future of Horse-Creeding," should be credited to W. A. Conant, the veteran stockman of the Kittitas valley. The printer left off the signature.

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