

# Ranch and Range

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY.

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

PUBLISHED BY THE RANCH AND RANGE COMPANY.

Editorial Offices, - - - - - Seattle, Wash.  
 BUSINESS OFFICES:  
 Seattle, - - - - - 315-316 Pioneer building.  
 Spokane, - - - - - Suite F Hypotheek bank building.

SUBSCRIPTION, IN ADVANCE, - - - - - \$1.00 PER YEAR.

Address all communications to Ranch and Range, 315-316 Pioneer building, Seattle, Washington.

The case of L. E. Porter, of Lewiston, Idaho, vs. Thompson & Kain, which relates to a settlement of the differences in the contract for handling of the fruit crop of J. W. Of-field, of Wawawai, Wn., by the latter firm, is to be brought up in the district court at Yakima sometime within the next two months. The adjustment of this case will be watched with interest, as the points involved are not infrequent between growers and dealers.

Professor W. J. Spillman, of Pullman, has been investigating the matter of grading and testing wheat by exporters at Portland, Tacoma and Seattle, and will soon issue a bulletin on the subject. This is something in which we know our readers are very much interested. Many of them have expressed themselves very earnestly to us on the subject. There was much dissatisfaction with the way the grading was done last fall and with the grading system. We trust this bulletin will throw much light on this subject.

It would be well for wool growers to read carefully the article entitled "Growing Wool in Place of Cotton." It calls attention to the change which is going on in the South. Of course wool-growing will not entirely displace cotton-growing there, nor likely not displace half of the cotton, yet as this change is likely to take place to a certain extent, it behooves wool-growers to study the situation and decide what effect this increased production will have on prices. Perhaps in a few years there may be an over-production of wool instead of an overproduction of cotton as now.

Be sure and read the article in this issue on "Water the Garden With a Rake." It contains one of the foundation principles of farming. We have carried on carefully conducted experiments along this very line ourselves and know the principle is true. In our experiments the surface of the ground was kept well cultivated and fine to prevent evaporation. The ground, the surface of which was cultivated often, contained more moisture at the close of the experiments than that worked about half as much, and the latter held more moisture than the ground entirely uncultivated. Results prove. If you need more moisture for your crops, investigate this.

L. O. Janeck, North Yakima, recently purchased from Adam Stevens a fine registered Jersey heifer, sired by McCombination.

We print the following article to call our readers' attention to the saving in buying which can be accomplished by farmers' granges and other organizations. This or a similar plan might be followed with excel-

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lent results here in the Northwest. This item shows the amount of co-operative business done by one grange in Illinois. While this, perhaps, is an exceptional case, many granges in other states are saving large amounts through co-operative buying:

"Manhattan grange has done \$23,000 worth of business in one year. Its purchasing agent contracted for 12 cars of flour, one to be delivered each month through the year; also 1,900 tons of coal, 20,000 pounds binding twine, three cars middlings, three cars salt, one car soap, two cars peaches, sixty barrels kerosene, one car wagons, forty 100-pound sacks granulated sugar, three self-binders and other farm machinery, thus realizing a saving that will aggregate more than \$5,000."

The genial editor of the Pacific Poultryman, Mr. H. H. Collier, and our Plymouth Rock friend, C. C. Johns, came over from Tacoma last week and exchanged greetings with us. The poultry situation was, of course, fully canvassed, for what these two cranks don't know about chickens ain't worth knowing, and what we don't know would fill a big book. But the way in which Bro. Johns looked while talking of his Barred Rocks, and the confident smile adorning Bro. Collier's classic features when Buff Rocks were mentioned, all went to show that this pair of worthies each has a trump somewhere up his sleeve with which they expect to surprise their competitors this fall and winter. They reported the chickens as doing well, and each promised a good exhibit for the State Fair at Yakima, for the success of which Bro. Collier is making every possible exertion. Both Mr. Johns and Mr. Collier know a good chicken, keep only the best themselves, and are doing much

### ADVERTISING BENEFITS THEM.

Spokane, Wn., Apr. 15, 1898.

Publisher RANCH AND RANGE:

We are pleased to hand you herewith renewal of advertising contract for the ensuing year. We wish to state that we have found the returns from same eminently satisfactory. Wishing you a continuance of your remarkable success, we are, Yours respectfully,

TASCHERAU & HAMILTON,

Commission Merchants.

for the advancement of the poultry industry.

Two books have just come to our table with the compliments of the authors. One is, "The Domestic Sheep," its culture and management, by Henry Stewart. This is a book which is highly recommended by those who have read it. We have not had it long enough to read it ourselves, but have found the portions we have read very instructive and written in an interesting manner. The book contains 370 pages and is profusely illustrated. It is an excellent book for every sheep grower to have.

The other book is: "Feeds and Feeding," by W. A. Henry, a name which carries confidence with it. This is a handbook for the student and stockman. It is much larger than the other and contains 650 pages, packed full of valuable information. The three chief divisions of the work are entitled, "Plant Growth and Animal Nutrition," "Feeding Stuffs," and "Feeding Farm Animals." Each one is discussed thoroughly in all its minor divisions. It enables a stockman to know just exactly what he is doing when he is feeding or is growing feed.

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For a number of years the Ahtanum valley water case has been occupying the attention of the court at Yakima, to determine the priority of right to the use of water from that stream, between the old settlers of the lower valley and the newcomers of the bench lands, and whose farms do not adjoin the creek. It has been profitable picking for the lawyers, and a continued expense to the contestants. Perhaps a solution of the difficulty may be found in a more satisfactory manner, than can be given by the law, in the test artesian well that is being sunk on the George Wilson place, the expense of which is shared jointly by H. D. Winchester, J. F. McClure, Thomas Fear and R. Strobach. They have been at work since New Year's, and although the first effort was not successful, a new location was made and they are now down about 260 feet, where they are working through solid rock. A successful outcome of the experiment will mean plenty of water for everybody.

Mr. Jno. H. Hughes, who this week gives for the benefit of our patrons his views on the potato situation and the outlook for the green fruit industry for the coming season, is a member of the new Seattle Commission Co. He was last season one of the firm of Hughes-Redfield Co., Philadelphia, which company has been operating extensively in the handling of the orchard products of the Northwest. Mr. Hughes has severed his connection with the Philadelphia company, and expects to devote his energies to building up a good business in Seattle. Farmers in various parts of the state inform us that he is inviting shipments from them by letter, and ask us what their standing is. Mr. Hughes gives as reference for financial standing the Puget Sound National Bank of Seattle, as well as several eastern banks. Senator F. C. Harper, one of the proprietors of the Seattle hotel, tells us that business transacted by him and others who made sales of apples from their orchards in San Juan county, was very satisfactory, and the spot cash was paid for all goods bought.

For several days during the past week Dr. T. B. Gunn, secretary of the State Fair Commission, was on the Sound in the interest of the annual exposition to be held at Yakima next fall. He met with a great deal of encouragement and secured quite a number of cash prizes and other premiums from the business men, as well as receiving assurances from many that creditable displays would be made.

Dr. Gunn reports that a remarkable degree of interest is being awakened in the fair throughout the state, and the assurances of exhibits and attendance give promise that it will be in every way a great success.

Fall wheat at Astoria prairie is in fine shape.

Plant a tree. Plant two trees. Plant a whole lot of trees.