

## CATTLE IN THE WEST.

Several cattlemen have recently expressed the opinion that the supply of beef cattle in the territory west of the Missouri river is steadily increasing. A few have combated the idea and insist that the number of cattle is increasing. The classified census figures of 1900 give some valuable data, when carefully examined, and if they indicate anything at all they show conclusively that the supply of cattle in the great west is steadily decreasing. Assuming that the supply of cattle in the country in 1899 was approximately the same as in 1900, the census figures show that the consumption of steers annually from one cause or another amounts to 7 per cent. of the calves, 20 per cent. of the yearling steers, 40 per cent. of the 2 year old steers and 75 per cent. of the three-year-old steers. Taking these figures as a basis for computation, and carefully examining the census figures, the conclusion is forced upon any one that the number of cattle is steadily decreasing this side of the river, if not on the other side.

In 1900 the census figures show that the total number of cattle in the territory west of the Missouri river, taking in Texas, Indian Territory, Kansas, Nebraska and the Lakotas and all the country west, were classified as follows: Calves, 6,616,000; yearling steers, 3,446,000; yearling heifers, 3,109,000; 2-year-old steers, 2,732,000; 3-year-old steers and over, 2,058,000; milch cows, 4,354,000; beef cows, 9,169,000.

These figures show that in 1900 the visible supply of steers of 2-year-old stuff and over was 4,700,000. As the calf crop of 1900 provides the 2-year-old steers of today, it is an easy matter to compute the probable supply, and the figures indicate that the supply of steers above two years of age in the west this year is 4,772,000. The decrease in steers is, of course, not heavy, but the figures are conservative, and the important point is that they show a decrease.

The figures of 1900 show that the calf crop is only 53 per cent. of the number of cows in the territory, taking in everything. The figures also show that the calf crop is composed of about 45 per cent. heifers and 55 per cent. steers. In other words, to put it into figures, in 1900 13,523,000 cows produced 3,446,000 steer calves and 3,100,000 heifer calves. It is generally agreed that the territory upon which these figures are given is called upon annually for about 7,000,000 head of beef cattle, counting calves. The supply of cattle marketed in 1900, therefore, must have been composed as follows:

Marketed in 1900, 463,300 calves, 641,000 yearling steers, 1,092,000 2-year-old steers, 1,542,000 three and over, 3,362,000 cows and heifers; total, 7,000,000. According to these figures the production of she stock in 1900, after allowing the 7 per cent. shrink sold as calves and general loss, was 2,891,000, while the consumption of she stock for the same year was 3,252,000, showing a net loss in she stock of 371,000.

Of course these figures are only approximate, but they are sufficiently accurate, when taken in conjunction with the present market situation, to indicate a most serious situation. What is needed at once is another census, in order that the situation may be accurately determined. If we are using our supply of she cattle faster than we are producing them, even a novice

can see what the inevitable result will be. It is a point that is serious enough for consideration by the government. The meat supply of the nation is fully as important as the bread supply. If a shortage is threatened, if we are consuming our beef cattle more rapidly than we are producing, we should know it quick. An analysis of the census figures of 1900 will disclose many other conditions which have heretofore hardly been suspected. It will pay any statistician to take these figures and analyze them.—Denver Stockman.

## SHORTAGE OF BEEF IS REAL.

Lincoln, Neb., May 15.—The grass is long and green on the great cattle ranges of the West just now, and if the people who are aching to get an under-the-belt blow at the Beef Trust can wait, say until next August, they will have a chance. By that time the many thousands of cattle now munching away at the succulent herbage will be fit for market, and prices are bound to tumble. And they will not fall much before that time, say cattlemen.

A good many cattle are going off the ranges now, but the quality is poor. They are being rushed to market because a few speculators are anxious to realize now.

At South Omaha and Kansas City the receipts daily are practically the same as last year, but the offering of beef steers, the kind the packers want, form a much smaller percentage of the total. Many of these are coming off the farms of the West, where they have been fed for what every cattle dealer has been certain for weeks would be a top market.

It is only occasionally that the offerings of beef steers are of fine quality, and the price on these is easily maintained. The lessened demand from the packers has caused a falling off of ten cents to fifteen cents a hundred within the week on the commoner grades, but as high as seven cents a pound has been paid for cattle weighing from 1,400 to 1,600 pounds.

Seven cents on the hoof is a very tempting price, and it is this fact alone that is causing the receipts at cattle markets in the West to keep even with last year. The supply cannot long be maintained, as the farms and ranges are being rapidly denuded of their best steers by this market.

The fact that receipts have been kept at the customary average has given rise to a belief that an agreement to raise the price of dressed beef has been made among the big dealers. The truth is that it is the high prices offered at the primary markets that cause the supply to remain normal.

Only a small proportion of the cattlemen were able to winter the usual number of steers. Many of them, because of the high price of corn and hay, were compelled to market their lean cattle last fall. Those with capital and those who could secure the co-operation of commission men in getting money with which to winter their holdings are now reaping the benefit of their foresight.

Even now some pretty lean steers are being disposed of. One day at the South Omaha cattle market will illustrate the wide range of offerings.

The total receipts were 2,469, as compared with 2,913 a year ago. Of the former number about 60 per cent. were the beef steer shipments. The price paid for these animals ranged all the way from \$2 a hundred to

## SHROPSHIRE

A few choice yearling Shropshire Rams and Ram Lambs for sale; also a few Ewes, and Yorkshire Pigs of both sexes. Bred from prize winning stock.

E. A. KIPP,

Pioneer Farm, Chillwack, B. C.

## CHOICE STOCK

Two extra good bull calves from the richly bred St. Lambert bull, Hammer's Stoke Pogis, 50851. The king of bulls, from good dams.

A flock header. The imported ram Kings Langley, 17513. A winner east and west. Choice shearlings and splendid ram lambs. Young Berkshires of the best type and breeding. Large Canadian type. Apply SHANNON BROS,

Cloverdale, B. C.

## SPRINGBROOK FARM.

THOS. W. BRUNK, Proprietor.

Importer and Breeder of Cotswold Sheep  
Angora Goats, Poland China Swine,  
Barred P. R. Chickens.

EOLA, POLK CO., OREGON.

## P. B. PETERSON, Cedar Mountain, Wash

Breeder of Red Polled Cattle. The best dual purpose stock, for both milk and beef. Orders booked for young stock. Two young bulls now for sale and ready for service.



## Mountainview Ranch

Registered Jersey Cattle the greatest milk and butter producers in the world. Head of herd is Royal of Spokane, son of Royal of Belvedere.

Fechter & Janeck  
North Yakima, Wash.

## MOUNTAINVIEW FARM

Poland-China Swine

All stock registered. Hogs can be seen at the farm near Gresham, Or. Write us for prices, pedigrees, etc.

W. W. COTTON,

Worcester Bldg. Portland, Oregon



HOLSTEIN CATTLE! The Choicest Milk and Butter Breed in the World. Write to Wis. Live Stock Ass'n, Appleton, Wis., U.S.A.

## Lake Side Stock Farm

HOLSTEIN FRIESIAN CATTLE

Of the Best Butter Making Strains for Sale. Service bull, Lunde Oregon de Kol, son of Clothilde Lunde Artis. Official butter test, 20 lbs 4 oz in 7 days. He is assisted by Clothilde Grace's Sir Hengerveld, whose granddam was Netherland Hengerveld, with an official butter test of 26 3/4 lbs in 7 days, her milk averaging 3.92 per cent fat.

P. A. FRANKS, Scappoose, Ore.

## BROWN SWISS CATTLE

I have the second largest and one of the best herds of Swiss cattle in America. McJohn, No. 1120, first premium and sweepstakes bull at six leading fairs at head of herd. Stock for sale. Correspondence solicited.

T. H. INMAN, Hanover, Wis.

Every poultryman should

have a copy of Blanchard's Poultry Book. Gives just the plain, practical information most needed. Send 20c to The Ranch and it will be mailed free.

## HOLSTEIN BULLS

FOR SALE

Several choice young Holstein bulls

now for sale. Registration papers fur-

nished. Address Meadowbrook Farm,

Snoqualmie, Wn., or Chamberlain,

Hamilton &amp; Co., Seattle.

## ELLEDALE FARM

TAMWORTH HOGS,  
DUROC JERSEY HOGS,  
HAMPSHIRE SHEEP,  
DORSET HORN SHEEP.

PURE BRED STOCK AT REASONABLE PRICES.  
REED & SON, Moscow, Idaho.

## DUROC JERSEY

and

## YORKSHIRE

Pigs, registered, eight months old,

price F. O. B. cars here \$15.00 each,

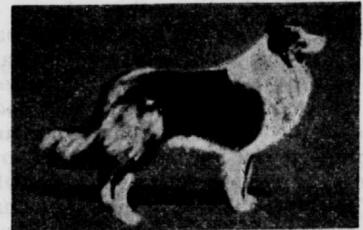
and registration papers furnished. Ad-

dress

E. E. ELLIOTT, Pullman, Wash.

## SHADELAND FARM COLLIES

C. D. NAIRN, Ballston, Ore., Prop.



Verona Pale Face, 60729.

The Largest Collection of Pure Bred Collies in America. 32 Years a Breeder of Best Working Strains. Known to Stockmen Everywhere. Puppies For Sale. Send for Catalogue. Free.



SHORT-HORN CATTLE  
SHROPSHIRE SHEEP  
BERKSHIRE SWINE

FOLLY Geo. D. McLean.  
FARM Mt. Vernon, Wash.

A. J. STREET, Chillwack, Br. Col.

Registered Jersey Cattle won at New Westminster 1900—1st on 2 year-old-bull, 1st on yearling-bull, 1st on herd. Some choice stock for sale.]

## J. G. CROUCH

Olympia, Wash.

## STOCK AUCTIONEER

23 years experience. Blooded stock a specialty—will go anywhere. Highest references. Charges reasonable. Write for dates.

Can find a market for a few carloads of RANGE HORSES.

## T. J. TRAPP

New Westminster, B. C.

## STOCK AUCTIONEER

A. C. WELLS &amp; COMPANY

JERSEY AND AYRSHIRE CATTLE.  
Berkshire Swine and Lincoln Sheep, White Emden Geese, White Plymouth Rocks, White Holland Turkeys. A few good rams and young hogs now for sale. Chillwack, B. C.