

he gets corn. If the Washington farmer can get the corn cheaply enough and has sufficient alfalfa on hand to last the feeding season there is no reason why he should not be able to turn out as fine beef as the farmer in the corn belt. In fact, the latter largely uses alfalfa and corn as the exclusive ration and makes good money with his steers. The same may be said of raising and fattening of the hog. It is evidently not generally known in this section that alfalfa is one of the best feeds that can be given the hog, beside a small allowance of grain at fattening and finishing periods. Clover is a great favorite with the hog raiser, but those who have tried both alfalfa and clover say the former is superior for the purpose. It stands pasturing better than clover and is a better feed. The worth of alfalfa for hog feeding is not confined to it in its green state, as the dry hay is very valuable. The experiment stations have made tests and find that the dry hay was a big boon in the fattening of hogs. Without corn but on alfalfa in its green state pigs have made remarkable growth and gained well in flesh. For brood sows and the young pigs alfalfa cannot be excelled.

For horses alfalfa is also excellent, but it should not be fed alone, as it is liable to derange the digestive system. A little alfalfa with timothy or prairie hay will often prove beneficial for the horse. For colts and growing horses it is especially adapted, as it helps produce strong and vigorous animals. For the sheep man alfalfa is also a most valuable fodder, but it should be fed them as hay, not in its green state, because the sheep is especially susceptible to bloat. Sheep ought never be turned into a pasture where there is growing alfalfa, as they are sure to suffer from bloat.

**Mange Among Horses.**

A problem that has confronted the horse industry in eastern Washington for sometime, and that has been assuming serious proportions is the mange scourge. The horsemen have now taken steps to eradicate the epidemic, but they will evidently have a hard fight, though there is no doubt as to the outcome. Apparently the matter has not been given the attention it deserved and the scourge has been allowed to spread to a considerable extent. While it has been largely confined to Indian cayuses there is danger that some of the better classes of stock may be affected. The epidemic seems to have become alarmingly prevalent in some parts of northwestern Oregon, and, in certain localities where it has been allowed to develop without hindrance, there are hundreds of cayuses stricken with the mange and running at large over the range. There is danger that they will carry the disease into the herds of good horses that are now exempt. The stockmen realize this and have taken vigorous steps to stamp out the disease. The work must be done thoroughly and every vestige of the mange eradicated, or the horse industry in the section in question will receive a setback from which it will not soon recover.

For the twelve months ending March 31, 1904, the estimate of sheep losses in the United States places the number at 3,289,568, and the total per cent of losses is placed at 5.8. The losses from disease is said to be but 2.6 per cent., which speaks well for the health of the flocks throughout the country. In the state of Washington the number of sheep lost is placed at 67,980, which is two per cent of the whole number in the state.

In the Pendleton district of Oregon sheepmen are holding together well on the matter of keeping their wool until sales days. Woolgrowers' association officials urge growers to retain their clips until the dates set to meet eastern buyers, so that a united front can be presented and uniform prices obtained. The argument is used that

promiscuous selling by individuals would defeat the end for which sales days were established, and might result in demoralizing the market, since influences can be used on individual growers which can not be sprung on an organization.

C. F. Martin, secretary of the National Livestock Association, will be in Portland, Ore., on June 7th to attend a meeting of the citizens for the purpose of organizing an independent packing plant. After this meeting he will spend a week conferring with the livestock men of the northwest.



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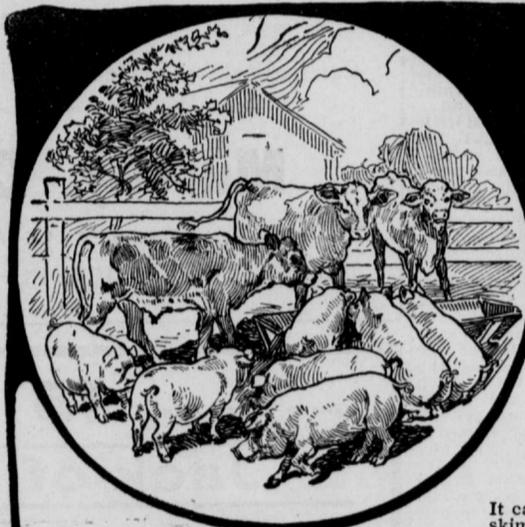


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