



# Past Year Proves Important Chapter in the Livestock History of Utah.

## Great Wealth of Utah Ranges The Outlook for 1908.

WITHOUT an exception the past year has proved an important chapter in the livestock history of Utah. The closing year sets a unique situation obtaining—Utah is getting top prices for her livestock products despite the slumps brought about in eastern and river markets because of the financial stringency. Why? The answer quite simple—self-subsistence. There was a time when Utah ranches depended upon eastern and river markets. That time has passed away. It ended when the Clark line was completed between this city and Los Angeles and every month since then has seen Utah and neighboring states getting more independent of markets along the Missouri and Colorado.

Los Angeles has a half dozen or so big packing concerns and they supply a vast territory. This territory has a taste for Utah beef, veal, mutton and pork—a taste that is growing by leaps and bounds. The result is the only natural one. Utah can hardly supply the demand. So while eastern ranches are getting top prices for meat Los Angeles has a buyer Utah raisers enjoy enumerable advantages. Having buyers in the field is one big benefit. The packing companies in paying out stock on the farm is another as the company assumes the care and responsibility of stock from the moment the animal has been transacted. This is really several advantages but there are others. In buying and paying for stock on the farm the packing companies stand shrinking缩手缩脚, something which means a saving to the raiser of approximately \$8 per head on grown cattle. When the thousand cars of cattle and 150,000 head of sheep are taken into consideration it can be easily made these various advantages apparent in which let us see.

### BIG MOVEMENT WEST.

There were shipped into California this season 1,000 cars of cattle and over 20,000 head of cattle in a two average per car. It can be seen the movement west, that entirely independent of eastern conditions, reaches about 30,000 head of cattle. Add to this the 150,000 sheep Los Angeles snapped up during the last season and a proportionate number of hogs and one has an idea of Utah's position in the livestock world.

### IMMENSE PRODUCTION.

The notice that the cattle and sheep sent to California during the past year represent the total production must not be entertained for a second. Nothing could be more erroneous. Utah's fancy stock is not included in the figures above. Last spring saw coast stockers take 25,000 more than the 150,000 consumed another 35,000 head. And the movement east to Omaha, St. Joe, Kansas City, Chicago, during the past year is estimated as follows:

Cattle (pounds) ..... 546,000  
Horses and mules (heads) ..... 2,222  
Sheep (pounds) ..... 20,728,454  
Hides and pelts (pounds) ..... 2,750,000  
Wools (pounds) ..... 13,567,600

There is no space given for going into little details but suffice it to say, give and idea of what Utah does to worth enriching herself by livestock production. Owing to the uneasy market prices were erratic, but as ex-

plained, Utah more than shared well, through her standing in coast markets.

### BRIEF RESUME OF YEAR.

Owing to the growth of the sheep raising industry this has been treated by itself and mere references to sheep are the rule here. The year among Utah's four-footed products has been kind in practically every way. The physical condition of herds and flocks has been and remains a source of much satisfaction to stockmen. Despite the wet winter, less mortality than ever before was noticed. It was away below the average. Feed was abundant and ranges in good shape. The consumption at home is increasing noticeably and with outside demand growing too, the industry is being forced into big production. In buying Los Angeles a buyer Utah raisers enjoy enumerable advantages. Having buyers in the field is one big benefit. The packing companies in paying out stock on the farm is another as the company assumes the care and responsibility of stock from the moment the animal has been transacted. This is really several advantages but there are others. In buying and paying for stock on the farm the packing companies stand shrinking缩手缩脚, something which means a saving to the raiser of approximately \$8 per head on grown cattle. When the thousand cars of cattle and 150,000 head of sheep are taken into consideration it can be easily made these various advantages apparent in which let us see.

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### NEW PACKING PLANT.

A word about the new packing plant erected to take the place of the one burned down this year. It is now well completed this summer of a most modern industry. This new plant, remodeled after the old one but made larger throughout, will have a carrying capacity of 1,000 sheep, 500 cattle and about the same number of hogs as sheep. It will have a handling capacity of 800 sheep and 200 cattle and will be the only modern packing plant in Utah. The former plant was just completed when the fire broke out during the worst storm Salt Lake and neighborhood had ever known and what represented years of saving and planning was burned to ashes. Not disengaged by misfortune and downright bad luck the packing company went to work, arranged for more money and soon had men and material on the grounds. The new plant is in timber ready for operation. A large plant and one of the best having finishing touches put on and within a short time all sorts of fresh and cured meats and by products will be made in Utah by Utah money from Utah live-stock for the whole world to eat.

## UTAH SHEEPMEN RECEIVED \$6,000,000 FOR THEIR WOOL AND MUTTON.

MOST important of all departments of Utah's live-stock activities is sheep raising, with its allied industry of wool growing, and, naturally, deserves first mention. In the neighborhood of \$6,000,000 was added to the state's income for the year 1907 by receipts upon mutton and wool. Good prices were offered for both, and the one drawback in this connection was the shortage of cars, felt a little more this year than before. Sheepmen in southern Utah had 40,000 lambs ready for delivery to buyers this spring, but the railroads were unable to move more than portion of the time quick delivery was most desired. But the difficulty was completely overcome, shadowed by improvements in all other phases during the year. As the year draws to a close, stockmen who make a specialty of sheep are congratulating themselves because they have done so.

### WHAT'S BEING ACCOMPLISHED.

Next in importance to the enumerative record made for the closing year is the splendid results of a campaign for better stock. Raisers, the state board of sheep commissioners, the government bureau and all concerned have reached an amicable understanding and in working in harmony together are bringing about results utterly impossible were it not for the cooperation. The Utah sheep-raisers and those of sister states are working for better flocks and bigger fleeces. The reserves, such as those in this state, were there may great increase and the sheep's production meets all demands but creates no slump in prices through over-production. These conditions, largely created and regulated by the raisers themselves, govern the production. It is not to be taken the end of each year sees the same number of lambs exported, and the same amount of wool shipped; this year has seen an increase in both because there was an increase in the demand for both. As a result, the estimated increase in total profits is about \$500,000. This would have been larger had sufficient cars to haul spring lambs to market been available when the lambs were ready.

### SEASON'S PRODUCTION.

From such reliable sources as the state board of sheep commissioners and the state auditor, ex-officio state statistician, and others, just as closely in touch with this industry, information has been obtained which shows that the year 1907 was the most profitable in the neighborhood of \$2,236,452 sheep shorn and the average yield per sheep has been seven—a half pound per sheep, higher than in 1906. The total wool crop reached the handsome total of 16,285,574 pounds. From 18 to 25 cents have been the price paid at the shearing station and careful investigation shows 21 cents per pound is a fair but not high average price to reckon the cost of lambing with. The total value being \$3,088. Over 200,000 sheep were sent to the Kansas City stock yards alone, where top prices were paid. The market held firm around \$7 for lambs during the season and with Chicago, Omaha and Kansas City after the Utah product, lively bidding was the rule. The Los Angeles market is one of the most active in the country, and the market value of Utah lamb is high. Utah has more than good cause for feeling happy.

### EXTERMINATION OF SCAB.

The state board of sheep commissioners had 35 inspectors in the field during the past year and the government had a proportionate number in work. Instead of making the work of these men impossible—it is difficult at first to realize this year has received them on their backs and serves cordially. The old days when the visit of an inspector was the signal to side infected sheep under the bed or in the pantry, appear to be passed. The sheepmen have waged a war on all disease and welcome the inspectors, safely content in the knowledge that

their flocks are absolutely clean. But one or two epidemics of scab were found this year but they were quickly stamped out. No better verdict could have been desired than that rendered by the federal authorities when they said they didn't see any necessity for dipping the flocks when they went to the reserve. Sheep raising is progressing rapidly in this state, and the raisers have become thoroughly acquainted with all conditions and requirements pertaining to the industry. The sheep are sheared in April, trailing to the corrals, in a majority of cases located on railroads, and after shearing being taken back to the range. They are dipped after being sheared with compounds recognized by the board and again in July. Dipping is done under the personal supervision of inspectors and the greatest care taken to kill every trace of the bothersome mite.

This work is interesting. The sheep are driven into a tank, a trough-like affair, 60 feet long and filled with "dip," a mixture of tobacco extract; sulphur and other strong fluids. Each sheep is supposed to soak in this stuff for at least two minutes and rams, whose hide is wrinkled and furrowed, are given a longer bath. As the animals swim to the far end of the trough they are followed by others and in this way the entire flock is dipped in quick order. The "scabbers" is a trachoma pest; it is invisible to the naked eye but under a strong microscope is a horrible monster with many sharp legs and scissor-like claws. It lives on the blood of a sheep and where batch of "scabbers" have bred the wool falls out, exposing scabs, marking the spot where the pests have fed. This is where they get their name.

### LOS ANGELES MARKET.

Utah and Idaho stockmen have to a great extent depended on the Los Angeles market in disposing of their fat sheep and cattle and while this industry is young the results of the past year have more than come up to expectations. The Los Angeles companies are getting in pace for eastern buyers. Utah stockmen are enjoying big new benefits as a result of the recent activity. The market is now sending out buyers to meet the raisers at their corrals and there is where all transactions are carried on; the buyers make a price at the corral or shipping point and assume care of the stock from the moment the deal is consummated. Los Angeles gets the bulk of its winter mutton from Utah, Idaho and Montana, and the same districts are beginning to furnish a good share of beef cattle as well.

The China Land & Water company of China, Cal., probably the largest handlers of feeding cattle recently purchased the ranch and cattle property of B. F. Sander and located near the Idaho Avenue bridge. This company intends fattening the southern Utah product for market. Various other large companies of California have awakened to the fact that the wether can be better supplied from Utah than Mexico or Texas, and have contracted for and shipped whole transports of Utah steers from southern Utah into California.

Los Angeles packers handle about 60 cars of fat pigs per month. Only a small portion of these are raised locally, the bulk coming from Kansas and Nebraska. There is an exceptionally good opening for the eastern market in fat hog carcasses for market. With the lower freight rates from Idaho and Utah to Los Angeles as compared with the rate from Missouri river to the coast markets, everything is in favor of local production.

### OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED.

Coming back to sheep, the chief disease caused in the intermountain district is the question "Why don't Utah sheep raisers have lambs ready for market by August?" The answer is almost innumerable times. The query is a natural one as high prices could be obtained at this time of the year. With all raisers shipping at the same



THOROUGHBRED COTSWOLD EWES.

## Live Stock Assessment in Utah for the Year 1907

COUNTY.	Horses & Mules.		Cattle.		Sheep.		Swine.		Bees.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	Colonies.	Value.
Beaver	1,317	\$ 39,505	6,515	78,289	30,380	75,950	415	\$ 1,409	27	\$ 105
Box Elder	5,438	165,259	47,239	202,812	116,479	291,159	471	2,393	123	148
Cache	6,684	342,545	14,448	250,847	4,863	13,386	1,183	5,445	840	1,301
Carbon	1,222	48,646	4,640	74,320	41,596	111,878	159	608	219	439
Emery	2,812	97,127	8,515	123,592	7,121	17,805	536	2,479	2,094	6,279
Garfield	1,430	38,949	10,555	145,670	61,223	153,020	86	375	958	185
Grand	935	21,425	5,315	71,821	52,800	132,049	49	170	106	212
Iron	1,341	49,373	4,372	63,777	12,978	210,259	937	1,827	368	1,103
Juab	1,495	70,413	4,850	77,947	60,828	152,647	3,180	1,765	577	759
Millard	2,441	91,580	8,169	118,822	20,559	51,800	628	2,171	103	206
Morgan	1,380	41,050	4,053	69,390	5,169	9,790	293	1,630	40	49
Pike	844	26,599	3,818	49,328	12,497	33,666	213	874	4	12
Rush	2,095	61,385	9,303	141,875	33,225	83,081	325	1,308	38	127
Salt Lake	8,603	387,495	70,561	140,286	14,655	36,782	993	4,087	4	85
Sanpete	3,962	128,765	13,333	197,450	208,788	517,875	579	2,780	1,554	2,320
San Juan	763	22,525	13,313	172,638	69,090	172,500	38	178	13	38
Summit	2,136	9,346	9,715	181,540	37,167	96,448	26	99	99	99
Snyder	3,716	129,862	13,356	203,041	41,787	106,059	1,488	4,594	1,108	3,329
Tooele	2,127	63,895	6,077	63,754	204,976	521,336	268	1,274	38	127
Utah	6,912	223,319	17,594	302,250	91,607	230,140	261	2,560	2,450	5,000
Uintah	2,781	101,645	7,734	112,035	74,329	182,374	565	2,914	1,871	4,221
Wasatch	2,315	111,859	6,396	95,310	89,296	226,345	793	3,175	254	359
Wayne	1,685	35,332	5,201	72,438	35,392	85,500	266	528	81	231
Washington	1,177	47,073	9,041	121,705	12,306	30,500	218	785	785	1,580
Weber	5,696	206,359	8,723	145,889	40,049	100,743	1,601	5,842	696	1,322
Totals	69,308	\$ 2,743,529	310,301	\$ 3,167,728	1,525,446	\$ 3,735,919	15,497	50,523	12,993	30,883

