

*Ready For The Slaughter*

*A Jersey Beauty*

*A Scene on The Olden Range*

*Farm Fed Lambs*

*Up To Date Thoroughbreds*

*Clydesdales on The Range*

THE livestock situation in Utah for the year of 1905 has been a most satisfactory one, a statement that could not be truthfully made of the year of 1905. A great many conditions obtaining in this year, and not in the previous year, have contributed to the present good conditions and better prospects.

In a general way the physical conditions have been and are excellent and the outlook is most encouraging. The ranges are in splendid condition, better than for some time. The grass is more abundant and of superior quality owing to the increased moisture during last winter and spring.

This year has witnessed no losses in the way of direct mortality as compared with other years. Toward the closing of the winter the severe storms affected the conditions of stock and taxed their endurance and vitality. This naturally had a noticeable effect on the increase of cattle. There have been fewer calves, and fewer lambs. With reference to lambs the increase may be said to have been somewhat lower than the average. The same may be said with reference to colts.

**A SEVERE BLOW.**

The destruction of the Utah Packing plant by fire was not so severe a blow to the live stock interests as was at first thought. The blow was severe enough as it created great disappointment among those who had fondly looked forward to its completion and active operation. But that time has only been delayed.

In the early months of 1906, because of a long period of inactivity, in cattle speculation, local speculators, feeling that this year's movement would be materially increased over former years, began contracting for young steer stuff in the months of March and April.

*Clydesdales on The Range*

heard from on this score. The fact that the various railroad companies have purchased and put into service new equipment of the most approved kind, has not materially improved the situation for the good and sufficient reason that as fast as the new cars were put into service the old ones have been taken off. It is plainly to be seen from this that there has been no marked increase in the number of cars available. Another thing which has contributed to this condition of affairs is the fact that this year, so cattle men declare, cattle cars have been used in the coal traffic for a longer period than usual. All these conditions make up the cause for a fewer number of cattle being shipped out of the State of Utah in 1906 than in former years.

But this state of affairs is nothing to shed tears over. At least so say stockmen who are posted.

The failure to ship the usual number out of the state is likely to prove more of a blessing than a misfortune. The fact that the cattle have been kept at home means the increased feeding of pulp, grain and hay, and will mean a large increase of steer cattle as well

fully and partly fed for beef within a radius of 100 miles of this center this season.

**THE SHEEP INCREASE.**

There has been a big increase in the state's flocks over the number in the field last year. This year's flocks have probably contributed in the neighborhood of 250,000 mutton sheep of all sorts to the market centers of the country. Aside from the lightness of the lamb crop the season of 1906, to flockmasters, has been one of extraordinary profit and they are congratulating themselves upon the good showing made.

The oldest "biddy" has been saleable at any time during the present year at not less than \$3, while the breeding sorts in desirable bands have been commanding prices at from \$4 for fair to the top price of \$5.50 for the fancy. And these figures are well maintained up to the present time.

Fortunate speculators, through early contracting, bought the bulk of Utah yearling wethers at from \$2.75 up to \$3.25 per head, and the same thrifty purchasers tied up most of the two-year-olds at figures running under \$3.50. All sales now for home delivery on these classes are being made on a basis of from \$1 to \$1.25 move money and very few wethers remain to be speculated in.

As to selling values. While they are higher than they were a year ago it is questionable if their stability is as highly regarded. This is for the reason that fully 60 per cent of the prospective clip for 1906 was contracted to eastern purchasing houses before the close of 1905 shipping season. While this year there hasn't been 20,000 pounds of wool sold at any price, that is, next spring clip.

A few words further on the packing plant and the misfortune which befell it, and what the company proposes to do, are necessary to the article to give a better insight to the live stock prospects. Naturally, when the plant was destroyed by fire the plans of the company were greatly retarded, and the expectation of a great many feeders, upon learning of the fire were given a body blow. With the prospects of the raw plant in working order a great many cattle, sheep, hogs, and particularly hogs, were added to the feeding number with a view to supplying its needs.

**THE TRADE ENCOURAGED.**

Those interested in the project, other than the stockholders, have been greatly encouraged by the announcement of the determination of the stockholders to rebuild the plant. The announcement was backed up with the letting of contracts for reconstruction at once. It is promised that the big plant will be restored and in operation by the first of May next. When that time comes the bulk of the supplies mentioned will be matured.

The promoters of the plant are entitled to credit for the enterprise displayed in starting the project, on which the entire state is interested. The demands upon the state enlarged for supplies for this character, and while a great deal is expected a great deal will be accomplished.

That Utah is an important point in the live stock world is made plain in many ways. This is particularly shown in the presence here of buyers from east and west. They are here all the time, ready and anxious to make purchases. At the present time buyers are here from different eastern points and three or four are here from Los Angeles.

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