

WESTERN NEWS-DEMOCRAT.

A News, Farm and Stock Journal.

VOLUME XIV

VALENTINE, NEBRASKA, JANUARY 11, 1900.

NUMBER 51.

STOCK NOTES.

At the South Omaha stock yards last year 837,583 cattle, 2,216,482 hogs, 1,086,319 sheep, and 34,255 horses and mules were received. The largest receipt of cattle in any one day during the year was on September 18, when 10,695 head were handled.

The Belgian hare is becoming quite a fad in the west, Colorado and California being especially afflicted. The kids are sold at three to four months old, dressing two to three pounds. One doe will raise about sixty kids per year, and the flesh is by many considered to be superior to the spring chicken of our mummies.

Some shippers have a habit of shearing their sheep before sending to market, but we are advised by a prominent commission firm that buyers make a difference of fully \$1.00 per hundred pounds in favor of the unshorned stuff. In view of this fact we would advise all to refrain from shearing sheep or lambs until regular shearing time.

The Platte River country is becoming quite a breeding district for stock hogs. The Rush Creek Cattle Company raised about 500 which they shipped to the company's feeding pens at Central City. Duffin Bros. have marketed about 250, Hagerty Bros. about 175, as well as numerous others. These hogs seem to be proof against the ravages of cholera and are in good demand.—Alliance Grip.

"Here," says an exchange, "is something that is worth two dollars to every farmer to know. Sprinkle lime in your stock tank and not a particle of scum will form on the water. When the lime loses its strength the scum begins to form, which may be twice during the season; wash out the tank and repeat the dose. It is cheap, and not only harmless but wholesome, keeps the water sweet, and saves livestock."

At Omaha, Monday, about a hundred cars of cattle were received, made up of all kinds of stuff. Right good beef cattle were scarce, the market as usual being made up principally of half fat stock. More than the usual number of stockers and feeders were on hand, but they were gobbled up in a hurry at prices a little in advance of last year. In the list of sales we notice the top price was \$4.95 for 84 head of feeders which averaged 575 pounds. Cows sold at \$3.50, the highest price paid being \$4.15 for 22 head. Hogs sold at \$4.32 and \$4.37.

The proposed new treaty with Argentina provides that the tariff on wool and hides from that country shall be reduced 20 per cent, and cattle and sheep men all over the country are opposing the treaty. The Argentine republic is one of the largest wool producing countries in the world, and is the most formidable competitor the United States has in the meat markets of the world. To reduce the tariff, therefore, is a direct blow to the live stock industry of this country, but we doubt not that it will be done. Were the stockmen organized into a gigantic trust which could make and unmake politicians, they might secure more favorable legislation.

Combined receipts of live stock at the four principal markets during the last year show an increase of 200,000 cattle, 40,000 sheep, and a decrease of 1,000,000 hogs. The average weight of cattle was the lightest since 1895, and sheep were the lightest on record, owing to the greatly increased price of lambs. The advance in the price of by-products helped to keep cattle at a high price, and the same cause kept mutton up. Eight dollars and twenty-five cents was the highest price paid for beef. The lowest average price at Chicago was \$4.80 in April. The highest average price for native beef steers was \$5.30, being 65 cents higher than in 1898. The export cattle trade showed a falling off of about 20,000 head during the year, the British demand showing the greatest decrease. Increased shipments from Argentina and the British colonies were the greatest factors causing the decline in exports. Exports of dressed beef showed a gain of 50,000,000 pounds, and since the South African war canned beef has taken a boom, the November shipments amounting to

almost 9,000,000 pounds. Range cattle were fewer in numbers than any time since 1880, and the prices show the highest range since 1891. It is generally conceded that prices this year show an increase of \$5 to \$7 per head over last year, but few tailings and feeders selling below \$4. Chicago sent 290,000 head of cattle to the feed yards during the year, extreme prices being \$2.65 and \$5.40, the bulk selling at \$3.60 and \$4.50. The top price on hogs, \$5.00, was reached in August, the average for the year being \$4.05. No other branch of the live stock industry has shown such a wonderful growth as the sheep business, the exports being especially large, and the price of western wool reaching 20 cents, when before 8 and 12 cents was considered a fair price, although the sales of feeders fell off over 100,000 head.

The above we condense from the Drovers Journal annual review.

When Cleveland made his now famous bond issue, he told the congress he could get \$16,000,000 more for the bonds if they would make them payable in gold instead of in "coin." This congress refused to do, most of the present republican leaders voting against the proposition. The financial bill now before the senate makes these bonds payable in gold, thus making a present of \$16,000,000 to the bondholders. Is anyone so blind he cannot see the truth of this?

From all reports the recent changes in the live stock rates are very objectionable to the local shippers and unless the state board of transportation takes the matter up there will be trouble in the air shortly. It should be remembered that this is one of the fusion counties of the state, and unless something is done presently there is apt to be a change in the political complexion of the county which will not be very pleasing to our present board of secretaries who are drawing \$2,000 a year for doing practically nothing. Arguing from this point it is easy to see that if the secretaries do not do something the county is apt to change its political complexion.

We have had many inquiries for a copy of the financial bill, passed by the national house of representatives, and now before the senate. We have but one copy of the bill, but below will be found a synopsis of the bill, which we believe will be found fair, one which will stand criticism from all parties. We would publish the bill in full but for lack of space. The bill:

1. Makes the dollar of 25.5 grains of gold the standard unit of value.
2. Declares that all bonds now existing and hereafter to be issued shall be paid in gold.
3. Makes all greenbacks and treasury notes under the Sherman act payable in gold.
4. All silver certifi. as to be restricted to one, two, and five dollar notes; legal-tender quality of silver dollar not affected.
5. Establishes a division of issue and redemption, to which is assigned all records and accounts relating to the issue, redemption and exchange of the several kinds of United States money.
6. Establishes a permanent gold reserve fund equal to 25 per cent of the total of greenbacks and treasury notes outstanding.
7. Directs the secretary of the treasury to maintain this reserve and, if necessary, to sell gold bonds at not exceeding 3 per cent, payable in twenty years, but redeemable in gold, at the option of the United States, after one year.
8. Prohibits any transfer from the treasury general fund to the division of issue and redemption that will reduce the general fund below \$50,000,000.
9. Greenbacks and treasury notes to be redeemed in gold at the will of the holder and to be paid but again only in exchange for gold.
10. Reserve funds to be used to maintain parity, and to do this the secretary of the treasury may, in his discretion, exchange gold coin for any other money issued.
11. Provides for coinage of subsidiary, worn, or uncurrent coins and repeats the law limiting issue of such coin and fractional currency to \$50,000,000.
12. Provides for the issue of United States notes and treasury notes in denominations not less than \$1, as the secretary prescribes.
13. Increases the issue of national bank circulation up to the par value of bonds deposited to secure such circulation.
14. Repeals the 1 per cent tax on national bank circulation and substitutes a tax of one-fifth of 1 per cent in the aggregate on the capital, surplus, and undivided profits of banks.
15. Authorizes the incorporation of national banks of \$25,000 capital in towns of not to exceed 2,000 inhabitants.

Subscribe for THE DEMOCRAT - \$1.00.

MIDWINTER SALE FOR CASH!

Men's Cotton Flannel Underwear, - were 50c, now 25c
 Men's Heavy, Fleece Lined " " 50c, " 35c
 Men's Winter Underwear " " 35c, " 20c
 Ladies' Winter Union Suits " " 50c " 35c
 Misses' Winter Union Suits " " 35c " 25c
 Children's Winter Underwear " " 5c to 15c

ALL WINTER DRESS GOODS AT COST.

DAVENPORT & THACHER
 General Merchants

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J. W. STETTER, PROPRIETOR

FRESH - FRUIT - AND - GAME

In addition to a first-class line of Steaks, Roasts, Dry Salt Meats
 Smoked Hams, Breakfast Bacon and Vegetables

At Stetter's Old Stand on Main Street. VALENTINE, NEBRASKA

DREYFUS HAD TWO TRIALS

WE ONLY WANT ONE

To convince you beyond a doubt that the best line of LIQUORS, WINES AND CIGARS Can be had at THE STOCK EXCHANGE
WALTER F. A. MELTENDORFF, PROPRIETOR
 OUR MOTTO—Honest Goods; Honest Prices; Courteous Treatment.

WINTER--COLD BLIZZARDS!

Ladies' and Gentlemen's Fur Coats, Ladies' and Children's Felt and Warm-Lined Shoes.
 Boots and Shoes and Furnishings of all kinds. Practical Tailoring
 All our work guaranteed.

D. Stinard, Clothier.

<p>Alex Marrivall Pine Ridge, S. D. Cattle branded as on cut and below on either side. Horns swallow fork on left and crop right. Horse brands as below on left thigh or hip.</p>	<p>Marquardt & Bowlin Otto Strubek, Manager. Merriman, Neb. Cattle brand OM on left shoulder. Some of cattle have various other brands. OS on left hip. Horse brand A on left shoulder. Range—Formerly Geo W Monnier ranch 5 miles east of Merriman, from F. E. & M. V. R. E. south to Leander Creek. Marquardt & Bowlin, Scribner, Nebraska.</p>
<p>Wheeler Bros. Cody, Neb. Also B on right side Range Chamberlain Plats and Snake River</p>	<p>J. C. Trowbridge Merriman, Neb. Range between Irwin and Merriman, south of railroad</p>
<p>Newman Bros. & Nations, Cody, Nebraska On point left shoulder. Also O on point left shoulder. Also O on left shoulder. Same on left hip</p>	<p>Hugh Bovill, Manager Merriman, Neb. Also B, J, V All on left side or hip Range north of El</p>
<p>J. A. Adamson. Valentine, Neb. On left side or hip A4 left side or hip</p>	<p>Charlotte E. Bovill Merriman, Neb. Left side or hip Range north of El</p>

Taken up, at my place about 4 miles east of Fort Niobrara, May 25, one sorrel half-bred gelding, 5 years old, and one bay mare, 2 years old, both branded on left shoulder.
 —ERNEST SEARS

Metzger Bros.,
 Pullman, Neb.
 Cherry Co.
 Brand on left side and thigh. Earmark, square crop right ear. Southern branded cattle have but one "half-diamond" E on left side. Native cattle have throat wattle.
 Range on Gordon and Snake Creeks. Horses have same brand on left thigh.
 A Reward of \$250 will be paid to any person for information leading to the arrest and final conviction of any person or persons stealing cattle with above brand.

EDWARD BAD HAIR.
 Postoffice address
 Allen S. D.
 On left shoulder and bar on side; horses same on thigh.
 Range-Bear Creek

T. J. ASHBURN
 Postoffice address
 Valentine, Neb.
 Branded on right side; horses same. Range—10 miles east of Valentine on the Niobrara

Joseph W. Bownet
 P. O. address
 Merriman, Neb.
 Right ear cropped. Hole in center of left ear.
 Range Lake Creek S. D.

Parker & Son
 P. O. Address
 L. W. Parker
 Reigel, Neb.
 Brand same as cut. Also ZP.
 Range on Niobrara south of Crookston

R. A. McQuade.
 Valentine, Neb.
 Branded on either side.
 Range between Thacher and Swan Lake

Charles C. Tackett
 Rosebud, S. D.
 Range head of Antelope near St. Mary's mission.
 Horses branded on left thigh

Peter Vlondray
 Rosebud, S. D.
 Left side. Left ear cropped.
 Horses branded VB.
 Range Little White River, at mouth of Cedar Creek.

Louis J. Richards
 Merriman, Neb.

Gorsuch Bros.
 Newton, Nebraska
 Cattle branded as on cut.
 Some on left side or hip.
 Range on Gordon Creek

Louis F. Richards
 Merriman, Neb.

Henry Pratt
 Rosebud S. D.
 Left side.
 Horses same on left shoulder.
 Deerhorn clip on some cattle

John DeCory
 Rosebud, S. D.
 Some branded 1D 47 on left side.
 Horses JD on left hip.
 Range in Meyer Co on Antelope Creek

N. S. Rowley
 Kennedy, Neb.
 Same as cut on left side and hip, and on left shoulder of horses. Also on left side and hip.
 On right hip and on left side.
 C on left hip of horses.

W. W. ANDERSON.
Anderson & Rounds.
 Simeon, Nebraska
 Cattle branded on left side as on cut; also 16 on left side with 11 on left hip of some cattle; also 846 on right side. Horse brand, rake and 16 on left shoulder or hip. Home ranch—on Dewey Lake. Range on Niobrara River, east of Fort Niobrara; also between Snake River and Simeon, known as the Felch range, all in Cherry County, Nebraska.

Marshall & Wolfenden
 Kennedy, Neb.
 Some on the left hip.
 Horses on left shoulder.
 Brand is small. Earmark: Quarter clip behind, half circle forward on left ear.
 Range Lone Tree Lake

I. T. Richardson.
 Perch, Nebr.
 Some on left hip.
 Horses on left shoulder

William M. Dunbar
 Lessee from Heine & Kroeger
 Cody, Neb.
 DU, Either side
 Also low on right. Left ear of cattle split.
 Range head of Hay Creek

Amelia Young.
 Cody, Nebraska
 On right side, right ear split.
 Range, Little White river

Peder Thorsen.
 Gordon, Nebraska
 On right side; T on right hip. Horse brand and T on right shoulder. Also cattle branded L on left side.
 Range, 70 miles south of Irwin

Henry Young.
 Cody, Nebraska
 Horse brand H-Y on left shoulder. Cattle, right ear split.
 Range, Little White river, S. D.

Stotts & Stetter.
 Cody, Nebraska
 Branded on left side.
 Range, Tin Can Lake and Morgan Plats

D. C. Nelson.
 Cody, Nebraska.
 On right hip.
 Range, Medicine Lake to the Snake river

Hutt Brothers.
 Gordon, Nebraska
 Range, 14 miles north of Gordon.

F. C. Duerfeldt, Manager.
 Gordon, Nebraska
 Cattle also branded 90 on right hip.
 Horses and mules branded same as cut on left shoulder

J. C. Jordan
 Gordon, Nebraska
 One bunch branded as on cut on left side. One bunch branded C L on left hip.
 Horses J on left shoulder.
 Range, 10 miles southwest of Gallup, between Niobrara and Snake rivers

George F. Damon
 Albany, Neb.
 Cattle branded FD on left ribs or right shoulder; SD on right hip and left ribs; 6 on left hip. Horses FD or SD on right shoulder.
 Range 7 mi north east of Albany Neb. Agent for Pasteur Black Leg Vaccine

Joseph Fickel
 Gordon, Neb.
 Also on left hip.
 Horse brand F on left shoulder.
 Range 10 miles northeast of Gordon