

# Products of the Salt River Valley

LLOYD C. THOMAS

In a country with the climate and soil that the Salt River Valley has the range of farm life is of course very great and practically everything is grown. However a brief description of the principal crops will undoubtedly be of interest.

## ALFALFA AND THE CEREALS.

Alfalfa is the largest crop grown in this valley. When well cared for and taken proper care of a yield of as high as twelve tons per acre has been grown. The average is from six to eight tons per acre. This winter season it brought sixteen dollars per ton. Early in the spring barley or wheat is disked in with the alfalfa and both crops grown on the same ground, the barley or wheat being cut with the first alfalfa crop, making the finest kind of hay. During the winter the alfalfa is green and before the spring cutting begins cattle are pastured on it. Ordinarily there are about 40,000 cattle pastured in the valley during the winter.

Barley, wheat, oats and corn are all raised and of course the yield is enormous. Corn is usually raised as a second crop, being planted after sugar beets are harvested in May or June. This gives two crops per year on the same ground.

## ORANGE—THE LEADING FRUIT.

The orange produced in the Salt River Valley is not equalled in any country. In size, in color, in flavor and texture, it is the finest produced. The superb climate keeps away all smut and scale and no spraying or fumigating is necessary. The oranges go direct to the market just as they come from the trees, it not being necessary to brush or wash them. They bring much higher prices than those from other localities and there are never enough to supply the demand. The Arizona orange reaches New York in time for Thanksgiving, ahead of all others. It often brings as high as nine dollars per box on that market.

## POMELO—GRAPE-FRUIT, AND LEMONS.

The grape-fruit grown in the Valley is of exceptionally fine flavor, not having the bitter taste so often found in this delicious fruit. Lemons do very well and make big returns on the investment.

## DECIDUOUS FRUITS.

An orchard of any kind is valuable. All fruits do very well. The conditions are the best for peach, pear, apricot, fig, grape, plum, apple, crabapple, nectarines, cherries, quince, blackberries, red, purple and black raspberries, logan berries, dewberries, strawberries, mulberries, citrons and dates.

## THE CANTALOUPE AND WATERMELON.

These are grown on a very large scale and hundreds of carloads are sent out from the valley every season. They ripen very early and get the top price on the market, excelling the Rocky Ford in quality. The melons are sugary, sweet and tender.

Watermelons do equally as well as cantaloupes and are also raised on a very large scale.

## SUGAR BEETS.

The "Glendale loess", spoken of in another issue of The Herald, is said to be specially adapted to the sugar beet, producing heavily and yielding a large saccharine percentage. The writer recently made a trip through the million-dollar factory located near Phoenix and it cares for from eight hundred to one thousand tons of beets per day. An income of sixty dollars per acre is averaged by the ordinary farmer, the experts making more than this. The soil "contains the most wonderful proportion of soluble matter" of any soil known and there is plenty of it for sugar beet purposes.

## DATES AND OLIVES.

The date is here a luscious fruit and the trees give the valley a tropical look. Dates are grown all through the valley and is becoming a good industry. The flavor of the fruit, direct from the tree is delicious and much

better than imported. 124 varieties are being grown on the Government farm near Phoenix at Tempe. They were brought from Africa, Egypt, Arabia and Persia.

Olives are to be seen everywhere. Munger Brothers, a firm who put up olive oil, have a large acreage in olive trees and make good money out of pickled olives and olive oil.

## INDUSTRIES OF THE VALLEY.

### CATTLE.

Cattle are grown on the range and fattened in the valley on alfalfa, not knowing the taste of grain, going to the market in prime condition with the least possible cost. Some range owners have their own alfalfa fields; some hire the needed winter pasture; while many farmers buy young range stock and fatten them for market on their own fields. It is all good, there being no cold or severe storms, and very few cattle ever see the inside of a barn or shed. Both feed and climate induce rapid growth and early maturity. Three to five head to the acre for pasture is not unusual. How is that compared with the short grass country?

### THE DAIRY.

As with man so it is with animals, the natural life is that of the open, and it makes for the health of the dairy cow. Alfalfa makes a balanced ration: the cow gets nothing else and needs nothing else. No barns are needed for the storage of winter feed, nor stables for shelter. Green feed is continuous and good cows on these green fields return a net profit of from \$70 to \$80, leaving the calf out of the count. We have a record of 126 cows, which produce an average, each per annum, of \$77.40 for milk alone. Tuberculosis is unknown among native cattle, and the various pests and diseases of cattle are practically shut out by a vigorous enforcement of law. No diseased stock enters the Territory. The cities and towns call for more butter than is produced, and the mining camps are a very good home market.



A Salt River Valley Date Palm in Full Bearing.



An Excursion from Los Angeles being shown over the Salt River Valley.

### HORSES.

Horses cost at two or three years about one-third as much to rear as in colder climates and bring good prices. They run at large in the pastures, need little shelter, and reach maturity early. Very close attention is given to the breeding.

### HOGS.

Hogs, as is every other domestic animal belonging to the barnyard, fond of and thrive on alfalfa. Prices are very good and a fine grade of hogs is the rule.

### SHEEP.

About 500,000 head of sheep come into the valley from the ranges to be sheared, and many are bred here for early lambs. The gain is phenomenal and the sheep are well taken care of.

### BEES.

The desert itself is full of sweetness, and the bee gathers it alike from thorny cacti and blossoming sage and palo verde. The mesquite yields honey, and the orchard and alfalfa field. Many apiaries are in the valley and the average yield per colony is large. It is counted as one of the profitable industries of this region, and the man who can manage the little workers while caring for his farm is happy. Over twenty carloads of extracted honey are shipped every year.

### OSTRICHES.

Africa was originally the home of the ostrich but the climate of this valley was found to be so suitable for the purpose of raising domesticated ostriches that they were imported here and now it is one of the leading industries. Ostriches are raised in other parts of the United States but on a much smaller scale than here. There are now about fifteen ostrich farms in the valley. The largest farm has over four thousand birds and some of the smaller have only a few.

The ostrich lives entirely on alfalfa in the Salt River Valley and the profits made out of the feathers are very large. That the business is profitable may be seen from a comparison between an ostrich and a steer. At the age of three years a steer is worth from \$35 to \$45, and will probably net his owner ten dollars over the cost of his up-keep to the date of his sale. At the age of three years an ordinary ostrich in the Salt River Valley, is considered worth from \$250 to \$350. Every eight months you pluck feathers to the value of from \$35 to \$100 and have your bird left. At this age he is consuming from six to eight pounds of alfalfa per day while the steer at the age of three years is consuming from forty to sixty pounds of alfalfa per day. It is therefore easy to understand why ostrich

raising is becoming very popular with us. There are not many birds for sale in the valley for the reason that when a farmer appreciated the enormous value of the bird, it is hard to get him to sell it, and they live from seventy-five to eighty years of age.

Phoenix, Arizona, June 1, 1910.

### Bill Nye's Cow

Bill Nye was a practical newspaper man and somewhat of an advertiser himself. Having a cow which he wished to sell, he advertised her as follows: "Owing to my ill health, I will sell at my residence in township 19, range 18, according to the government survey, one plush raspberry cow, aged 8 years. She is of undoubted courage and gives milk frequently. To a man who does not fear death in any form she would be a great boon. She is very much attached to her present home with a stay chain, but she will be sold to anyone who will agree to treat her right. She is one-fourth Shorthorn and three-fourths hysena. I will also throw in a double-barreled shotgun, which goes with her. In May she usually goes away for a week or two and returns with a tall red calf with wobbly legs. Her name is Rose. I would rather sell her to a non-resident."

### A Model Town

Under the above caption the Abingdon, Ill., Kodak has the following to say about a neighboring town:

Hoopston, Illinois, is a model town. The mayor draws a salary of 50 cents a year, the city clerk \$1.80, city treasurer \$1.50, city attorney \$50. The city is divided into four wards, the aldermen of which are paid 25 cents for each meeting. The city marshal is paid \$900 a year, the night policeman \$600, the night watch \$350 by the city, \$250 by the citizens which makes a total of \$900. The street commissioner is paid for the actual work done. Hoopston had, according to the census of 1900, a population of 3,853. The assessed valuation of the city is \$3,900,000. The output of its manufacturing amount to \$3,900,000 yearly. Average number of people employed is 1,550; average wages paid \$482,000. The city maintains two banks and the average capital stock of one is \$200,000 and of the other, \$175,000. Besides all we have mentioned there are ten churches in which to worship, ten miles of cement walks, four school houses, a city hall and a fire department which cost \$10,000, and numerous other utilities. There is not a saloon in the town, the citizens having decided upon that question thirty-three years ago. Under the local option law a vote was taken to determine whether Hoopston was to continue dry or go wet. The result of the election showed those in favor of the town remaining dry to outnumber the wets 5 to 1.

### Exchanges Please Notice

The Herald is not in the habit of complaining of treatment received either personally or in behalf of the city which it represents; but we think we have a right to insist, in the interest

of Alliance, that those newspapers in northwestern Nebraska that have been publishing "a scarlet fever scare at Alliance" let their readers know without further delay that there is not now a case of scarlet fever here, and not a home where there has been scarlet fever but what has been thoroughly fumigated. We would not for anything advise parents to expose their children to a dangerous disease, but we are confident that there is no more danger in bringing children here now than in taking them anywhere else.

### Big Twenty-five Cent Show

The Sells-Floto which will be in Alliance June 23, has the reputation of being the biggest twenty five cent show in America. The owners of the show are determined to make it the most largely patronized show on earth, and it looks to us as though it may not take them many years to succeed in their ambition. Shows, like other enterprises, are usually run for the money that can be made out of them; but in this case it seems that the proprietors are working for a reputation as well as for the money that can be made.

### Appreciate Good Printing

While here last week the manager of the Alaskan Comedy company ordered a lot of bills printed at The Herald office, some of which were used here, but most of them were for other places. Our prices were slightly higher than what they had paid in the eastern part of the state, but the "Alaskan" people said that our printing was done better, and they seemed to be quite willing to pay the slight difference in the price.

## Railroad Milk Cans

Complete line at the following prices:

5 gal., 12½ lbs .....	\$2.25
10 gal., 17 lbs .....	2.50
10 gal., 20 lbs .....	2.75
10 gal., 22½ lbs .....	3.00

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## THREE WEEKS SPECIAL SALE

June 16th to July 7th

I have just received a large assortment of  
**MEN'S AND BOYS' SHOES**

Come down to my place of business and I will show you my cheap line of Oxfords, ox bloods, tans, etc. They are cheap for the money and they have got the wearing qualities, are guaranteed and I stand back of the guarantee. These shoes are the cheapest and best for the money in this town. If you want to save money on shoes come in and see my stock.

Special Sale on  
**Dry Goods and Clothing**

Just received, a fine line of FELT and STRAW HATS for Men and Boys. These hats are bargains at the prices asked

# E. ESSAY

115 Box Butte Avenue

One-half block north of Burlington station, on east side of street