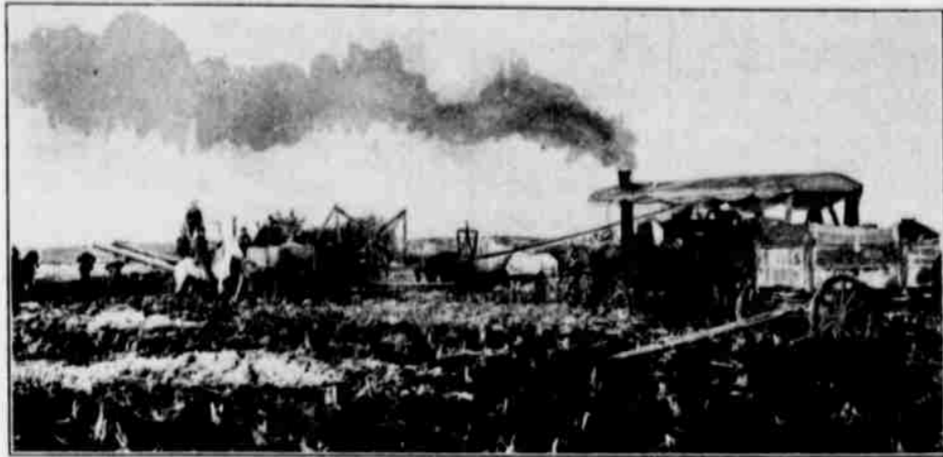


# One of Nebraska's Great Industries

The Standard Cattle company at Ames, is a typical representative of one of the most potent factors in the development of the west. Organized originally in Wyoming, where it controlled two great ranches and at one time 45,000 head of cattle, it finally decided to move into Nebraska, where its range stock could be fed for the markets. In 1886, 4,500 acres of land in the Platte river valley, about fifteen miles west of Fremont, were purchased, and many thousand acres have since been leased in both Dodge and Cherry counties. The headquarters of the company was located at Ames, a small station on the Union Pacific, and here immense elevators, barns, sheds and feed yards have been built. The barns, which alone cost \$55,000, and which are the largest and best arranged of any in the west, have a floor space of more than 121,000 square feet and were intended originally to house 3,000 head of cattle, but the company has handled sheep exten-



CORN HUSKING MACHINE ON STANDARD CATTLE COMPANY FARM.

scale, 500 acres being planted for the first crop. His experiments were so successful that a company was soon organized to build a sugar factory and the splendid new plant at Ames is the tangible result of his untiring efforts. The Standard Cattle company has been a boon to the farmers of Dodge



YOUNG HEREFORD CATTLE—THOROUGH BREDS.

county, affording them a ready market for all surplus products, and the sugar factory will add still more to their material prosperity. The pulp from the beets will be utilized as feed for cattle and sheep so that each industry will supplement and aid the other.

Last year the cattle company grew 1,975 acres of beet upon its own farm and this year the acreage will probably be about 3,000. The crop last year was injured by floods in the valley, but a drainage canal eight miles in length and with a number of lateral ditches has been constructed, so that this danger has been practically eliminated. Mr. Allen's persistent efforts were largely instrumental in securing this ditch, which was built by the county, and he had many difficulties to overcome before the bonds were finally voted, but no one now questions the benefit which it will ultimately bring to the entire county. During the busy season last year nearly 800 people were employed in the beet fields at one time and they moved across the landscape in companies, battalions and brigades. In fact the labor problem at Ames is becoming a serious matter and there is room and profitable employment for several hundred farmers and their families in the immediate vicinity of

sively of late years and the cattle have been relegated to the feed lots. This great barn is so arranged that the feed may be distributed to the troughs by means of small cars running on tramways through the building, and the floors and feed boxes are frequently flushed with water, which washes away all refuse into sewers which lead to the river. With this arrangement the barns are kept remarkably clean and 16,000 head of sheep can be fed in one hour.

The company is capitalized at \$1,000,000, its principal stockholders being eastern men, with the exception of Mr. R. M. Allen, who is general manager and a thorough cattleman of many years' experience. Since its establishment at Ames in 1886, this company has fed 3,500,000 bushels of corn, of which 733,000 bushels were produced on its own land. It employs from 150 to 250 men and has paid out in wages over \$620,000 and more than \$18,600 in taxes. During this time 66,792 head of cattle have been fed, an average of more than 4,000 each year, and 10,120 fat hogs have been sent to market.

In 1893 Mr. Allen began the culture of sugar beets and like everything attempted by this company it was done upon a large



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Dorothy—Oh! papa, I hated to before all those people



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