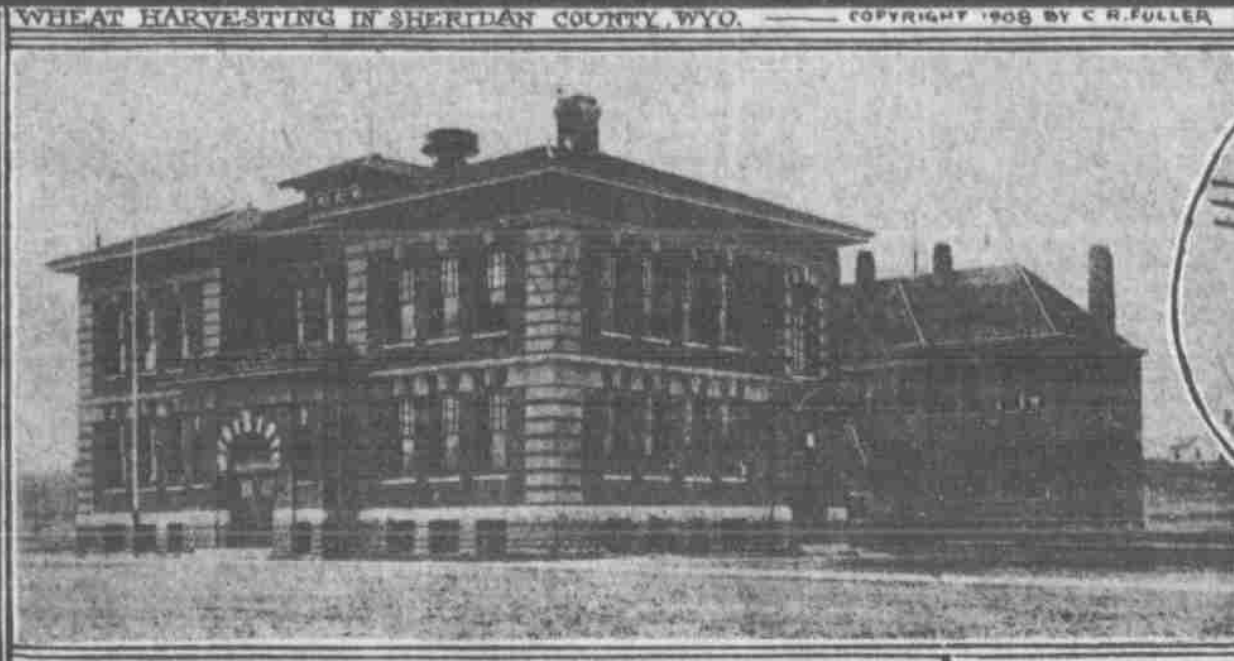
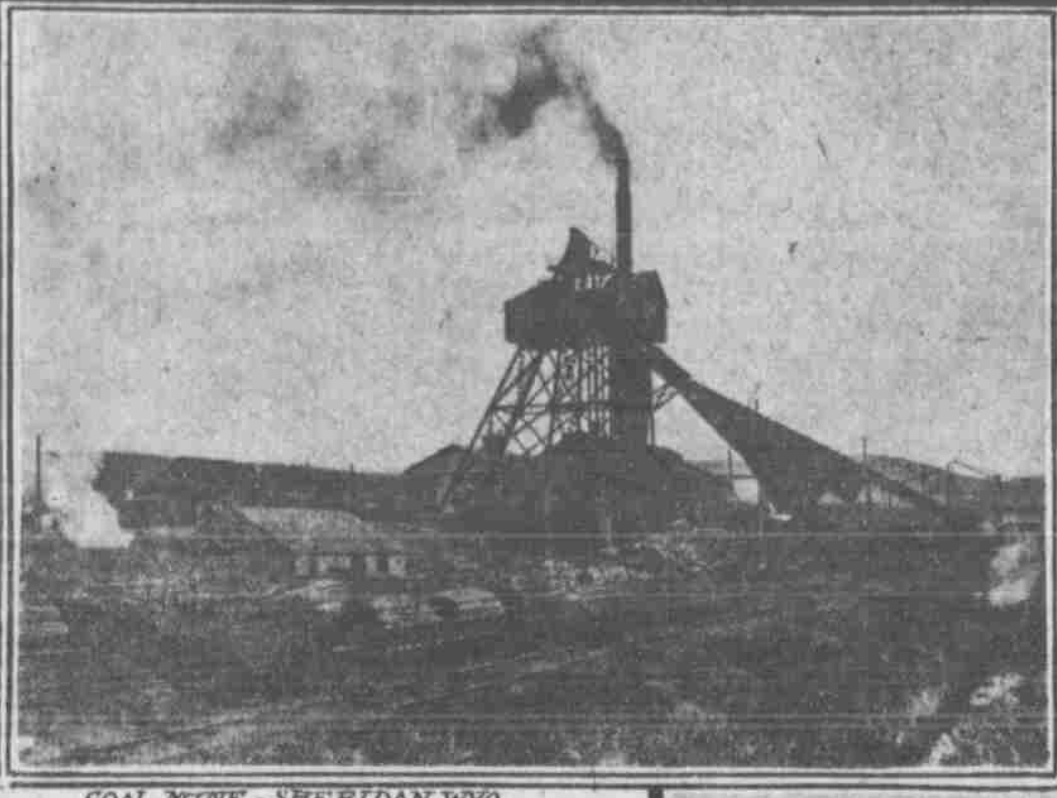


Sheridan and Northern Wyoming Developing Rapidly

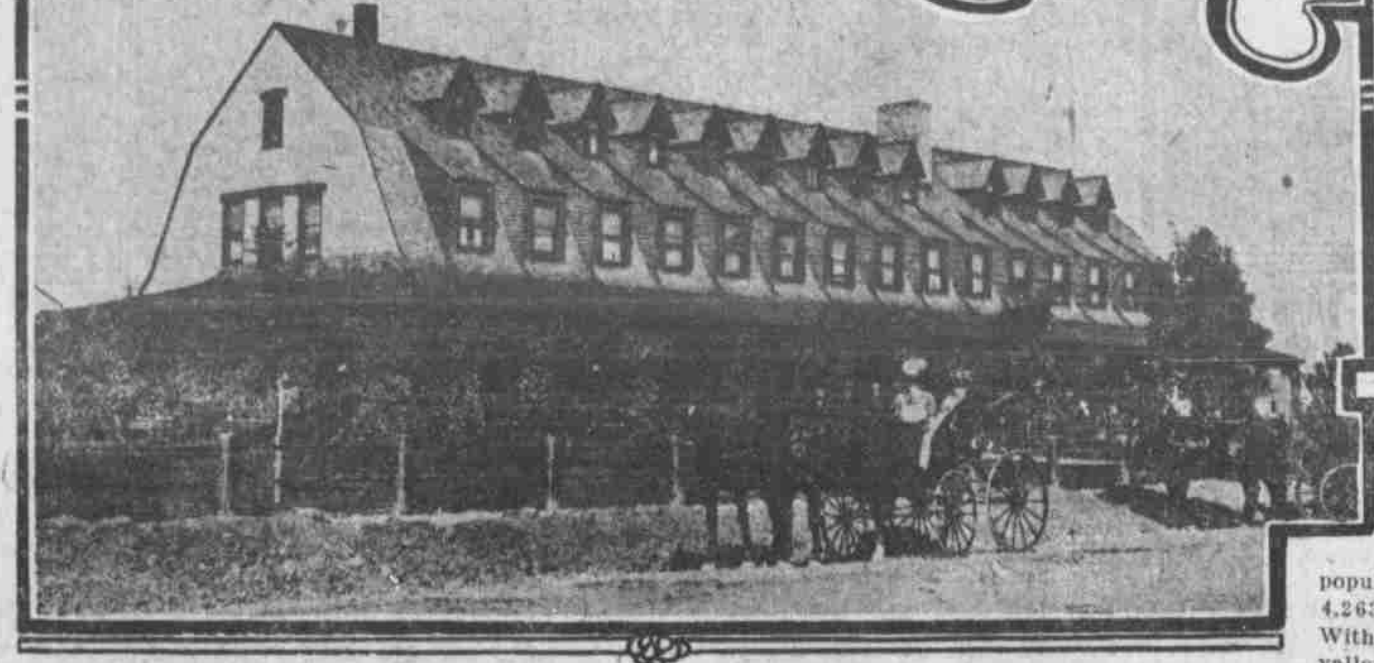


COAL MINE - SHERIDAN, WYO.

WHEAT HARVESTING IN SHERIDAN COUNTY, WYO. COPYRIGHT 1908 BY C. R. FULLER

THE HIGH SCHOOL

SHERIDAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE



SHERIDAN INN

MAIN ST. SHERIDAN WYO.

THE LIVE STOCK industry of Wyoming, which for a long time was its only industry, has a history as varied and romantic as a sixteenth century tale. People cannot remember when stock did not graze on the grasses of the plains and mountain sides of Wyoming. When the white man began to people this region and crowd the Indian to the interior, herds of horses, cows and sheep could be seen feeding upon the succulent grasses of Wyoming.

The extension of railroads, the opening of new agricultural communities, the development of mining, the evolution of the thoroughbred from the long-horned steer, are rapidly crowding off the scene the old days of the open cattle range and the romance of these early days on the frontier would soon fade with the rapidly receding past were it not for a unique and remarkable "festa" that every year is given at Cheyenne, the capital of the state and one of the most famous of the old cow towns of the far west.

The skill of the cowboy today is no less than that of his predecessor of the early days, and many an old cattleman in the grandstand, now perhaps a staid merchant or banker, is stirred to heights of enthusiasm by the picture spread before him under the brilliant Wyoming sunshine of the vanished days of his youth, when the keen, rare air of the plains turned the young blood to wine and danger and hardship were but the spice of his daily meat.

The cattle business has seen many changes since the old days of the open range, but it still calls for young men of courage, horsemanship, physical strength and agility and mental quickness and good judgment.

munities of northern Colorado, where land sells as high as \$300 an acre.

No other county in the state possesses as many excellent trout streams as Sheridan. Tongue river, Big and Little Goose creeks and their tributaries, all abound in mountain trout, while numerous mountain lakes, scattered over the Big Horn range, make the Sheridan country the fisherman's paradise. A state fish hatchery, located here insures the proper stocking of all streams each year and, in spite of the rapidly increasing numbers of fishing parties, the speckled beauties seem to be as plentiful as ever.

At no point in the state, within an easy reach of the railroad, is big game still to be found in such abundance as in the Sheridan country. The big game country begins within twenty miles of the city and the Big Horn range abounds in delightful sport for the hunter. Not only big game, but small game in abundance, is to be found in almost every part of Sheridan county.

The climate is one of the richest endowments of Wyoming; it is exhilarating; cheers and braces each individual, lending character to the civil and industrial life and imparting to the citizens a robustness of physique unequalled in any country in the entire world.

Stock Growing Paid Well.

The live stock industry has been in the past the most remunerative business of this section of the west; mining and agriculture are now fast becoming close competitors. The days of the large outfits have passed, but the business has not declined in consequence, but is now far more profitable. Land owners are rapidly learning that it is more profitable to bring their land under proper cultivation than to hold it solely for range purposes.

On the eastern slope of the Big Horn mountains, and protected by its towering peaks, lies a portion of Wyoming, designated as Sheridan county. Under existing conditions the ranchmen of Sheridan county keep just the number of animals that can be well cared for in the winter time, and it is the universal practice at the present time to provide sufficient forage to carry all stock through in good condition.

Favored by nature, the territory embraced in the county was almost the last battleground of the Indians before they were placed in their reservations. Watered by numerous mountain streams fed by the eternal snows of the Big Horn range, it has gained a wide reputation for its salubrious climate, productive fields and live stock interests, as well as for its exhaustless beds of high-grade lignite coal which furnish cheap fuel for domestic and manufacturing purposes.

Sheridan county was organized in 1888 and named for General Phil Sheridan, who camped on the site of the present city with his command in August, 1881. It has now passed from a purely pastoral condition to one of mixed husbandry. Stock raising, farming, dairying and gardening are practiced in varying degrees. The average temperature is about 60 degrees Fahrenheit; the rainfall fifteen inches. All field crops common to the west succeed well.

Mineral Resources Are Rich.

There are few states in the union that possess mineral resources as vast and varied as those of Wyoming. Until now the crying need of these resources has been railroad transportation, but that need has been supplied. Up-to-date investors are now searching the camps of Wyoming for the mines that meet their requirements and means and brains are now making mines out of these long-neglected prospects, and even at this early date the results are flattering.

There is not another Rocky mountain state with greater possibilities than Wyoming, or that offers better opportunities for mineral investments; certainly none with so much public domain subject to location as mineral land, and, besides the precious metals, the wealth of coal, oil and natural gas will some day make Wyoming as great a producing and manufacturing state as Pennsylvania is today.

Coal mining has been the leading mineral industry in the state and will, in all probability, continue in the front rank for a time, though copper is fast gaining upon it. Coal mining had its origin with the advent of the transcontinental railroad and has increased with the development of the state, until today it employs over 10,000 workmen and has a production of 6,218,778 tons of coal per annum. There is no region of equal area that is possessed of more abundant and diversified richness of resources and possibility; it is almost as limitless in undeveloped opportunities as it was when Bonnevill first broke his way into Jackson Hole, now the wonderland of the United States.

Big Horn county was so named from the Big Horn or Rocky mountain sheep, which abound in the Big Horn mountains, on the east side of the Big Horn Basin. The county was organized in 1896, and population is given as 8,942. The total assessed valuation is given at \$4,851,918.42; the acreage listed for taxation is given at 249,802.10 acres; the average elevation of the agricultural portion is 4,000 feet. It was the last organized county of the state and consists of that portion of the northwestern corner known as the Big Horn Basin. On the east looms up the Big Horn range, some of its peaks rising 12,000 feet above sea level; on the west tower the equally high peaks of the

Shoshone range, spurs of the great Continental Divide. Passing centrally through this basin in a northerly direction, its meanderings covering more than 100 miles, is the Big Horn river. This is, in many respects, one of the most remarkable basins situated on either side of the great Continental Divide; this is true, whether we consider its great area, the lofty mountains enclosing it on all sides except the north, its equable climate or the fertility of its soils.

Crook County is of Good Promise.

Crook county was organized in 1875 and was named after General George Crook, the noted Indian fighter. This county is situated in the northeastern corner of the state; it is 102 miles long by 60 wide and has an area of 6,120 square miles, and is traversed by the Burlington railroad. The population of Crook county is given at 3,831; the land listed for taxation is 294,308.96 acres, valued at \$835,938.01; the total valuation is \$3,010,933.64. The county seat and principal town is Sundance. Valuable coal deposits await transportation facilities. Low ranges of mountains, well timbered, traverse the county, adding to the attractiveness of the landscape.

Crook county is traversed by the Belle Fourche, the Little Missouri and the Little Powder rivers. The water of the streams generally is pure and suitable to domestic uses. Along these streams are fertile valleys of fine farming lands and between the streams are found extensive plateaus, suitable for grazing. Many of the streams of the county furnish excellent sport to those who enjoy the pursuit of game fish.

Johnson county was organized in 1879 and named after E. P. Johnson, a prominent attorney of Cheyenne. It has an area of 4,046 square miles. The

population of the county, as estimated for 1907, was 4,263. The total assessed valuation is \$2,684,072.65. With its rolling plains, extensive forests and fertile valleys, it is justly regarded as one of the best sections of the state. The Big Horn mountains have an elevation of 13,000 feet, while many of the valleys are less than 4,000 feet above the sea level.

Buffalo, the county seat, has always been a prosperous town, and at the present time has a population of over 2,000. It is the business center of a fine grazing and agricultural district and has superior natural advantages.

Water Power Going to Waste.

Clear creek could furnish water power for a hundred factories, besides irrigating several thousand acres of land. At the present time Buffalo is thirty-two miles from the Burlington railroad, but at no distant day expects to have a railroad connection. Its citizens have been very enterprising in building up the town, having erected a \$45,000 school house, four good churches, three banks, a \$10,000 city hall, with numerous other brick buildings, and a \$40,000 hotel. Buffalo is noted for its excellent gravity water system, which affords sufficient water, piped from the mouth of Clear creek canyon, to supply the general demand for domestic purposes, irrigation of lawns and gardens and fire protection. The water supply is sufficient for a city of 10,000 people. The city also maintains an electric light plant, flouring mill and two newspapers. Two stage lines are operated.

The city of Sheridan, the county seat and principal town in the county, is located near the center and is a wide-awake, up-to-date city, with a population of over 10,000. Sheridan was "laid out" in May, 1882, by J. D. Loucks. At the close of that year the little frontier settlement boasted a small store, postoffice, blacksmith shop, three dwelling houses, a restaurant, a saloon and a school. Little by little the village grew, and before the founders knew a fair-sized town,

as western towns go, was nestled between the two mountain streams that meet within its limits.

Those who view the modern city of Sheridan today, with all its twentieth century equipment, its beautiful homes, splendid mercantile and office buildings, magnificent public edifices, churches, schools, banks, railroad shops, parks and summer resorts, scarcely stop to consider that twenty-five years ago the site of the city was a stretch of bunch grass and sagebrush, peopled by prairie dogs in number greater than the population of the city now standing on the ruins of their villages. The Sheridan city school system, with a force of thirty teachers and an enrollment of 1,350 pupils, is no small factor in the life and prosperity of the city.

Sheridan is the best, most prosperous, most modern, and destined to be the largest city, in Wyoming. Few, if any, western cities the size of Sheridan can boast of as large a cash monthly pay roll. At this writing there is disbursed among the miners, mechanics, railroad men and the soldiers at Fort Mackenzie more than half a million dollars in cash every month of the year.

Wyoming Leads in Sheep.

Wyoming leads all the western states and territories in the price per head of its sheep, and leads every state in the union in total value of its sheep, the number and value of its lambs, the amount and value of its wool clip and the average weight of fleece produced. Wyoming also has the distinction of being the father of the modern irrigation law and the reclamation act, and among the foremost states in work done under them.

It must be clearly understood by prospective settlers that a great proportion of the lands in Wyoming are valuable for farming only if they can be placed under irrigation, and it is with this in mind that the great irrigation projects of the state, both those carried out by private capital and those now being constructed under the direction of the federal government, are planned.

Oil and gas wells may become exhausted, veins of precious metal may pinch out, factories may close down, but the community whose stability is based upon agriculture has a sure and enduring foundation. In this respect Sheridan county takes rank among the foremost agricultural regions of the west, with only a part of its agricultural resources developed as yet.

While the number of farms in Wyoming is less than in the more populous states, the value per acre of farm products is much higher. The farm values of the surrounding states per acre are: Nebraska, \$10.43; Iowa, \$11.78; Missouri, \$13.65; Kansas, \$9.25; Wyoming, \$18.89; Utah, \$18.21.

Wyoming produced more oats than either Utah, Nevada, Louisiana or New Mexico; it produced an average of 2.10 tons per acre of hay, which was greater than the yield in Iowa, 1.40 tons; Nebraska, 1.50 tons; Missouri, 1.40 tons; Kansas, 1.15 tons; Texas, 1.30 tons; Montana, 1.70 tons; Nevada, 1.74 tons; California, 1.75 tons, and New Mexico, 2.05 tons per acre. In Irish potatoes Wyoming's yield was 25 per cent greater per acre than Colorado, Montana and Washington and double that of Utah.

Irrigation is the order of the day. The farmer has learned to pin his faith to it. While the country is rolling, there is but little waste land. The soil is universally good and the people are universally prosperous. What this country will be in another ten years is, of course, impossible to predict, but it has every appearance of being the equal of Colorado in regard to the growing of sugar beets, and as it is a natural alfalfa country, the dairy industry is bound to attract attention in time. The class of people that are settling this country seem to be especially adapted to its development.

Training the Athletic Mind

A sound mind in a sound body, son, is something to which no one can take exceptions, and the emphasis is rightly placed, says an expert writing in the New York Herald. The sound mind should come first. Quite likely the two are in a large measure interdependent, but we must never forget that it is the sound mind rather than the sound body which has done the work of the world.

They tell me, son, that you were a somewhat noted athlete during your college days. I am glad to hear it. They tell me also that you were only a fair student. I am just as glad to know that. Your college days were your growing days, and I should be sorry, son, if you had permitted any one of your faculties to be developed at the expense of any other. The reason the brilliant student often drops back after he leaves school is that he faces the world with an abnormally developed brain and narrow shoulders. He cannot force his way into a hostile crowd of competitors with those shoulders, and the fighting spirit, the bulldog tenacity which never admits defeat does not seem to have its domicile in the brain.

Now that your growing days are about over, son, so far as your body is concerned, let that body rest, with just enough work to keep it glowing with health, and devote yourself to teaching your mind to do athletic tricks. You will probably be astonished to observe how readily it will respond to intelligent coaching and how it will dive headlong into an ungodly mass of information and unflinching tackle

the stubborn problem before it. Train your mind to go about its daily tasks with the insistent ferocity of foot ball days, coupled with the same crafty judgment.

Stevenson, in one of his books, makes one of his characters say of another that the other lacks the "iron mind of a man." It is a fatal defect. An "athletic mind" would be, perhaps, a more comprehensive term, since in addition to the solidity and hardness of iron it carries also the implication of vigor and elasticity. It is only a man with that kind of mind, son, who can hope to succeed; a man with a mind of the resistance and rigidity of iron and the suppleness and spring of tempered steel.

In such a mind, son, there is no place for fear, and it is crushing and slinking fear which paralyzes most of the mental efforts of men today. You cannot hope to succeed, son, if you have any room in your mind for that demon and the sooner you banish it for all time the better.

You have often been advised, son, to look forward and not back. I am not altogether sure that it was good advice. Your experiences lie behind you, son, and it is largely by them and from them you must learn. The difficulty with constantly looking ahead is that you may see too many seemingly unsurmountable obstacles and grow faint-hearted. The proper attitude, son, is this: Look back on those experiences which have been helpful and look forward hopefully and fearlessly, and remember all the while that it is the athletic mind which grows and conquers.