

## THE HEREFORD IN ARIZONA

Vast Improvement is being shown in Our Range Stock. Many Breeders of Pure Bred Bulls within Our Own State. The Scrub will Soon be a Thing of the Past.

By J. W. Hankin

The Hereford is practically the only type of beef cattle which is raised as a distinct breed in Arizona. There are still Mexican, Texas Longhorn, Dairy, and many other types of cattle raised for beef on Arizona ranges, but where any uniformity of type is being sought, it is, with very few exceptions, with the Hereford breed.

The first cattle in Arizona were a motely aggregation, including almost every breed known, and were hopelessly interbred and mixed until there was no uniformity of type or breed whatever. They were brought in from the northern end of the state, California, New Mexico, Old Mexico and the east, and were simply crowded on the ranges and left to breed according to their own natural tendencies.

There was plenty of open range for everyone and the markets were not as particular as they are today. Cattle were cheap, so a man could buy and crowd a great number on his range, count on the loss of many of them, and still make money.

The general practice was for each cattleman to raise his own bulls, and so no real methods were used in breeding up or stabilizing a herd. However, as long as conditions remained the same the cattleman did not need to worry much. He had no elaborate handling systems to worry about, and did not have to spend much on improvements, and consequently, before long he had overestimated the powers of his range and had made the mistake common to most early Western cattlemen of sadly overgrazing his range.

Every cattleman knows the disaster that followed in the wake of overgrazing, and how much it depleted the ranges throughout the whole state. Soon also, the markets began to demand a better, more uniform type of beef and the half-starved range stuff could not be so easily disposed of. Naturally, new methods were adopted to meet the conditions, in order that the cattlemen could save themselves from bankruptcy. New systems of



A Group of Purebred Hereford Range Bulls Now in Use in Apache County.

handling appeared, such as fencing, water development, salting, deferred and rotation grazing. At the same time men began to take notice of the type of cattle that were best adapted to the condition at hand. Short-horns, Galloways, Aberdeen Angus and Herefords were all tried and watched, but it soon became the general opinion of most cattlemen that the Hereford was the best breed for these ranges. The Hereford was a good beef breed, with the desired conformation, type and quality to suit the market, and was far superior on the range due to his great ability as a rustler, economical use of feed, and ability to fatten after prolonged drought periods which so weakened all cattle.

As a result, white-faced cattle are at the present time the common range animals seen in Arizona. There are still many scrubs, and many which do not show any Hereford characteristics at all, but it is plain to be seen

that the Hereford breed is by far the predominant one in Arizona, and that it is increasing in numbers and predominance each year.

Cattlemen are also learning that the closer their cattle approach the best qualities in the breed, the better are the results obtained. So pure bred bulls are coming into use more and more each year. And all the more progressive cattlemen are now attempting, by the use of them, to improve their herds and make them as nearly pure as possible.

As the cattleman found by experience the particular adaptability of the Hereford to Arizona range conditions, and its superiority to other breeds, he began to turn more exclusively to raising Herefords, and bringing up the blood in his herds. At the present time there are a number of large ranches which have herds of pure, or nearly pure, cattle, and several breeds of pure-bred bulls are doing some very constructive work.

## THE O'MALLEY LBR. CO.

DEALERS IN

### Lumber and Building Material

Phone 954 and 79

N. 4th Ave.

### The Leading Breeders

The San Raphael Ranch near Pata-  
gonia is one of the oldest and best  
known ranches in the state, and in  
fact in the earlier days it was known  
as the biggest pure-bred Hereford  
ranch in the country. At the pres-  
ent time it has a herd of some 1500  
registered, pure-bred Herefords, and  
is one of the outstanding ranches in  
the state. It is well managed, and a  
careful system of deferred and rota-  
tion grazing is carried out which in-  
sures plenty of feed for the cattle at  
all times, without injuring the pas-  
tures by over grazing.

Another well known ranch is the  
Santa Marguerita or Ronstadt Ranch  
in the Baboquivari valley, and in the  
same valley a similar ranch, La Osa.  
Both of these are large ranches, and  
the managers are using pure bred  
Hereford bulls to develop their herds  
into as nearly pure grades as possi-  
ble. In the case of Mr. Ronstadt  
especially, the results are very mark-  
ed, and his herd is beginning to show  
a very uniform type of good grade  
Herefords throughout the range.

There are other ranches both large  
and small throughout the state  
which are following the same lines,  
and the U. S. Forest Service has a  
Range Reserve at the foothills of  
the Santa Rita Mountains south of  
Tucson, where range conditions and  
methods of handling are studied with  
a view of publishing the results to  
help the ranchers of the state. Only  
Hereford cattle are used and some of  
the best range cattle in the state may  
be seen amongst them.

At the present time there are sev-  
eral breeders of pure-bred bulls in  
the state and some very fine animals  
come from within our own borders.  
This is of course a great benefit to  
the ranchers because they can get ac-  
climated bulls of good breeding, and  
the expense of bringing them in is  
done away with, as well as the high-  
er price for similar bulls, from a well  
known eastern breeder.

Mr. Burgess at Casa Grande has  
been breeding bulls for the past few  
years, and has taken a number of  
prizes at the annual State Fair with  
his animals. His reputation as a  
breeder is spreading and his bulls  
are in use in various widely separa-  
ted parts of the state.

Another breeder is L. H. Manning  
of the Scotch Farms near Tucson. He  
has about five hundred acres there,  
and at first started breeding bulls for

his own use on his 30,000 acre ranch  
about 30 miles further up the Santa  
Cruz River. Now, however, he has  
extended his operations, and is breed-  
ing with a view of supplying the de-  
mands of Arizona Ranchers as well.

As herd bulls, Mr. Manning has  
Hazford Bocaldo 26, and Hazford  
Rupert 21st from the Hazlette herd  
of El Dorado, Kansas, which show  
predominating Bocaldo 6th blood, as  
well as bulls from Yost of Kansas  
City, Blaney of Denver; Engle and  
Sons; Wallace Good, and Taylor of  
Versailles, Kentucky. The dams of  
this herd show equally as good breed-  
ing as the sires, and some very good  
animals have been raised, some of  
which were shown very successfully  
at the State Fairs in Phoenix.

The University of Arizona at Tuc-  
son, maintains a pure bred herd of  
Herefords at the University Farm a  
few miles from the campus, from  
which many farmers have been able  
to purchase some very good herd  
sires at reasonable prices.

The Babbitt-Cowden Livestock Co.  
of Phoenix are also breeders of pure  
bred Hereford bulls. They are prob-  
ably the most widely known and best  
established breeders in the state, and  
produce some excellent animals. One  
of their herd sires is Bonnie Donald,  
bred by Yost of Independence, Miss-  
ouri. His sire was Bonnie Lad 20th,  
a noted bull who also produced Ard-  
more, who is reputed to be the best  
show bull in America, and his dam  
was Ruth Donald, an almost perfect  
dam. He is unquestionably a fine  
sire, and as a show bull, when shown  
only one year, he had defeated such  
noted bulls as Woodford 9th, shown  
by Mr. Taylor, Mischief Mixer shown  
by Mousel Bros., Perfect Donald 5th  
shown by W. H. Curtiss, and Prince  
Rupert 82nd shown by Luce and Mox-  
ley.

The bull that won Grand Champion-  
ship at the Arizona State Fair last  
year, was Carlos Donald 2nd, one of  
the bulls also used by Babbitt and  
Cowden. He was purchased by them  
from the University of Arizona Farm,  
where he had previously been their  
herd bull.

Babbitt and Cowden also have some  
very good dams, as their Edwina  
Donald who was grand champion  
female at the Fair last year. With  
these leading breeders of the state  
working with such fine animals, the  
Arizona rancher is enabled to obtain  
some excellent herd sires close to

home, which is a great advantage  
both in initial expense of animals and  
in obtaining already acclimated ani-  
mals. The type of beef animal rais-  
ed on Arizona ranges is improving  
steadily each year, and it is hoped  
that this will continue until pure bred  
Herefords and good grades will be the  
only type of range animals on all  
Arizona ranges.

It is most regrettable that the ob-  
ject of Defense Test Day, September  
12, has been obscured by controversies  
that have raged around it.

## Radio - - - Radio For The Farmer

Keep in touch with the large  
centers. Music, Speaking,  
Lectures, market reports!  
A 4 tube RADIOLA Complete  
(Nothing else to buy) install-  
ed in your home any place in  
Pima County for \$90.00.

Range 2,000 miles

Phone Us—1698

**THE RADIO CO.**  
Wasserman and Knox

## CORBETT'S

Well Known Guarantee  
of Quality

Backs Every Deal  
for Building Materials.

Ask For  
Free Estimate  
On Your Building Job.

**J. Knox Corbett**  
LUMBER and HDW. CO.

North Sixth Avenue