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LEADING NEWSPAPER COMMENT ON THE RECENT PACKERS INDICTMENTS

LAW MUST BE VINDICATED

Without in any way prejudging the guilt or innocence of the meat packers indicted on Saturday, we may take satisfaction in the work of the Federal grand jury which has for five months carried on the investigation resulting in these charges. It is not often that a body of men with private interests, like grand jurors, thus give themselves up to continuous labor for the public welfare. They set a good example by their diligence and persistence, and, whether or not their findings are justified in the courts, they have set a precedent of great value in the enforcement of the interstate commerce and anti-trust laws.

The only way to stop violations of these laws is to punish the individual men who violate them. The old saying that a corporation has no body to kick and no soul to save applies particularly well to this situation. Corporations willing to break the law do not mind injunctions and fines. They make enough money by their disobedience to pay a percentage to outraged justice. So long as the persons who do the work can hide behind a company name law-breaking will go on. If the Amalgamated Burglars' Trust could draw a herring across the trail of the individual cracksman and assume corporate responsibility for his operations, house-breaking would become a safe and profitable industry. The government is on safe ground when it assumes that for every broken law there is a personal law-breaker who should and can be held responsible for the crime. Perhaps in this case the right persons have not been found. That is to be seen at the trial. The United States circuit court, however, has found a state of facts in the packing industry which it holds to be clearly criminal. Judge Grosscup issued an injunction against these unlawful practices and the appellate court sustained him. The testimony taken by the grand jury convinced it that these practices continued. Here was no case of innocent continuation of old trade custom or slipped cogs in the working of a great machine. Here was deliberate persistence in crime, if anything at all, and eager attempts were made to conceal books and keep witnesses out of the way. If, then, the actions of the packers violated the injunction, there were personal acts of crime on the part of somebody. The corporation did not do wrong of itself.

The counsel for the packers declare that they have not violated the law, but have been endeavoring faithfully to comply with it. If so, it should be easy for them to demonstrate the fact before a jury. If, on the other hand, their corporations are found to be violating the law, it may be safely determined that at least some individuals are violating it. "Government by injunction" has been bitterly opposed by labor men on the ground that it is an instrument which restricts them unfairly in comparison with their employers. It is time to show that injunctions are as ready and powerful in dealing with the law-breakers working through great industrial corporations as with those working through labor unions. The only way to do this is to establish firmly the doctrine of personal responsibility, and for every corporate crime to take action to find and punish the individual criminal.—New York Tribune (Rep.).

POPULAR IMPRESSIONS CONFIRMED

The Federal grand jury at Chicago, after a very laborious investigation, adopts in substance the theory by which the public has endeavored to account for the conditions in the market for cattle and beef. With the usual abundance of verbiage which characterizes most indictments, it charges that competition in the buying of cattle was prevented at the stock yards of the principal cities by the defendants requiring their purchasing agents to refrain from bidding against one another. In selling, competition was avoided by the defendants fixing non-competitive and unreasonable prices. The supply of the commodities was restricted when necessary. The United States was divided into districts, and each defendant was to keep its own territory. A certain volume of trade is assigned to each defendant, and exceeding it is punished by a fine technically known as an "ante." Certain corporations were created by the

defendants for the purpose of handling certain products and controlling the output and prices.

Thus the grand jury fully confirms popular impressions as to existing conditions and the reason for them. The indictments are found mostly under the Sherman anti-trust law, and charge restraint of trade, monopoly and conspiracy to restrain trade, both among the states and with foreign countries. There are also charges of violation of the law against rebates. The indictments will raise certain questions of law which will be contested, but as most of these have probably been foreseen the prosecution may fairly expect that its main contentions will be sustained by the trial judge. The question of proof, however, is likely to present greater difficulties, for however well assured the people may feel of the truth of the indictments, the task of fixing the blame is one which past experience has shown to be extremely difficult. The resources of the men who control these immense properties are exceedingly great, and they will have the assistance of the most expert lawyers in defeating the ends of justice. The cases are likely to be long drawn out, and should there be a conviction an appeal will follow as a matter of course, with a certainty of delay and a prospect of reversal. While, therefore, the finding of the indictments is a matter for congratulation, it would be rash to conclude that the existing conditions will soon be essentially changed.—Louisville Courier-Journal (Dem.).

CRY IS FOR JUSTICE

The indictments against the beef trust officials will probably result in one of the greatest combats that has ever been waged in this country under the forms of criminal law. The Federal government has grappled with the biggest monopoly and one of the strongest financial giants of the age, in a criminal prosecution which menaces not only the existence of the packers' trust, but the business honor, social standing and personal liberty of the packers themselves.

Armed with great wealth, with high social and business influences which ramify throughout the entire land and reach to the heart of Washington itself, the beef trust magnates will be able to use every agency known to human ingenuity to defeat the ends of justice. Not only the vulgar bribe—and it will amount to a king's ransom wherever it can avail—but more potent and far-reaching personal influences and secret springs of human conduct will be brought to bear upon prosecutors, witnesses, jurors and all who have a voice in the trials. An honest man does not find it hard to refuse a money bribe, but few men, no matter how honest, can resist the occult and subtle power that disguises temptation itself in the innocent multifariousness of the affections, social pride or self-preservation. That the packers will put up a bold and defiant fight is evidenced by the hardihood, amounting almost to open effrontery, with which they have already sought to bring influences to bear on the Federal officials at Washington to let up in the investigations, and by their employment of an army of private detectives to shadow the government's officers and witnesses.

Yet the arm of the national government is long and strong, and the Federal courts have been singularly successful in dealing with rich and powerful criminals in the past. And so there is good reason to hope and believe that justice will be done at last in this case of the people against a merciless monopoly which has ground the faces of rich and poor alike.—Kansas City Journal (Rep.).

DOUBT NO LONGER EXISTS

The announcement that the indicted Chicago packers will not be tried until next fall does not indicate the speedy justice the public has been expecting, but this delay may be of use in developing the policy of the trust while the cases are pending.

It has been remarked that when the beef trust has found its way into court on other occasions and has been compelled to pay for its failure to observe the law it has immediately advanced the price of meat. There is no record that the price has since been reduced, so the

amount of the fine has been paid many times by the public. This in itself shows the disposition of the combination, for there is no longer a doubt that such a combination exists. The fact that it has the power to control prices is sufficient evidence that it has gained the mastery in every branch of the business. If it attempts to increase prices during the remainder of the summer that action might be used with profit by the attorneys for the government.

But the beef trust, like all other combinations of trade in this country, is controlled by men who are watching every detail of the precarious enterprise in which it is engaged, and public opinion is a factor with which it must deal. However, the inquiry at Chicago has been in progress so long that the public is very well acquainted with the fact, and there is every likelihood that the consumer will withhold all sympathy from the men who have been indicted, while the operations of the beef trust are such that a general demand for the vigorous prosecution of the indictments is probable, regardless of what the price of beef may be.—Pittsburg Dispatch (Rep.).

GOVERNMENT HAS EVIDENCE

The Federal grand jury seems to have been more successful in its investigation of the beef trust than was Mr. Garfield. It has returned indictments against twenty-two individuals and four of the great packing firms, the charges being, in the main, that they have combined in restraint of trade, and have conspired to receive and grant rebates.

We, of course, shall not be guilty of judging these men in advance. But it may fairly be said that, whether they are guilty or not, it is notorious that there has been practically no competition in the buying of cattle at the Chicago yards; while every buyer of beef knows that there has been no effective competition in the selling of beef. There is no reason whatever, except a monopolistic one, why the price of beef should be so high as it is now and has been for months. Monopoly there is somewhere.

Restriction of trade is plainly apparent. In regard to the grand jury inquiry, it is to be said that the body had much valuable evidence before it. Some of it was documentary, and it is reported to be exceedingly damaging. For instance, it was suspected that the Aetna Trading Company was simply a ward Swift, vice president of Swift & firms. When the government sought to seize the records of this concern it was found that the officials had gone to Canada, and they had left six trunks full of records in a safety vault of the First National bank. These records were finally obtained, and were carefully examined. The Record-Herald says that "a unique system of book-keeping was discovered." The government got hold of the bank accounts of this company, and also subpoenaed the officials of the banks. It was found that the checks of the Aetna company bore only fictitious names; that each check bore a number (not the ordinary check number); and the checks were traced from the Aetna company through several banks and clearing houses, and finally to the persons who received payment on them—always by the number and not by the name—a corresponding number being entered in the books of the company. Confidential men employed by the packers have testified to the methods employed, and it is believed that they made the most damaging revelations.

So we are to have an investigation that will investigate, for we assume that the criminal proceedings will not be arrested by the injunction proceedings which the packers are proposing to institute. It has been shown by other investigators than Mr. Garfield that there has been much secrecy in the conduct of this business; that there have been relations between the packers directly and indirectly through subsidiary companies; that the railroads have been held up for rebates, and that without regard to conditions the most scandalous prices have been maintained. The grand jury has done well to indict these men and we hope that the

proceedings against them will be vigorously pushed. If they are we shall at last get the truth, and possibly beef will cease to be the luxury that it now is. We are told that there is no trust and also that there has been no violation of the Federal injunction issued some time ago. Probably that is so. But there may be a trust which is not one in name—a sort of gentlemen's agreement—and a compliance with the terms of the injunction which is purely formal and technical. On all these points we shall sooner or later be informed. The investigation that we are now to have will have the great advantage of being public. We may be sure that the government would not have taken this step had it not believed that it had an abundance of evidence to prove its case.—Indianapolis (Ind.) News.

WILL TEST SHERMAN LAW

The finding of true bills by the Chicago Federal Grand Jury against four corporations and seventeen individuals who control and manage those corporations, which are known as the beef trust, on the criminal charge of conspiracy to restrain and to monopolize trade and commerce, both interstate and with foreign nations, indicates that the net is closing around the defendants, and that we shall at last have a definite test of the validity and force of the Sherman anti-trust act of 1890 as a protection against trust practices.

The Sherman act makes it an offense for any person or company to engage in a combination or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce among the several states or with foreign nations, or to monopolize or to attempt to monopolize such trade or commerce. The indictments charge the Armour, Cudahy, Morris, Swifts and other defendants, both as corporations and in their individual capacities, with collusion in bidding for cattle, with fixing prices for cattle and other commodities; with curtailing the available supply of material; with allotting territory to the members of the combination; with controlling prices and with destroying salable products for that purpose, and in general with controlling and restraining trade and with preventing competition.

The beef trust demurred on the law or declared that, even admitting the facts alleged, which they did not admit, the whole case must fall to the ground because, as they held, the purchase of cattle from sellers living in different states to manufacture into dressed meats and the sale of such meats to purchasers in different states were not interstate commerce. The supreme court held unanimously that such transactions constituted interstate commerce, and, by brushing aside several highly important legal points which had been scarcely touched on by the court of last resort, except in the Addyston pipe case, opened the way for the prosecution of combinations in restraint of trade and commerce, and thus for the regulation of interstate commerce under the authority of the Federal government.

When the ground had thus been cleared for the final test the agents of the department of justice began to collect the evidence that the beef trust or the packers, had been doing these things which the supreme court had definitely decided to be illegal under the Sherman anti-trust act. The results of the energetic labors of many legal officers and many agents for months, the immense amount of evidence collected, the flight of the agents of the packers to Canada and Europe, the indictments brought against the packers, indicate that the government will go into court with a very strong case.

Whether beef will be cheaper to the consumer if the packers should be convicted under the Sherman act or whether secret agreements and combinations can be stopped by act of congress are other matters.—Philadelphia Ledger (Dem.).

PANHANDLE RANCH PRESENTS A MODEL

Graphic Picture of a Modern
Stock Farm as It Is Con-
ducted in Gray County

Amarillo Twice-a-Week Herald.
Last week the writer, in company with A. B. Gardenhire of this place, paid a visit to the steer ranch of S. B. Owens, situated in Gray county, about seven miles from Alanreed.

As Mr. Owens is one of the best known men in the Panhandle, of him little need be said except possibly that he is one of the members of the executive committee of the Panhandle Stockmen's Association, one of the commissioners of Gray county, and a member of the various fraternal organizations.

In going to this ranch from the plains, the nearest railroad point this way being Jericho, one passes over ten miles of level plains land before entering the Owens ranch, but after getting into the ranch pasture one has to ride several miles before arriving at the Owens home or ranch house—

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On arriving at the house one cannot help but admire the location, surrounded as it is by a large growth of natural timber, which gives the place the look of a Panhandle paradise, as it is, presenting a pleasing contrast to the level and the treeless plains. A running creek in front of the house also adds to the enchantment of the place.

This ranch originally contained some sixty sections of land, but this was in the former days of range cattle of a much lower grade than now finds a home with Mr. Owens, and as land advanced in value and consequently in demand, Mr. Owens has disposed of his holdings until now he owns but twenty-eight sections, on which roam about eighteen hundred high-grade steers and about two hundred speyed heifers, which he is feeding for shipment to the market for immediate slaughter. In addition to his cattle he has about forty-five head of horses and about thirty hogs, besides the usual quota of fowls of different kinds.

That Mr. Owens is also a farmer as well as a stockman is evidenced by the fact that there are about four hundred acres in cultivation on the place, 175 acres of which are cultivated by two of his sons, aged 16 and 14 years, respectively. With the exception of the family garden, which provides vegetables of all kinds in profusion for family use, the principal crops raised are Indian and Kaffir corn, milo maize, sorghum, etc., for stock feeding purposes, which are supplemented with cotton seed products. With the exception of a few family milk cows, Mr. Owens has no stock cattle, preferring to buy feeders from the neighboring stock-farmers, rather than go through with the trying ordeals of calving time, especially since it has been demonstrated that the stock fattening crop can be raised here as successfully as in the recognized feeding states of Iowa, Illinois, etc., and at a far less expense—both in the cost of land and in the cultivation. As a further proof of his faith in the success of farming in this country, Mr. Owens is placing additional land in cultivation each year, with the idea of eventually raising all the feed necessary to fatten his steers without having to purchase the supplemental cotton by-products. It might be added that Mr. Owens has raised eight fine crops of Indian corn during the past eight years.

When it comes to providing water for his herds Mr. Owens is without a peer, having, besides the McClellan creek, eight wells and windmills and a large number of natural tanks, which are always filled with the thirst-quenching fluid.

As Mr. Owens and family enjoy the different fruits in season, they are in a position to have their appetites in that line gratified, having about one hundred and fifty bearing fruit trees of various varieties, besides an endless quantity of wild fruits, such as grapes, plums, etc.

It might be well to add that Mr. Owens has a most estimable and hospitable family, consisting of his wife, one of the pleasantest women it was ever my fortune to meet, and nine children—three boys and six girls. For the education of these children Mr. Owens built a well appointed school house in the rear of his residence, the nearest public school being about four miles distant, and pays the salary of the teacher out of his pocket, notwithstanding the fact that he pays his pro rata toward the established school in his district. As many of his children are musically inclined, he has installed a fine piano in the home and endeavors, when engaging a teacher, to obtain one who can teach music as well as the "three R's," so it can be seen that one does not necessarily have to live in town to obtain all the educational advantages for one's children.

After having spent the better part of two days at this ranch we returned home, feeling that the life of the Panhandle ranchman can be made a charming one or not—just as the ranchman chooses to make it—and that with the development of this country there will be many more homes as happy and contented as this one. F. L. V.

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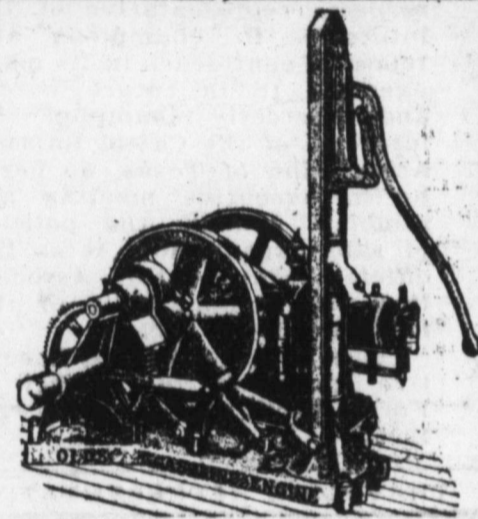
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INDIAN TERRITORY RULING

"The ruling of Colonel Randlett, Indian agent for the Kiowa reservation, to the effect that all ranchmen who now have leases of Kiowa, Apache or Comanche Indian lands may remain where they are with their cattle until Dec. 31 of this year is one that is certainly appreciated by the cattlemen," said Captain S. L. Burnett yesterday. Captain Burnett for the last twenty years has had from 100,000 to 125,000 acres of these lands under lease. He has always been one of the highest bidders for these pasture lands and as a result has always been a successful bidder. "I have received a letter from Colonel Randlett," continued Captain Burnett, "to the effect that the secretary of interior has granted authority to Colonel Randlett to issue permits to the present lessees of grazing lands for the pasturing of their stock on the respective districts (so far as they be done without interfering with the agricultural leases) at a pro rata rate of rental up to Dec. 31, 1905.

"Every cattleman who has had leases in the Kiowa, Apache or Comanche reservations has long realized that the day of big pastures in that section are numbered. Whether the land will be opened for settlement or allotted to the Indians is a question that no cattleman can answer. In fact, it is a question that no cattleman, as such, has any vital interest in the future of the reservation after this year. But I want to say right here that for one I hope that the Indians who by right own these lands will receive fair and square treatment. They are the wards of the nation and as such are entitled to that consideration that the stronger should ever accord the weaker. "The department of interior in the matter of permitting cattlemen to keep their stock on the reservations until the end of this year granted all that the cattlemen can ask, in view of the evident determination to start the winding up of the affairs of this reservation. By the

end of the time limit set every cattleman who has cattle in the reservation, occupying his leases, can get his stuff to market or to other pasture points. In fact, the cattlemen did not ask for a longer period than Nov. 1 to clean up their leases. The extra sixty days granted will afford them additional time in which to carry out whatever plans they may formulate.

"I have just returned from a trip to the reservation. I have now been ranching on the reservations for over twenty years. I have never seen the conditions there any better than is the case today. The grass is splendid, the water is abundant and the cattle are fat and are getting fatter every day.

"In the event this section of the country is opened for settlement, one of the finest sections of Oklahoma will be thrown on the market. No better farming lands can be found anywhere. No better pasture lands can be found anywhere. A country more healthy is not to be found in the United States. Taken all in all, the Comanche, Kiowa and Apache reservations comprise about the best sections of Oklahoma."

THE NORTHWESTERN RANGE

A. F. Crowley has returned from a trip to South Dakota, where he went to inspect a herd of 2,000 four and five-year-old Texas steers which he has on the range in that country. Mr. Crowley says the northwestern range is in fine condition, but that cattle are not yet fat. The movement of northwestern cattle will start about August 1, and if market conditions are right will be large, as there are lots of four and five-year-old steers to go. He says there has been too much rain in Iowa and South Dakota for corn, but that a good crop will yet be made if it stops raining. Mr. Crowley's cattle holdings in South Dakota were shipped there as yearlings from Midland, Texas, and now weigh about 1,200 pounds.

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OKLAHOMA CATTLE READY FOR MARKET

The 95,000 Head in Osage Pasture Must Go Out as Southern Cattle

GUTHRIE, O. T., July 10.—Dr. Leslie J. Allen, the federal cattle inspector for Oklahoma, says today that the 95,000 cattle now feeding in the Osage Indian country must be shipped to market as southern, and not native stock. The entire 95,000, because a few pastures are found to be infected with Texas fever ticks, must be classed as southern cattle. These cattle, practically all of them steers, will be shipped to Kansas City, St. Joseph and St. Louis, the former market getting the great majority. The shipping to market, according to Dr. Allen, will commence at once, the cattle being in a fat, good condition. All owners believe that if the cattle could be shipped as native that they would command a somewhat better price.

It was with the end in view of allowing the cattle to be inspected and then shipped to market as native stock, that a recent inspection of the Osage pastures was made by Dr. Allen. About the first of June the pastures were found to be clean from infection, but as this was considered early in the year for a thorough test, Dr. Allen decided to make another investigation. He returned today from making this last examination. He found infection in practically every pasture visited. There is not a great amount of it, but enough to prevent inspection and shipment to market as native stock.

Dr. Allen says the dipping of all southern cattle in Beaumont oil before being shipped early this spring to the Osage Nation was a success. The infection among the cattle at that time was effectually stamped out, and the infection now found in the Osage pastures results from the fever ticks that lived in the pasture over from last season. All the pastures were burned off this spring to insure a clean condition, as much as possible, but there were patches on all pastures that were not burned and as the winter was not cold enough to kill the ticks they thrived well as the warmer months came on and have caused practically the entire Osage Nation to be classed as unclean. Before this last inspection was made the states of Kansas and Missouri were the only ones to protest against the shipment of the Osage Nation stock to market as native cattle. Because of this objection it was necessary for Dr. Allen to make the last inspection.

The department of agriculture at Washington had hoped that the Osage Nation would prove to be clean, as this would insure the renting of all Osage pastures next year and also encourage the southern cattlemen to dip in Beaumont oil as a remedy for the infection. Dr. Allen says the pastures in the Osage Nation are more luxurious this year than ever before, and could have supported three times the number of cattle feeding thereon. The grass is still high, although the cattle have eaten until fat enough for market. He says there are but few pastures which could not be cut now and yield a profitable hay crop.

The Osage Nation pastures will be burned again next spring and an effort will be made to have them burned under the direction of the Oklahoma live stock sanitary board, thus insuring a thorough burning. Dr. Allen is favorable to this plan, and will so recommend to the department. He believes another burning will thoroughly cleanse the pastures. Of the 95,000 cattle now in the Osage country 80,000 were shipped in this spring and 15,000 were wintered there.

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IN GOOD SPIRITS

"In all the thirty years I have spent in Texas, I do not recall a time when the whole country looked so well or a time when the people of that state felt in any better spirits than they do right now," said Smith Parr of San Angelo, Texas, yesterday.

Mr. Parr has been engaged in the sheep business in the San Angelo district for many years, and is also posted in the cattle business all over the state.

"I well remember the time when I boasted about being a native of Virginia, but now I take a good deal of pride in referring to Texas as my home. Texas is certainly a great state, and her greatness as an agricultural state as well as the greatest cattle state in the Union, is still in its infancy as these two great industries are bound to become more extensive in the years to come. Every line of business in that state is now in a prosperous condition. The sheepmen have been making big money, and while the cattlemen have not fared so well, this year has been a good one, and they are not grumbling. They have been getting better prices this year for their stock, and the abundance of grass is helping the mout on the weight of their cattle. In all the vegetable districts, and they are numerous, train loads of vegetables were shipped in the spring for the early markets. In some parts of the state thousands of acres are devoted to raising early vegetables, while in other places onions are the leading crop. Then in the strictly farming districts the crops are immense. The crops referred to are corn, cotton and small grain, which are becoming of greater importance every year. In traveling around over the state I find that these changed conditions are having the effect of bringing into the state a great many people from other states. This is causing land owners to advance the price of lands which have been very low, and all over the state the prices are going up."—Drivers Telegram.

MUST OBEY LAW

According to information from Washington, the Department of Agriculture has prepared and is ready to file 1200 suits against the railroads of this country for the violation of the "twenty-eight hour law." In each case the government will attempt to collect a penalty of \$5.00. According to this statute, the carriers of live stock from one state to another must unload and rest the cattle for five hours after the animals have been in transit for twenty-eight hours. In these suits it is stated that nearly every railroad from Maine to California is involved. It is reported that the evidence against the railroads is strong that the attorneys for them are reported to be negotiating with Secretary Wilson with a view of getting the penalties reduced to \$100 and with the promise that in the future the roads will obey the law.

In many cases it is said that Secretary Wilson is disposed to agree, for he cares more for the future observance of the law than for offenses committed while the railroads believed they could disregard the law with impunity.

According to Washington information such suits as are not to be compromised will be filed in the circuit courts in the name of and for the benefit of the United States. These are to be civil actions, as the law makes no provision for either fine or imprisonment. Such railroads as are given notice to obey the law in the future will be sued for \$100, to which they are expected to confess judgment.

This is an old statute, passed about 1873. All efforts to get Secretary Wilson to lengthen the time limit to thirty-two hours have failed.

THROUGH COLORADO AND UTAH

The Denver and Rio Grande and the Rio Grande Western, with their numerous branches penetrating the Rockies, have two distinct and separate lines across the mountains. Tickets reading via "The Scenic Line of the World" and "The Great Salt Lake Route," between Denver and Salt Lake City or Ogden, are available either via the main line through Leadville Canon of the Grand river and Glenwood Springs or via the line over Marshall Pass and through the Black Canon of the Gunnison. Tourists to and from Salt Lake City, Ogden or San Francisco will find it to their advantage to have their tickets read in both directions via this route, thus being able to use one of the above lines going and the other returning. Write S. K. Hooper, G. P. and T. A., Denver, Col., for illustrated pamphlets.



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The I. & G. N. R. R., in connection with the National Lines of Mexico, operate Four Fast Trains Daily between Texas and Mexico, via Laredo. The time from San Antonio to Mexico City being only 34½ hours, or a day and a half, and 302 miles shortest. Correspondingly as quick from all Texas points via I. & G. N. The cities of Monterey, Saltillo, San Luis Potosi and Mexico City are reached directly in through Pullman Buffet Sleepers without change. This route also forms the new short line via Monterey to Torreon and Durango, direct connection with through sleeper to and from Durango being made at Monterey.

Excursion Rates Periodically.

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L. TRICE, Second V.-P. & G. M.	D. J. PRICE, Gen'l Pass. & Ticket Agent.
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"The Texas Road," Palestine, Texas.

CHARLIE METCALF'S MULE SHOW FAMOUS

San Aneglo Ranchman Educates Theodore and Booker to Eat at Same Table

SAN ANGELO, Texas, July 8.—On the ranch of Charles B. Metcalf, about a mile and a half from San Angelo, is what the owner declares to be the only mule school in the world. It is a popular impression that mules are so stupid, stubborn and "contrary" that they cannot be trained like other animals, but Mr. Metcalf has demonstrated that they are just as intelligent as horses and by kindly treatment and tactful instruction can be made to do any trick that can be taught a horse. To prove his argument he takes his friends to see a drove of sixteen miles from 2 to 4 years old, which have been trained within the last year on his ranch to do almost everything but talk. They are ordinary mules. They have never been in a circus and were never exhibited for money. They go through military evolutions at the word of command like a well-drilled squad of soldiers, and introduce a little comic business, with a sham battle between the Russians and Japanese. Nearly all of them have their little individual stunts, which they perform as they are called up one after the other. They have a dance and waltz around the corral; one of them pretends to be sick and another comes up to doctor him, examines his tongue and gives him medicine; they lie down and go to sleep and are awaked by the ringing of a bell; they have a school with a teacher, who hears the scholars recite their lessons and spansks them for being naughty; "Dotty Dimple" says her prayers, and the rest of them do their share in the entertainment, all of which takes place in the open field. There are no tents or benches or scenery, which, of course, adds to the interest of the show.

The star performers are a coal-black animal named Theodore and a pure white one named Booker. Mr. Metcalf says that "Theodore is the smartest mule in the world, smarter than most men I know. He is more energetic and strenuous than Booker, but he is not so polite; they are great chums and pull together perfectly. They have never had a difference."

During the performance Theodore makes a speech from the top of a dry goods box that is rolled out on to the grass, and if you allow yourself to come under the hypnotic influence of Mr. Metcalf you can perceive a resemblance in the animal's gestures and other oratorical peculiarities to those of the president of the United States. Booker is an orator also, but is not so eloquent as Theodore.

The closing number on the program and the most popular is a lunch party at which Theodore and Booker are the only guests. The table (an old box) is set by a mule of spotless white called Dixie, and she serves as waitress during the meal. Theodore and Booker eat together in the most friendly and even affectionate manner and rub each other's noses and Mr. Metcalf says:

"I have never heard a single man in Texas object to it."

TEXAS HEREFORD BREEDERS

Texas Stockman-Journal:
In reply to your letter of June 30, wishing us to send you some facts of our business. Well, I have not much to say. We have had a great demand this summer for bulls. When we first went into the bull business in 1894 the first four or five years we sold all of our bulls when one year old. After that the trade demanded them to be two years old. They found out that the yearling would not do; should be two years old before putting him into service. But this year there has been such a demand for bulls our two-year-olds did not go around and we have sold nearly half of our yearling crop. We will get a good price in the fall for what yearling bulls we have left (about 150), for several have already spoken for them and we get letters nearly every day from the west (near Mexico) still wanting bulls for this year's use. The first prize winner at the World's Fair, which we bought and paid \$1,000 for at twelve months old, is doing the finest kind; on the 18th of September we take him along with the rest of our show cattle to Albuquerque, N. M., to attend the fair. I have lived at Midland fifteen years; never before have we had such a fine season. Everything is fat and we have grass to sell. We planted 125 acres in sorghum and milo maize. We have a fine stand and it will cut three to five tons to the acre. All the steers have been sold and everybody is happy. Yours, respectfully,
SCHARBAUER BROS.
Midland, Texas.

BEEF TRUST INDICTMENTS

In many a long day nothing has happened in the United States of America which has made such a profound im-

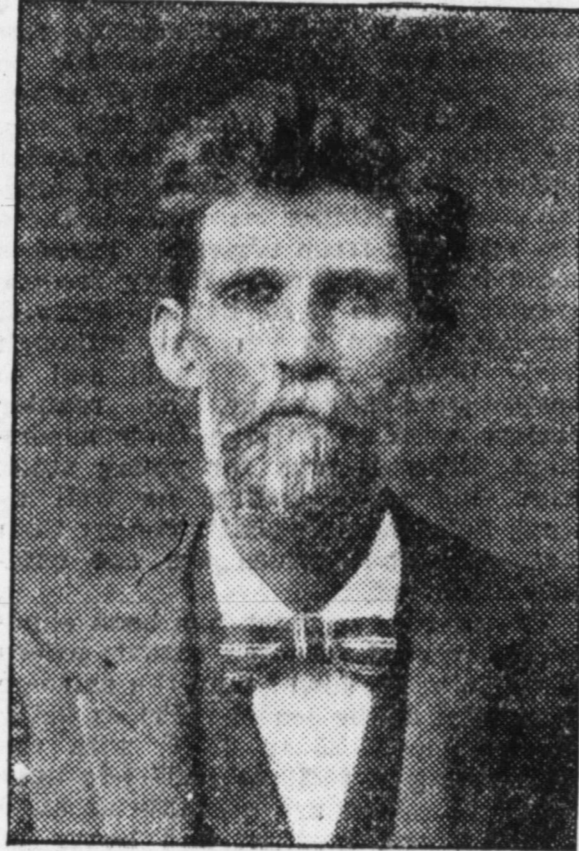
pression on the public mind as the indictment of the highest officials of the beef trust by the grand jury at Chicago. It is a matter of the extremest gravity to the persons charged with violating the laws and no conceivable termination of the case can make the work of the grand jury appear trivial or inconsequential.

Thoughtful persons will recognize in these indictments, under the highest Federal authority, the beginning of the end of a system of financial aggrandizement that has been endured with surprising patience, but which now faces the inevitable revolt which persistent injustice always awakens. It may be said, with perfect truthfulness, that the unlawful practices for which the packers have been indicted are only in line with the tendency which has, in an alarming degree, perverted commerce to uses which are inimical to the policy of a square deal. But that suggests no reason whatever why the whole system should not be attacked and overturned, and it is not to be forgotten that of all monopolies and combinations, those which affect the commodities which people eat are the most odious and oppressive.

There is no call for public clamor against the indicted packers. It is entirely proper that they shall be brought to trial, but, as the government is behind the action, the people can well afford to await the result and to trust in the application of such justice as the testimony will indicate.—Kansas City Times.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE

I have been asked to say something of the Aberdeen-Angus cattle. I have been breeding and selling these cattle now four years. I have bred and handled other



breeds in West Texas. It has been demonstrated to me that the Angus cattle are the most profitable. These cattle are short-legged, low to the ground; they weigh out; they top the market—that's what we want. As for rangers or rustlers I claim they have no equal, the Hereford not excepted. They will keep fat where other breeds will not. As for breeders, there is no better. They raise 90 to 95 per cent of calves—that's good enough. They are extra good mothers. They are good sucklers. They give lots of good milk and grow their calves rapidly. They handle nicely, having no horns. They are very gentle disposed. They are a very intelligent cattle, and above all, they are market toppers. Colonel W. C. McGavock of Springfield, Ill., is authority that these cattle have furnished the premium beef for fifteen successive years in car lots. These cattle are very popular up north and they will become so in this country in a short time. It costs no more to raise these hornless cattle than it does to raise horns, and the demand is on us now for hornless cattle. These cattle are very hardy, thrifty cattle. Remember, they are market toppers. E. W. PERMINTER.
Big Springs, Texas.

LIVE STOCK SANITARY BOARD

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas, July 8.—The Texas live stock sanitary commission, composed of J. W. Moore, chairman; M. M. Hankins of Quanah and R. J. Kleberg of Corpus Christi, Dr. McKnight of Houston, state veterinarian, and Dr. Parker, United States veterinarian and inspector, met here today, the meeting being attended also by several stockmen interested in the proceedings. The principal business before the commission was the application to change the quarantine line of Throckmorton county and put it below the present line, but the application was denied for the present and action on the matter postponed until the next meeting of the National Association of Live Stock Sanitary Boards, which will be held in Oklahoma in September. The members of the board will probably remain in Corpus Christi until Saturday.

Again the great range country has been soaked with one of the best rains on record. Reports from Lubbock tell of an eighth-inch rainfall, and that means the finest winter grazing that section has known for years.

Southern Pacific HOTEL RUGERS

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H. & T. C. R. R.

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For further information see ticket agent or address

M. L. ROBBINS, G. P. A., Houston, Texas.

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W. S. KEENAN, G. P. A.

Galveston, Texas.

