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## SHEEP HUSBANDRY IN NEW MEXICO, 1902-1903

*Edited by William J. Parish\**

### *Introduction*

*The American Shepherd's Bulletin*, from which this series of articles is reprinted, was near the end of a lineage of magazines devoted to the sheep and wool industry in the United States. The first of the group (although there was an antecedent) was the *Quarterly Bulletin of the National Wool Growers' Association of the United States*<sup>1</sup> of which Volume 1, No. 1, was published July, 1896. Central offices were in Washington, D.C. and branch offices in Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, and New York City. S.N.D. North, Secretary of the National Wool Manufacturer's Association, was the editor. He had been the editor of the *Bulletin of the National Wool Manufacturer's Association* since November, 1864. With Volume 3, No. 3, of March 1898, the new magazine became the *Monthly Bulletin of the National Wool Growers' Association of the United States* with headquarters in Boston and branch offices in Philadelphia, Chicago, New York City, Atlanta and San Francisco. It had a Legislative and Association office in Washington, D.C. Frank P. Bennett became the editor and remained the editor of the series of publications that followed.

Franklin Pierce Bennett (who signed his name and referred to himself as Frank P. Bennett) learned the typesetting trade as a very young man and, as a journeyman, traveled extensively through the Middle West and out to the range states where he became well acquainted with people in those areas who were sheep raisers. He became editor of several newspapers and eventually turned this experience, together with his interest in the sheep industry, toward the founding, in 1887, of the *American Wool Reporter*. This publication soon became the *American Wool & Cotton Reporter* and, subsequently, *America's Textile Reporter*, a current publica-

\* Dean of the College of Business Administration, University of New Mexico.

1. The titles of this lineage of publications were obtained from the mastheads of a bound set loaned by the library of the Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington D.C.

tion. A few years after the founding of the *American Wool Reporter*, Bennett also started the *United States Investor*, a periodical still being published.<sup>2</sup>

Frank P. Bennett, grandson of Franklin Pierce Bennett, wrote: "Because of my grandfather's interest in sheep husbandry, plus his acquaintanceship with the late Senator Warren, the late Senator Reed Smoot and the second elder Smith of the Mormon Church, he got himself into the sheep raising business. He started the Associated Wool Growers' Company with elder Jesse Smith and in 1896, commenced the publication of the *American Shepherd's Bulletin* with offices in Boston, Chicago and Salt Lake City."<sup>3</sup>

*The Shepherd's Bulletin of the National Wool Growers' Association of the United States* was the new name (Vol. 3, No. 12, Dec. 1898) for the series of sheep and wool magazines which stemmed from the *Bulletin of the National Wool Manufacturer's Association* published as early as 1864. With Volume 6, No. 1, January 1901, the title was changed again to *The National Shepherd's Bulletin of the National Wool Growers' Association*. Since November 1899, the publishing offices had been Atlanta and Boston. A Salt Lake City office had been added. With the April, 1901, issue the name of the National Wool Growers' Association disappears from the masthead, although the Legislative and Association offices in Washington, D.C. remains. With Volume 6, No. 9, September 1901, the title was changed to *The American Shepherd's Bulletin*. By September, 1902, the Legislative and Association office in Washington, D.C. was not being mentioned. From Volume 12, No. 7, July, 1907 until May 1908, the magazine was entitled *The National Livestock Bulletin*.

The only near complete set of these volumes generally available is to be found in the library of the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., although a partial set may be found at the University of Massachusetts library, Amherst, Massachusetts.

2. Letter to Wm. J. Parish from Frank P. Bennett, Boston, Jan. 22, 1958.

3. *Ibid.*

*"The Young Observer" In New Mexico\**

Sheep Raising and Ranch Life in the Territory—  
Albuquerque, Las Vegas and Wagon Mound.

SPRINGER, N. M., Jan. 10, 1902. After reaching the town of Albuquerque, which is surrounded on two sides by high mountains, and located in the fertile valley of the upper Rio Grande river, I went immediately to call on the management of the scouring mill of that town. They are a pleasant set of whole-souled fellows to talk to, and always seem to be willing to give all the information you wish on the country and the conditions that govern sheep raising and wool producing.

Mr. Jas. Wilkinson,<sup>1</sup> the manager, kindly took me all through the mill, and showed me the different processes, from sorting, which is done by Mexican women, to where the scoured wool is put into sacks, and trucked into the cars that are waiting on the side track. They run one scouring machine NIGHT AND DAY, most of the year, and this year they rolled up a grand total of 3,683,533 pounds of wool scoured. The mill was started in 1879 [1897] by the present manager, Mr. Wilkinson.<sup>2</sup> He ran it for two years alone, and then took in

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\* (From Our Traveling Staff Correspondent) *The American Shepherd's Bulletin*, vol. 7, no. 2, February, 1902.

At this writing "The Young Observer" has not been identified. By his own admission he was not the same person as "The Old Observer" (Mar. 1902 article, p. 8 manuscript) whose articles on the sheep industry in various states and territories appeared contemporaneously. Unless he was being facetious in one remark, he must have been a very heavy man (*ibid*, p. 12 manuscript). "The Young Observer" was neither as expressive, as observing, or as accurate as "The Old Observer." Some of the inaccuracies of "The Young Observer" must be ascribed to either a difficult handwriting or a careless editing of his manuscripts after they had been mailed to the publishing office.

1. Louis A. McCrae, who came to Albuquerque from Nova Scotia, March 29, 1891, remembers Wilkinson "as a jovial fellow" (Interviewed by Wm. J. Parish, July 20, 1955, Albuquerque). See R. E. Twitchell, *The Leading Facts of New Mexican History*, Vol. 3, The Torch Press, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1917, p. 62 for biographical sketch.

2. Wilkinson began his proprietorship in 1897. He does not appear in the Albuquerque City Directory of 1896 though he does in 1897 (*City of Albuquerque Directories*, Hughes & McCreight, Press of the Daily Citizen, Albuquerque, UNM Library, p. 78). The business was incorporated in 1900 with John H. Bearrup as President, V. P. Edie as Secretary-Treasurer, and James Wilkinson, Vice-President and General-Manager. The minutes state: "Whereas, Bearrup, Edie & Wilkinson have heretofore carried on a copartnership business under the name and style of the Albuquerque Wool Scouring Mills . . . each partner will now receive 83-1/3 shares each in corporation . . . fully paid and non-assessable." Rather

two partners, Mr. J. H. Bearup [Bearrup]<sup>3</sup> and Mr. V. P. Edie,<sup>4</sup> both of Albuquerque. The capacity is 12,000 pounds in 10 hours. They hire 35 women and 14 men.

They make a market for all of the tallow in the country around, as they make their own soap for scouring purposes. THE BUSINESS OF THIS MILL is steadily increasing on account of the practical and honest methods of doing business, which prevail there. The wool that is scoured is a grade wool, short in staple, and quite a few fall clips are still marketed, but the majority shear only once a year.

I have heard of one man who will shear three times in two years as an experiment.

In and around Albuquerque there are still many native sheep that have never been graded with Merinos. Some clips that I have seen have

A MIXTURE OF LINCOLN BLOOD, but where they are graded they are generally with Merinos. There is also a firm in Albuquerque (Chadwick & Hamm)<sup>5</sup> which does a large business in supplying eastern feeders with lambs for feeding purposes. The members of the firm are hustling young men. There is a free, openheartedness about the people of New Mexico which an eastern man cannot help but liking. They take every man to be a gentleman until he has proven himself otherwise. You go to a man's ranch and stay as long as you want to, ride his horses, and

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large dividends were paid in January of 1903 and 1904. Wilkinson bought Bearrup's interest on December 17, 1904 and Edie's interest on January 10, 1911 (*Albuquerque Wool Scouring Mill Minute Book*, UNM Library). The business became less profitable as the years went by. In 1916, Wilkinson left the business and W. E. Rogers became manager. In 1922, the last year of the company's existence, Rogers was listed as "Agent" (*Albuquerque City Directories*, *op cit*, 1917, p. 326; 1922, p. 433).

3. In 1904, Bearrup founded the Rio Grande Woolen Mills Company of Albuquerque, a cooperative, which manufactured blankets, dress goods, mens fabrics and clothing (*American Shepherds Bulletin*, Vol. 11, No. 4, April, 1906, p. 334, UNM microfilm). The Company disappears from the 1909 listing of the Albuquerque City Directory although Bearrup was listed in that year as a resident. Bearrup was a candidate for Lt. Governor of New Mexico on the Socialist ticket in 1916. He received 2,069 votes out of 66,747 cast (see Twitchell, *op cit*, Vol. 5, p. 422).

4. V. P. Edie was formerly a partner in Hamm (Fred W.) & Edie, wool dealers in Albuquerque (*Albuquerque City Directory*, *op cit*, 1896, p. 112).

5. Charles Chadwick and Fred W. Hamm, Sheep Commission Brokers. Successors to Hamm & Edie (*Albuquerque City Directory*, *op. cit.*, 1901, p. 68. See note 4 above).

MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME, generally, and the way in which they go at business here is enough to take the breath away from a tenderfoot.

The streets of Albuquerque are crowded with Americans, Spaniards, Negroes, Chinese and Indians.<sup>6</sup> The most picturesque of this hustling throng is the Indian with his brightly-colored blanket, his squaw following with her papoose. The Indians usually have in their hands some bows and arrows, pieces of pottery or other articles which they make to sell to the people from the East, and in that way pick up many stria [sic] nickels and dimes. Many of

THE RANCH OWNERS live in the towns, and have their ranches anywhere from 10 to 100 miles out. They have trusty foremen whom they leave in charge of their ranches while they enjoy the pleasures and privileges of town life, and educate their children.

The skies of New Mexico are nearly always blue, the air is bracing, and the people loyal to their territory. There are quite a number of ranch men in and around Albuquerque whom I did not get a chance to see, and as I visited them later on, I will describe their ranches.

THE ILFEL [ILFELD] BROTHERS<sup>7</sup> do a thriving business in wool and pelts, besides being among the largest sheep owners in the territory.

I made a pleasant call on Mr. Garcia,<sup>8</sup> who also does a good

6. *The Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900*, records a total of 8 Chinese in the entire Territory (Vol. II, p. xxiv). The population of Bernalillo County, embracing Albuquerque, was 28,630 of which 332 was stated to have been of negro extraction and 4,758 to have been Indians (Vol. I, p. 549).

7. Noa and Louis Ilfeld. Noa came to New Mexico from Germany about the first of December 1871 and, if plans materialized, came with the teams of A. Letcher and Company from Kit Carson, Colorado to Las Vegas where his elder brother Charles was a partner in that firm. Louis came in 1873 (Wm. J. Parish, *The Charles Ilfeld Company: A Study of the Rise and Decline of Mercantile Capitalism in New Mexico*, Harvard University Press, 1961, p. 362, fn. 52). Each joined a still older brother, Herman, in Santa Fe in a firm known as Ilfeld and Company (*ibid.*, pp. 362-363, fn. 58). Herman died in New York City, May 15, 1884 (*Family Prayer Book*, Office of Louis C. Ilfeld, Las Vegas, N.M.). Subsequently, the younger brothers, Noa and Louis, moved to Albuquerque where they founded a branch in Old Town (Parish *op cit*, pp. 362-363, fn. 58). By 1885 they had closed the Santa Fe store and restyled the firm, Ilfeld Brothers (*Charles Ilfeld Collection*, UNM Library, Ledger H, p. 252).

8. Probably Elias G. Garcia, sheep dealer who had a partnership with a Ben Johnson (Albuquerque City Directories, *op cit*, 1897, p. 42 and 1901, pp. 87 and 103).

business in wool and pelts, and runs quite an extensive band of sheep.

Leaving the town of Albuquerque by way of the Santa Fe, I stopped over at Laury [Lamy], where is located the great Onderdonk [Onderdonck]<sup>9</sup> Live Stock Company and goat ranch. This company has

THE BEST APPOINTED RANCH that I have yet visited, up to Jan. 10. They raise the common goats, and for the past two years have been working out of them and getting into Angoras. The ranch buildings are located about one mile east of Laury [Lamy] in a small creek valley. The house is adobe, and square, having an open court in the centre. The true old Spanish type of house. For the benefit of those who have never seen

AN ADOBE HOUSE, I will say that it is constructed of sun-dried brick, built into a very thick wall, usually about two feet thick. It is then plastered inside and out. The roof is nearly flat, and usually composed of mud branches and poles. Some are made better. It is claimed by those who live in these houses that they are warmer in winter, and colder in the summer, than any other kind of a house. The one on the Onderdonk ranch is one of the best that I have ever seen. Their barns, corrals, breeding pens and stables are models of completeness and handiness. To the west of the house is a large, long, two story building, which is the store and storehouse. In this house I found almost everything, from goat pelts to groceries and supplies for the herders.

THE FOREMAN on the ranch is an educated Spaniard, and quite an entertaining talker, and ready to explain things about the ranch.<sup>10</sup> The breeding season was on, and I found

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9. Charles S. Onderdonck (Charles Ifield Collection, *op cit*, Copy Book 53, May 8, 1899, p. 348).

10. Several years previous to this, one of Onderdoncks principal employees or associates had been Montgomery Bell, a negro, who became a confidant of Charles Ifield, the prosperous and large merchant in Las Vegas. Bell evidently had acquired a substantial competence as early as 1884, although it is generally thought that he added to it in the ranching business. Shortly after 1898 or 1899, Bell bought the William Frank home in Old Las Vegas. (Parish interview: Karl Wertz, Las Vegas, retired employee of Charles Ifield, Sept. 4, 1952). He had been a lender of funds, usually in small amounts, since 1884 or sooner and in 1889

them using five different bucks with their Angoras, breeding each where it would do the most good. Their watering system is a good one. They have windmills to pump the water up into large tanks, and from there it is distributed to the troughs placed conveniently around. The goats are driven into corralls [sic] each night during the winter season to get them into better quarters and to keep them away from the coyotes and mountain lions. They run about 650 Angoras and 3,000 or 4,000 common goats.

I must not conclude this little story without saying something about THE CHIEF SECRETARY, whose name at this writing has escaped my memory, but it is sufficient to say that he is a business man, and understands what ought to be done on the ranch, and does it. At the time of my visit the children were out from town, having a vacation on the ranch, and right here I wish to say that they kept things from getting dull in the least. The ranch has a few carloads of common goats for sale, and will have quite a number of yearling Angoras to sell next spring.

LAS VEGAS. The next stop was Las Vegas, where I called on the scouring mill run by Gross, Blackwell & Co.<sup>11</sup> I found that they had scoured about 3,000,000 pounds this last year, and were still at it. I had a very pleasant call on the foreman, who showed me all over the plant, and last, but not least, some very fine samples of scoured wools. They make a prac-

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appears to have had outstanding a balance of at least \$2,000 due from Noa Ilfeld (Charles Ilfeld Collection, *op cit*, Copy Book 11, July 10, 1884, p. 142; Copy Book 17, June 27, 1889, p. 71; Copy Book 49, Sept. 7, 1898, p. 419). A letter from A. T. Rogers, Jr., of Las Vegas, Sept. 22, 1952 to Parish states in part: "I knew Montgomery Bell very well. I knew him in the early 90s when he was in the cattle and sheep business. I do not know the exact date of his death. His house on Hot Springs Boulevard used to be quite a show place. He was used generally as go between or agent in livestock transactions. He was a man of great probity and everyone here had the utmost confidence in his honesty and integrity. . . . My recollection was that he was manager of the stables [at the Montezuma Hotel, Hot Springs, in the early days]. During the operation of that hotel, they had quite extensive stables with horses to accommodate the guests and it is my distinct recollection that he, either alone at times and later associated with Ben Bruhn, had charge of that department of entertainment. . . . Montgomery Bell was not dark colored. He was undoubtedly a mulatto and his hair was not kinky. He undoubtedly had a great influx of Anglo blood. There were no children born to Bell and his wife."

11. Formerly Otero and Sellar & Company and subsequently Gross, Kelly & Company.



tice of taking a pound sample out of each lot of wool that they scour, and have it handy in the office for further reference. There are

FOUR OR FIVE SCOURING MILLS<sup>12</sup> in this place, and at present there is being erected a new plant,<sup>13</sup> and a fine new steam dryer is being installed. This dryer is supposed to be the finest in the territory and to have the greatest capacity. There is a thing about this town that is rather misleading. There are two towns, Las Vegas, the old town, and East Las Vegas, the new town. If you have your mail directed to Las Vegas, as I did, and many others, you will land in the town and go to the post-office and inquire for your mail for three or four days, and worry why it does not come, and at last, as you are about ready to leave in despair the clerk may ask you if you have been over to post-office in the old town. At this hint, you proceed in hot haste to the post-office, and there find your bundle of mail that has been patiently waiting you all of the week.

There is one thing that impressed me very favorably, and that was the

EXTREME POLITENESS of the Spanish people. They will go out of their way any day to do a stranger a favor, and seem to enjoy doing it.

The largest general merchandise store in Las Vegas is that owned and controlled by Chas. Ilfeld & Sons.<sup>14</sup> They informed me that it was twice as large as any other store of its kind in New Mexico territory. After a stay of about a week in Las Vegas, I next stopped at

WAGON MOUND, so named on account of a peculiarly-shaped mountain lying to the east of the town. This little

12. Ludeman Wool Company, John Robbins Wool Scouring Mill, James Robbins Wool Washing Mill, Arnot Wool Company (Gross, Blackwell & Co.) and the Ross and Browne Wool Scouring Company (First Annual Directory of Las Vegas, N.M. for 1895-1896, J.A. Curruth, Printer, 1895, and City and Business Directory of Las Vegas, 1900, Directory Publishing Company, Las Vegas, Highlands University Library, Las Vegas, N.M. *The Shepherd's Bulletin of the National Wool Growers' Association of the United States*, Vol. 6, No. 12, December, 1901, microfilm, UNM library).

13. Ross and Browne Wool Scouring Company was incorporated in December, 1901. *ibid.*

14. The correct name was Charles Ilfeld, Proprietor (Wm. J. Parish, *op cit.*).

mountain is nearly 7,000 feet above the sea level, and can only be ascended by one narrow and dangerous trail. The reason it is called Wagon Mound is because the top is shaped like the top of a prairie schooner. While there I called on the Vorenberg Mercantile Co.,<sup>15</sup> who, according to some accounts, are doing about \$360,000 worth of business a year. They handle a large number of carloads of wool besides doing a good big business in general merchandise. The postmaster, Mr. J. R. Aquilar,<sup>16</sup> has

A FINE FLOCK of about 9,000, and is one of the most careful handlers of sheep in this locality. He has leased and owns about 3,500 acres of land, besides his government range. Last year he raised 83 per cent of a crop of lambs. He puts from 2,000 to 2,500 sheep in each camp with two herders. The sheep are driven to water every day in summer, and every other day in winter. These sheep average him four pounds of wool to the head, and the wool shrinks about 40 per cent in scouring which leaves 2.4 pounds of scoured wool to each sheep which at the current price brings a little over a dollar a head. You can easily figure up

THE GROSS INCOME of a sheep ranch man, but when you come to getting at the expense and the net gain, you have a more complex problem on your hands. They generally hire their Spanish herders for \$15 or \$16 per month, and board them, which would bring the cost up to \$25 a piece. Most of them have two herders for every 2,000 sheep.

EXPENSES. Then for herders for a year we might count \$600; for shearing and marketing, \$175; for rams at \$10, \$150; for general hand, \$20, \$240; for wear and tear on wagons, horses, etc., \$100; total expense, \$1,265.

INCOME. For wool, \$2,000; for wether lambs to sell, \$1,400; total income, \$3,400; total expenses, \$1,265; net gain or income, \$2,135, under the most favorable circumstances.

15. Simon Vorenberg. He had purchased the Wagonmound firms of A. M. Adler and G. W. Bond & Bro. Company (See Twitchell, *op cit*, Vol. 3, p. 430), G. W. Bond & Bro. was purchased Aug. 3, 1903 (Frank Grubbs, "Frank Bond: Gentleman Shepherder of Northern New Mexico, 1838-1915," *New Mexico Historical Review*, 36:149).

16. Biographical reference in Twitchell, *op cit*, Vol. 3, p. 432.

Take it one year with another: \$1,000 to \$1,500 would be a fair estimate. If any reading ranch men wishes to send his figures for the past year, I would gladly stand corrected or enlightened. There are quite a number of items that have been left out, such as maintenance of family, interest on the investment, etc. I would like to hear from any ranchmen on this question.

OTHER SHEEP MEN. The other sheep men whom I met in the towns are as follows: Vincente Mares, who owns 2,000 sheep; Placido Garcia who owns 2,000 sheep; E. Martinus [Martinez?], 3,000 sheep; J. D. Medina, 2,500 sheep; Mrs. McKeller, 400; Amedor Martinez, 3,000; Eugenio Idulph, [Rudolph]<sup>17</sup>, 2,000 sheep; Daniel Gallegos, 2,000; Lusiano Lobez [Lopez?], 3,000; L. A. Rawlins, 2,000; Herbert D. Romero, on the point of buying 2,000; Cleopes Romero, sheriff of San Miguel county runs 4,000 or over. The First National Bank, of Las Vegas, do a general banking business all over that part of the territory; J. D. McGrath has 2,000; Esperidion Garcia, 2,500; Alexandro Arellano, 2,000 or over.

These gentlemen were all met in the towns, and were very much interested in our work.

THE JARITAS RANCH OWNED BY FLOERSHEIM & ABBOTT.<sup>18</sup> Nearly the first man I met in Springer was Mr. Abbott, who is part owner and boss at the ranch. The ranch is beautifully situated on a mesa or high tableland in the northeastern part of New Mexico. The ranch buildings are situated about 16 miles from Springer, which is their nearest post-office. Mr. Abbott nearly always drives the 16 miles in two hours, and has frequently made it in one hour and 55 minutes. As one approaches the Jaritas ranch, the view is very pretty. The house is adobe with walls nearly two feet thick, which keep them warm in winter and cool in summer.

17. A prominent family in the 1870's by this name lived at Rincon del Tecolote, northwest of Las Vegas. One branch spelled its name Rudolph (See W. A. Keleher, *Violence in Lincoln County, 1869-1881*, University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, 1957, pp. 349-351).

18. These gentlemen were described in detail by the "Old Observer" (*American Shepherd's Bulletin*, Vol. 11, No. 9, Sept. 1906, pp. 823-825, microfilm, UNM library).

THE HOUSE has green shutters, a red roof and a porch in front, 96 feet long. One hundred yards from the house is a pretty little artificial lake,<sup>19</sup> from which in winter they get ice, and in summer use for irrigation. All the water used at the ranch comes from a sanitary still, so that all of the deadly alkali is taken out. The first question a person involuntarily asks is,

WHERE ARE THE SHEEP? Although there are some 25,000 or 30,000 sheep and lambs on the ranch, we had to drive some 10 or 12 miles to see 5,000 of them. They are well graded up with Merinos, and shear from five to six pounds of wool to the head. In the last four years they have raised 64,700 lambs. The proprietors of the ranch own and control over 50 miles of water; that is, they own the land on both sides of 50 miles of streams or lakes. They keep about 50 men the year around, and in lambing have 180 busily at work.

THEIR HELP is all Spanish except the book-keeper, Mr. Divine,<sup>20</sup> who is an American. The shearing house is 132 feet long by 30 feet wide. Nine feet of this width, the whole length, is used for packing the wool, seven feet is a raised platform to shear on, and the other 14 feet is for pens for the sheep. Each pen is 12 feet in width, and holds 50 to 60 sheep. There are generally three or four shearers in each pen, one being the boss. They count the shorn sheep as they go out, and the shearers' tally must correspond with that of the owner or there is a mistake some where.

THE DIPPING PLANT, which is hard by, consists of four

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19. This artificial lake still exists.

20. This individual might well have been a member of the family of Matthew Devine. "M. Devine" was operating a store near Fort Bascom in 1878 and keeping an eye on some cattle owned by Charles Ifeld. In 1881, "M. Devine" was a partner with Charles Ifeld in the cattle business in the Red River country. This joint venture was closed out in 1882 (Charles Ifeld Collection, *op cit*, Copy Book 4, Nov. 23, 1878, p. 184; Copy Book 6, May 31, 1881, p. 245 and Jan. 6, 1882, p. 602). On February 1, 1883, lands situated at "Arroyo Sellado [Arroyo Salado or Salado Draw] in Range 23, East Township 4 North, San Miguel County, were deeded by Matthew Devine and wife, Susan, to partnership, Fuller, Devine and Company." Actually the land in question was in Sections 1 through 4 which would seem to be on the Pecos River north of the presently marked Salado Creek. On May 2, 1891, Susan E. Devine, guardian of Matthew's two children, sold the Devine interest. Mrs. Devine and the children were then residents of Mora County. *Legal Papers* in office of Louis C. Ifeld, Las Vegas, N.M.

large boilers, each holding 650 gallons of dip, and a swimming vat, 80 feet long. The dip is kept at 105 degrees to 110 degrees all of the time to get the best results; 2,500 to 3,000 are thoroughly dipped each day. This firm is also large dealers in feeding lambs and sheep, as Mr. Abbott was at one time in the commission business in Kansas City. This gave him a large reputation, and an acquaintance with nearly all of the sheep men of the West. In the past four years they have handled over 100,000 sheep. Francisco Romero,

THE TRUSTY FOREMAN, spends most of his time riding from camp to camp to see that the sheep have plenty of fresh grazing ground within reach of water. The sheep are driven to water every other day at this time of year. Every few miles as you ride over the range, you see what they call A CHIMNEY CORNER. These are built of stones by the Spanish herders, and greatly resemble the old-fashioned fireplace. In the winter the herders pitch their tents close to these open fireplaces, so that with dry cedar and pine knots which they bring down from the mountains on their burros, they can start a fire at short notice.

On the foot-hills one often sees a pile of rock work, five or six feet high, and about two feet square. These are called by the herders "MAJONERAS," or monuments,<sup>21</sup> indicating that water is near. The herders lead a lazy, listless sort of life, and a Spaniard is better adapted to this business than men of any other nationality. If a Spaniard owns a small bunch of sheep grazing around his home, his boys begin to learn at five years how to take care of sheep, so that often they are brought up to do and know nothing else. This condition, however, is changing, and the Spanish children are nearly all sent to school, when there is a school near enough. Those I have met, for the most part, were well educated or were anxious to learn. All day long in the summer time

THE HERDERS sit and watch the sheep as they eat grass or lie down to rest. At sundown their duties are over, and the "Majordomo" assumes the care of the herd that are usually

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21. "Majanos" is the Spanish word for "a pile of rocks."

lying close around the tent, and there they stay till morning unless their slumbers are disturbed by a storm or the barking of a coyote.

The amount of provisions required to run the Abbott & Floersheim ranch is surprising to an easterner. Their commissary adjoins the house, and here the book-keeper, Mr. Divine, [Devine?] deals out the provisions to the herders, who come in the first of each month for supplies. During the year they consume 3,000 pounds of coffee, 6,000 pounds of bacon, 25,000 pounds of flour, 500 gallons of molasses, 5,000 pounds of Spanish beans, 1,000 pounds rice, 3,000 pounds of prunes and 1,000 pounds of hominy; 600 sheep are killed for mutton. These are the

STAPLE ARTICLES OF DIET for the year. Potatoes are allowed only in the month of May when 50 100-pound sacks are dealt out to the men. In the commissary are kept clothing, shoes, tobacco and notions, which are sold to the herders, and charged against their monthly pay.

THE SPANISH KITCHEN adjoins the commissary, and is presided over by a very efficient Spanish cook, who for eight years was employed by a wealthy Spanish family as cook and housekeeper. His kitchen is immaculate, and you can look in any day and find everything in order and shining.

After taking a few views of the ranch buildings and one flock of rams, having spent a day and a half at Jaritas ranch, I bade my kind hostess, her little daughter, and Mr. Divine, "adios," and in two hours Mr. Abbot had landed me again in the little town of Springer.

*(Continued)*