

Romance Weaved In Cattle Brands

Cause of Many Battles Between Rival Ranchers and With Outlaws.

MORE THAN 8,000 IN TEXAS

"Cow" Thieves Use Ingenious Methods to Change Marks on Stolen Animals—Many Strange Devices Are Used.

Austin, Tex.—Romance, not unmingled with tragedy, might be written about the cattle brands of Texas and the Southwest. Around them have centered many thrilling deeds. They have been the means of bringing swift retribution to a host of outlaws; they have served as the basis for transactions involving the sale of many millions of head of cattle.

The records of the Texas Cattle Raisers' association show that there are more than 8,000 registered brands in this state. No two brands are alike. Usually each brand represents a separate ranch. It is often the case that a ranch is much better known by the brand of its cattle than by the name of the owner. Owners may change, but the brand never.

When Hernando Cortez conquered Mexico in the early part of the sixteenth century he established a ranch upon the isthmus of Tehuantepec. The cattle bore his brand. Although that was nearly 400 years ago the cattle upon that ranch today bear the original Cortez brand.

Origin Lost in History.

The origin of the cattle brand dates back to the dim dawn of history. In the days of free grass and open range the brand was an absolute necessity in order that the owners might identify their cattle in the annual round-ups. With the coming of wire fences this necessity was largely obliterated, but the brand served still to place guilt upon cattle thieves. This purpose is still served and this fact accounts largely for the retention of the brands by all of the ranchmen.

Ingenious methods are sometimes used by cattle thieves to change existing brands upon stolen stocks. Most of the members of the Texas Ranger force are experts in the matter of detecting the disguising or changing of brands.

The cattle brands of some ranches are an intangible asset of great value. These brands have come to stand for honesty in breeding, honesty in weight and honesty in dealing, just as the heraldry of knighthood stood for honor, for bravery and for noble deeds and accomplishment. Announcement that cattle of a certain brand are offered for sale is often sufficient guarantee that no precautions against fraud of any kind are taken.

Every Letter is Used.

In the record of brands, every letter of the alphabet is represented, and most letters are found in three or four positions. An exception is "O," which has but one shape, in any position, and therefore can be used only once. True, there is the "O" flattened at the sides, but it is then called a "mashed O," a link or goose egg.

"N" is another letter that is not susceptible of many positions, for horizontally it is "Z." "I" is another letter with a limited use. It is seldom seen except in combination with other characters, and is usually called a bar. "C" and "K" are examples of letters that are used in four positions. For example, an ordinary "K" makes one position. Turn it to an angle of 45 degrees and you have the "tumbling K"; on its back, horizontally, the "lazy K," and reversed, a fourth position. There are lazy and tumbling brands in all letters except "O" and "I."

But when the cattle business becomes general and instead of 100 ranches there are thousands, new brands must be devised. The seeker for a brand naturally gets an insignia

different from that of other ranchmen else the brand would fail of its purpose. So in the latter days the letters were finally all taken up and the necessity for individual and unique brands has led to many a strange device.

Many Novel Designs.

For example, there is the "Spur" ranch, the "Turk Track" ranch, the "Tumbling K" of the "Lazy X." Every ranch has its principal brand, and some have many others. Ranch owners, who trade extensively, and are constantly acquiring cattle with different brands, have a number of insignias on record. Often the ranchmen's sons and daughters have their special brands and the dedication of a new brand is not an unusual form of celebrating a birth on the range.

Among the peculiar brands is a pigpen, which means a square with its sides extending to form the exterior angles. Crescents are common. Only one ranchman has a hatchet for a brand.

A bow and arrow gives a name to one big Texas ranch. L. J. Kimberlin's ranch had a crutch on the hip and a coffee pot on the side. The coffee pot design is not so intricate as one might imagine, consisting of only eight lines.

Wine glasses are not uncommon as a brand and the J. W. Friend Cattle company in Crockett county had a gourd. A rocking chair is the brand of the H. B. Opp ranch in Sutton and Menard counties.

Lee Brothers had for their brand the graceful fleur de lis. Anchors are common, but only the John W. Franks ranch in the Osage reservation boasts of the Swastika.

A hash knife, a hat, the Masonic square, a key, a turkey track, a bell, crossed walking sticks, an hour glass, a tree, a boot, a slipper, a flag, an apple, a flower, ladders, rakes, spades, a fence, a doll baby, a cotton hook, a fishhook, a bottle, bridle bits, a frying pan, a pitchfork and even a comet may be seen among the long list of brands.

A "seuple" indicates that the ranch owner was a druggist before becoming a cattleman. Hearts, diamonds and clubs are found among the records of

NATIONAL TENNIS CHAMPION



"Children first, tennis afterward," is the motto of Mrs. George W. Wightman, national tennis champion. She devotes to tennis only the time she can spare after caring for her babies. She is here shown with her three youngsters: George, aged six; Virginia, aged five, and Hazel, aged three.

brands, but the spades are those of agricultural designs.

The tendency is toward smaller brands. Branding causes cattle to lose in weight, and the larger the brand the greater the suffering of the cattle and the greater the loss of weight, so the old-time custom of great brands, covering the whole side of a cow, is passing away. Hides are more valuable today, also, and the big brands injure the leather.

The easiest brands to read are those made with the stamp iron, that is, an iron forged into the figure or character desired. Sometimes the cowboys encounter a maverick far from headquarters, and in the exigency of the occasion an iron rod is heated and a "running" brand is executed.

MARRIED REGULARS TO BE SEGREGATED

PLAN IS TO PUT THEM ALL IN THREE REGIMENTS SO THEY CAN HAVE HOME LIFE.

QUARTERS FOR THE FAMILIES

War Department Believes This Not Only Would Be Better for the Soldiers and Their Wives, But Would Encourage Re-enlistments.

By EDWARD B. CLARK.

Washington.—Something new is promised in the United States army; that is Uncle Sam's regular army. It is proposed by the war department to put all the married regulars into three regiments and to station them at posts where there are living quarters for families and where the men can enjoy the home life.

Nothing of this kind ever before has been attempted in the service. In the old days of the regular army when an enlisted man took unto himself a wife he was not always certain that he could provide a home for her within the limits of the garrison where he was stationed. The result was that the wife frequently was compelled to live in some nearby town. The arrangement was good neither for the man, for his wife, nor for the military service. It was found out in the old days, however, that married enlisted men who managed to secure quarters within the garrison for their families were likely to re-enlist in the service. This re-enlistment of seasoned soldiers was a good thing for the army. Apparently it is the belief of the authorities that by proper provision for the wives and children of enlisted men, re-enlistments will be encouraged and the service benefited.

Many Regulars Married Abroad.

It is said that 20,000 American soldiers married foreign brides while they were on service abroad. Of course not all of the 20,000 soldiers were regulars, nor anything like all of them, but it is said that enough regulars married to make it possible to create three regiments, the largest proportion of the enlisted personnel of which will be married men.

The soldiers who have married, and who are to be put into special regiments are called the F. F. V.'s. No, this does not mean First Families of Virginia, but Father of Family Veterans.

Two of the regiments into which married men are to be inducted are the Third and Sixth cavalry, both of them famous in American history for their fighting qualities. The Third and Sixth have seen service wherever the American flag has been unfurled, except in one or two places where men alone entered into the fight. An infantry regiment with a large part of its personnel composed of married men also is to be named, but as yet the particular regiment has not been selected.

There was a good deal of marrying and giving in marriage in France during the stay in that country of the American army. The authorities of French municipalities where soldiers were billeted took a fatherly interest in matrimonial matters on behalf of the daughters of fair France. They did not want any of their girls to be deceived into marriage with men who already might have matrimonial entanglements, if entanglements is the right word to use. So it was that the mayors in many of the French towns obtained from the soldier who contemplated matrimony his home address, the names of his parents, and the name of his postmaster. Then before the marriage was allowed to be solemnized, the chief town official would write to the soldier's home to make inquiry concerning him. When the good news came back that the soldier was all right the marriage ceremony was performed, perhaps by the official who had made the inquiry to establish the good reputation of the groom.

French Girls Are Attractive.

The larger part of the marriages contracted abroad were those of soldiers who were in what is called the S. O. S. area; that is the area of service of supplies. These men were charged with the great work of forwarding supplies of food, ammunition, clothing and other things to the men at the front. They were also charged with the building of parks for the incoming American troops, with the operation of the railroads and with dozens of other duties which were essential in order that the army might be able to fight a good fight.

French girls are pretty, vivacious, and what one might call fetching. To a staid old soldier, husband of a wife, and father of a family in far off America, and who could look on them with the aloofness of a patriarch, it was not surprising that many of the young unmarried Americans speedily fell victims to the arrow of Cupid, who shoots just as well in France, and perhaps better, than he does in the other countries of the world.

There have been some nonsensical "deas in America about the French girls. People have read about Paris, its extreme gaiety and its frivolity, but the truth is that there is no more frivolity in Paris than there is in some big American cities. In the provinces of France, in the small towns and villages, there is staidness of conduct on the part of the young women which well might be emulated in like places in America.

IN THE PUBLIC EYE

"BARNEY" BARUCH WANTS A JOB



Hence no stock brokers need apply for Baruch's services. That gateway to continued prosperity is closed to him.

"Shun politics and political jobs," is his second resolution.

Bernard N. ("Barney") Baruch wants a job. Peace, he is convinced, has hardships no less terrific than war, for now that the war is over he is out of work.

Millionaire though he is, adviser of the president both in America and Europe throughout the war, and intimate associate of captains of industry in all parts of the world, the former chairman of the war industries board and financial adviser to the peace conference is nevertheless looking for a situation. And there are difficulties.

One of the chief difficulties is that Mr. Baruch has reformed, he says. For many years he was a gambler. He publicly admitted it when he was summoned as a witness in the famous senate "leak" investigation, but the weight of war and serious business of life have reformed him. He never again will be a gambler or dabble in the uncertain affairs of Wall street.

RANK OF GENERAL FOR PERSHING

Permanent ranks of general in the regular army for General Pershing, whose portrait is given herewith, and General March, chief of staff, and permanent ranks of admiral in the navy for Rear Admiral Sims and Admiral Benson, chief of operations, are asked of congress by President Wilson. The president's message to congress follows:

"I take the liberty of calling your attention to a matter which I am sure is at the heart of the whole country, and which I have had very much in mind throughout all these months when we were trying to arrange a peace that would be worthy of the spirit and achievement of the men who won the victory in the field and on the sea.

"After mature reflection, I earnestly recommend that you give the permanent rank of general to John J. Pershing and Peyton C. March, expressing the law in such a way as to give precedence to General Pershing; and that you give the permanent rank of admiral to William S. Benson and William S. Sims.

"I take it for granted that I am only anticipating your own thought in proposing these honors for the men upon whom the principal responsibilities devolved for achieving the great results which our incomparable navy and army accomplished."



TELEGRAPH HAS RAPID GROWTH

Government Report Shows 1,888,793 Miles of Wire Used by 21 Companies.

BIG INCREASE IN MESSAGES

Last Five-Year Period Shows 45.7 Per Cent More Telegrams—Par Value of the Capital Stock is \$106,360,237.

Washington.—According to a report just issued by Director Sam L. Rogers of the bureau of the census, department of commerce, the 21 commercial land telegraph systems in the United States in 1917 operated 241,012 miles of pole line, comprising 1,888,793 miles of wire; sent 151,725,238 messages, and employed 47,227 persons, to whom were paid salaries and wages amounting to \$36,392,140.

This report, which is issued under the title, "Telegraphs and Municipal Electric Fire Alarm and Police Patrol Signaling Systems," was prepared under the supervision of Eugene F. Hartley, chief statistician for manufacturers, and is the fourth of a series of quinquennial reports on the telegraph systems of the country.

The pole-line mileage in 1917 was less by 2.6 per cent than in 1912, but was greater by six-tenths of 1 per cent than in 1907. The wire mileage, however, showed an increase of 4.1 per cent as compared with 1912 and of 19.7 per cent over 1907.

The increase in the number of messages was much greater—45.7 per cent during the last five-year period and 53.1 per cent during the ten years from 1907 to 1917. The number of employees increased by 39.2 per cent between 1912 and 1917, and by 84.9 per cent during the period 1907-17 and the corresponding percentages of increase in their salaries and wages were 59.2 and 124.2.

The number of telegraph offices in 1917 was 28,865, a decrease of 6.2 per cent as compared with 1912 and of seven-tenths of 1 per cent as compared with 1907. The total income from telegraph traffic was \$91,312,567, an increase of 74.5 per cent over 1912 and of 140.8 per cent as compared with 1907; the income from all other sources was \$1,641,803; the total expenses, including charges for depreciation and sinking funds, were \$80,828,970, an increase of 62.9 per cent over 1912 and of 111.4 per cent over 1907, and the net income was \$12,125,400, an increase of 253.4 per cent as compared with 1912 and of 113.7 per cent over 1907.

The par value of the outstanding capital stock of the companies was \$106,360,237, a decrease of 1.7 per cent as compared with 1912, but an increase of 4 per cent over 1907.

Printing Telegraph Comes In.

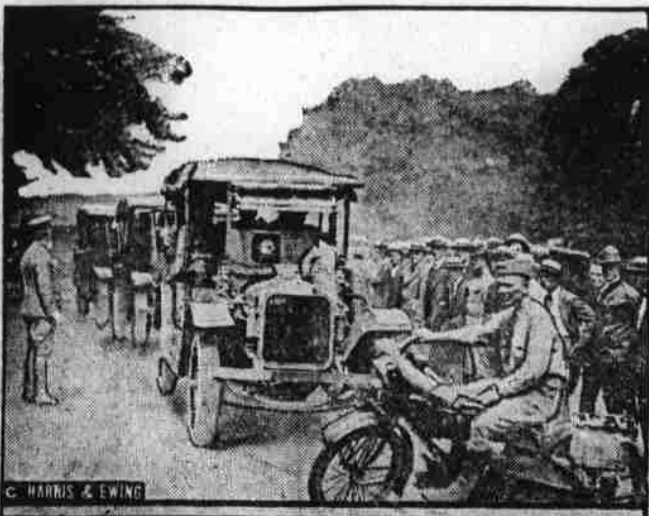
The foregoing figures relate only to commercial telegraph companies, and thus exclude the wire and pole line wholly owned and operated by railroads, and also exclude the equipment and telegraph business of the various press associations which lease and operate wires for dispensing news.

During the five-year period 1912-1917 the printing telegraph came into extended use by telegraph companies, press associations and railroads. The printing telegraph consists essentially of a sending instrument equipped with a keyboard similar to that of a typewriter, electrically connected with a receiving instrument in such a manner that the latter automatically reproduces what is typewritten on the sending instrument. Without the printing telegraph it would have been difficult or impossible to handle the increased telegraph business during the great war.

Flour Sack of Money.

St. Louis, Mo.—When a farm was sold in Maries county, Missouri, recently the transaction took place in the home of the farm's buyers, named Hoeller, and was strictly a cash transaction. After the deal had been closed, every member of the family began bringing in silver coins from nooks and crannies all over the house where it had been secreted. The seller had to take his money in a flour sack to the bank, where it took the teller and cashier two hours to count it. Most of the money had been earned by two daughters taking in washing.

MOTORTRUCKS START LONG TRIP



Here is the start of the long motortruck train which left Washington recently on a journey which is to extend across the continent. The fleet of 60 trucks and 200 men, said to be the longest truck train ever assembled, is in charge of the motor transport corps. U. S. A.

ENVER PASHA WILL BE EXECUTED

Enver Pasha, whose portrait is given herewith, Talaat Pasha and Djemal Pasha have been sentenced to death by a Turkish court-martial which investigated the conduct of the Turkish government during the war. Enver and Talaat were among the leaders of the Young Turks who forced Sultan Abdul Hamid from the throne and governed the empire through his ignorant and superstitious brother Mohammed.

Enver fancied himself an oriental counterpart of Napoleon, and, possessed of ability and unscrupulousness, rose, at the age of thirty-eight, to be minister of war, with the sultan's daughter the chief figure in his harem. Talaat, once a telegraph operator, became minister of the interior with power even greater than that of Enver. It was he who thought out the policy of the complete extermination of the Armenian race, and it was his order that caused the death of 1,000,000 Armenians. Djemal, an Egyptian prince, incredibly rich and vain, was their tool, as was the sultan.

The three condemned men looted the treasury and fled about three months ago. The Turk apparently has had a chance of peace since November 11, 1918.

