

# Real Ranch (Cowboys!) Operates In County

HICKORY GROVE—A shipment of 293 head of mixed Brahman cattle for KC Ranch arrived here Saturday afternoon and was unloaded.

Sounds like this story was written for a Texas newspaper, but it wasn't. We actually have a 1,600-acre ranch, with 407 head of cattle, four cow ponies and two real live hard-riding cowboys (not the drug store variety), all of this right here in York County.

Cary C. Boshamer a few years ago bought the Zeb Mattox farm and an adjoining farm, the Hill place, near Irene Bridge on Broad River and has turned these "run down fields" into year-around pastures which he calls KC Ranch. His wife is named Kathleen, thus represents the first letter of both their names.

Actually most of the hard work and management have fallen upon Boshamer's able manager, Milton Carpenter. He lives on another farm which belongs to Boshamer, the Clover Springs Farm, near Clover. Carroll Phillips assists him with work on this farm and Huey Harper is Carpenter's right-hand man on the KC ranch. Harper lives alone in a small house on the large ranch.

The 293 head of cattle bought last week represented a sale value of more than \$40,000. They were bought near Amarillo, Texas, where Carpenter also purchased two registered quarter (cow-type) horses. The mixed Brahmans, averaging 15 months old, will all be crossed with Black Angus to produce a superior type beef animal. This cross breeding produces larger, blackier calves that have a shiny color and large ears.

Carpenter said calves are more characteristic of their sires than they are of their dams. Thus it is more desirable to breed a Brahman cow to a Black Angus bull. The cross-bred calf will be polled and tend to be blacker, than if the cross breeding is reversed, Carpenter explained.

Boshamer has a small herd of registered Brahman and Black Angus cattle on the Clover Springs farm. But there are other inter-

ests on this farm. He has about 75 thoroughbred horses and grain crops are grown on the 400-acre place. About 75 or 80 acres are sowed in oats each year to help provide feed for the horses. There is about 160 acres in pasture.

Carpenter, who worked four years on big ranches out in Texas, says there should be at least three acres for each head of cattle.

"And in this country it is impossible most the time to have a truly year-round pasture," he said. "Most the time we think we are doing pretty good if we get nine months good grazing during the year."

Carpenter says he would have gone back to the big ranches after he was discharged from the armed forces following World War II, but in the meantime he had married a Cherryville, N. C. girl, who doesn't want to leave the Carolinas. So, the work he is doing for Boshamer is the nearest thing to big-time ranching that he can find around here, he says.

If York County youngsters could happen to be down at KC ranch at the right time, they would see calf roping, etc., going on like they see in Western movies on Saturday. Yesterday morning Carpenter and Harper were busy rounding up about 20 calves that got separated from the herd and had strayed into the brushland.



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**PURSLEY HERD** — S. C. Pursley is shown here with his herd of dairy cattle which gives him the raw milk for making his prized "country buttermilk." Most of the cows above have been bred artificially from the finest Clemson sires to improve the quality of his stock.



**YORK COUNTY COW HANDS** Carpenter ride herd on the KC 1,600-acre ranch, owned by Cary Boshamer of Clover and Gastonia, has over 400 head of mixed Brahman and Black Angus cattle. (Herald Photo.)

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