

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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TO : Carroll L. Tyler, Manager, SFO 404968 DATE: Oct 16 1953

FROM : Seth R. Woodruff, Jr., Field Manager, Las Vegas Field Office /i/ SRW

SUBJECT: SHEEP LOSSES AROUND CEDAR CITY

SYMBOL: NEA

Reference is made to memorandum from Paul B. Pearson to John C. Bugher dated October 8, 1953, subject as above.

On October 13 and 14, 1953, Lt. Col. John H. Rust, University of Tennessee Agricultural Research Program, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Joe Sanders of this office made a trip to Cedar City to check on condition described in the referenced memorandum and to secure tissues, bones, etc., for further examination at Oak Ridge Laboratories.

We discussed continuing sheep losses with Douglas Clark and David C. Bullock, local wool growers, and Steven Brower, County Extension Agent. Drs. Holmes and Wolff, both of U. S. Public Health Service, are expected in Cedar City the last week of October. Many of the sheep are still on the mountain (October 14, 1953).

A new development in the sheep problem is that many of the yearling ewes have not experienced normal growth nor developed normal tooth structure. Douglas Clark claims to have upward of 300 such animals. Mr. Bullock claims to have a lot of them, but did not know how many.

The lambs born in March and April of 1953 are larger than the yearling ewes born in the Spring of 1952. Four of the undersized ewes we slaughtered for tissues together with ewes and lambs grazed locally and those that winter ranged in Nevada.

The Cedar City people were told in late July that, on the basis of present planning, the Nevada Proving Grounds will not be activated for tests during the next twelve months and if there is any change in that planning they will be notified.

According to Douglas Clark, Nelson Webster, Louis Ence, Myron Higbee and probably Douglas Corry, are going south into Arizona with their sheep this winter. ~~He and Bullock have no other place to go and will have to go back to Nevada.~~

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Both Clark and Bullock agree that summer losses of sheep cannot be determined with any degree of accuracy until flocks are brought down from the summer mountain range. Clark advises that most of the local wool growers are financed through local banks who, after the lambs are sold, will have accurate figures on losses and remaining sheep in herds. These figures are also available for previous years.

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