

# La Lomita Rancho With Jersey Herd Will Be One Of Show Places of County

All San Joaquin county agriculture, and the pure bred cattle industry in particular was given a new impetus by the recent establishment of "La Lomita Rancho," one of the foremost Jersey ranches of the nation at what was formerly known as "Mossdale" on the Mokelumne river near Lockeford.

"La Lomita Rancho," a 392-acre property, was purchased by Ferdinand R. Bain, owner of a ranch by the same name at Palms, California, which is stocked with more than 200 head of fine Jersey cattle, including a recent importation of 19 head direct from Jersey island.

"La Lomita" Jerseys, widely known in the United States, were first seen in this vicinity when Bain exhibited his herd at the San Joaquin county and the California state fairs, where the Jersey bull which was 1927 grand champion of Jersey Island was exhibited with other "La Lomita" stock.

## Formerly Mossdale

Bain purchased the Mossdale property from the Mossdale Farms company a short time ago and already has established a herd of more than 50 Jerseys there. He plans to build up a large herd of fine cattle which will make "La Lomita Ranch" one of the show places of the country.

Lying for two miles along the south side of the Mokelumne river, the place has many natural advantages which will aid in its development.

The broad river flat of land well suited to either grazing or cropping, is dotted with old sycamores and oaks, forming an unrivalled vista from the building site on the bluff which forms the southern portion of the property.

## Land Well Situated

The place is well suited to dairy-

ing and has been used for that purpose for many years under the Mossdale company, who bought the land from the Locke estate, it being a part of the original estate of N. H. Locke's rather for whom Lockeford is named.

James Thorpe is the manager of the new ranch and with the resources which are to go into "La Lomita Rancho" will be able to realize many of the plans which he began as a member of the Mossdale company.

## A Dairying Region

The region is one in which dairying has already proved itself and the success of the present N. H. Locke dairy near "La Lomita Rancho" is evidence of the suitability of the region to the industry.

## House Has History

The original Locke house, situated on the property acquired by Bain has its own place in the history of San Joaquin county. The material to build it was shipped in a "windjammer" down the Atlantic coast, weather the rigours of "the Horn" and proceeded up the Pacific coast to San Francisco bay. From there it came up the San Joaquin river, thence to the Mokelumne and up the Mokelumne to its present site, having come all the way from New York to San Joaquin county by ship.

The house is still standing and architects are now working on plans to convert it into a "colonial mansion" as part of the development which the property is undergoing.

## Buildings Remodeled

Modern equipment for the employees of the ranch is being installed and the barns are being built over to accommodate the new herd.

Planting of 100 acres of alfalfa in the spring is but one of the

# Washington Memento, Family Heirloom, In Home of Mrs. Jackson

A family heirloom of rare historical value, which dates back 125 years, is now in the keeping of Mrs. C. M. Jackson of "El Pinal."

After George Washington died in 1799, his widow presented each of his aides with a glass plaque about 1½ inches long and oblong in shape, rimmed with gold.

On one side is a miniature replica, done in oil, of our first President's tomb, on which is inscribed "Dec. 1799—G. Washington." In the reverse side is a lock of auburn hair. Mrs. Jackson has no record of the original recipient.

moves which is expected to convert the place into a highly developed dairy plant.

"La Lomita Rancho" at Palms, California, at present is a model dairy establishment and the high standard which Bain has established there will prevail in the development of his new place in San Joaquin county.

At Palms he has a 120-acre tract stocked with more than 200 head of Jerseys. A large staff of employes under Alex M. Wilson, manager of "La Lomita" at Palms is furnished with the best of housing facilities and are supplied with their own social rooms in which they enjoy the privileges of an exclusive club.

## Cattle in Show Condition

The cattle are kept in show condition and not the least of the attractions of the place is a stock parade which may be called out at any time of the day when visiting cattle fanciers may care to look over the stock.

The importation of fine stock from the island was made despite the common opinion among cattle men that Jersey Island will allow no cattle to leave the island. Bain enlisted the assistance of a well informed native who assisted him in locating such stock as he was seeking and 19 head, including the bull which was grand champion at the island 1927 show, were brought to the Palms ranch.