

# THE **H** HERD

By Jack Shipman

The Early Ranchers On the Leona And Nueces Rivers Endured Many Hardships.

Among the First Ranchers Were the Cooks, Pulliams and Pat Dolan

The determined drive of the white men against the Indians in the Uvalde section appeared to convince the Comanches that the ranchers had come to stay. With the Indians somewhat subdued, more settlers came in and the little town of Uvalde improved. Then came the warning notes of Civil strife.

The Cooks had come from the heart of the Old South and had no mental struggles as to their line of duty. They were sectional in thought, and were whole-souled for the Confederacy. John Cook, who had been wounded by the Indians several times, immediately joined Captain Montell's Company of Rangers for frontier protection. They served a double purpose as Texas Rangers and Confederate soldiers, being subject to the then existing Confederate Government.

During the Civil War the Kickapoo tribe of Indians moved to Mexico to escape serving in the contending forces. But before they reached Mexico, they were apprehended by a group of Confederate soldiers on Dave Creek, near San Angelo, and cruelly mistreated. From that time on their hatred for the white men knew no bounds. They never missed

an opportunity to raid ranches along the Rio Grande.

The years 1871-72 were indeed turbulent along the Devils, Pecos and Rio Grande Rivers. During the full moon of each month parties from the Kickapoo and other Indian tribes, residing in Mexico, would raid ranches, steal horses and cattle and kill people. In September, 1872, a party came from Mexico, raiding as far east as the Nueces River.

On the morning of the 25th of the month a party of eighteen young stockmen followed the raiders into Mexico. After following them for two days, they collected much stolen stock and were returning to the United States. On the 27th they were passing through the little town of Resurrection or New Town, Mexico, when a deadly rain of bullets fell among the Americans, killing John Pulliam and Tom Evans. Although fighting at a great disadvantage, the American stockmen killed nine of their enemies—among them the Alcalde, Francisco Aguilar, who, it was alleged, plotted the raids on American soil.

After this event the male citizenship of Uvalde and surrounding towns were at rendezvous, prepar-



WHITE FALLS  
A Scene on the Nueces River in Captain Dolan's Pasture