

There has been in your recent issues extended notice of the death of W. L. Ellwood, of his coming to Texas and of his large land and ranch investments. It is not surprising that some inaccuracies slipped in.

In the interest of the accuracy of Pan-Handle history, of the entry of I. L. Ellwood into the Pan-handle of Texas and his acquirement of The Spade Ranch, its history and of I. L. Ellwood's part and interest in ^{Pan Handle} ~~its~~ development, I ^{submit} ~~may~~ add a few facts. The fortune of I. L. Ellwood of which a considerable amount was by him invested in Texas ranch properties, was principally acquired through the manufacture of barbed wire.

In about 1870, Joseph H. ^l ~~G~~idden, a farmer with 160 acres of land near Dekalb, Illinois, invented and patented barbed wire--of its introduction there could be written an interesting chapter--but enough to say here is that at that time I. L. Ellwood was a hardware merchant of the town of Dekalb, and of ~~Small~~ ^l ~~Capitol~~, but clear headed. Ellwood acquired from Glidden a half interest in the patent in consideration of contract to manufacture, introduce and sell the wire.

The first machine for its manufacture was a cumbersome wooden structure, then followed simpler machines of steel and increased manufacturing. And soon the great stretches of the treeless praries of Illinois and of the north west having tested the efficiency of barbed wire, the demand became practically illimitable.

Glidden sold his ^{1/2} interest in the patent to Washburn and ^{ll} ~~B~~owen of Warster, Massachusetts for \$250,000.00 and twenty-five cents per spool royalty, and they and Ellwood divided territory. ~~And~~

In about 1874, H. B. Sanborn and J. P. Warner, representing I. L. Ellwood had introduced their wire into Texas and took over the Texas territory for the sale of wire. The sale soon reached great proportions, and profits were large.

In 1878, the Panhandle of Texas had been cleared of hostile indians and venturesome ranch men began to move in, first Colorado men.

In 1880, J. F. Evans and J. P. Warner located the Spade Ranch on the salt-fork of the Red River, near the