

RABBITS WILL BRING MONEY TO SUTHERLIN

Expansion of Industry Planned by Douglas Park Stock Ranch.

MANY STRAINS KEPT

Meat and Fur Give Double Source of Revenue—Industry Expected to Grow Rapidly.

In Sutherlin valley there started, a few months ago, an enterprise rivaling the mint growing, and which may surpass the latter in a short time. This is the raising of rabbits, and it had its inception at the Douglas Park stock ranch, owned by W. D. Valentine, who some years ago bought the Waite ranch of 2000 acres, overlooking the entire Sutherlin valley.

Mr. Valentine began raising thoroughbred Percheron horses and purebred Guernsey cattle, later adding a large number of chickens. Now, however, he is concentrating on rabbits, and has erected two buildings of special type, accommodating over 500 rabbits.

The breeds which Mr. Valentine now keeps, are Himalayans, Black and White Flemish Giants, Silver Fox, American Blues, New Zealand Reds and Whites, and Chinchillas. He is also originating a breed to be known as the Royal White Emerald, a cross between Himalayans, White Flemish Giants and White New Zealand.

Rabbit meat has been a delicacy in foreign countries for many years, but it is comparatively recently that this country created such a demand. In fact so great is the demand that, enough rabbits cannot be found to supply the market. Los Angeles alone consumes 4000 per day.

Mr. Valentine has over 400 does, and four litters a year are raised, with four to twelve young in a litter, only being allowed to remain with the mother. The rabbits are killed for the market when eight weeks old, at which time they average two pounds in weight, the price ranging from 35 cents to 40 cents a pound.

The pelts of the rabbits make a second source of profit. Owing to the growing scarcity of fur-bearing animals, rabbit fur is greatly desired, and the pelts are dyed to imitate over sixty varieties of furs, including seal, beaver, fox, ermine and others. After the fur is cured, dyed, and sewed, it commands a high price, stores in Portland retailing it at \$16 per yard for a strip six inches wide.

The buildings of the Douglas Park Rabbitries are of special construction, with ventilating roofs. Each doe has a separate pen and when the young have attained a certain age, they are segregated. They are fed on rolled barley and oats, alfalfa hay and carrots, the latter conceded to be an ideal food for fattening and conditioning the animals.

Mr. Valentine plans to increase his buildings to twenty which will house 5000 rabbits, and with the growth of the business he will institute a plant for curing and sewing the skins and preparing them for the retail market. So far the local markets are absorbing all the output, but shortly shipment to California will commence. Eventually a large number of men will be employed in the rabbitry.

Several other people are investing in rabbits. E. G. Kingwell is erecting a building 50x35 and will handle Chinchillas for breeding purposes. Which will command a fancy price. It is probable that another year will see a material income from rabbits at Sutherlin.

3 PARTIES OF MEN VIEW CINNABAR MINE EAST OF SUTHERLIN

Considerable speculation is being caused in Sutherlin this week by the arrival of three different parties who inspected the cinnabar mines, 8 miles east of Sutherlin.

The mines, which are said to be rich in cinnabar, were operating 25 years ago, a fully equipped plant being built there to concentrate the values. The low price of mercury at that time, coupled with some legal trouble in which the owners became involved, is said to be responsible for the closing down of the mine, which has been unworked ever since, even the mill being dismantled. Names of the owners are not known, but they are out of the people.

A party of four men from San Francisco inspected the holdings Saturday, two Portland men came in Monday and two more men arrived Wednesday. As mercury is now bringing \$125 a flask of 70 pounds and good assaying ore runs around 98 pounds of mercury to the ton, the value is about \$160 to the ton, and this mine is said to test high, considerable values being taken out years ago when it was operating. So local people are awaiting further developments of the mine, which may mean much to the Sutherlin community.

SUTHERLIN CANNERY IS RECEIVING LOGANBERRIES

The cannery, in charge of Frank J. Norton at Sutherlin has been operating for some little time but the bulk of the fruit will not come for a time, when pears begin coming in.

Loganberries are being dried now

and some 25 tons of the berries have been received. Blackberries will be the next crop to be taken care of. A much larger force will be employed shortly with the speeding up of the fruit crop.

SUTHERLIN BAND AND ORCHESTRA DRAW ATTENTION

Sutherlin is quite justly proud of its band, recently organized, of thirty pieces, a large aggregation of musicians for a comparatively small town. T. M. Oleson of Roseburg is serving as director and the band is putting on some fine concerts every week in Sutherlin. They also furnished the music for the three-day rodeo and fourth of July celebration at Oakland.

Another local musical organization is the Star Four orchestra, composed of drums, saxophone, banjo and piano, with J. W. Litzel as director. The orchestra plays for dances at Sutherlin, and occasionally in nearby towns, and have missed but one Saturday night dance in two years.

RADIO PROGRAM STATION KOAC WEEK OF JULY 24

Radio station KOAC, 270.1 meters, 500 watts, Pacific standard time:

Monday, July 25.

8:00 p. m.—Farm Reminders.

8:05 p. m.—4-H Club Activities.

8:30 p. m.—Agricultural situation reports.

8:45 p. m.—"Handling and Baling Hay to Make Better Grades," D. D. Hill.

9:00 p. m.—Benton County Extension Service News, C. H. Briggs.

Wednesday, July 27.

8:05 p. m.—Farm Reminders.

8:15 p. m.—Timely farm topics.

8:15 p. m.—"Developing New Varieties of Potatoes," E. N. Bressman.

8:30 p. m.—All Around the State.

Friday, July 29.

8:00 p. m.—The campus reporter.

8:10 p. m.—Hitting the Mountain Trails of Oregon.

8:30 p. m.—Summer Chats With the Homemaker.

8:45 p. m.—Summer Poultry Talk, No. 7.

POSTOFFICE AND BANK RECEIPTS SHOW INCREASE

Business conditions in Sutherlin valley are generally good, according to Mark Tisdale, president of the First State Bank. While the depression that, owing to various causes, is being felt nationwide, is noticeable in Sutherlin, in some ways things are showing a marked improvement over last year. Receipts from sales of wool and lambs have boosted bank receipts substantially and given a good mint crop, will bring still further increase.

Postal receipts for the last quarter, ending the fiscal year, are about two per cent over the like period last year, according to Mrs. Josephine Conlin, postmaster. Sutherlin has one of the busiest third-class offices in the county, serving over 700 people. The rural route out of the city, serves more than 100 patrons, this being one of the most heavily patronized rural routes in that section.

BALFOUR-GUTHRIE MILL NOW CUTTING ON DOUGLAS FIR

The Balfour-Guthrie sawmill six miles east of town, commenced operations recently after a period of idleness and is now running regularly. The company owns some eighty million feet of fine Douglas fir in that section and can continue cutting for a period of years. It prices justify their operating. With an upward trend in the lumber market, it is probable that a large mill will be installed.

The present mill has a capacity of 20,000 feet a day, and about 20 men are employed in the mill and woods. The logs are being trucked in, the hauling having been let on contract. While there is equipment for finishing the lumber, the

Drain News

Andrew Redifer of Myrtle Creek is here this week putting a new roof on J. C. Sumner's dwelling house and, incidentally, Mr. Redifer and family are visiting relatives during the week.

Rev. H. W. Rummel, Methodist pastor here, and his family, who have been vacationing and visiting relatives in the vicinity of Los Angeles for about three weeks, returned home the first of the week.

George Walker of Reedsport was here on a business visit for a few days during the week.

Haying is about finished in this vicinity and grain harvest is on in earnest. Crops are said to be very good.

Dr. Stanton W. Stryker, a Portland dentist, who accidentally lost his life in a mountain climbing accident on Mt. Hood last Sunday, was a resident of Drain in his orders now being filled call only for rough stock so no finished material is being offered. The outfit is being used locally.

young manhood days. His father erected the first brick building here, which he used as a drug store and it is still being used for the same purpose.

The E. G. Whipple sawmill has been operating on a double shift for some time past, the mill being run during the day and the planer during the fore part of the night. The Smith River road, leading to Gunter, has been materially improved during the past two or three months, the section from the Pacific highway to the top of the mountain being mostly covered with gravel.

Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Cochran, the former of whom is a teacher in Drain high school, spent last week end visiting friends here. They are spending the summer at Oregon City.

Rev. J. Sams, of Cottage Grove, occupied the morning service hour at the Methodist church here last Sunday, and a gospel team from the same place the evening hour, and these visiting brethren gave a cordial invitation to all who could do so to attend the ten days' camp meeting at their city, which begins on Thursday of this week.

FIRE DEPARTMENT HAS 25 VOLUNTEER MEMBERS

A dance was given at Community hall last Saturday by the Sutherlin volunteer fire department, the funds thus secured used for defraying expenses.

The company is composed of 25 volunteer members who are self-supporting in their work. Cecil Carr is fire chief. Equipment of the company consists of two hose carts and a chemical engine, and the department has done some good work on numerous occasions.

SOUTH DEER CREEK NEWS

Everyone is busy in the hay and grain fields.

H. E. Blood has gone to Klamath Falls.

Mrs. Minnie Cox and Ruth Blood are working on the Johnson ranch. South Deer Creek grange was well represented at the annual picnic held at the Kiwanis Maple Grove in Roseburg.

South Deer Creek grange took in six new members Saturday night.

SUTHERLIN - - - In the Heart of the Mint District

PEPPERMINT HARVEST TO START AT SUTHERLIN IN NEAR FUTURE; ACREAGE IS INCREASED THIS YEAR

No Price Yet Announced for This Year's Crop But Prospects Are Good—Three Distilleries Built—Good Future Is Promised for Industry in Douglas County.

Harvesting of the peppermint crop, an industry in which Sutherlin valley has pioneered, will soon take place, and the outlook is for a comparatively heavy crop. At a general estimate, between 300 and 400 acres are in mint in the county, the bulk of it lying near Sutherlin with a small acreage at Camas Valley and near Dillard, where the industry is being tried out. There is a considerable increase in acreage over last season and at a rough estimate last season, and at a rough estimate, probably 10,000 pounds of the peppermint oil will be distilled this year.

The first mint was planted in Sutherlin in 1925 by A. C. Brown, who distilled about 150 pounds, which brought \$12 per pound. This is the highest price received, a shortage in the crop boosting prices to a high level. E. C. Watkins is another pioneer in mint growing. Last year the growers who contracted the crop, received \$5 per pound, in one or two instances \$8 being received. Others made the mistake of holding in anticipation of higher prices and later accepted from \$2.50 to \$3.50 per pound. It is hard to judge what price will be obtained this year. Oregon produces a superior grade of oil which brings a higher price on the market.

U. S. Uses Large Quantity. Over 450,000 pounds of mint are used annually in the United States, and according to the government bulletin, there is never enough to supply the demand. The resulting amount of shortage causes the fluctuation in price from year to year. Spearmint is also grown, but not so extensively, practically its only use being for flavoring gum. The yield of spearmint per acre is not so heavy, but requires the same expense and work in cultivation. Peppermint, however, has a variety of uses, being utilized for medicines, flavorings, candies and gums.

Cost of Growing Small. The actual cost of planting and growing the mint is estimated at \$1.25 per pound. With prices fluctuating from \$3 to \$15 per pound it can be readily seen that a good profit can be made for the grower. Soils best suited to mint are rich well-drained lands—in this section river bottom land is good, provided it is not covered with water in the spring when the mint should be attaining its start. Rich lands are capable of yielding 85 or 90 pounds of oil to the acre, but the land in this district is averaging around 35 pounds. The first cost is about \$25 to the acre. Roots can be procured of any grower at \$1.00 a sack. Being essentially a weed, the mint grows rapidly and spreads, the roots being thinned at intervals like strawberry vines. The plants are plowed under in the late fall and this stimulates the roots and thins out the plants. Frequent cultivation is necessary and when well-grown, the weeds must be picked out by hand, as the presence of weeds in the mint at distilling time renders the oil impure, so it must be absolutely clean.

SUTHERLIN SHEEP AND WOOL INDUSTRY BIG ENTERPRISE

The sheep industry is becoming one of the important assets in Sutherlin valley, and more lambs are being raised each year. This year the heavy rains made more feed and the cool spring weather was especially conducive for conditioning the lambs, and as a consequence they were heavier and brought larger returns.

R. O. Gott and Herman Wegner are the chief shippers from that point and 16 carloads have gone out to date, with orders for several more cars which will be sent out within a week or ten days.

Each car carries approximately 140 sheep, thus making over 2000 sheep. The average weight of lambs this year is 80 pounds and the average price is around 10

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Three Distilleries Built. Three stills are located near Sutherlin, owned by A. C. Brown, E. C. Watkins and John Duer and Charles Hartley, and these handle the crop for the county. It is estimated that the average cost for distilling is from 25 to 35 cents a pound.

Harvesting time is when the plants are two-thirds in bloom which is usually from August 1 to 15. The herb is cut with a mower and promptly distilled as drying lessens the yield of oil. Some of the Sutherlin growers get two crops on their acreage. A mint stalk from the Larson place on display at Sutherlin, measures three feet in height, but that is extraordinary in growth. The oil is said to come from the leaves only, so the length of stalk is immaterial.

Can Be Big Industry. While Douglas county soil is not especially superior for mint growing, save on the damp, river bottom areas, it can produce a normal crop, and as Oregon oil is superior in flavor, it can command a higher price. With nominal cost to growers and fair profits, sometimes large profits, there is no reason why more acreage cannot be planted to mint, until it becomes the largest mint section in Oregon.

(Note: The News-Review rural editor is indebted to Will J. Hayner, Sutherlin Sun editor, for some of the data regarding mint growing which she procured.)

cents a pound, in some instances a trifle more being received. This makes lamb receipts \$25,000 at a conservative estimate. A small amount is sent to Portland but the greater portion of the cars go to San Francisco, the market there seemingly able to absorb a great quantity.

Two carloads of wool have also been shipped from Sutherlin, which means upwards of 50,000 pounds, the price averaging around 35 cents. The wool was taken by Eugene buyers for use in the woolen mill in that city.

From the figures shown, it can be readily seen what the industry means to the community, and there is room for still further expansion.

SUTHERLIN SUN MAKES NEW IMPROVEMENTS

The Sutherlin Sun, newsy weekly paper, published by Will J. Hayner, has recently adopted a new style of type known as Ionic faces. It gives a clear, legible print and adds much to the appearance of the paper.

Mr. Hayner has also installed a small casting plant with which to make cuts for advertisers and may later put in a regular mat service for use in advertisements.

DRESSED RABBITS

35c PER POUND

Douglas Park Rabbitries

SUTHERLIN

Ann's Cafe

SUTHERLIN, ORE.

SPECIAL SUNDAY CHICKEN DINNERS

50c

Meals at all Hours

Home Cooking

Mrs. Ann Holgate, Owner

Star Service Station

J. W. LEITZEL

Atwater Kent Radios

KELLY TIRES

GAS, OILS

Sutherlin, Ore.

Chevrolet Sales and Service

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This is worth keeping in mind—To do a quick repair job on a Ford, three things are necessary: special equipment and tools, mechanics who know how to repair a Ford, genuine Ford parts to make required replacements.

We have all three and guarantee a first class repair job.

Allen Bros. Ford SALES SERVICE

McCREERY'S

is the up-to-date

HARDWARE STORE

SUTHERLIN, OREGON

Hotel Sutherlin

A Friendly House

A HOTEL THAT SAVES YOU MONEY

GOOD FOODS QUICK SERVICE

COMFORTABLE ROOMS

BEN SCHMID, Manager

Don't Forget THE CLOSING OUT SALE OF Conlin's Shoe Store

Sutherlin, Ore.

SHOES WAY BELOW COST

Tourist Restaurant

Homecooked Meals

Good Service

Homemade Pastry

HAZEL M. GREEN

JUST INSTALL THE NEW 8 HOUR BATTERY SERVICE

With Absolute Safety

At the Sign of the BIG Shell

SUTHERLIN GARAGE.

G. P. FRENCH

National Battery Service

STAPLE AND FANCY GROCERIES

Fruits and Vegetables

Canning Supplies

PRICES RIGHT

Applegate's Cash Grocery

Sutherlin, Oregon

First State Bank OF SUTHERLIN

A STRONG BANK

We Pay Interest on Savings Accounts

Safety Deposit Boxes for Rent.

ABSOLUTE SAFETY—SATISFACTORY SERVICE

Dry Goods, Groceries Boots and Shoes

Fresh Vegetables each day—Highest prices paid for Butter and Eggs

A TRIAL WILL CONVINCE

TALBOTT & SLATER

"Where Your Dollar Has More Cents."

Sutherlin, Oregon