

Over The Valley

Mabel E. Morton, Valley News Editor

County Council to Meet—

The County Council of the Portland Teachers association will meet on next Tuesday at the school at Island City, the Island City group to be the hostesses. A splendid program is being arranged, which will begin promptly at 8 o'clock. Besides some musical numbers, there will be an address by Mrs. Leif Aves, of La Grande, on the Campfire Girls organization, and Mrs. C. E. MacPherson, also of La Grande, will give an outline of her work. This will be in addition to the business meeting. Mrs. Charles Cleaver, of Imbler, county chairman, will be in charge of the program.

Home From O. A. C.—

Russell McKennon is home from O. A. C. for a visit over the Thanksgiving vacation at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank McKennon near Imbler.

Aid to Have Bazaar—

The Ladies Aid Society of the Methodist Church of Cove is announcing their annual bazaar which they will have at the Macomber hall in Cove on Wednesday, December 7th. Lunch will be served also during the day.

Ex-Governor Ill—

Ex-governor Walter M. Pierce has been ill again and is at Hot Lake Sanatorium where he is receiving medical care and attention.

Install Electric Heater—

Hubert Lutz is having his big sheep barn, on his farm on Brooks Lane wired for electricity for light, power and heat. Wood stoves have always been used heretofore for heat, during lambing time, but high insurance rates have also made that source of heat prohibitive. Mr. Lutz will install an electric heater, which will be most satisfactory, all the way around, he believes.

Return Home Today—

Ralph and Bobbie Chenault, who had been in La Grande several days while having their tonsils removed were able to return to their home on the Cove highway Tuesday. Mr. Chenault had more or less of a serious time following his operation due to hemorrhages.

New Yeag Swimming Party—

Mrs. Bentner, owner of the Cove Swimming Pool is extending an invitation to all who care to attend to have a free swim at the pool on New Year's Day. The water is just right and there are warm rooms to dress in. This pool is in use nearly every day. Some times it is only an occasional swimmer, sometimes a party, but the water is always just ready. After the Cove-Inbler game a week ago, the Inbler boys were given a dip in the water after the strenuous and very muddy game.

Women's Club to Meet—

The Women's Club of Imbler will meet on next Wednesday, November 30th at the home of Mrs. Irvin Westenskow. This will be a social meeting.

Have Turkey Shoot—

A very successful turkey shoot was held Tuesday afternoon at the Ted Conrad home near Imbler. There was a large crowd in attendance.

Start to Pack Apples—

The force started to pack apples Wednesday at the Mt. Fanny Packing Shed at Cove. About three cars of apples, all Jonathans and Home Beauties will be put out by this group of fruit shippers.

School Carnival—

The teacher and pupils of Riverside school will hold their carnival this evening at the school. The affair had been originally announced for last Friday evening, but there was a conflict with the Cove H. S. minstrels. A fine program has been arranged for tonight.

Pomona Grange to Meet—

Plans are being perfected for the next meeting of the Pomona Grange which is to meet at Wolf Creek Grange hall on Saturday, December 10th. This is the home grange of the master of the Pomona organization, J. A. Nee. Weather permitting a very large attendance is predicted.

Cattle Raisers Encouraged—

Buyers of cattle from cattle raisers over the valley are offering very good prices for the stock, which is very encouraging to those having animals for sale. In one locality a load recently sold brought the highest price which has been paid, since the war.

Have Dinner Guests—

Prof. and Mrs. J. R. Price and family gave a lovely dinner yesterday at their home in Cove, having for their guests, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Mills and sons Allen, Lloyd and Gall, and daughter, Miss Dorothy, who is home from her high school work at Walla Walla for the Thanksgiving recess.

Have Successful Bazaar—

The Women's Improvement Club of Cove held a very successful bazaar and luncheon Tuesday at the Macomber hall, with a very good

attendance, a fine display and good sales. The women are exerting a special effort at the present time to clear up the last remaining \$200 due on the Cove Library. At the last accounting they stood well to clear around \$100 at the bazaar.

Source of Seed—

The chances are that when you plant your garden next spring your lettuce, radish and onion seeds will either have been imported or else grown in a small area in the southern end of the Santa Clara valley in California. Only about a thousand acres are devoted to the growing of garden seed in the Gilroy district, but they provide about 95 per cent of the lettuce seed, practically all of the radish seed, and 75 per cent of the onion seed produced in the United States. The seeds are usually grown under contract with seed firms by Japanese farmers who are paid by the pound for the seed—From an Exchange.

North Powder P. T. A.—

The Parent-Teacher association of North Powder will, at its next meeting, on Friday, December 2nd, hold a box supper for the benefit of the association. Boxes will be sold, or rather suppers secured by the purchase of shadows instead of boxes.

Makes Visit at Home—

Miss Beryl Conley who is attending a private school at Walla Walla is at home for a short visit at the home of her parents living near Cove.

Erecting Two Large Sheep Sheds—

Walter M. Pierce and son, Lloyd Pierce are erecting two large sheep barns on their ranches. On the home place a barn large enough for 1200 sheep is being erected while on the Hot Lake ranch one sufficiently large to house 1500 sheep is in the process of erection.

Schools All Having Vacation—

All schools over the county are enjoying the two-day vacation, yesterday being a legal holiday and Friday being given according to custom. Likewise all over the county young people who are attending school at different educational centers are home in large numbers for the longer vacation. The exception is the group from the University of Oregon where no vacation was granted on account of the prevalence of infantile paralysis over the state. Many families were disappointed when this notice was given out keeping one and in some cases two members of the family away from the family board for the Thanksgiving feast.

Apples Going Out Steadily—

Two and sometimes three cars of apples are being shipped daily from the big orchard of H. H. Weatherspoon of Elgin. All the apples are under cover for which the Weatherspoons are grateful, since there was much to hinder during the last week of picking.

CROP ROTATION IN VALLEY EXPLAINED BY FRANK MCKENNON

At the meeting of the agricultural and health committee of the Union county chamber of commerce held last week at Hot Lake, Frank McKennon, of Imbler, presented a paper on crop rotation, which members of the committee thought was "worthy of publication and have asked that it appear on this page today. The paper as prepared by Mr. McKennon follows:

CROP ROTATION

What Does It Mean? How Does It Apply to Our Valley? What Crops Are Suitable for Rotation?

The above subject was assigned to me by Dr. Ph. as the one upon which I am to present a paper at this meeting. It is one in which I have been interested for years, and it is one upon which hangs the future agricultural prosperity of our county. It is one of the most difficult and complex problems confronting the farmer, mainly due to the fact that a successful rotation system is a long time proposition, reaching sometimes for years into the future, and that no infallible system has been developed that will apply to all conditions, owing to differences in climate, soil and access to market.

Crop rotation, in its proper meaning, is a system of cropping the same land successively with a variety of crops that will maintain and restore the fertility of the soil, control pests, lessen the cost per unit of production and secure the largest possible returns to the farmer.

The soil is so complex in its relation to growing crops that it is one of nature's greatest puzzles, and is a subject of the deepest interest to those who work with it. The relation of each crop to the water content, bacterial action, humus content, and its effect upon the mineral and organic components in the soils, with regard to succeeding crops, is a matter so complex that even scientists are not yet ready to state positively the laws on soil fertility.

However, it is common knowledge that the continuous growing of a single crop, or different crops of similar habits of growth, and food requirements, depletes the soil of the elements necessary for the growth of that crop and increases the insect and fungus pests which prey upon it. It is also known that humus or decaying vegetable matter is a benefit to practically all soils, increasing their water holding capacity, permitting the circulation of air, increasing bacterial action (so necessary to decomposition of vegetable matter and the disintegration of

The mud became so heavy that the boxes of apples had to be hauled on wagons from the trees to the house and then transferred to the trucks. The wet mud got on pickers and apples alike while the last picking was being done, consequently there were about 5000 boxes of apples where the fruit had to be wiped off with cloths to remove the mud which had fastened itself there. A force of 45 pickers are busy getting the fruit in shipping condition, the work at present being on the Newtown Pippins which go to foreign trade.

Here For Thanksgiving—

Keith Abbott came yesterday and is spending the Thanksgiving vacation with his college friend, Russell McKennon, at the Frank McKennon home near Imbler. Mr. Abbott's home is at Berkeley, Cal.

Visits at Walla Walla—

Mrs. W. B. Ledbetter went to Walla Walla this morning where she is spending a few days visiting with her daughter, Miss Edna, a teacher at Kendrick, Idaho, who is attending a house party of Walla Walla students at Walla Walla.

mineral matter), and in itself providing plant food for successive crops.

Rotation of crops also is a means of keeping the land in better till, than would otherwise be the case, as it aids in the control of weeds and the turning under of alfalfa or clover sod or other green crops adds food for soil bacteria and fungi and is of great physical benefit to the soil.

The fact that the fertility of the soil, in this valley, is fast becoming depleted, with a system of one crop farming, is too apparent to the members of this committee to need any proof of confirmation from me and the important question is what can we do to maintain what we have left and restore that which we have lost?

I believe that a system of rotation, in which legumes play a most important part, together with the keeping of more live stock, is the logical answer to the question.

No general system of rotation can be used on all of the farms of the valley, because the soil and moisture conditions vary so widely in different localities, and the inclinations and abilities, likes and dislikes of individual farmers vary more widely still. The experiment stations can discover and formulate general principles and each farmer must adapt these principles to his own farm. In other words it will be necessary for an experienced station, himself, and I find that in order to make the best use of the experiment station, this is always true, for each one has factors on his own farm that are peculiar to it alone. In this work of individual experiments the county agent, with his technical knowledge, can be of special aid, for investigations by experiment is something which requires the closest observation of conditions and variations and an accurate system of checks, and the average farmer has not the time nor scientific training to carry on the work in a manner which would make results dependable.

The use of alfalfa and sweet clover, one or both of which will thrive on practically all soils in the valley, will make it comparatively easy to increase the nitrogen and humus content of soils where grown. If these crops are fed to livestock on the farm and the manure returned to the soil, further benefits still may be derived. I am not prepared to say what would be a good system of rotation for this valley, but the use of these legumes and the raising of hogs, sheep and cattle in greater numbers, I believe will be the basis upon which a successful system will be built. Field peas, potatoes, corn (for silage) and to horn down in the field) and tame pasture mixtures will all play their part in a reconstructed system of farming which will be more profitable and more permanent.

EFFICIENCY IN NUTS

RIO DE JANEIRO—Nothing is wasted when the babassu nut is prepared for trade. From the seeds is extracted an oil which makes excellent butter and high grade soap, and which can be used as a lubricant, as food or as a combustible. The husks, of which there are 15 tons to every ton of seeds, are raw material for numerous by-products, chief of which is charcoal. Hundreds of thousands of tons of babassu nuts are exported from Brazil annually, and it is estimated more than 1,000,000 tons are available from Maranhao alone.

Installation buying makes the months shorter and the years longer.

FAVORITE RECIPES

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A SEASONABLE RECIPE

A Good Upside Down Cake

Make a batter of the following:
1/2 cup butter.
1 1/2 cups sugar. Cream these together well.

1 cup water.
1/4 teaspoon salt.
2 1/2 cups flour.
2 tablespoons baking powder.

1 egg.
Cook together:
2 tablespoons butter.
1 cup brown sugar.
1 large can grated pineapple, drained.

Put this last in the bottom of a pan; pour the batter over it, bake like a cake.

Cut in pieces when cold, turn each piece over and serve with whipped cream.

ICE ROADS FOR LOGGING

MOSCOW — Experiments made by lumbermen in the Tver and Vologda Provinces of Russia indicate 25.6 per cent of the cost of logging may be saved by constructing ice roads for hauling lumber.

It was found that horses could draw six to eight times their own weight and that in three months lumbermen would save 1,000 rubles, including amortization of sleds and tools, over the cost of hauling on snow roads. The number of horses needed for hauling also was reduced 80 per cent.

SAN FRANCISCO—

Having succeeded in catching 150 pounds of grunts at Clear Lake during the past summer in an experimental screen trap baited with electric lights, Robert W. Burnett, of the University of California, plans to return to the lake next summer and install enough traps to de-gut the lake section.

Union, Baker and Wallowa Counties Best For Hog Raising in Oregon

Professor E. L. Potter, head of the animal husbandry department at Oregon Agricultural college, was a visitor at the Eastern Oregon experiment station at Union, last Thursday, having returned from the agricultural economic conference held at Baker during the week. While at the experiment station, Professor Potter chanced on the freshman animal husbandry class of the Union high school agricultural department and was prevailed upon to give them a "pen side" talk on hog raising.

The students had just completed judging a class of four Berkshire barrows, as part of their avian husbandry study, under the direction of Cecil L. Griggs, instructor in agriculture, so Professor Potter briefly discussed the merits of the various animals emphasizing the value of a well-bred pig in contrast to a "scrub" to the pig feeder. The visitor pointed out that the hog business had been on a very satisfactory plane during the last two years, perhaps not so much this year as last, but still profitable to farmers who understand how to properly handle hogs.

"Hogs require an abundance of feed of the right kind," asserted Professor Potter. "To raise hogs successfully, a farmer needs log-cum pasture, preferably alfalfa, plenty of grain, and a protein supplement such as tankage or skim-milk. A good mineral mixture is also recommended. If a person lacks one or more of these details, his success in the hog business is seriously handicapped."

Union, Wallowa and Baker counties were declared by the O. A. C. specialists to be the best "hog" counties of the state, because they contained both good quality of stock as well as an abundance of desirable feed. Professor Potter advised the boys of the Smith-Hughes agricultural departments, who intended to feed hogs as projects, to stick to the minimum of three or four recommended for projects of high school grade. Projects using only a single pig are likely to yield misleading results, he pointed out, while the cost of the labor involved in caring for three or four pigs was little greater than in the case of one, while the feeder had the added advantage of being able to study the individuality of the feeder pigs.

After his visit to Union, Professor Potter left on a trip to Chicago where he planned to visit the International Livestock show. While at the Chicago exposition, he was scheduled to speak on the program of the annual meeting of the American Society of Animal Products. The O. A. C. man also expected to see Floyd Edwards, formerly livestock specialist at the Eastern Oregon Experiment station, now located in Chicago studying for advanced degree under the provisions of a meat packer's scholarship. Edwards was a graduate of the animal husbandry department at O. A. C. headed by Mr. Potter.

A mining excitement is current in northern Curry county, near the head of Flores creek, where ore has been discovered and a number of claims staked. The district has the first blackjack ore found in that section. Samples of ore which have been assayed run \$80 to the ton and a large proportion of zinc.



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