

ABUSE OF SOIL WEARS OUT LAND

Suicide in Agriculture Discussed by James J. Hill—Rotation of Crops is Essential to Conserve Soil Resources and Prevent Exhaustion.

(By James J. Hill)

Far more ruinous than erosion because universal and continuing in its effects, is the process of soil exhaustion. It is creeping over the land from east to west. The abandoned farms that are now the playthings of the city's rich or the game preserves of patrons of sport bear witness to the melancholy change. New Hampshire, Vermont, northern New York, show long lists of them. In western Massachusetts which once supported a flourishing agriculture, farm properties are now for sale for half the cost of the improvements. Professor Carver of Harvard has declared after a personal examination of the country that "agriculture as an independent industry, able in itself to support a community, does not exist in the hilly parts of New England."

The same process of deterioration is affecting the farm lands of western New York, Ohio and Indiana. Where prices of farms should rise by increase of population, in many places they are falling. The richest region of the west is no more exempt than New England or the south. The soil of the west is being reduced in agricultural potency by exactly the same processes which have driven the farmer of the east, with all his advantage of nearness to markets, from the field.

Agricultural Abuses of Soil.

But the fact of soil waste becomes startlingly evident when we examine the record of some states where single cropping and other agricultural abuses have been prevalent. Take the case of wheat the mainstay of single crop abuse. Many of us can remember when New York was the great wheat producing state of the Union. The average yield of wheat an acre in New York for the last ten years was about 18 bushels. For the first five years of that ten years period it was 15.14 and for the last five 13.18. Up in the northwest Minnesota wheat has made a name all over the world. Her average yield an acre for the same ten years was 12.96 bushels. For the last five years it was 13.12 and for the last five 12.8. We perceive here the working of a uniform law, independent of location, soil or climate. It is the law of a diminishing return due to soil destruction.

No Necessity of Wearing Out.

When the most fertile land in the world produces so much less than that of poorer quality elsewhere, and this low yield shows a tendency to steadily decline, the situation becomes clear. We are robbing the soil in an effort to get the largest cash returns from each acre of ground in the shortest possible time and with the least possible labor.

We frequently hear it said that the reduction in yield is due to the wearing out of the soil, as if it was a garment to be destroyed by the wearing. The fact is that soils either increase or maintain their productivity indefinitely under proper cultivation. If the earth, the great mother of human and animal life, is to "wear out" what is to become of the race? The two remedies are as well ascertained as is the evil. Rotation of crops and the use of fertilizers act as tonics upon the soil. We might expand our resources and add billions of dollars to our national wealth by conserving soil resources instead of exhausting them, as we have the forests and the contents of the mines. For there is good authority for the assertion that the farmer could take from the same area of ground in four years grain crops out of a total of seven years as much as the whole seven now give him, leaving the products of the other three years when the land rested from grain as a clear profit due to better methods.

Adding Wealth to the Nation.

Of our farm areas only one-half is improved. It does not produce one-half of what it could be made to yield, not by some complex system of intensive culture, but merely by ordinary care and industry intelligently applied. It is the capital upon which alone we can draw through all the future, but the amount of the draft that will be honored depends upon the care and intelligence given to its cultivation. Were any statesman to show us how to add \$7,000,000,000 annually to our foreign trade it would be the sensation of the hour. The way to add this in agriculture is open. Our share in the increase would not be the percentage of profit allowed by successful trading, but the entire capital sum. On the other side stands the fact that the unappropriated area suited to farm purposes is almost gone, and that we have been for the last century reducing the producing power of the country. Nowhere in the range of national purposes is the reward for conservation of a national resource so ample; nowhere is the penalty of neglect so threatening.

FIVE THOUSAND ACRES OF PLACER ON KLAMATH

Over 5000 acres of placer claims have been located on the Klamath river in this county during the last few weeks. Thirty-two notices were filed on May 14 for record, each notice covering 160 acres.

All this mining ground is located for dredging purposes. The locations are made by the same parties who recently located thousands of acres of similar ground along the Klamath and Trinity rivers in Del Norte, Humboldt and Trinity counties.

The claims located in this county extend from Humboldt county line up stream to the vicinity of Hamburg, near the mouth of Scott river.

Prohibition in Aitchison Kan.

Robert F. Antle, Who Has Bought the Johnson Place, Tells of Conditions in Kansas City—Stagnation of Business Interests and Murder of Prosperity Followed Law's Enforcement.

Robert T. Antle of Aitchison, Kan., has just purchased 109 acres of C. C. Johnson, adjoining the Kaiser orchard, formerly the Simon place, near Phoenix. About 40 acres is in orchard. The price paid was \$18,000.

"I hope the people of Jackson county have sense enough to vote against prohibition," said Mr. Antle. "I come from a prohibition state and know how it works."

"We have had prohibition for years, in Kansas. During all this time until a few months ago, when the attorney-general interferred, there were 20 saloons openly in Aitchison. These saloons were orderly, closed Sunday and at midnight. There was but little drunkenness on the streets. These saloons paid annual fines of \$600 apiece. In addition, there were four agencies of big eastern breweries, which also paid \$600 a year fine apiece. This made a total revenue of \$20,400 a year from saloons and largely paid the city expense."

"There is a brewery at Aitchison that, when the prohibition law was passed, was a small affair and practically bankrupt. Under prohibition it has grown to be one of the largest breweries in the country and has cleared \$175,000 outside of improvements. Even today it runs four daily delivery wagons in Aitchison."

"Since the attorney-general closed the saloons in Aitchison most of them, including the eastern brewery agencies, have moved across the river into East Aitchison, on the Missouri side, and the city of Aitchison is out over \$20,000 a year revenue, for which an increased tax has had to be levied."

"There are 16 drug stores in Aitchison that sell booze by the drink, from 25 to 50 cent bottles and several blind pigs. These pay government licenses only."

"The police court cases have increased 5 to 1 in the past few months, and the number of drunks on the street show a still larger increase. More boys are arrested for drunkenness than ever in the city's history."

"The 30 buildings occupied by the saloons are all vacant or have been rented at greatly reduced rentals. Rents have fallen all over the business section of Aitchison and the construction of new buildings stopped."

"Farmers who used to come to Aitchison to buy supplies and spend their money now go to Kansas City, and Aitchison merchants are out this trade. In brief, the enforcement of prohibition has killed prosperity and brought about stagnation in Aitchison."

METHOD OF SAVING ROSES FROM MILDEW

SAN FRANCISCO, May 23.—Congratulations are pouring in on Hugo Lilienthal of Berkeley, a horticulturist of note, on his discovery of a method of saving young roses from mildew, which means that from 50 to 75 per cent of roses grown will be preserved from destruction. Lilienthal has informed Secretary of Agriculture Wilson of his discovery. His grafting of the tender slips upon the dog rose, the grafting entering the dog rose bark obliquely but not entering the core. The dog rose, having hard, glossy leaves, able to resist the attack of the mildew, protects its little proteges and lends them some of its own hardiness.

MAKE IT UNANIMOUS.

Just now there appears to be little doubt but that it is Senator Cake of Oregon. Once the campaign started it was speedily seen that the oft-boasted personal popularity of George the governor was a bit so slightly stout as it once was. Various things that some folks have known about our chief executive have come to light, and a lot of folks are today doubtful if George was such a whale of a man after all.

The nearer Oregon makes it unanimous for Cake the better for Oregon. There are a few places where party politics still count; they don't usually in city, county and district affairs, but they do in national affairs, especially in the upper house of congress, where the majority party gets what it wants and the minority sits tight and waits. Oregon wants a lot of things from congress; it can never get them through a democratic senator.

CHAMBERLAIN COMES OUT AGAINST THE JAPANESE

ROSBURG, Or., May 23.—Governor Chamberlain has come out flat-footed against the annexation of the Japanese in the commonwealth of Oregon. "I would rather let my children go uneducated than allow them to sit with a Japanese in the schoolroom," he declared Wednesday night in a speech here. The statement was greeted with applause.

NEW ENGINEER NAMED FOR COLUMBIA JETTY

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Major James F. McIndoe, engineer officer now stationed at New Orleans, was today ordered to proceed to Portland as soon as possible after July 1 to relieve Colonel S. W. Roessler. Major McIndoe has for a long time been stationed at New Orleans, where he has had charge of Sabine Pass and improvement of the lower Mississippi. He has also been on duty in Washington, and is highly regarded in the engineer corps.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?
I have for sale at \$62.50 per acre, 80 acres of as fine orchard land as there is in Rogue River valley. The improvements on place are worth at least \$1250. Let me show you this land.
ALFRED SMITH
OVER JACKSON COUNTY BANK.

For Fine Meats
More Quantity Than Elsewhere
More Quality Than Elsewhere
More Money Left Over
The Medford Meat Co.
Successors to Pottenger Next to Hotel Nash

HUME MUST PAY FINE FOR VIOLATING THE LAW
SALEM, Or., May 23.—Affirmation of the case of the state vs. R. D. Hume by the supreme court makes it obligatory upon the defendant to pay a fine of \$500 for canning salmon in hermetically sealed tin cans without having first secured the proper license from the state. The conviction was secured by a deputy game warden in Curry county and the case was appealed on an alleged error made by the court. Hume, through his attorneys, challenged the validity of the law licensing salmon canneries on the ground that the law was not within that function of the legislative powers defined as police regulation. The attorneys contended it was the intention of those who framed the law that it was to be a means only of raising revenue, and therefore was unequal in its operation and violated the organic law of the state. The supreme court held that it was properly under the category of police regulation and not invalid.

If You are Particular
You Should Go
to the place where satisfaction is assured to particular people; where quality is unsurpassed and where the prices are right. Then go.

To the Eagle Pharmacy
and get the best. This store carries all the well-known proprietary remedies. The stock of all kinds of high-grade stationery is complete, and nowhere this side of Portland can be found such an up-to-date and exclusive assortment of toilet articles, soaps, perfumes, etc.

Prescription Work
Is a special consideration. Two graduate pharmacists are in charge and the most careful work is guaranteed.
A. E. WHITMAN, Manager. PALM BLOCK.

THE ONLY PLACE IN MEDFORD TO GET
Ready Prepared Lunch Goods
ROAST CHICKENS, ROAST PORK, VEAL LOAF, CHICKEN AND POTATO SALAD
Always Fresh, Everything Cleanly
OUR FRESH BAKERY STUFFS ARE THE BEST IN TOWN
The DELICATESSEN
C STREET, NEAR EIGHTH

NEW YORK, May 23.—Dr. Ira Van Gieson, expert on hydrophobia for the New York board of health, was inoculated with hydrophobia today while making an autopsy of the body of William H. Marsh, the Brooklyn manufacturer who died of that disease yesterday. Dr. Van Gieson scratched his arm with one of the bones from Mr. Marsh's body. Dr. Van Gieson said he had been inoculated before, and he expressed only annoyance at the incident. He went to the laboratory of the board of health for treatment and will go to the Pasteur institute later.

Just Received- A Carload of Extra Heavy Green Lath
CEDAR BEVELED SIDING
ANYTHING MADE FROM TREES
Quotations promptly and cheerfully furnished
Woods Lumber Co.
KILNS AND MILLS AT GLENDALE OREGON
YARD AND OFFICE AT MEDFORD, OREGON.

Prompt Delivery
Good Stock
Right Prices
CRATER LAKE
LUMBER COMPANY



Davis Best Flour
Is "best" by every test. It sells for less money and gives twice as much satisfaction. Don't let your grocer talk you into buying other brands shipped in. Try a sack and be convinced.

Prohibitionists are out Again this spring. And they say that "Drinking is a bad thing."
Regardless of whether Jackson county goes prohi or not, those who wish to drink will drink; they will undoubtedly pay more and get poorer whisky—the kind that makes a man hate himself and everybody he meets—and makes him want to fight. But if you patronize home industry you get the best cigars on the market. Our Medford 5c, R. V., 10c, and Del Mare 15c Cigars make you smile.
MANUFACTURED BY R. E. V. CIGAR WORKS, MEDFORD, OR.

To The Public
HAVING INSTALLED MACHINERY FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF HIGH GRADE ICE CREAM, WE ARE PREPARED TO FILL ALL ORDERS, LARGE OR SMALL. DELIVERIES MADE TO ANY PART OF THE CITY. SPECIAL ORDERS GIVEN OUR PROMPT ATTENTION. ORDER AT MEDFORD BOOK STORE OR CRYSTALERY.
Rogue River Creamery Medford

R. W. GRAY, Builder
COLONIAL PORCH WORK, GRILL AND LATH WORK, PATTERNS, ETC.
TELEPHONE 471. MEDFORD, OR.

Small Orchards
On Easy Terms. City Property and Fruit Groves for Sale

Five and Ten Acre Orchards on the installment plan. The right kind of soil, the right kind of trees and the right prices.
Twenty years' experience in fruit raising backs our judgment. We have sold half the orchards in the valley and have yet to see a purchaser dissatisfied with his bargain.
Before buying see

Rogue River Land Co.
Exhibit Building

We Want to Buy Lands
Realty Bond Syndicate of Oregon
W. H. Stalker Secretary
Jackson County Bank Annex