

WEST SIDE SUPPLEMENT.

THE FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

INDEPENDENCE, MARCH 21, 1890.

THE WEST SIDE.

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Independence, Polk County, Oregon.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

AN INTERESTING SESSION--
VALUABLE DISCUSSIONS--A
FULL PROGRAM--A SYN-
OPSIS OF ALL THE PAP-
ERS AND SPEECHES.

Address of Welcome by Prof. D. T. Stanley, of Oregon State Normal School, Menmouth--Response by Prof. B. L. Arnold, State Agricultural College, of Corvallis--Work of the State Horticultural Board by R. S. Wallace, of Salem--"How we miss it" read by Men. E. T. Hatch, of McCoy--"Future Possibilities of the American Farmer From the Present Standpoint," by Men. J. H. Hawley, of Bethel--"Till Drainage," by Geo. Rogers, near Independence--"Poultry Raising by Prof. Berchtold, of State Agricultural College--"Mixed Farming" by Men. F. S. Powell, of Manmouth--"Bee Culture" by Prof. W. W. Bristow, of State Agricultural College--"Work of Oregon Horticulturists" by O. P. S. Plummer, of Portland--"Our Boys and Girls vs. Stock" Prof. W. N. Hull, of State Agricultural College--"Site and Enslage" by H. T. Finch, of Corvallis.

OPENING SESSION MARCH 13TH.

On Thursday evening the inspiring strains of the Independence brass band called the people together at an early hour at the opera house in this city to attend the opening session of the Farmers' Institute, which is carried on under the auspices of the State Agricultural College at Corvallis. The audience was large, orderly and attentive. Ex-Mayor Goodman was chosen chairman and Prof. F. Berchtold, of Corvallis, secretary.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

Prof. D. T. Stanley, president of the Oregon State Normal school, was introduced and said: No more pleasant task could be assigned to him than to welcome the farmers of this vicinity to a participation in the benefits of this Institute; had been a farmer himself; read agricultural papers. That the solution of the problem of capital and labor needs to be studied by the farmer, and that through the farmer's effort and action a solution of the problem will be gained. That we have already made considerable progress in the attempt to solve it. The most important part of our wealth comes from the soil therefore conditions of society greatly depend upon the success of the farmers. He advocated organization among the farmers, as a matter of great importance. That in concluding he would again extend a hearty welcome to the farmers.

THE RESPONSE.

Prof. B. L. Arnold, president of the State Agricultural College, in behalf of the college thanked the gentlemen who were contributing to make this Institute a success. That their value was becoming better known each year. That a good many questions of political economy, which involve farmers interests, were to be solved. One of the best books for the farmer to read just now was Dr. Franklin's "Poor Richards Almanac." Explained the purposes of these institutes and that the farmers should make their wants known to the officers of the State Agricultural College. That in the Institutes the experience of all is given and theory is combined with practice. Shows that it is important that the farmer should be educated as well as the lawyer or the teacher. That the state pays for the instruction of the teacher, because the state wants the community better served. That the farmer, if better educated, will be of more benefit to the state. That this is the reason why the state educates classes of individuals. That if the farmer were educated to a point where the production could be doubled that prices would fall

and while this does not seem to benefit the farmer it does benefit the whole country. This is the reason why the state educates the farmer. Compares the savage Indian to the civilized man. That education improved the skill, the weapon, and the incentive to industry of the individual. Another reason is given why the farmer should be educated. The population of the world increases faster than the products of the land. In 1800 the United States had 5,000,000,000 people and now has fifty-five millions of people. By another century the country will have an enormous population. That the population of England is the reason why the rents are so high. That the pressure of population is going to be one of the most important one of solution in these United States. That this problem will be one which will strain our government to solve. Tells of the difference of population between the East and West and of Europe and America. That education should be given the farmer that the immense number of people may be fed from the products of the soil. That this evil is to be considered now while there is a remedy. That the farmer is better able than anyone else to stand against war, famine and pestilence, and that when the farmer suffers all classes suffer.

Song by Miss Lottie Hedges, of Independence, Mrs. F. A. Douty accompanist. "When the Leaves Return Again." Very nicely rendered. The audience was then favored with an address by Hon. R. S. Wallace, of Salem, on the

STATE BOARD OF HORTICULTURE AND ITS WORK.

He said: It reminded him of a circumstance. Had a boy 8 years of age. Was discussing with the board collin moths, green aphids, etc., and his little boy asked him what horticultural was. When asked what he thought it was he said he thought it was a bug. That horticulture treats of trees, and just now bugs infest them. Spoke of the interests which ladies should take in horticulture. That the best dried fruit from California is put up by a lady. Spoke of the prevalence of the hog pens and chicken yards in such positions that the farmer's boy does not think farming very attractive. Spoke of the farmer having specialties in agriculture. That the farmer cannot engage in all kinds of farming occupations and make a success. That if the farmer who is interested in horticulture tries to engage in a dozen other branches he will not succeed. Says that he has been told that good fruit was once raised in Oregon, but the story is one of past days. Spoke of the vast resources of Oregon. That the residents here scarcely realized the situation. Spoke of Dr. Irvine, of Albany, telling him in Chicago that tomatoes could not be raised in Oregon, and that a man named Rubble made a great deal of money out of cherries in early days. Now cherries and tomatoes are almost staple crops in Oregon. That the orchards of Oregon have no careful intelligent culture. The roadsides show the remains of departed glory in the mass covered-trees. That California brought \$2,000,000 profit into the state last year from its shipments of fruit. That the board of horticulture was organized to encourage and assist in the business of fruit raising, but that while a great many meetings had been held the result has not been as encouraging as they wished. Spoke of the remedy for the codlin moth. That the arsenic poisons are the antidote. That the slug and aphids can be remedied. That the hope is that the future of Oregon may show an interest taken in horticulture, and that we may see the orchards well taken care of and bearing their fruit bringing a golden harvest, and materially aiding in the prosperity of Oregon.

Song by Miss Minnie Webber, of Independence, accompanied by Miss Lillian Cooper, "When the Violets Bloom Again," which was a very pleasing effort.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. Paulson, of Washington county, asked Mr. Wallace what the cost was connected with the remedy for a codlin moth and weather it was an entire suc-

cess? Mr. Wallace said that one pound of paris green and one hundred and fifty gallons of water is sufficient, which with an ordinary spray pump will last all day. The paris green costs only about 20 cents so that the labor is of much greater value than the materials. That London purple is not as good as paris green. That the cost depends upon the proper use of the spray.

"Do you find this an infallible remedy?"

Said that after using this remedy he had found it work very successfully.

Mr. Paulson asked at what season the spraying should first commence?

That just as the bloom falls is the best time to apply and every two weeks thereafter.

Does the moss on the fruit tree do any harm?

Yes it does. That moss is a fungus and lives on the juices of the tree.

How can moss be killed?

By using a solution of lime and salt. That it kills the moss and also kills other fungus. That the moss is killed and falls off the tree. Spoke of the spreading of the codlin moth. That it flies entirely at night.

Address by Hon. K. T. Hatch, of McCoy.

WHERE WE MISS IT.

He said. That it is easier to tell how you have missed it rather than how you hit it. That we have been raising wheat and yet wheat as a crop pays very little profit. That in the next ten years we will consume all our own wheat at home, but shall we wait for that time. That the far seeing farmer years ago set out orchards which are now yielding him a profit. That stall-feeding of cattle was once not a success, but now it has been proven profitable. That the silo has been successful. That raising good grades of stock can be made to pay; favors farming of specialties. Spoke of the profits of gardening for profit. That what the Oregon farmer wants is larger towns that we may have a closer and better home market, and we can well afford protect it. That farming in the East has become of such magnitude that the highest business talent is required to conduct the business. Spoke of agricultural papers and compared them.

Audience was then dismissed.

MORNING SESSION MARCH 14.

Institute called to order by A. J. Goodman, the chairman, at 10 o'clock a. m.

Hen. J. H. Hawley, of McCoy, read a paper on the "Future Possibilities of the American Farmer" from a standpoint of present surroundings. We are met with the question he said "What can we do to ameliorate the condition of the American farmer?" That farming is the most important branch of business and one in which all may engage who wish. That from the farm have sprung some of our brightest minds and grandest statesmen. Asks what are the qualifications of the successful farmer. That education is necessary in all other branches, but when men fail there, they think they can farm, wholly without instruction. That this is the cause of many failures in farming. That until recent years our government has never given a representative to the agricultural class in the cabinet of the nation; that the government nor the people have never shown a proper appreciation of the importance of this work. That the necessity of education for the farmer is becoming more apparent every day. Speaks of the wheat markets and the steady decrease in price. That the limited market and the large supply is the cause and from this we should seek a remedy. That making our nation the kitchen garden of Europe would suit statesmen there, but we Americans see that to make of our country an agricultural country means ultimate bankruptcy. That the diversified manufacturing industries are getting in such a condition that not only is our home market supplied but we have facilities for competing in foreign markets. Speaks of the home market for the producer, and that protection of this market is to the benefit of the farmer. That revision and changes should be made in our pro-

tection laws, but the principle is in itself correct. That the Farmers Alliance and the Knights of Labor are discussing these political questions. That the farmer is beginning to see that in union there is strength, and that united demands for justice will be listened to and wrongs remedied. Does not think that Mr. Bellamy's theory of doing away with individual responsibility will ever be realized. That a great deal of the present unrest among the agricultural classes is a mistrust of each other. That a change for the better is about to be inaugurated.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. Carter, of Wells, asked what change he would recommend to have a rotation of crops. That he wants to know of a change which he may adopt now.

Mr. Hawley said that new conditions evolve slowly. That we cannot change in a moment. That the wheat farmer cannot drop wheat and take up fruit culture in a single season. That we know that we are raising a surplus of wheat and depending upon the foreign market for the price, and we do not know that wheat will remain at sixty cents; it may decline to fifty cents a bushel, and we must prepare for that period. That we have considered Western Oregon a wheat country and Eastern Oregon a stock country, but the conditions are changing. That Western Oregon is becoming a stock country and Eastern Oregon the wheat country. That our land is becoming too valuable for wheat. That we must turn our lands into the production of stock.

Mr. Carter was not satisfied with the answer. Said he wanted something tangible for the present, right now. That some of his neighbors stall-fed some cattle, and after getting them in condition could not sell them at a profit. Some say, let the farmers get some Jersey cows and start creameries. That there had been several creameries started in Oregon. California butter still comes in, and the creameries are shut down. Some say raise hogs. Plant corn and raise hogs, but haven't we tried hogs and lost money. Spoke of raising small fruit. That he had tried small fruit and could not sell it. The little producers on the outskirts of the towns supply the market and the farmer is left.

Wm. Jones, of Independence, said that he found mixed farming to pay. That he had decided this year to raise some flax which he has contracted to supply to a Portland oil mill at \$1.50 a bushel cleaned. That he can raise 25 bushels to the acre. That he has raised 500 bushels of potatoes to the acre and even at 25 cents a bushel there is money in it. That at \$1 a bushel for potatoes a man can pay for a farm in one year. That after a crop of potatoes you can raise 40 bushels of wheat to the acre. That the raising of hogs will pay. That now is the time to sell fat hogs.

Prof. Arnold of the Agricultural college extended an invitation to the farmers to visit that institution, and explained the different departments. That an experiment bulletin is issued quarterly and these are mailed to all farmers who apply. That the next bulletin will be devoted to fruit pests. Hon. D. O. Quick, of Suver, said that he had visited the agricultural college and could endorse the school. That agricultural colleges are a new institution among us. That since the government aids the colleges it is enabled to do its works in a much better manner. Spoke of the distate of farmer's boys to remain on the farm. That education will show them how honorable and independent is this calling and that it may be made both profitable and pleasant.

Mr. Geo. Rogers, of Independence, read a paper on

TILE DRAINAGE.

That his paper will be devoted to personal observations of cause and results. That the improvements in agriculture have made a corresponding elevation in the lot of the farmers. Says that many farmers trust to luck in farming. That there is no such thing as luck. That we may very largely mould the conditions under which we exist. That soil when full of

water becomes solidified and refuses to give up its nourishment to the plant. That the warm rays of the sun evaporate the water and leave the land hard and dry. That there are three ways of drying land. That a system of dead furrows is one way, evaporation another, and tiling another. That the latter has been proven to be the best method of the three. Spoke of the experiments made in placing tiling. That tiling three feet deep carried off the water and thorough drained a field. That our county roads could be improved by under-drains. That air and sun will break up any kind of hard soil, and that air should penetrate with the water through the tiling. That deep tiling has been proven the most valuable. Recommends more tiling for economy. That more tiling can be used and greater efficiency gained. That if long ditches are used that the upper end can be of small tiling, and gradually increased as the supply of water increases. That when a field is well drained, that the soil retains all the nourishing materials which are deposited by the elements.

D. O. Quick, of Suver, said that one of the most important things with the farmer is to have his land in proper condition. That his father took the premium for having the best cultivated farm. That surrounding farmers had lakes and ponds, and many times the water stood on them all summer. That by drainage these soils became the best of farming lands. That open ditches were dug and filled well with lime stone and covered up. That 15 years ago Dr. Hawthorne who kept the insane asylum at East Portland; had a farm in Washington county which was poor, white land. That on thirty acres he put 50,000 feet of lumber in under drains. That previously the land would scarcely produce any grain. That every day since that time that land has produced abundant crops. That there is nothing will pay better than to under drain land.

Mr. L. Paulson, of Washington county, said that he believed in tile drainage. That he saw many acres which he would drain as he came along the railroad. That he would advise a farmer to go in debt to reclaim land that needs drainage, although he was opposed to going in debt. That tiles should be so placed that surface water can not enter. That the water must come in from below. That after ten years the investment will be a better one than the first. That farmers cannot make a better investment than to drain their land.

Mr. Rogers said that he had found from the experience of a friend that on a farm where the water stood almost on a level, that he put in tiling 100 feet apart, the upper end two feet deep and four deep at the lower end. That on this land which previously produced ten bushels of barley to the acre he raised 51 bushels of oats.

Prof. Berchtold, of Corvallis, read a paper on

POULTRY.

Said that from in experience many of the young chickens, and particularly turkeys will die. That raising poultry to be successful requires experience and no small degree of science. A variety of food is required. Corn alone is not the best of food as it is too fattening. Oats, scraps of meat and warm mash is very acceptable. Plenty of water, when fowls are shut up, is required. Small gravel is indispensable for assisting digestion. Ashes on the nest where the hen sits and a sprinkle of sulphur will prevent chicken lice. All food fed to hens should be well swelled. Dry food is the cause of many a dead chicken. Sulphur and black pepper mixed with the food will prevent the gapes and the pipe. One hen can mother sixteen or eighteen chicks as well as less. Ducks are a greedy bird, and are very dirty and not pleasant near a house. Their feathers, if kept plucked, pay well for their raising. Turkeys require careful attention during the first two weeks. Curd and hard boiled eggs are good food when mixed with pounded crockery for turkeys. Some raisers place bells on turkeys to drive away those pests, skunks. That sulphur is to be mixed frequently with food. Lime and