

Sense And Some NONSENSE



By Dewey

Faith, they say, is about most important when it comes to success or failure of any venture. Faith is that belief, or conviction which approaches absolute knowledge. Such may be said of Ralph Vincent and his proposed ventures in Brookings and this area. Ralph has placed money on the line in considerable quantities to substantiate his conviction that this area has a future.

Besides investing heavily in a home and building, he has already made expensive plans to remodel this building and add to its size. He will have a modernistic soda fountain in addition to a gift shop in this building, and of course his photo gallery will be included in the rear of the gift shop.

The front of the building will not be recognized when Mason and Edwards get through making the changes that Mr. Vincent has outlined to them. He "will put this area on the map" if his ambition and plans go only half as far as he will like.

Why have E. E. Hanscam, and any number of these long-time business men stayed with their places of business in this area in times which were anything but the best? One must suppose that faith had much to do with it. Why have these new businesses invested as heavily as they have in the area? Why do these same businesses operate, handicapped as it were, under circumstances which are anything but pleasant? One MUST call it faith!

School soon will start. The local schools, while on a par with other places of this size, are not what they should be. The curriculum is not large enough—there are not enough essentials taught students to prepare them for anything in the future.

True, under the present teacher load is excessive! There, must, in that case be only one solution—additional teachers, as soon as school-room-space is available to carry this additional faculty. Who would come forward with an assertion, right now, that the fac-

ulty at present should be less than five in the high school? The Pilot welcomes letters on this.

Students going from this school to college, expecting to major in any engineering, scientific or field of study where mathematics and science are prerequisites, find that their high school work is sadly lacking. This must, if this school will stay on the accredited list, be changed within the next nine months.

It is unthinkable to receive a high school diploma if the student has not had at least three years of mathematics, three years of English, and such courses as manual arts, home economics, or such. Two years of some language are necessary for entrance to most accredited colleges.

The war taught many boys the weaknesses of our present educational system. Ask any lad who was in the air corps what he underwent, and how he underwent it to win his wings. It might not be pleasing to the ears for any of the patrons of this district if they actually knew. As the new building is completed, these additional courses should be added.

Compost gardening and compost farming are making headway in this area, with two exponents of this method doing all they can toward that end. Robert Sloan not only has devoted much time to study and manufacturing compost, but has invested about all the cash he can command in the work; Harold Jones, resident of Grants Pass, but a raiser of lilies in this area, will take a back seat to no one in that line.

These fellows have something! Their methods are nearest like nature that have been advocated anywhere. Both have arguments to substantiate their claims, and have proof to back up their arguments. Mr. Jones had compost-grown tomatoes which were almost as sweet as apples, and so large that one would be a plenty for any person. His asters, grown this method, defy anything under the sun.

Robert Sloan believes so much in his work that he is selling all he can of land, equipment and such to obtain money to invest in commercial manufacture of compost. Compost, both these men contend, once started, will, with but little work, be self-sustaining in years to come. Both frown on use of commercial fertilizer, as both claim it ruins soil. At least both have products to prove their statements in this line.

Mr. Jones claims he has never had to spray his lilies, yet they are free of disease, and furthermore, insects do not bother plants grown by this method. He claims many things of compost many of which claims are diametrically opposite to those recommendations put out by agricultural colleges about fertilizers, sprays, etc. It is indeed enlightening to study the methods proposed by both these men.

Subscribe For That Friend!

Fertilizer Tips

By Robert Sloan

EARTHWORMS

By actual counts it has been discovered that where synthetic fertilizers are used the angle-worm population declines, sometimes almost to the vanishing point. Now, this beneficent earthworm has a very short life-span, probably not more than a year or two, so that in a fertile soil hundreds of thousands of them are dying per acre each year. Can you conceive of a more valuable fertilizer material than the dead bodies of these creatures? It has been stated that such dead bodies may amount to over 500 pounds per acre and this contains the most wonderful protein matter as well as valuable mineral matter of the highest quality for plant nutrition. The Connecticut experiment station found that the castings from earthworms contained five times as much nitrogen as that contained in topsoil, seven times as much phosphorus, eleven times as much magnesium. This excremental matter voided by these earthworms has been estimated as ten ton per acre, some have given figured as high as 25 tons.

Experiment on earthworms show that they are an important factor in plant health by destroying larvae of certain noxious insects. They placed nematode-infected plants in cans half of which contained earthworms. In about a year all of the cans in which earthworms had been placed showed practically a 100% clean-up of the nematodes. In the other cans the condition was the same as at the beginning in some cases and worse in others.

The earthworm is nature's plow. It bores into the soil and keeps it well aerated, a condition necessary for microbe life. Such tunnelling permits water to penetrate rather than run off and to maintain the moist condition so necessary to plant life; also distributes organic matter and bring to the top soil basic minerals otherwise never reached by plants.

A soil thoroughly worked by earthworms will absorb a two-inch rainfall in fifteen seconds, whereas a neighboring clay soil unworked takes as long as two hours to sink in.

The above are a few advantages given to us by the earthworm.

Where strong chemical fertilizers are used, conditions distasteful to earthworm arise and their

numbers rapidly decrease.

Where any item in nature's cycle is disturbed it will be found that others are automatically affected. Remove any one factor and you will find that she cannot do her work efficiently.

"From The Four Corners"

Saturday, about noon, along the sidewalk extending from Chetco Store to the Nook Cafe, were seen cars with a wide range of license plate. In front of the store was a New York car, next to it was a Florida car. From the other end

of the string were a Maine Washington car and a California car. "From the four corners" be said of the group.

Will Start Bus Depo

Ralph Vincent, here this on business, has made arrangements to start construction Greyhound bus depot, adjacent and between his building and Good Eats Cafe. Mason and Edwards will do the work. Work is started, remodeling will commence on his building, ased from the Dawsons.

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