ANCIENT MEDES GAVE ALFALFA TO WORLD Greatest Fodder Crop Known to Warriors Before Christian Era - Spread Over World By War WORD COMMON HERE IS OF SPANISH ORIGIN

alfalfa than any county in Oregon, and the largest of the largest elin gained a rod of ground the alfalfa producing sections in all the flower of the Medes found root. West, yet, perhaps, few of those so familiar with it, realize the inter-esting history of the plant. Few know how it has followed the wake of war from Persia to Africa, Africa to Spain, Spain to South America, and then to California from whence was introduced to Oregon in the

The following interesting review of the spread of alfalfa appeared in the Sunday Oregonian:

A field of alfalfa, to the casual and rich cream, and a general ensemble of agricultural content and neatly painted baras and rural homes. Yet the friendly herb, perfectly at home in pastoral settings, has known wilder time when its fame was spread at the point of the javelin, and conquered nations blessed their conquerors who brotit. War was its agent when civilization, through the vainglery of thought, suggests contented herds zation, through the vainglory of kings, taught culture with the sword

keen young professor of a modern agricultural college, intent on condensing at lecture the excellent traits and versatility of that premier forage plant, alfalfa. It was however, written by the Roman granger, Columella, in the first century of the Christian era, and it suffices to chasten our self-conceit. Much that well today, priding ourselves

we do well today, priding ourselves accordingly, was no secret to the ancients. And so with alfalfa.

It is a singular fact that a plant so adapted to peace should have migrated in the train Wars. Yet the slow spread of the purple-flowered fodder from the Median plains, where it is first of record in the year 500 B. C., was attended by many a flashing cavalcade of ruthless armored men, by the whistle of less armored men, by the whistle of arrows and the savage cut-and thrust of foot soldiers. A plant of peace, if ever there was one, it has been nurtured by war. To trace its progress over the world is to follow the trumpets and pennons.

It is clearly established that the ancient home of the plant was in Media, now northern Persia, and the savor of its origin survives in the botanical name, "Medicago sativa." Even today in England, where old names endure longer than battle-ments, it is the "purple medic," or purple flower of the Medes. Leaders n the civilization of their period, the Modes gave this excellent fodder to their neighbors, the Persians. The great king Darius, bent on conquest for the extension of nis dominions. and equally shrewd in providing the account a trifle, the picture of forage for his horses and herds. his royal highness munching herbscattered alfalfa in the wake of war. So Pliny says, and he should have Junched on the Median flower, beknown whereof he wrote. The Per- youd a doubt.

Malheur County produces more slans termed it "aspect," or hors flower of the Medea found root. Most tenacious root, too, when one remembers having heard that alfal-fa taps the soil to a depth of six

feet, under proper conditions.

The Grecian geographer, Strabe, discoursing in the first century on fodders and their origin, further confirms the claim of Media, or northern Persia, to the role of benefactor. "The berb which nourishes horses best," he affirmed. "we call the Median herb from its abounding the storage of 1405 acre feet of natively there." To those whose knowledge of alfalfa is restricted to its American introduction and popularity, all within a lifetime. It is opments contemplated are:

Africa. The chronicles are mute regarding this stepping stone to western Europe. At any rate the flower of the Medes was there when the swarthy Moors, chanting their fierce water above the present intake at because when it is once sown it lasts ten years; because it can be mowed regularly four times a year, sometimes even six times; because it fortilizes the land; because it is a remedy for sick cattle; because it to both northern Africa and southern Spain. As horsemen they knew fine fodder when they saw it, and during their conquests in the seventh and eighth centuries they carried the plant to Spain, whence it was introduced to medieval and modern agriculture. History left its imprint regain on the name of the plant, for the appropriation of additional water from the Moorish word "alfacfacah."

The Deer Creek Lumber Company, of Minam, Oregon, secured permit water from Deer water

Europe, at war almost unremit-tingly, cast it hither and you across the continent. The good knight, Chevalier Bayard, revered by Chevalier Bayard, revered by France and Christendom as the flow-er of chivalry, undoubtedly pastured his broad-rumped charges on it when he campaigned against the Spaniards and the Italians. A gen-ial, industrious, serviceable plant, it won new friends and whenever and wherever introduced.

But the appearance of alfalfa in the United States was not sponsored by modern Europe, though some early attempts were made to intro-duce it to the eastern states. Spain at the height of her grandeur, when the dons and their soldiery dreamed of empire in South America, sowed the seed in our sister continent. American gold-seekers salling round Cape Horn to the California dig-gings, in the early '40s or late '50s, brought alfalfa from Chile and thus insured its peaceful conquest of the Pacific slope and its steady penetra-tion eastward. Though in this migration the plant was unattended by martial clangor, it is pertinent to observe that romance still mothered

the flower of the Medes.

A splendid, beneficial herb, indeed, even as Pliny declared. The deed, even as Pliny declared. The remarkable indiosyncrasy of Nebuchadnezzar, monarch of Babylon, who for his sins was sentenced to grass and obeyed, is brightened by the fact that Babylonia was neigh-bor to Media. And when one recalls that even profane history attributes to King Neb the madness of lycan-thropy, while sacred history varies the account a trifle, the picture of

DEMAND FOR WATER RIGHTS OVER OREGON CONTINUES

State Engineer Issues Many Addi-tional Permits Some of Which Apply to Malheur County Lands To Be Watered This Year

During the months of January, February, and March, 97 permits to appropriate water were issued by the State Engineer, Percy A. Cupper. These permits cover the irrigation of approximately 6500 acres of land, the development of 20 horsepower, and the construction of 100 months.

ls opments contemplated are:
The construction of the municipal water supply system by the City of Molalla, which contemplates the expenditure of \$45,000.00 in securing

water supply from Trout Creek. The City of Walla Walla, Wash-

of Minam, Oregon, secured permit to appropriate water from Deer Creek and a reservoir for fluming lumber at an estimated cost of \$5,000.00.

The Rogue River Valley Canal Company, of Medford, in connection with the work being done for the Medford Irrigation District, have appropriated water from Little Butte Creek for the irrigation of 2828

series for the irrigation of 2528 acres of new land. This construction is now under way.

Messrs. J. B. Goodman and A. L. Schaffler, of Dexter, Oregon, have secured permit for the appropriation of water from Lost Creek in Lane County for fluming lumber and for the irrigation of 399 acres of land at an estimated cost of \$25,000.00.

In Malheur County, permits have been issued to E. J. Howen, of Juntura, Oregon, covering the appro-priation of water from Malheur River for the irrigation of a twelve acrè tract, and To J.H. Edmunson, of Juntura,

Oregon, covering the appropriation of water from the North Fork of Maiheur River for irrigation of twenty-five acres of land. This de-velopment will entail the construction of two and a half miles of canal, at a cost of approximately \$1500.00; To L. L. Goodwin, of Vale, cover-

ing the appropriation of water from Snake River for irrigation of 32.9

To W. F. Sting, of Rome, Oregon, covering the appropriation of water from Owyhee River for irrigation of seventy acres, and for power de-velopment. This development will necessitate construction work cost-

ering the appropriation of water from the Nyssa-Arcadia Drainage District Ditch for irrigation of nine acres of land, at an estimated cost

AGRICULTURAL MANUAL IS ADDED TO LOCAL LIBRARY

Among the books on dairying re-cently added to Malheur County Library is one of the Lippincott farm manuals, called Productive Dairying-This book is written from an experience of more than thirty years in dairy work, and discusses breeds and breeding, diseases, housing, dairy management, and all details of the dairy business. The illustrations are particularly good. One copy is on deposit in Vale Library, and one in Nyssa Library, as well as

Larson and Putney's "Dairy Cat-tle Feeding and Management" re lates chiefly to the nutrition of dairy cows, selection of feeds, balancing rations, and systems of feed-ing, followed by principles of dairy cattle breeding and herd developing, followed by principles of dairy cattle breeding and herd development. It includes also construction, arrangement and equipment of dairy barns, cost accounting, and fitting dairy animals for show. The opening chapter is interesting in showing.

dairy animals for show. The opening chapter is interesting in showing the relation of dairying to agriculture, to soil fertility, to food, to transportation and to labor.

Farmer's clean milk book, by Charles E. North, 'shows why some milk contains millions of bacteria and how they get into it, and how easy it is to keep them out. It shows that the millionaire with his fancy barn has no monopoly on cleanliness, but that any farmer can produce milk which is just as returned to Ontario this month and are living on their place about one and one half miles northwest of Ontario. Barney was married while the family lived in Ogden and brothis bride with him.

Mrs. J. C. Oater of Beulah spent the week end with her daughter. Mrs. and Mrs. John Bervin are having their home remodeled into a modern five room bungalow.

C. Hickey is building a new home on Morton St. California, and Mrs. Cherrie Winter of Denver, visited their sister, Mrs. F. S. Bailey of the St. Paul Orchard tracts, left Friday for California accompanied by Mrs. Bailey who has been ill for some time.

Mrs. Nell O. Bedford and Miss clean as certified milk. It shows that the man himself is far more important than the dairy score card. and that hundreds of farmers in many dairy districts are now mak-ing a business success of producing



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Benkendorf in their book on Profityields better returns, if properly managed, as dairy farming puts back into the soil the fertility taken off by crops, enriches the soil, and promotes crop rotation.

The modern Milk Problem, by J.

necessitate construction work costing approximately \$100.00.

To Chas. O. Maher, of Jordan Valley, Oregon, covering the appropriation of water from Stove Creek for storage in the Salt Lick Reservoir, to be used as a supplemental supply for the irrigation of 110 acres.

This development with the modern Milk Problem, by J. Scott MacNutt stresses the economic as well as sanitary aspect of the milk problem, the value of milk as a food, the use of safe milk in the prevention of communicable disease and conservation of child life, and also the economy of the dairy layer the irrigation of 110 acres.

This development contemplates the mecessity of business methods and This development contemplates the construction of a mile and a half of canal line, which will cost approximately \$1000.00.

To James W. Stuart, of Nyssa, covering the approximation of water

LOCAL PERSONALS

Dayton Alexander who is employ-ed by the U. S. Plumbing Co. of Boise was a Sunday guest of his brother Lee Alexander.

Miss Winnifred Knowlton of Boise has accepted a position as book-keeper with the local office of East-ern Oregon Land Company. Miss Knowlton was journal clerk for the Senate at the last session of the Idaho Legislature.

Mrs. Wm. Blott of Burns who was operated on appendicitis at Holy Rosary Hospital last week is getting along nicely.

Herbert Bickford, of Caldwell spent Sunday with his cousins C. E. and H. C. Secoy and families. Miss Mamie Stewart was an over Sunday visitor of Miss Maewood Ramsey of Baker,

Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Skow were Weiser visitors last Sunday.
Miss Rose Kroessin returned Priday from a two months visit with friends in California. Miss Kroes-

on Morton St.

Miss Mary Bervin returned Tuesday as her school on Ben Deer Mountain closed on the 22nd.

The A. Gramse sheep which were being fed at the Gramse ranch just west of Ontario were taken out Brogan way last week.

day.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Karnes and Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Karnes of Weisor were week end guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Homan.

Clean milk.

"The ability to secure profits from dairying lies in a thorough knowledge of its fundamental principles," says K. L. Hatch and G. H.

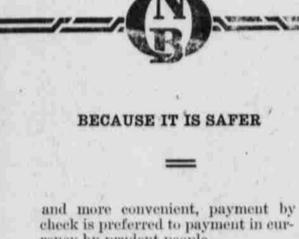
Brogan way last week.

J. A. Schmidt of McDowell Furniture Co. left Tuesday for his home at Freewater. Oregon. He expects ciples," says K. L. Hatch and G. H.

FOR SALE-Small house 12x14 FOR SALE-Second hand furniable Dairying in which they set good condition. Cheap. Tent house ture store. Both new and second that no other branch of agriculture 16x16, heavy duck, ideal for fam-18p business. Apply Argus.

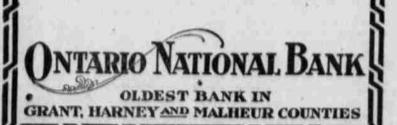


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D. P. Dearborn ONTARIO R. F. D.

Mrs. Stella DePeau of Hollywood, California, and Mrs. Cherrie Winter

ttors at Drewsey.
A. B. Anderson of Weiser was visiting friends in Ontario over Sun-