

THE STAYTON MAIL

By E. D. ALEXANDER.

A NEWSPAPER, NOT AN ORGAN

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NUMBER 46.

Ladies and Gent's
Fancy Purses,
Wrist Bags
and Chatteleins.

A complete line of Popular
Novels; also Poets' Editions
rangins in price from 25c to
\$2.00.

We are also showing a new and popular line of Ebony Dressing Cases. Very acceptable Xmas presents, consisting of 3 to 15 piece sets, from \$1.25 to \$25.00.

Kodaks, Cameras, and Photographic Supplies.
A full line of these popular pleasure makers.

Kindly call and look over the line of Xmas Goods we are now showing.

Brewer Drug Co., Stayton.

Useful Holiday Gifts

5 piece Casters, Tea Sets,
Cake Stands, Berry Dishes,
Salt and Pepper Casters,
Soup Ladles, Gravy Ladles,
Cake Knives, Pie Knives,
Cake Servers, Napkin Rings,
Ladies and Gents
Gold Watches
Guaranteed 20 years, with Elgin movements from \$10.50 up.

Fine line of Diamond, Plain,
Engraved and Set Rings.
Friendship Hearts and Lockets.
A large assortment of
Silver and Aluminum Novelties
Musical Instruments,
Violins, Guitars, Mandolins,
Banjos, Accordeons,
and Harmonicas.

Silver plated Knives and Forks, different brands, \$2.75 up, a set. Before selecting your gifts come and examine our large stock and see our prices. Remember, we engrave all our goods Free.

E. ROY, Stayton, Ore.

See That None Are Forgotten
Everyone expects a present at holiday time. If not at Christmas, then New Years. Don't disappoint them.

Napkins,
Beautiful Table Spreads
Bureau Scarfs
Art Squares,
Rugs,
Carpets, Porteries,
Lounge Covers.

Gladden the little fellows heart with an Xmas suit of clothing or an overcoat, a pair of shoes or a new hat.

Mufflers, 25c to \$1.50
Neckties, 5c to 75c

A Hat at any price, from 50c to \$3.00. March him in and buy a good hat and he will be compelled to think of you every hour he wears the hat.

**A Merry
Christmas
and
A Happy
New Year**

Ladies Neckwear
Elegant Stole Collars
in latest designs.

Gloves -- new shades
and fine material. Popular prices.

Fascinators, wool and silk, 25c to \$2.50.

Ladies Jackets
\$18.00 for..... \$13.57
\$15.00 for..... \$11.32

Fancy Purses
Wrist Bags,
Hand Bags.

Umbrellas as Gifts are very appropriate.

President Suspenders
in cartons.

TOYS Look through our large store and you will say "Santa has certainly been here." Dolls, books, games, rattles, horns, drums, steam, TOYS spring and motor engines, auto street cars, the kind that won't wear out in a day, 25c up.

A nice line of Vases, from 25c to \$3.00 each.

G. D. TROTTER, Stayton, Ore.

HIGHWAY DRAGGING

THE KING PLAN FOR IMPROVING
DIRT ROADS.

How the Work is Done and What has Been Accomplished by This Method—Dragged Roads Always in Good Condition.

In an article in a recent number of the Municipal Journal and Engineer J. W. King of Maitland, Mo., gives some new facts of interest about his method of improving dirt roads by the use of a road drag. Mr. King says:

"The use of the split log drag is no longer an experiment in Missouri and adjoining states. I began dragging in 1896 and have dragged regularly ever since. I dragged a half mile stretch of road for four years before any of my neighbors began, but after they started they came with a rush. Now the county has a standing offer to furnish the material to any farmer who will make and use a drag. To show the simplicity of this drag fifteen were made last spring at one crossroads blacksmith shop in one week. The Missouri state board of agriculture has made road dragging a feature of its farmers' institutes the past year and with fine results. A postmaster reported 150 miles of road dragged within a week after

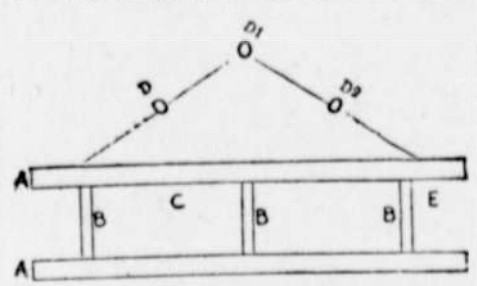


DIAGRAM OF THE RING DRAG.

(A, split log 9 feet long, 10 to 12 inches thick, set on edge 30 inches apart, both flat sides to the front; B, strong oak or hedge bars, the ends of which are wedged in two inch auger holes bored through the logs or slabs; dotted line, chains or strong wire; D, D₁, D₂, rings to connect double tree clevis. Hitch at D₁ and stand at C, on a plank laid on the cross-bars for ordinary work, or hitch at D₂ and stand at E for ditch cleaning or to make the drag throw more dirt to the left. To move dirt to the right reverse position of driver and last hitch. If working a clay road put iron, old wagon tire or something of the sort on lower edge of drag at the end of six months; for softer soil at the end of twelve months.)

our meeting. Another is asking for a road meeting this year says last year's meeting did more for the betterment of the roads than anything in the history of the community.

"The drag is not intended to replace the road machine nor will road dragging do away with the necessity of macadamizing the main thoroughfares as soon as we can be educated to see

the wisdom of spending a little money each year in crushing, spreading and rolling stone. The drag seems to be the connecting link between the old and the new. It keeps the old mud road in the finest possible condition.

"The operation is extremely simple. I merely go over the stretch of road with a drag after every rain or wet spell. The land is rolling prairie, part of the soil is black and part of it is yellow clay. The drag is made by splitting a log, placing the two pieces on edge about thirty inches apart, with the flat sides both facing in the same direction, and pinning them together. The lower edge of the front piece is protected with iron. An old wagon tire will do. The log should be ten or twelve inches thick and about nine feet long. A chain or heavy wire is fastened a foot or eighteen inches from each end by which to haul it. A team is hitched so that the drag will move the dirt toward the center of the road. The hitch is next in importance to the time at which the dragging is done. The right time is just as the road dries after a rain or when it is thawed on top during the winter and spring. It should be dragged every time it rains.

"Of course a smooth surface for travel is thus produced, but a more valuable result is that the road will shed the next rain instead of absorbing it. This is the reason why the road should be dragged after every rain—so that it always will be ready for the next. The way to make a good dirt road is to keep it so that the next rain will not go into it. This means dragging about once a month on an average. I drag from my own front gate to my neighbor's front gate, half a mile, taking about twenty minutes. I don't make very many trips to town before I have regained the time I expended in dragging, to say nothing of the gain to my neighbors and to the general public.

"This method is very simple, as I have said, but to one who is familiar with the ordinary dirt road under all conditions of season and weather the results are little short of marvelous. Teams pass here at a sweeping trot when other roads are almost impassable. When other roads are in such a condition that loaded teams must be rested every few rods the same loads are moved over this road at a free walk and without resting.

"This half mile stretch of road is high in the center and very hard. Dragging every time not only makes it smooth for travel, but distributes the travel all over the road, packing it evenly instead of merely under the tires and under the hoops in parallel beaten paths. This increases the ability of the road surface to shed water. Dragging every time it rains spreads a thin layer of moist dirt over a moist

surface, and travel packs and pounds it together, every dragging adding just a little soil and the whole being thoroughly unamalgamated and consolidated. After years of spreading and packing I have a road on which anything less than a week's wet weather makes little impression. In the spring, when the ground thaws and unkept roads are so muddy and spongy that we say 'the bottom has fallen out,' this road remains in fair condition."

Drummers in King Henry's Time.

King Henry V. had a band which discoursed sweet music during his expedition to Harfleur, each member being recompensed for his services with the sum of 12 pence per diem. When the citizens of London were mustered in the thirty-first year of the reign of Henry VIII, we hear that "before every standard was appointed one drum-lade at the least." Each company of 100 men at this time possessed a couple of drummers.—All the Year Round.

The Dahlia in England.

The dahlia has become popular among English gardeners. In the wild plant the flowers are single, with a dull ray and yellow disk. The varieties of the cultivated forms are almost endless. The original was discovered in Mexico by Vincent Cervantes about 1784 and was first brought to the botanic gardens of Madrid, and the same year it was introduced into England by the then Marchioness of Bute. The plant became extinct in Britain. It was again brought there in 1804, and in that year is found the earliest mention of the dahlia, named from Andrew Dahl, a Swedish botanist and pupil of Linnæus.

In Mexico the tubers are cultivated as food on account of the quantity of inulin they contain, but in Europe, though many times tried, they never became popular.

Mother—Tommy, stop asking your father so many questions. Don't you see it annoys him?

Tommy—Why, mother, it's not the questions that make him angry. It's because he can't answer them.—Punch.

The Sort of a Fellow He Is.
Knippe—What sort of a fellow is Johnson?

Tucque—Oh, he is one of that kind of men who are always remarking, "It looks as though we'd have a little rain before night."—Syracuse Herald.

Too Hasty.

"Jones has a new addition to his family."
"Indeed? I must congratulate him."
"Hold on—it's a son-in-law!"—Atlantic Constitution.

MEASURING HAY.

Approximate Estimates of the Number of Tons in Mow or Stack.

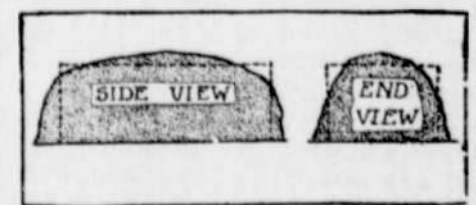
When hay to be measured is in the mow and is stored so that the surface is level it is easy to ascertain the number of cubic feet it contains. It is only a question of multiplying together the length, breadth and depth of the mass, and as it is confined within square walls there is no trouble about finding what the length, breadth and depth are. When this has been done the measurer must exercise his judgment as to the quality, condition and effect of storage on the density of the hay, says the Iowa Homestead.

Usually good timothy hay when thoroughly settled will require about 350 cubic feet to make a ton. If it is only partially settled it will take from 400 to 450 cubic feet, while new hay will take 500 cubic feet or perhaps more. The same figures would probably represent pretty closely the number of cubic feet necessary to weigh a ton in the case of clover hay or of the ordinary mixed grasses if in the same condition as to length of time of storage.

To this statement redtop is probably an exception. If the lot of hay contains much redtop it would take a larger number of cubic feet to make a ton, because the same treatment will not compress it so closely or make it so dense. This difficulty about determining with any degree of definiteness the number of cubic feet required to make a ton in weight is one of the reasons why the results obtained by measurement can only be regarded as approximations.

When the hay is sold from the stack measurement is not only subject to the uncertainty just mentioned, but it is also a question of judgment to some extent to ascertain the number of cubic feet it contains owing to the irregular form of the stack. To illustrate this objection as well as the best method of overcoming it the accompanying illustration is given.

In the illustration the stack is a parallelogram on the ground, and if the side lines continued upward without inclining inward and the top were level



MEASURING HAY IN THE STACK.

el there would be no more difficulty in ascertaining the cubic contents of the stack than there would be those of a mass of hay in a mow. But stacking requires inclination of surface that will

shed rain, and consequently stacks are built in a form that does not afford straight lines by which to measure them. The measurer, therefore, is obliged to assume "average lines" that, in his best judgment, reduce the stack to a solid square. The dotted lines in the illustration represent these, the idea being to draw them in such a way that if they formed a box, and the hay was thrown into it, it would fill it. Then these dotted lines are measured, and the length, breadth and height of the stack they show are then multiplied together, and the cubic contents are thus ascertained. The rule above given is then applied, and the number of cubic feet is divided by 350 or 500 or any intervening number that the condition of the hay seems to warrant, and the result is the number of tons contained in the stack approximately.

Profit in Early Tomatoes.

Growing and marketing tomatoes is an important branch of farming on the garden and truck farms about Providence. The soil of the greater part of the county is suitable for their culture, and in some portions exceptionally early ones are produced. The soil is in a large part of the towns bordering upon the city a light sandy loam, such as is just right for early forcing crops, and this helps the tomato grower. Plants started in hotbeds will bear as early as the middle of July in a good season, and at that time fabulous prices are received for the fruit. Sometimes, as during the past season, the early figure is as high as \$5 a bushel, and the tomatoes that are raised early are not of surprisingly good quality. Two dollars to \$3 is a common price for early fruit, and it will drop sometimes in two weeks to about \$1. This year the season was backward and tomatoes were late.—American Cultivator.

News and Notes.

North Carolina cotton will be largely planted in Texas next season in the endeavor to escape the boll weevil.

The department of agriculture has invented a way of packing the nitrogen gathering bacteria in absorbent cotton so they can be transported by mail.

Louisiana "sugar mules," as those fed with waste molasses are called, are said to bring 20 per cent more than the cotton plantation mules that are fed cotton seed.

It is now considered that a lower cold storage temperature than was at first used is best for apples, 33 degrees being most satisfactory.

Some of the claims for the Ben Davis apple are that it "makes money for the grower, and the middleman likes it."