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"The Leader in Its Field"

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Maintain County Agent

Maintenance of agencies that develop the county and community has consistently been urged by the Argus as important even with the great demand for economy and recognized need for cutting taxes. Elimination of such agencies in many cases would be poor economy at a time when everything possible should be done to make conditions more prosperous. So often the tendency is to pick out "the needle in the haystack," and such would be the case if the office of county agent were to be eliminated.

The county agent's office pays for itself many times over in the course of a year, and especially to those people who take advantage of the services offered. Cash premiums for instance at the three fairs, county, state and Pacific International returned more than \$750 to boys' and girls' club members. Farmers exhibiting at the state and land products' exhibitions received \$541.50. In most cases the agent and assistant secure the exhibits and clean them up for exhibition.

The office prepared and sold 1500 pounds of squirrel poison, the difference in selling price between that prepared in the office and sold retail resulted in a saving of \$600. Ninety-nine ounces of strychnine for gopher poison were dispensed at a saving of 95 cents an ounce.

On top of these savings the office was responsible for contacts which resulted in the sale of certified seed potatoes. Sales directly credited to them amounted to at least \$2,000. So much has been said of the introduction and increase of acreage in alfalfa that little need be added. Irrigation, the importance of which has long been realized, is being rapidly developed through the co-operation of the county agent's office. Certified seed potatoes are taking a front rank in the county's agricultural program, largely through efforts of Agent Cyrus and Assistant Averill.

Boys and girls in 4-H crops and livestock clubs through the efforts of the office have increased from 154 to 192 in 1931. Eighty-six of the boys and girls were in calf club work and all but four have completed their projects.

Meetings held under the direction of the office for disseminating information of benefit to farmers totaled 244 from December 1, 1930, to December 1, 1931, and attendance at these meetings was 6,203. Office calls totaled 3,792, telephone calls, 1,116, and farm visits totaled 1,755. Individual letters written amounted to 1,855, and 78 different circular letters were sent out to 10,984 persons. Bulletins and mimeographs sent out make a total of 2,768. Six 4-H club achievement days were held with an attendance of 787. Among other totals 152 called at the office for information on weed control and purchased sodium chlorate.

These and many other services are being rendered daily that are of vast importance to the improvement of farm conditions in the Tualatin valley.

County's appropriation for the county agent and the assistant in the budget for 1932 is \$2,480, which makes the cost of the office per \$1,000 of assessed valuation the small sum of 9.5 cents. If an individual pays taxes on property with an assessed valuation of \$10,000 he contributes 95 cents toward the support of the local extension office.

State and federal appropriations for this work in the county are dependent on the county giving money to the support of the work. How much does the \$2,000 state duplication cost Washington county? County's equalized valuation by the state tax commission on which basis the 1931 state tax was paid is .031106 per cent of the total state valuation. Therefore, local taxpayers contribute \$62.21 toward the \$2,000 of state money which the county receives for support of extension work.

Twenty-one and two-tenths cents out of each \$100 paid in taxes here goes to maintain the office of the county agent and his assistant. If \$100 is paid in taxes with a county agent, without the county agent's office \$99.788 will be paid.

Agriculture pays 60.2 per cent of the \$2,480, which is listed in the budget for the county agent work. This amounts to \$1,492 and if divided equally among the 3,917 farms in the county, the cost would be 38 cents per farm.

George Rawlinson, Portland laundryman, said something really worthwhile in a talk here last week when he urged support of the local laundry, rather than the wagons that come from Portland. He pointed out that it provides opportunity for local men and women to work, thus increasing the expenditure of payroll dollars in the community. This same logic backs earnest support of the Perfection Bakery. The quality is there. Give these home institutions your backing rather than send the money out of the city, never to return.

Hillsboro people have big hearts as evidenced by the fact that the quotas for the community chest and the Red Cross were over-subscribed in large quantities. When local folk realize the need they are always there with the goods.

Shelves in local stores offer myriads of suggestions for the Christmas buyer and purchases made here will help to increase much desired prosperity among your neighbors. It resolves itself into practice of the Golden Rule.

Governmental affairs should be conducted in good order so that if a question is to be decided everyone be given an opportunity to express themselves for or against. Public good does not call for mob rule and every effort should be made to preserve order at public meetings.

Helvetia is doing itself proud with the organization of a band. The Argus wishes success for the new organization.

The Reader Comments

Communications to The Argus for publication in this department should be written on only one side of the paper, should not exceed 200 words in length, and must be signed by the writer, whose mail address must accompany the contribution.

BENNETT GIVES VIEWS ON COUNTY AGENT WORK

Editor Argus.—I have been criticized for my position opposing the employment of a county agent. Allow me to state my position on this matter. I am not against the employment of a county agent, but just against the activities of that office as it has been conducted in Washington county for the past six years.

"It appears to me that most of the work performed by our agents have been duplications of the investigation of the state agricultural school and the national department of agriculture, and that we get no place for the amount of money paid for this office. What would this county could be made to do some constructive work for the people of the county, not necessarily just farmers, however, as producers they would receive the most benefit.

"The laws provide that the county court can take over property delinquent for taxes under certain circumstances. The agent could classify this land, by land surveys and profitably assist in getting these plots into the hands of people for truck lands or homes and get them back on the tax rolls.

"He could assist in getting the farmers to producing one or two crops, and then by pooling could assist in selling at an advantage to the grower. This would apply to all kinds of produce, fruits, berries, grains, etc. As far as I have observed this county could be made one of the greatest seed producing counties in the state.

"No county produces better potato seed than we do. To advise the growers how to select seed, and raise two or three varieties, and pool for sale by the agent would put money into Washington county that we do not get through each one alone trying to secure markets.

"We are producing too much at this time, but not graded nor handled to get the best returns. The agent could organize and it would help every one in the county, producer, merchant, professional, and citizen. In short make this a selling and marketing department."—O. B. BENNETT.

CHILD HYGIENE

(By Oregon State Board of Health)

For a long time the welfare of children was apparently neglected. But there are instances of an early recognition of the importance of the child. Socrates in his appeal to the senate asked: "Are you not risking the greatest of your possessions? For children are your riches, and upon their training for well or ill depends the whole order of their father's house." Yet it is only within the past fifty years that we have been concerned with child health and protection. "The children are the army with which we march to progress," is a statement made by Herbert Hoover before he became president of the United States. Child hygiene is the most significant and important part of the public health program. Childhood is the time to build a lasting foundation for health. Modern child hygiene embraces all known methods for health promotion and disease prevention.

Child hygiene begins with the saving of the health and lives of mothers. The development of the fetus is absolutely dependent upon the mother for its own welfare. The expectant mother should consult a capable doctor as early in pregnancy as possible. He will give her a complete examination and outline her proper daily routine. He will warn her of possible signs of danger, which, if recognized in time may prevent damage to herself and to her unborn child. Monthly letters of advice are sent to all mothers who make application to the State Board of Health. The mother should have skilled medical and nursing care before, during, and after the birth of her child. In order to insure the proper development of her child, every mother should nurse her own baby. Fresh air, night and day, proper clothing, regular hours of sleep and scrupulous cleanliness, and the formation of good habits.



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essentials for the development of healthy babies. "Infant Care" contains specific directions in regard to the proper care of babies and can be had on application to this department. When the child begins to walk it leaves babyhood behind and becomes what is known as the pre-school child. The age between two and six is one that is frequently neglected. This, however, is the most important period in the life of the child. In it, habits good or bad are formed which influence the later years; in it, slight physical defects and nutritional disorders have their origin which if unchecked will mark or arrest future mental and physical development. Parents should systematically assure the child of excellent health throughout the pre-school period. The child should have a medical and dental examination at least once a year and all defects should be remedied. The child ready to enter school should be fit in every way.

Rotary Dinner Tonight—Members of the Rotary club will entertain their wives at dinner tonight at the Veterans' hall. The speaker of the evening will be Dr. Alexander J. Schleuning, who will speak on conditions in Russia.

Too Late to Classify
FOR SALE—Crazy crystals, enough for 15 gallons, for \$1.50. Call and try a glass free at 1137 Second St., Hillsboro.

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THINK IT OVER!

EATING SPREES

(By Oregon State Board of Health)
Millions are daily consuming more food than their bodies actually require, and a large number of these are shortening their lives by overeating. Capacity eaters no doubt derive a lot of enjoyment out of satisfying their appetites to the limit. Satisfaction from eating, however, is a relative matter. Persons who habitually eat large meals have large and dilated stomachs. It naturally takes more bulk to give such persons that feeling of fullness which to many means enough. After the first few weeks of reducing diet, the stomach having less food to hold and digest, begins to have a better muscular tone and get smaller. It will then take a far less amount of food to produce the sensation of fullness. In eating as in most other pursuits which man follows, the mind is the controlling factor. To some persons meal time means moving up to the table, saying nothing, eating all they can hold and then drifting into an easy chair for a nap or a smoke. Such persons are missing a part of life that is their right. Be sociable and take your time. Don't forget that you are a human being and that one difference between you and other animals is that you can carry ideas that will make life pleasanter for yourself and others. If you do this and take your time you will find that you require less food and the meal time will mean more than eating large quantities of food. Chew your food slowly. You should not be so busy that you cannot take time for your meal. When you find that your business requires so much time that you must curtail your meal hours then you have ceased being the master of your job. Efficiency does not depend on the time you put into your work but the work you put into your time. The great trouble with many of us is that we live to eat instead of eating to live. We allow our appetites to tempt us to eat more than we really need. The organs of the human body will stand a remarkable amount of abuse, particularly

GO EAST for CHRISTMAS!

Special Home Visitors' Round Trip Fares are in effect for many points for Christmas.

EXAMPLES:
Chicago \$102.55
St. Paul 87.75
St. Louis 103.45

Other points in proportion

Tickets on sale Nov. 28, 29; Dec. 5, 12, 17, 18, 19; return limit Feb. 29, 1932

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365 DAYS of KITCHEN TASKS MADE LIGHTER

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You may take as long as eighteen months to pay for an electric range purchased between now and Christmas. A \$10 down payment will place it in your home. These terms are available at all dealers.

Give Her a General Electric Refrigerator

The finest refrigerator in the world, with many exclusive features: SLIDING SHELVES bring food in easy reach; MONITOR TOP mechanism needs no attention ever; ALL-STEEL CABINET with porcelain lining; FAST FREEZING—and a three-year guarantee. Easy Terms

At Our Own Store
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The following ranges, on sale at leading dealers, are fully approved also, and will give you complete satisfaction.

RANGES:

Hotpoint Ranges
Westinghouse Ranges
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MAKE THIS AN ELECTRICAL CHRISTMAS

There are few gifts so welcome—none quite so appropriate as those which are always useful. Such are electrical gifts—heaters, percolators, toasters, waffle irons and so many others. They make the ideal gift because they keep the spirit of Christmas alive throughout the entire year.

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