

The Prineville Review points to the troubles between the Columbia Southern Irrigation Company and the State Land Board, and shouts "We told you so". With a sweeping flourish it condemns all of the Carey Act irrigation enterprises because one small company is having trouble with its settlers—and even there, there is no reason to believe that the best interests of the settlers will not be safeguarded by the state land board, acting under such authority as they have over these Carey Act segregations. The Review pretends to see in this trouble over the C S segregation of 27,000 acres, evidence of the far-sightedness of Williamson and the Prineville delegation which opposed the private irrigation enterprises in this county, and asks, "Can the Pioneer man see no connection between this occurrence and the actions of Prineville citizens in Portland four years ago". To be frank, brother, we can't. If we could lose our memory of events and occurrences for the past four or five years, since the time that irrigation was first proposed in this county, we might be led to believe that four years ago Williamson and a large delegation of Prineville citizens went to Portland and labored mightily against the private irrigation enterprises along the Deschutes River in this county for the purely unselfish reason that they believed at some time in the dim and distant future some of the settlers upon those irrigated tracts might have trouble over their water rights. It would be a pleasure to believe it now, but the Review shouldn't ask it. It is too absurd for even the Review to believe.

If the Review desires to be honest in this discussion, why does it attempt to discredit all of the irrigation enterprises under the Carey Act in this county, because of troubles between the Columbia Southern Company and the settlers upon its lands? The Review knows that the Columbia Southern Company only includes 27,000 acres in its segregation, and that it was refused patent to all except 12,000 acres of that because of the failure to supply enough water to irrigate the entire tract. This paper does not uphold the action of the Columbia Southern Company in disposing of 18,000 acres of its lands before it had patent to it, and failing to supply sufficient water to reclaim the lands and entitle it to patent, but we do believe that such action on the part of the management of an irrigation company is not sufficient grounds for a sweeping condemnation of the Carey Act and all companies operating under it. Why doesn't the Review point to the Deschutes Irrigation & Power Company, operating on the East side of the Deschutes and very much more under the observation of the very observant editor of the Review? This company is reclaiming more than 250,000 acres of land under the Carey Act, nearly ten times as much land as there is in the entire Columbia Southern segregation, and the Company is proceeding with its reclamation work and

the patenting and settling up of this large tract, without one single particle of trouble between the settlers and the company over water or any other question, and without the occurrence of any of the dreadful things which Williamson and the Prineville delegation foresaw. The reclamation work is progressing rapidly, and the settler is securing his land at a cost under the private enterprise very much less than has ever been the history in the government projects.

Such indiscriminate condemnation as that indulged in by the Review is just the kind of "knocking" of Western Crook which we charged against a certain element of Prineville's citizenship at the beginning of this controversy. Never seeing anything good in Western Crook or in the development under way there, but always looking for some trouble about which it can get in an "I told you so", the Review is typical of that element at Prineville to which we refer.

It is estimated that the prosecution of the land frauds of the Pacific Coast states will cost the United States government \$700,000 in money, beside the disgrace which is being brought upon the nation by reason of the frauds. The money cost is the least item in the expense bill. The government, or even the western states, could afford to pay that sum, if it would restore the ruined reputations, wipe out the memory of the unfortunate proceedings and reinstate the disgraced public officials and private citizens who sacrificed their honor to their consuming greed for gold. The lesson is one which will remain forever fresh in the minds of the rising citizenship of the Pacific Coast, and great as the cost may be, it is not in vain that the West has paid it.—East Oregonian.

WILL INOCULATE GROUND SQUIRRELS

Pullman, Wash., March 28.—Stanley Piper, of the Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, has arrived in Pullman to take up the work of destroying the ground squirrel, which has assumed considerable importance as a destroyer of wheat. Mr. Piper will work in co-operation with the experiment station at the state college. The method to be pursued will be to inoculate the squirrels with the virus which proved so deadly several years ago. This virus is now under propagation at the college, and enough will be produced this year to spread the disease over a large area. Grain growers in sections where the squirrel has become troublesome are asked to send live animals to the station for inoculation, the more that are sent the quicker will the disease be spread.

MORE BLUE BLOOD FOR B. S. & L. CO.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Edwards were expected home at Haycreek yesterday, from an extended visit in France and England, where they spent the winter months. While in Europe, it is reported that Mr. Edwards bought some very fine stock for the B. S. & L. Company, including a number of running and driving horses, which will form the nucleus of a band of blooded horses at the Haycreek ranch. The Baldwin company is turning its attention to the production of blooded horses as well as thoroughbred sheep, and last year a notable importation of Shire horses for draft purposes was made, to which this year's importation will add runners and trotters.

Campbell Talks On Farming

Says the Right Method Has Been Discovered for Successful Farming, But That It Must Be Thoroughly Understood

PART TWO. (Continued from last week.)

I am exceedingly prejudiced in favor of the closed heel shoe drill, assuming that we have prepared our ground just exactly as I will now endeavor to outline. The reason I am so favorably impressed with this particular drill is that it has invariably caused our grain to come up so quickly and to show stooling in so short a space of time. Investigations in washing out the soil show that there is a complete network of little feeders in there, while we have only one little stem sticking up. Up in Chase county, Nebraska, I had charge for two seasons of some work on the Kilpatrick Brothers' ranch. A piece of ground was fitted according to the plan I will explain later on, and summer-tilled and the seed was put in. Two and a half miles from there is a little town. This land stood on a little slope. On the morning of the fifth day, practically four days, the shape of that field could be seen from the town from its green color, and that wheat had come up through from two and a half to three inches of soil. Now, it is absolutely necessary if you are going to get quick germination or a complete system of roots or a complete development of stools, to have the soil firm and fine right up around the grain, and the closed heel shoe drill is the only tool with which you can do it. The disc loosens it up; the hoe leaves a loose condition. The double disc is worse yet, although they claim for it that it spreads the seed. But that is not necessary. If you can get the seed down into that little trough-shaped crevice, and when the ground is in good condition, that seed will be covered with two or two and a half inches of mulch on top.

The kind of plow to use cuts very little figure. It is the way you sow it and the condition your ground is in when you sow it that brings you the result.

The Campbell Plan

With reference to our plan of fitting the ground, we will be as brief as we can. We start in we will suppose, in the spring, on a piece of old ground. We double disc it just as quick as the conditions will let us into it, that is, after it has thawed out and the water has gone down enough so that it will not stick to the disc. Our object is three-fold. It is to stop the evaporation, to admit of the air to help in developing the nitrates and bacteria, and to put that surface in condition to take the next rain when it comes. Now, a little bit on that point. Many of you have watered tomato and cabbage plants. When you set them out the surface will be dry. When you put the water on it seems to lay there. It doesn't percolate. There is a resistance in those dry particles underneath. After awhile it works its way down and then you come around and give it a second application and the water is immediately gone. Now, when you have your soil moist below the mulch and when your rain comes and it goes through the coarser soil on top, as soon as it comes in contact with the moist soil below it goes right down just the same as your second application of water to the moist soil, where it will force its way by gravity on down, particle after particle, until it is distributed just the same as your first application to the tomato plant. I have watched this over and over and over again. I have gone down into the soil after heavy rains to find that the bottom of the moisture in the soil would be from one to six or seven inches, according to the rainfall. After a few days that has gone on down until it is all practically the same.

When a heavy rain comes, that dissolves and settles this mulch that you have loosened up on top. You loosen it up again with the harrow. If it is too heavy and becomes too compact, use the disc again. Be sure to keep it loose. Follow this up to about the last of June, and then plow it. Why do we insist upon this up to that date? Because of the weed question. You will find that about the last of June the weeds will get very persistent, and it is difficult to keep them down with any tool we can use on the surface in that way. Then we plow and work late enough so that the second crop of weeds, unless we have a very favorable season, so far as rainfall and heat are concerned, will not come on in time to bother at all. As soon as you are ready to do the plowing your ground is moist and in perfect condition and it tumbles over and goes all to pieces, and you follow with a packer—that makes the bottom firm—and then the Acme harrow—and I say Acme harrow because, as the gentleman preceding me said, it will do very much more than the common harrow,

three or four times as much. Then if you get a rain, just an ordinary shower that partly wets that mulch, the common harrow, being larger, answers the purpose just as well. You simply break up the top. If it is just a little sprinkle on top and does not seem to settle the mulch, don't bother. If you have a long dry spell and no rain, watch the solid soil right under the mulch and whenever you see the top of it begins to get a little dry, cultivate, because it is time. I have seen several instances where we have cultivated the ground under those conditions after a long dry spell and you could go there in the morning and the ground cultivated would be perfectly moist clear to the top, while the ground not gone over would still be dry. The danger is in forming a crust underneath which prevents the circulation of the air and checks all development. Now, this is vital. Keep that surface loose until seed time. If you have summer-tilled your ground thoroughly do not put in Turkey red winter wheat—which I think is unquestionably the best of yielders we have—to exceed twenty pounds of seed. If you do it will be too thick.

Do Not Harrow in The Fall

Now, we are coming to a point where we have done considerable experimenting, and we have come to the conclusion that it is not advisable to harrow our grain in the fall unless we have an exceptionally heavy rain after the wheat has begun to stool. Then it is advisable to harrow it, but we do not like to harrow it in the fall because we have found that where we do harrow it in the fall, in the spring the ground is liable to get crusted seriously so that it is almost impossible to loosen it up. When spring comes, just as soon as the proper condition is reached, that is, when the soil is moist, not when it is dry, go on with the harrow—now, mark you, if you have followed this plan right along you have got a liberal stooling, your stools are thoroughly fixed with roots and you can tip your plants over sideways and pretty nearly tear them out and yet they will go on and grow. The important feature now, in the spring, is to loosen up that crust which has been formed, in order to admit air.

Preparing New Ground

Now, we may speak of going on to new ground. My idea is to break as early as possible. When I left Dakota my idea was not to break ground except when the grass was growing. We thought that was the best time. Now I have come to the conclusion—and this is assuming that a man wants to get something out of his money—that it is best to break just as early as possible, and I would break in the fall if possible, turning the ground over two and a half to three inches deep and rolling it flat. If a man has forty acres of ground to break it will pay him to buy an old-fashioned roller to work that flat, then follow with the Acme harrow so as to loosen up the top and fill the crevices to form a perfectly smooth surface.

If you haven't a smooth roller and cannot get one and the sub-surface packer is available, go over it twice with that. In fact, we do that on the Holdrege farm. By following that plan we have found that when we reach along about July, when we want to turn the ground a second time to prepare it for seed the soil is rotted and the subsoil beneath the soil is rotted anywhere from three to five inches. Now, we go in with a stirring plow, having first used the breaking plow, and turn it from two and a half to three inches more, following this time with a sub-surface packer, and that with an Acme harrow or the Green harrow—the Acme harrow will do a little better work for a little less expense. In case of fitting for fall wheat follow the plan we have suggested, but if a man wants to break in the spring and raise a crop, break it a little deeper. Go down from three and a half to four inches. Follow as closely as you can with the roller, while it is moist, because if you let it dry you can't get it down. Get it down and then disc and harrow until you get the surface thoroughly worked up.

(EDITOR'S NOTE—For next week we will publish in this column Prof. Campbell's question box, in which he answers a large number of important questions asked by different delegates at the Dry Farming Congress, covering some very essential points practiced in scientific farming.)

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