

FARM AND ORCHARD

Notes and Instructions from Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations of Oregon and Washington, Specially Suitable to Pacific Coast Conditions

ROADS AND SETTLERS.

By E. F. Ayres, Highway Engineer, O. A. C. Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon.—When Thomas H. Edison returned from his European vacation, the New York reporters met him at the pier with requests for his impressions of the countries he had visited, with special reference to the question of how they compared with his native land. His reply was that Europe could show us nothing better than we produced with one exception—our highways. When it is considered that he comes from a state which has been one of the foremost in road improvement, and that his criticism was based on the condition of her roads, one wonders what he would have said if he had come from some of the newer states.

His impressions are undoubtedly the same as those of the European traveler who visits our shores, and there may be a lesson in his remarks that will explain the absence of the best class of European emigrants from our vacant farm lands. Everyone with even the most superficial knowledge of Oregon's conditions will admit that her greatest need today is more settlers to develop her latent resources. The commercial clubs of the state spend thousands of dollars every year to tell our friends in other sections of the United States and in Europe about the marvelous opportunities that await them in the Northwest, but somehow results fail to measure up to expectations.

Many reasons are advanced for the failure of the campaign, each booster laying the blame on the other fellow. One claims that the high freight and passenger rates are retarding the growth of the state; another blames the land boomers for holding the land at prices which are practically prohibitive; others say that the very nature of the literature issued is preventing development, as the general farmer sees nothing to attract him in fruit growing at the present price of land and water, and so it goes, each one carefully refraining from shouldering any portion of the responsibility himself.

Of course, it is much pleasanter to let the other fellow relieve us of all portions of the blame, but before being too sure it is sometimes a good idea to make sure that he has done so, and as long as our rural roads are left in their present condition, it will be difficult to persuade him to shoulder the part that rightfully belongs to him. The fault lies with the entire state, including both you and me, and while it is very unfortunate, we cannot dodge the issue.

How can we expect to attract farmers from countries where every man has been accustomed to hard surfaced roads from his childhood and regards them as a matter of course. He cannot understand why the American people make so much fuss over the improvement of a small stretch of highway, for in his country no fuss is made unless the road is neglected. Then it is not necessary for him to complain, his government will attend to the delinquent road official with great despatch. True, some European countries still have the same class of roads with which we are afflicted, but without mentioning names, stop a moment and think if the class of settlers which come from these countries are what we need to build up the state.

If the Booster Books are sent to our Eastern states the results are much the same. The farmer has had a taste of better market roads, and while he was very skeptical of their advantages at first, he is now their most ardent supporter and does not care to go back to the old conditions. "The Good Old Days" undoubtedly had their advantages, but the highways were not among the most conspicuous. He will read the literature we send him and admire the pictures; he may even reach the point where he feels that it would pay him to sell the old homestead and begin again in the West—and then he picks up his paper and sees what happened to the road bills in both Washington and Oregon last winter. He also notes that it was impossible for 38 men, selected by the governor for their intimate knowledge of conditions, to agree on a plan of procedure for the Oregon roads, and he allows that his present location looks good to him.

Oregon is not the only state that must have more settlers in order to take her rightful place among the commonwealths, and a study of how some of the other thinly populated communities are meeting the problem may be helpful. Texas needs men to cultivate her broad acres and secure her almost limitless mineral wealth, and the price at which her land can be secured is so much lower than in most states that she has an advantage at the start. Her laws permit the counties to bond themselves for highway improvement, and a great deal of good work has been done under this act. There has been no opportunity for standardization of plans or methods, nor could any comprehensive plan be carried out under this multiplicity of heads, so Texas has decided to go into the State Aid column. A bill has been introduced pro-

viding for the creation of a State Highway Commission whose chairman shall be the Professor of Highway Engineering at the Agricultural and Mechanical College, the other members being the Professor of Civil Engineering at the State University and one civilian to be appointed by the governor. These members serve without pay, and appoint a State Highway Engineer at \$3000 a year to design, construct and maintain highways. The bill will undoubtedly pass if it has not already done so.

Oklahoma must have settlers, and she, too, has advertised and sent her literature to the ends of the earth, but she has found that she must have roads to get the immigration. A Highway Department was created by the last legislature consisting of a Highway Commissioner to be appointed by the governor, and a State Highway Engineer to be appointed by the State Board of Engineers. His authority is to be absolute, and his salary has been fixed at \$5000 a year. Louisiana had long thought she was too poor to afford the luxury of better roads, but Governor Sanders succeeded in convincing the voters that it took a very rich state to afford the luxury of bad roads. The question of a special tax for the construction of State Aid roads was submitted to the people of the state at the last general election and carried by a big majority.

"What is the matter with Kansas?" She needs settlers, too, and she is getting them. Kansas has no state highway department, but the legislature makes a special appropriation for the employment of a Highway Engineer at the Agricultural College who acts in the capacity of consulting engineer for the entire state. No one is legally obliged to follow his advice, but they usually accept it the first time, and invariably the second time it is offered. As in all states where there is no central authority in full charge, the roads are not being improved very fast, but considerable good work is being done.

To come nearer home, California has just appointed a State Highway Engineer at a salary of \$10,000 a year, and has given him \$18,000,000 to spend on the highways. Our neighbor on the south will soon have good roads. Washington already has a State Highway Department, a trifle disfigured after last winter's battle, but still in the ring. A great deal of criticism was directed at the department, but, with few exceptions, it is difficult to find a well-built stretch of road in the state that was not built under the direct supervision of this office. Canada is not making much noise about it, but she is building roads nevertheless, and many and loud are the walls along our northern boundaries on account of the number of our neighbors who are leaving for "Our Lady of the Snows."

What are we going to do about it? There are but two ways open. We can keep on fighting over petty, insignificant details while the other states get the men and the money, or we can unite and make a start under some system, depending on advancing lauer. It is up to the people of Oregon.

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FASHION HINTS



Pale blue uncut velvet is used for the foundation of this handsome evening gown. The chiffon overskirt has an applique of roses in pastel shades. Very new is the suggestion of a draped sleeve.

Endurance Tests.
"I kind of wish," remarked the government employe, "that they'd give me another kind of an endurance test." "You want physical exertion?" "Yes. I wish that for a change they'd let me see how many miles I can ride on horseback instead of how many hours I can sit at a desk."

Distemper
In all its forms, among all ages of horses and dogs, cured and others in the same stable prevented from having the disease with Spohn's Distemper Cure. Every bottle guaranteed. Over 500,000 bottles sold last year. \$50 and \$1.00. Good druggists, or send to manufacturers. Agents wanted. Write for free book. Spohn Med. Co., Spec. Contagious Diseases, Goshen, Ind.

Noiseless Furniture.
Irritating noises can be avoided by taking some old felt hats, cutting out from these disks about the size of a quarter and securely fastening them to the bottoms of the legs of all chairs, tables and other movable articles not provided with casters. This also prevents the scratching of polished floors.

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for Red, Weak, Watery, Watery Eyes and Granulated Eyelids. Murine Doesn't Smart—Soothes Eye Pain. Druggists Sell Murine Eye Remedy, Liquid, 25c, 50c, \$1.00. Murine Eye Salve in Aseptic Tubes, 25c, \$1.00. Eye Books and Eye Advice Free by Mail. Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.

Uses of Nitrate of Soda.
Sodium Nitrate is the only nitrogen salt that can be used in solution, as all the other soluble salts of nitrogen become fixed as soon as they come in contact with the soil. However, they become available in a short time. The released sodium may correct soil acidity or may liberate calcium, potassium or magnesium from the soil.

RED CROSS BALL BLUE.
The blue that is all blue. Best for washing because it makes the clothes clear and white, lasts longer than liquid blue and produces better results. Avoid liquid bluing because it is only a weak solution of blue in an expensive package. RED CROSS BALL BLUE is sold everywhere. Price, 10c. ASK YOUR GROCER.

No Room for Improvement.
It was about 1720, at Amsterdam, that Fahrenheit made his first thermometer, which has served as a model ever since.

Particularly the Ladies.

Not only pleasant and refreshing to the taste, but gently cleansing and sweetening to the system, Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna is particularly adapted to ladies and children, and beneficial in all cases in which a wholesome, strengthening and effective laxative should be used. It is perfectly safe at all times and dispels colds, headaches and the pains caused by indigestion and constipation so promptly and effectively that it is the one perfect family laxative which gives satisfaction to all and is recommended by millions of families who have used it and who have personal knowledge of its excellence.

Its wonderful popularity, however, has led unscrupulous dealers to offer imitations which act unsatisfactorily. Therefore, when buying, to get its beneficial effects, always note the full name of the Company—California Fig Syrup Co.—plainly printed on the front of every package of the genuine Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna. For sale by all leading druggists. Price 50 cents per bottle.

A Popular License.
Aviation licenses are being issued to young women now, but the majority will, no doubt, continue to prefer the marriage license.—Washington Herald.

Do your feet feel tired, achy and sore at night? Rub them with a little Hamlin's Wizard Oil. They'll be glad in the morning and so will you.

Critical Sense.
"That youngest son of Bliggins seems to have the making of a true musician in him." "Does he sing or play?" "No. But he cries piteously when Bliggins tries to."

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The largest known bird's egg is that of the extinct aepyornis of Madagascar, of which the museum of New York has now a specimen. It has a capacity of two gallons, measures 26 inches round the middle, and the shell is one-eighth of an inch thick. The largest egg of a living bird is that of the ostrich, which is equal to about thirty-six hens' eggs.

Homemade Perfume.
Into a bottle holding two ounces alcohol put one-half ounce orris root, broken into fine pieces. Add to this a bunch of newly gathered rose petals. Cork the bottle tightly and shake well. After it has stood ten days, a few drops on the handkerchief will give the scent of fresh roses.

Municipal Reform in Georgia.
For several years there has been a law forbidding the running of bulls loose on the streets. This law has not been enforced for several years, but it does seem that it should now be enforced, as there are several such animals now at large.—Blackshear Times.

Evidently He Was Jealous.
A strange plea for divorce was unsuccessfully put forward in the French courts recently by a man who complained that his wife had allowed her photographs to be used on picture postcards against his will.

A Drop of Blood

Or a little water from the human system when thoroughly tested by the chief chemist at Dr. Pierce's Invalids' Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y., tells the story of impoverished blood—nervous exhaustion or some kidney trouble. Such examinations are made without cost and is only a small part of the work of the staff of physicians and surgeons under the direction of Dr. R. V. Pierce giving the best medical advice possible without cost to those who wish to write and make a full statement of symptoms. An imitation of nature's method of restoring waste of tissue and impoverishment of the blood and nervous force is used when you take an alterative and glyceric extract of roots, without the use of alcohol, such as



Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery

Which makes the stomach strong, promotes the flow of digestive juices, restores the lost appetite, makes assimilation perfect, invigorates the liver and purifies and enriches the blood. It is the great blood-maker, flesh-builder and restorative nerve tonic. It makes men strong in body, active in mind and cool in judgment. Get what you ask for!

Spoke From Experience.
"Say, pop, what is meant by letting well enough alone?" "A good example of it is when an unmarried man just continues to remain single."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

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Just out. Highly nickel-plated globe that throws off germs. Strongly endorsed. No odors. No disinfectants. Easily put on phone. Lasts forever. Always clean. On receipt of price, \$1.00, we will forward complete device ready to put on phone. Exclusive agents wanted in every town. Address Phono-Globe Company, 422 Monadnock Building, San Francisco, Cal.

Must Have Dined Well.
The electric ventilating fan on the wall of the restaurant was whizzing round. A gentleman who had dined extremely well sat looking at it for some time. "Waiter," he complained at last, "that clock's fast!"—Punch.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

Youth's Commercial Instinct.
A boy of nine, who had never previously witnessed a collection in church, was deeply interested, and when the bags were finally borne off by clergy and choir in procession, proclaimed in a loud whisper of sympathetic excitement, "Now they're going to share it out!"

Where is the strong. In reality anything is good enough for the man who thinks nothing is too good for him.

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