

Draining Willamette Valley Lands Is Repaying Farmers Hundredfold

FARMERS START DRAINAGE WORK IN LANE COUNTY

Junction City Man Tells of Improvements Made and Their Encouraging Results.

LAND VALUES INCREASE

Thousands of Acres Potentially Prolific if Adequate Measures Taken to Reclaim.

By Oscar L. Dunlap, Junction City, Or. We had an invasion in our section of Lane county last summer, yes, two of them, first the aphid and then a whole herd of drainage and irrigation promoters. The aphid nearly cleaned us, but we completely cleaned the promoters. We do need drainage and are getting it slowly but have no use for aphid or irrigation.

Between the Willamette and Long Tom rivers and between Eugene and Monroe there are several swales, most of which drain toward the northwest into the Long Tom. The Long Tom is rather a crooked stream and is pretty badly dammed with fallen trees. Below Monroe it has been opened up to navigation but this does not help us a great deal. A few miles southwest of Junction City the numerous swales unite and during a flood period make a small river which is about two miles wide and from one to five feet deep. The flooded land at the present time is worthless as far as farm crops are concerned.

The condition now is nothing to compare to what it was 15 years ago, which improvement is due largely to the efforts of C. W. Washburne, who had several large ditches made directly west of Junction City. These ditches parallel the Long Tom, emptying into it as its eastward bend before striking toward Monroe. The old Long Tom in this part of the valley resembles a snake's track. Every time there was a shower in the winter the water backed up over the three mile wide flat and hindered travel on the road from Junction City into the Blachly, Smithfield and Goldson country.

Ranchers of Curry County Say Coyotes Are on an Increase

Marshfield, May 24.—Ranchers of Northern Curry county report that coyotes are on the increase in that section. For years the sheep men were not bothered with this pest in Curry county, but during the past two or three years coyotes have found their way into the wilds of Curry. On the George Bennett ranch 400 acres has been inclosed with a coyote proof fence, and this system, though expensive, has proved effective. Traps are set on the outside of the fence and many coyotes have been caught.

Some of the ranchers claim that the coyotes will never become very numerous in this part of the state owing to the fact that they go up the streams and become poisoned eating salmon. Many believe that the annual poisoning from salmon every summer will to a great extent prevent the spread of the coyotes in Coos and Curry counties.

Club to Give Calves The Oregon Jersey club has agreed to furnish a registered bull calf to each standard calf club in the state that chooses the Jersey breed. Two calves have been placed to date, one in Clackamas county and one in Linn county. These calves were given by Representative McArthur and O. D. Stauff of Rickreall.

OLD DITCHES FILLED UP

A few drainage ditches were made in this section about 25 or 40 years ago, only a few doing the real good they could all be made to do by a little work. Those who have drained some of these swales have found them good producers of cheat hay, rye grass and spring oats. On my own farm we dug two and a half miles of drainage ditch last August which will more than pay for its cost this season. We used a Martin ditcher and would not be without one for five times the purchase price. The men of this neighborhood on seeing the advantage gained by our ditches immediately got busy and organized a company to purchase one of these ditching machines. This summer will see several miles of drainage ditches constructed and our section will be one of the best drained in Lane county.

There was recently held a ditching with powder demonstration on my farm which was attended by over 40 men. The swale soil is of such formation that when large ditches are constructed powder will be the best and cheapest means. Dallas Lingo, who has a large farm near Cheshire, will build over a half mile of big ditches by the powder

INCREASING LANE COUNTY CROPS



Blasting demonstrations on new drainage system on the O. L. Dunlap farm at Junction City. Blasting is being done to loosen earth prior to completing digging of ditches.

way this season. His ditches will help lower the flood water condition on the Junction City-Cheshire road and will be of great agricultural value to his farm.

We have been asleep on the drainage of these swales but now we are awake to their value. Great things in the way of drainage are to be expected from this section of Lane county, not because we wish to sell our land, but because we wish our farms to be better producers.

POULTRY NOTES

Ordinarily the hen does not consume enough time to form the shells of eggs if she is laying abundantly unless something besides the ordinary grain feeds are accessible to her. Oyster shells are very good for this purpose. A box of crushed shells may be placed before the fowls, allowing them to eat at will. Old mortar and fine gravel are also useful in supplying lime. Charcoal has a great absorptive power for gases, impurities and acids, and thus acts as a corrective when the stomach is sour and digestion has been impaired.

Many people raising poultry think of increased production only along the line of increased numbers. This is a mistake. The necessary object to be kept in view now is increased revenue, and this can be done better by raising poultry along lines of practical common sense and experience. In other words, it is better to raise 10 good strong vigorous broilers, roasters or layers that

will fetch you \$15 than to raise 15 that will only fetch you \$12 or possibly at the most \$15. This extra value can be gotten only through following our "Essential Features," the chief one now being early hatching. For information as regards the other features get in touch with your local leader or community committeeman, country or home demonstration agent, or write your state college.

Reports show that backyard poultry keeping, which was taken up by many on patriotic motives, will be extended, because a very large majority of these people became so interested in the work that they are going to keep on, as they find it instructive and profitable from both a physical and a financial point of view. It is, therefore, urged that all who can and so far have not adopted a backyard flock do so.

The spring work is about over and now is the time to put the haying and harvesting machinery into first class condition. A breakdown during the heavy work will mean more by far in the loss of time than it will cost to repair the machinery and put it in good running order at this time. Don't wait, crows broilers, roasters or layers that you know what delays mean.

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Clarke, Woodward Drug Co., PORTLAND, OREGON.

VALUABLE BRAND OF WALNUTS DISCOVERED FOR STATE BY GIROD

Specie Seen in California Is Brought to Oregon by Growers.

By M. McDonald [The fifth article by Mr. McDonald on the history of the Vrooman walnut in Oregon.] In our two former articles we dealt with the two leading characters in our story of the Vrooman Franquette—John Rock of Niles and Mrs. Emily M. Vrooman of Santa Rosa, Cal. While the character we will now introduce will not perhaps be looked upon as important as those of the preceding chapters, yet, as we look back on life's friends as one by one they slip away and leave us still to fight the battles on, our memory turns to him as one worth knowing, as one who each day his daily work begun and spurred not to rest until that daily task was done.

Leon Girard, a native of Switzerland, came to America while a mere boy, and as a young man he entered the Second Oregon volunteers and saw active service in the Philippine war, and after returning home was honorably discharged. He engaged with the Oregon Nursery company and for many years acted as their confidential traveling representative. Being able to converse in several languages, he was often sent on missions of a special nature requiring tact and judgment.

It was in 1905, after his return from an extended trip through Old Mexico in the interests of his company to determine the future possibilities of the country for the development of horticulture, that he found himself in Santa Rosa, Cal. Always on the lookout for improved varieties of trees and plants and having an extended knowledge of the walnut in different countries, upon seeing a very fine sample of the Franquette variety in the show window of Messrs. Kopp & Donovan, grocery store, Santa Rosa, and being struck with its fine showy appearance, he at once made inquiries and was told the nuts were

BOYS' PIG CLUBS GROW



Boys all over the state are taking increasing interest in Pig clubs under leadership of L. J. Allen of O. A. C.

grown by a Mrs. Vrooman a few miles out of Santa Rosa.

Upon investigation he found that the year's crop had been contracted for by Messrs. Kopp & Donovan who in turn were distributing them to the trade. Securing samples he forwarded them to the writer under whose department he was operating, strongly urging us to authorize him to purchase a quantity of the nuts for seed purposes, explaining that the grove of some 800 trees in which the nuts were grown was practically all of the one variety.

At this time and for several years previous, there had been considerable interest shown in the French varieties, because of the information distributed by Henry E. Doesch of Portland, and importations of both trees and nuts were being made from France, such importations always being of an unsatisfactory nature because of the fact that it was impossible to secure true types

of any one variety in quantities in France.

We were very much impressed with the fact that Mr. Girard has discovered in Mrs. Vrooman's grove what we had been searching for, a grafted orchard from which we could secure reliable seed stock and scions. Our answer was to purchase every pound of nuts and make arrangements for all the scions from the grove. The purchasing of the nuts from Kopp & Donovan was not a very hard matter, purely a commercial transaction—only a matter of price and 5000 pounds, all of that year's crop, were secured at 25 cents per pound. L. J. Allen, Santa Rosa.

(The final installment of Mr. McDonald's history of the Vrooman-Franquette walnut will appear in The Journal Farm Section next week.)

In answering advertisements mention the Farm page of The Journal.

DEMAND GREATER THAN PRODUCTION OF APPLE SYRUP

Corporation Organized to Meet Fast-Increasing Popularity of New Table Luxury.

Apple syrup is not a drink, but a most delightful table luxury. It is real syrup and consists, principally, of apple juice. Its other ingredients are maple and cane sugar.

Owning several large apple orchards in Union county, George L. Cleaver discovered that the smaller, even though perfect, fruit could not be disposed of at a profit, and this was the reason that four years ago he began to experiment with the manufacture of apple syrup. Today there are 27 food dealers in Portland selling this product at \$2.25 a gallon, and their only complaint is that they cannot produce the luxury in sufficient quantities to supply the demand of their customers.

It is likewise sold in Eastern Oregon, and Mr. Cleaver has scores of letters in his files declaring his product not only healthful but the most delicious of all appetizing foods. Just how good it is cannot be told in words. The palate alone can tell the story. The syrup is put up in glass, is about of the consistency of Lor Cabin or Mescal mallow brands, and is sought by high class dealers.

"We are practically sold out for the season," Mr. Cleaver says, "and will place no more on the market until this season's crop has ripened in Eastern Oregon. We will crush the apples in Union county and ship the fluid to Portland, where the blending and packing will take place. The syrup will be put up in glass packages containing 1 1/2 and 2 1/2 fluid ounces, and in gallon jars. We have now a \$50,000 corporation, and expect to manufacture a sufficient quantity to meet all demands in the future."

Officers of the company are: George L. Cleaver, president; H. H. Cleaver, vice president and treasurer and Charles Barber, secretary. The company's office is at 512 Merchants Exchange building.

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