

# Inspection Trip to Prune Orchards Is of Value to Clarke County Growers

## FARM BUREAU MAKES TOUR OF ORCHARDS

### PRUNE PROBLEMS STUDIED AT FIRST HAND ON RANCHES

By R. C. Stewart

It was a fine day. The knowledge that was gained was assimilated easily because the entire day was given over to demonstration and discussion of practical problems right in the field. It was all made possible through the farm bureau with the cooperation of the Washington Agricultural college, and the Washington Growers Cooperative association, all of them working to further the interests of the prune growers of Clarke county.

It was a businesslike and serious crowd that went from orchard to orchard comparing the results of the different methods that have been employed on the various prune ranches in the past few years, and making plans to develop their own orchards in the future. Such a crowd is seldom seen together as the one that studied the effects of fertilizers and pruning in the Vancouver section on Monday, August 16, they were really students.

**FERTILIZER STUDIED**

More than 200 were in line to visit the first orchard, that of J. W. Moody, near Felida. Here a study of fertilizers was made and the results of fertilizing at different periods noted. The orchard is divided into plots and various experiments have been carried on by Moody during the past few years to determine the best practical methods.

The next orchard visited was that of Fred Brooker, near the Lake Shore school. This is one of the oldest prune orchards in the county, having been set out for 27 years. The 21 acres did not produce a crop in 1913, 1914, 1915 and when Brooker bought it in 1915 it looked like a poor investment. Moody believes in moderately heavy pruning and, above all, heavy applications of barnyard manure. He now has proof to back up his theories, for he has not had a single crop failure and has had some very heavy yields. Brooker puts the manure on in the fall and also he can get the crop off, and immediately plow it under, plowing rather deep.

**SHALLOW PLOWING**

In the spring a shallow plowing is given, and then cultivation about every 10 days during the summer. Each working given is shallower than the previous one. The ground in this orchard was free of weeds and grass, and a fine mulch, keeping the moisture up to within an inch or so of the top. In keeping with the day, Brooker served fruit punch to the visitors.

On the way back into Vancouver, the 4-year-old orchard of R. J. Firestone was visited and the effects of the pruning noted and discussed. The trees had been allowed to go over one year without pruning and then, to give them the desired shape, had been pruned back into the 2-year-old wood with what appears now to have been detrimental results.

The growers' new packing plant in Vancouver which is nearly complete was the scene of the bounteous picnic lunch served by the growers.

**\$5000 IS SAVED**

This three-story plant, built by the Cooperative association at a saving of over \$5000 under the contractors' best bids, will be one of the best plants on the coast. It will be ready for the first of this year's crop. After the lunch short talks were given by the Vancouver Prunarians, prune growers and E. F. Robertson, representative of the state college.

The results of using vetch as a fertilizer in a soil needing humus was shown at the H. Sperber orchard. Vetch has been used every year since 1912, with but one crop failure and with a good crop nearly every year.

At the A. Wechner orchard the results of using vetch as a commercial fertilizer was shown, the average yield, 1916 to 1919, being one ton per acre. Two and seven-tenths tons per acre is the average yield for the Wechner orchard during the past seven years, showing the results of heavy manuring.

**RESULTS SATISFACTORY**

In the Billie Wood orchard the same fertilizer experiments were carried on as in the Moody orchard, the first one visited.

It was a day well planned to give everyone a better understanding of the best methods of fertilization and pruning. The ability and value of the farm bureau and county agents to the community was impressed upon all.

C. G. Fillers, the county agent, is to be congratulated upon the work he is doing to bring better conditions to the agricultural industries of Clarke county. The county is fortunate to have a live organization like the Washington Growers Cooperative association working for the interests of all of the fruit growers of the county, and state.

**Clackamas Cattle Herds Invaded by Contagious Malady**

What appears to be hemorrhagic septicemia is taking a big toll of the dairy cattle in Clackamas county. One man H. B. Lambert, is reported to have lost five out of his seven cows.

Five local veterinarians are working on this case and the state veterinarian has been called.



The prune growers of Clarke county, Washington, visited the different prune orchards on August 16, making a study of fertilization and pruning. The trip was arranged by the farm bureau and a specialist from the state college gave helpful information on prune culture. At the top is shown the growers leaving the new packing plant where the lunch was held. Part of the line-up of cars and in the background the prune orchard of H. Sperber is shown in the lower view.

### FOREIGN EGG CASE DECIDED BY JUDGE

After a long, hard-fought, legal battle, which has lasted since the early part of this year, Judge Wright, of Thurston county superior court, sitting at Olympia, has finally handed down a decision in the celebrated foreign egg case, which may be considered a victory for the poultrymen.

The effect of Judge Wright's decision of the egg case is to leave in full force and effect the 1915 act, which requires all eggs imported from foreign countries and offered for sale in the state of Washington to be sold as such.

Each egg offered for sale imported into the state is required, under the 1915 act, to be marked, branded or stamped with the name of the country in which it is produced. The 1915 act also requires that when the eggs are imported in a can or container that the container must likewise be marked so as to indicate the country from which the eggs are sent; that is, the enforcement of the 1915 act is not interfered with, nor is the act of 1919 held unconstitutional. The state is free to enforce the 1915 act.

The effect of Judge Wright's decision is to restrain the enforcement of that part of the 1915 act requiring all restaurants, hotels, bakeries and confectioneries using foreign eggs to put up signs announcing to their consumers or customers that they use foreign eggs. Any one, however, importing eggs into this state is required to label the eggs with the name of the country in which they are produced, whether the eggs are imported in the shell, or otherwise.

**Oregon Cow Makes New Test Records**

A new high-water mark in production by testing association cows in Oregon has been set by the bureau of crop estimates, United States department of agriculture. This is considerably above the average in 1918, and of 41.6 pounds for the five years 1913-1917. The relative proportions in which the money of the last two years was marketed are indicated by 59 for extracted honey, 31 for comb honey and 10 for bulk honey. About one third of the product goes to "outside" markets.

**Increase in Honey Production Noted**

The average yield of surplus honey in 1919 was 50 pounds to a colony of honey bees, as estimated by the bureau of crop estimates, United States department of agriculture. This is considerably above the average in 1918, and of 41.6 pounds for the five years 1913-1917. The relative proportions in which the money of the last two years was marketed are indicated by 59 for extracted honey, 31 for comb honey and 10 for bulk honey. About one third of the product goes to "outside" markets.

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### Jersey-Guernsey Jubilee to Precede Fair in Hood River

Hood River, Aug. 21.—A Jersey-Guernsey jubilee will be a new feature to take place prior to the opening of the Hood River county fair which is scheduled for September 17 and 18. In order to secure the best stock possible for entries at Olympia, has finally handed down a decision in the celebrated foreign egg case, which may be considered a victory for the poultrymen.

**STATE FAIR WILL BE HUGE SUCCESS**

Salem, Aug. 21.—Entries already made for the fifty-ninth Oregon state fair, September 27 to October 2, insure the success of the event. Those made in agriculture and livestock are unprecedented, and with early mail bringing lists of applicants for space directors and members of the board are predicting the largest and most comprehensive fair in the history of the state.

Improvements in buildings and grounds have been made, amounting to \$25,000, and landscape architects have been at work for some time beautifying the grounds.

The program of entertainment this year features a racing schedule, the fastest in many years, and includes professional automobile races, auto polo, and a horse show in the stadium four nights of the six. Two large amusement companies have been secured, besides a large number of first-class concessions.

The industrial exhibits will be larger than heretofore, and a boys' and girls' camp will be conducted for three days.

The fundamental factors that are involved in making good corn silage also apply in making better top silage. Pack the mass thoroughly to exclude the free air and then seal tight. Good silage requires thorough packing.

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### FORD PRAIRIE EGG MEN IN SESSION

Centralia, Aug. 21.—An unusually instructive and pleasant meeting of the Ford Prairie Egg and Poultry association was held August 16 at the A. Y. Swayne poultry farm at the extreme north end of the prairie.

Following a tour of inspection over the Swayne ranch, which revealed a modern poultry establishment, capable of housing 2200 hens, with electric lights and water system throughout the buildings, a business meeting was held.

A committee appointed at the last meeting for the purpose of investigating the unusually high assessment of poultry on Ford Prairie, consisting of Frank Ipe, chairman, Margaret Harriman, and George Sower, reported that after they had met with the county commissioners and the assessors and talked the matter over, the assessment of hens on the prairie was reduced from \$1 a head to \$10 a dozen.

A discussion of the feed situation occupied much attention at the meeting, and a number of good suggestions were made where feed could be secured at the least cost. A committee appointed by the president, Roy Palmer, for the purpose of investigating feed situations and endeavoring to locate a place where feed could be purchased in large quantities at a reduction, consisted of L. L. Harriman, chairman, A. Y. Swayne and J. P. Fisher.

Mr. Swayne gave an interesting report on the meeting of the Washington State Egg and Poultry association of which he is a member, held in Seattle, August 11, outlining the different grades of eggs. The next meeting will be Monday, September 11.

### POULTRY NOTES

The poultry culling demonstrations being held in different parts of the state are finding out many of the slacker hens. In this period of high feed prices and close margins of profit, no poultryman can afford to keep birds around that are eating up the food that the profitable hens are paying for. A few hours spent in learning how to cull properly will be of more value to a poultryman than several days of the hardest work.

This is the best time of the year to rid the flock of lice and mites. A little dust, a little spray, a little whitewash and a little common sense will do the work at a small cost.

Poultry raisers will find that with the raising of the larger breeds, for instance, Plymouth Rocks and Rhode Island Reds, they will have an excess of broody hens. All such hens not used for hatching purposes should be "broken up." This can be accomplished by interning the broody hen in a well ventilated coop or box, which has a slatted or wire bottom. Through this the air can circulate freely and thus aid in reducing the broody fever.

Hens housed in this manner must be well fed from troughs just outside of the coop. Skim milk and butter-milk, meat scraps or tankage are the essential feeds at this time, as they aid in maintaining the force and vigor of the egg-producing organs. A cure from broody fever is effected in from three to seven days of such confinement. At the end of this time they may be returned to the laying contingent of the flock, in order that a 50 per cent egg production be maintained.

The safest way for those who are about to make their first attempt at poultry raising is to start in a small way with a few fowls, and learn the business thoroughly before making large investments, advise poultry specialists of the United States department of agriculture. Mistakes will be made and many difficult problems will be presented for solution before success in any large measure will be attained. As soon as it is found to be a paying investment, more capital may be put into the plant.

### FARM BUREAU MEN TO VISIT OREGON

The fame of Oregon's farm marketing organizations has spread far and wide. A committee of American farm bureau federation leaders, representing more than 1,500,000 farmers and, what is held to be the most soundly progressive movement in the farm world, will visit Oregon early next month to study the methods of farmers in Oregon organizations.

Among the big national farm leaders who are expected to come are J. R. Howard, national president of the American Farm Bureau Federation, National Secretary Cloverdale, Howard Leonard, president Illinois Agricultural association, Mr. Ekhardt, head of the grain marketing division and some other very important members of the national body. The committee is one appointed by National President Howard at the behest of the convention recently held in Chicago. The Oregon Farmers' Co-operative Marketing association, as exemplified by the Oregon Fruit Growers' association, the Oregon Dairyman's league, together with the Sapiro and Coykendall method of financing was endorsed by the convention. It is the committee's intention to devise a means of applying this principle to the marketing of wheat.

The committee will inspect plants of the dairymen, fruit growers and other organizations. A stop will be made in Spokane to ascertain the progress of the Washington and Idaho Wheat Growers' associations.

While in California the members will be feted by various farm bureau and farmers marketing associations. In Portland they will be met by a committee including E. E. Favie, editor of the Western Farmer, Paul C. Maris, director of extension of the Oregon Agricultural college, Alma D. Katz, president of the Oregon Dairyman's league, R. C. Paulus, sales manager of the Oregon Growers' Cooperative association and U. L. Upon general manager of the Pacific Poultry Producers, Inc.

**Josephine Farmers Organize**

Grants Pass, Aug. 21.—At a meeting of the farmers of Josephine county the Josephine County Farmers Cooperative

### Benton Poultry Men To See Hen Culling

Corvallis, Aug. 21.—During the week of September 6 to 11 County Agent G. V. Kable will conduct a poultry culling demonstration in Corvallis for the information of the poultry raisers of Benton county. Hobert E. Crosby, who is the poultry specialist of the extension department of the O. A. C., will make the demonstrations.

**Agricultural News Is Wanted by Many**

Moscow, Idaho, Aug. 21.—That bulletins from the University of Idaho agricultural experiment station are in demand from a wide area is shown by the receipt of 551 requests for bulletins in a single day's mail, Dean E. J. Iddings announced. While the greater number of the requests came from Idaho there were 18 states represented in the requests received during the 24 hours. Bulletins treating on various agricultural subjects are asked for. All requests will be filled.

**Early Picked Pears Declared Inferior**

Early picked pears are decidedly inferior in quality to those harvested later, says the O. A. C. experiment station. Pears picked from the middle to the end of the season likewise keep slightly longer in cold storage than the early picked fruit. Growers can not expect harvesting and storage bulletin by writing to the college at Corvallis.

**Will It Stay Up?**

Land is sky high—but that doesn't seem to worry anyone. Farmers everywhere are buying or selling or both with feverish enthusiasm. Since the beginning of 1920 twenty per cent of the farm land in the richest agricultural section of the United States has changed hands, says

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