Scrub Stock Being Ousted by People of Lower Columbia River District

PUREBRED SHOWS GAIN; SCRUB COW PROVES LIABILITY

A striking demonstration of the value of the purebred sire as against the scrub, was made recently by Will Reeth, on his dairy farm near Astoria, Or. A little more than a year ago Reeth found the milk production of his 27-cow dairy farm insufficient to meet the demands of his customers, and so he looked about for a couple of good milk cows.

From a neighbor he bought "Strawberry," a scrub cow seven years old, highly recommended as a good milker, the best among the scrub herds thereabout. Reeth paid $75 for this cow.

TEST IS IMPARTIAL

Reeth uses a pure-bred Guernsey sire for his herd, and he placed his newly purchased scrub cow in a stanchion adjoining one of his Guernsey grade cows, daughter of a pure-bred Guernsey bull, named "Duty," then proceeded to keep accurate daily records of the production and feed of both animals.

RATIONS ARE BALANCED

Strawberry, the scrub cow, received real dairyman's care, along with her grade neighbor. Her grain ration was poperly balanced, but she didn't produce the goods. She was a "boarder" to the extent that she was a net loss of $1.45 the last month she was milked, and to save further loss during the four months she would have been dry, Strawberry was sent where all "boarders" are sent by practical dairymen.

Reeth continued to keep the daily records of "Duty," the grade Guernsey, for the balance of the year. "Duty" was given the same care and feed as Strawberry had had, except that she was fed a slightly larger quantity because she responded promptly to the extra feed by giving more milk, whereas Strawberry did not. When the year's record was completed Duty showed a profit of $330, while Strawberry's memory was charged up with a loss of $1.45 plus the cost of the feed she would have eaten during her four dry months had not her owner eliminated her from his herd promptly upon the proof that she was a liability instead of an asset.

FARMERS INTERESTED

Much interest was taken in Reeth's test by farmers and dairymen throughout Clatsop county, and it may be said for Strawberry that while she did not pay for her keep, at least through her bad example she served the important purpose of demonstrating the futility of a miscellaneous ancestry.

As the result of the test many Clatsop county farmers and dairymen are weeding out their scrub cows, sending their scrub bulls to the butcher, and developing their herds through pure-bred sires. The Guernsey breed is well in the lead of all others in Clatsop county, which is ideally suited to Guernseys, and not only are many fine pure-bred Guernsey sires to be found in this richly fertile section, but there are also several fine pure-bred Guernsey herds, and pure-bred foundation stock in this breed is increasingly in demand.

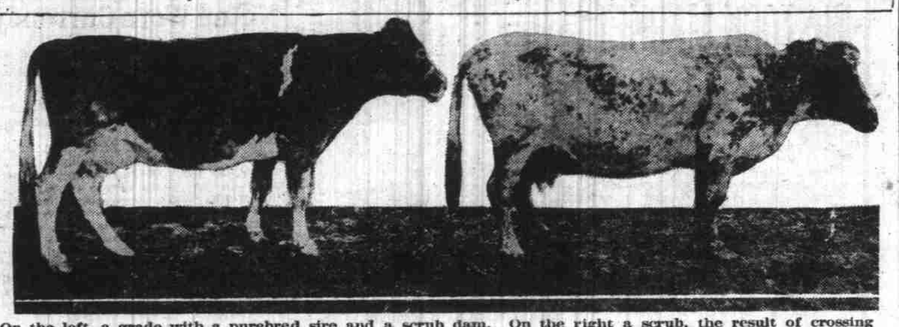
Discuss Tree Pruning

Ashland, Jan. 8.—The Jackson county farm bureau held a meeting in the city hall, December 18. The care and pruning of fruit trees was discussed by the county agent.

Want Change in Law

Changes in the Oregon purebred bull law will be asked at the coming legislature. The present laws, it is pointed out, do not properly define the term "purebred bull," because by the law the same are not required to be registered.

PUREBRED, GRADE OR SCRUB, WHICH HAVE YOU?



On the left, a grade with a purebred sire and a scrub dam. On the right a scrub, the result of crossing scrub with scrub. The grade proved to be profitable, but the scrub showed a loss after being milked a few months and was sent to the butcher.

FARM BUREAU KEPT TRACTORS ON MOVE

By F. L. Ballard

One piece of work by the Umatilla county farm bureau in Oregon saved 282 Umatilla county wheat ranchers $21,724.57 in money in addition to a greater saving in time and possible crop loss.

This important economy was brought about through ordering cooperatively 27 tank carloads of distillate from California for use in tractors and trucks. With harvest coming on, Umatilla county farmers found that distillate was off the market in the Northwest and they would probably have to turn to gasoline for fuel. There was also a serious gasoline shortage and the situation looked bad.

The farm bureau, however, located a supply of distillate in California and as a result 27 carloads were brought to the county. The total cost was $47,337.33. The same amount of gasoline would have cost $69,081.90.

NO LOSS INCURRED

All the Umatilla county banks cooperated in financing the shipment and not a cent's loss was incurred.

"This was one of the most effectively handled and businesslike cooperative pools I have seen in my long connection with farmers' organization," says W. W. Harrah, chairman of the cooperation committee of the farm bureau and vice-president of the State Farm Bureau federation.

Other nearby counties did some of the same work on a smaller scale. The Sherman County Farm bureau handled seven carloads of distillate, saving the farm bureau members approximately $5000.

In Morrow county five carloads were brought in, saving more than $4000.

WASCO GETS SUPPLY

Four carloads were shipped into Wasco county as a result of cooperation between the county farmers' union and County Agent E. R. Jackman.

"It is difficult to estimate the saving on this shipment," says County Agent Jackman. "Most of the men would have been compelled to burn gasoline, which would have cost them $2400 above the price of the distillate. In addition they could buy only a barrel or two at a time and often could get none at all. Some farmers could only obtain gasoline by shipping their drums 55 miles, and their return was often delayed for many days. This delay during harvest would have made continuous work impossible.

"One of the gasoline dealers here says that had it not been for the distillate few automobiles would have been running during the harvest season."

POULTRY NOTES

Laying hens must have foods containing egg making elements. Analysis show the following: Ash, 12.5 per cent; water, 65.7; protein, 11.4; fat, 8.9. The hen cannot counterfeit her product and must have the real elements in sufficient quantity to manufacture eggs out of surplus feed.

About 75 per cent of a laying hen's feed is required for body maintenance. To lay well she must have a surplus of necessary food elements to manufacture eggs. Sparing feed is an expensive use of it, as it allows too little for profitable egg production.

Clover, cut up and soaked in boiling water, is good when fed with mash, as is clover meal and ground alfalfa. Sprouted oats or other sprouted grains may also be fed and make excellent green feeds, but require considerable labor. As a general thing the flock should have, once a day, about all the green feed it will eat.

REPORT OF FARM AGENT INTERESTING

Corvallis, Or., Jan. 8.—The annual report of County Agent George W. Kable has been filed, which includes:

One drainage survey made and a drainage system planned; three small irrigation systems planned and surveys made; five demonstrations of better cropping methods and the use of fertilizers conducted, estimated worth $5000 to the county; use of straw spreaders and straw as a fertilizer introduced; farmers aided in cooperative purchase of agricultural lime and instructions for use of same; assistance rendered in certification of seed potatoes; inspection and certification of wheat for seed; 7250 pounds of tested seed corn and 1000 pounds of tested sunflower seed distributed to farmers; cultivated crops of the county increased 300 per cent in the last three years; giving information in regard to grain smut, insect pests and crop diseases; campaign for more silos resulted in the building of 50 the past year; organization of one community which adopted the Jersey as the community breed of cows; introduced pure bred cattle and sheep; held nine poultry culling demonstrations, which reached 100 flocks and 3000 hens; cow testing started in two communities; conducted successful squirrel poisoning campaigns and for extermination of moles and gophers; advertising of farm products; 80 farm tractors purchased in county.

DOUGLAS FARMERS DISCUSS PROBLEMS

Roseburg, Jan. 8.—The first two meetings of the Farmers' Week sessions of Douglas county, held here, were well attended. The ladies met in the city hall on Wednesday, while the poultrymen gathered in the courthouse.

The poultrymen had a most interesting session. A committee of 17 was appointed to ascertain from the different sections of the county the needs of the poultrymen, such as feel, seed, fertilizers, machinery and other necessities required, and to report at an early date, so that the farm bureau could arrange for an exchange if the amount of business warranted such a move. The meeting was addressed by prominent poultrymen of the county, as well as the experts from the Oregon Agricultural college, and U. L. Upson of the Pacific Poultry Producers, Inc.

The ladies were somewhat disappointed in not getting the speaker they had scheduled for the meeting Wednesday. Miss Cowgill, having made a mistake in her dates, did not arrive on schedule. The meeting was addressed by Miss Jennie McComb, who dealt with the various home problems in a very able manner. The ladies were served tea by Mrs. Haslett and Mrs. C. E. Banning at the home of Mrs. Haslett.

A morning session was devoted to the methods of eradicating the pests on the farm, such as gray diggers, rats, gophers and ground mice. Professor Ira N. Gabrielson of the United States department of agriculture presided.

One afternoon session was devoted to farm crops, pure seed and the best kind of fertilizers. Professor W. S. Carpenter of the O. A. C. led the meeting. This subject is one of great importance to the farmers, and the meeting was well attended, and every detail was covered during the afternoon

Chester Gray of the farm bureau of Missouri addressed the farmers Saturday on organization of farm bureaus. Professor Gray has been working on farm bureau organization in Oregon for several months, and his address is looked forward to with much interest.

Farmers' Union in Favor of Change in Direct Primary Law

Walla Walla, Wash., Jan. 8.—Members of the Tri-County Farmers' Union, comprising representatives from Walla Walla, Columbia and Whitman counties, at their annual meeting here, passed resolutions favoring changes in the direct primary law and recommending an amendment to the state constitution making it optional with the people whether there should be a managerial or a commission form of government for the county.

Officers elected for the ensuing year were as follows: Ed Powers, Starbuck, president; A. C. Hershaw, Walla Walla, vice-president; A. C. Moore, Walla Walla, secretary. The following were chosen as members of the executive committee: N. B. Atkinson, Waitsburg; Reed Jones, Dayton, and Harry Reynolds, Walla Walla.

The date for the next meeting of the organization was set for some time in March, the exact day to be decided by the president.

Sulphur Adds to Yield of Alfalfa

Hermiston, Jan. 8.—The sulphur investigations by the Umatilla experimenntal farm are of interest to all alfalfa growers. On the light soil of the experiment farm sulphur has not increased the yield of alfalfa, but on the slightly heavier soils of Stanfield and at Boardman the yield has increased from 15 to 30 per cent.

Field experiments were established in 1918 in cooperation with A. W. Cobb of Boardman and C. W. Connor of Stanfield. In 1920 the two cuttings on Connor's sulphur plats yielded 5.14 tons of hay an acre while the check plat yielded 4.33 tons an acre. The increased yield was 1630 pounds of hay or 18.8 per cent of the untreated yield. Valuing hay at $15 a ton the increase from the sulphur was worth $12.33 an acre. The cost of the sulphur was $1 so that the net gain in one year is $10.23 and the sulphur usually acts through a period of four years. In 1919 Cobb at Boardman secured an increase of 1600 pounds of hay from three cuttings and in 1920 has secured 2097 pounds more hay from the sulphured than from the check plats. His increases to date have been $27.69 with hay at $15 a ton from a $2 application of sulphur.

MEETING BOOSTS GUERNSEY CATTLE

Following an enthusiastic meeting of bankers, business men, breeders, dairymen and farmers at Ilwaco, Wash., recently, and as a result of the cooperative spirit for the development of the livestock industry developed at the meeting, a carload of purebred Guernsey cattle, consigned to various farmers and dairymen of Pacific county, was ordered for early spring shipment.

The natural conditions of Pacific county, like those of Clatsop county, across the Columbia in Oregon, are peculiarly suited to Guernseys, which breed predominates over all others throughout this section.

TALKS ON HERD

There were upward of 75 men present at the gathering, which was addressed by E. L. Westover, Western representative for the American Guernsey Cattle club; J. McGowan of McGowan, Wash.; A. L. Giles of Chinook, County Agent J. R. Beck and others. A feature of the meeting was the enthusiastic address of A. L. Giles, who has one of the largest and best Guernsey herds on the coast, and who carried off many blue and purple ribbons with his exhibits at the Pacific International Livestock exposition at Portland, in November.

Giles gave a history of his herd, now numbering 125, and which has been for several years past a leading source of supply for fine Guernsey foundation stock over a wide radius in the Northwest.

BANKER SPEAKS

This breeder said that 10 years ago, before he came to realize the practical value of scientific breeding, he had a herd of mixed cattle which brought him in an annual income of $3000. He began to weed out his grades and then centered on Guernseys, rapidly building up an outstanding Guernsey herd. Now his annual income is $26,000.

J. McGowan, who owns several fish canneries and ranches, announced himself a convert to the purebred livestock industry and said he has acquired a 1400 acre farm which he will stock with purebred Guernseys in the very near future.

M. E. Sinclair, president of the Southwestern Washington bank at Ilwaco, stressed the necessity for bankers and business men cooperating with farmers and dairymen in the development of the livestock industry.

NOTES FROM O.A.C.

Dairymen should not cut down on their dry feed because of the apparent abundance of green feed. If they do, the milk flow will be lessened, and if they continue doing it for any length of time the cows will not give their full portion of milk until the next lactation period. The condition of the cows will be seriously affected as well.

By using their straw as feed for dairy heifers, for sheep and to less extent for idle horses, many successful farmers not only reduce the amount of hay feed but get plant food back into the soil in an economical and effective way. Notwithstanding this feed and fertilizer use of straw, some farmers continue to burn their straw stacks annually.

Peach growers bothered with peach-leaf curl can get rid of it by spraying with Bordeaux mixture 6-6-50. The spray is best applied between now and February 1. The trees must be sprayed thoroughly to obtain best results.

The State Farm Bureau federation is practically assured, 7 county bureaus out of 12 required having already voted in favor of federation. Jackson county led, followed in quick succession by Benton and Polk. Morrow and Sherman counties are committed to the idea, and Umatilla county gives assurance that it will be indorsed there. In Southern Oregon, Josephine county has joined Jackson in support of the federation.

New Wheat Variety Indicates Promising Milling Qualities

A report from Klamath Falls states that John Sprolek, a farmer of Malin, has developed a new variety of wheat which has exceptional milling qualities and is particularly adapted to the climate of that region. This wheat is on the order of Fife and is early maturing, and in tests the past year yielded about 10 bushels more per acre than the ordinary wheat.

Several tracts of Klamath county swamp land will be reclaimed and put under cultivation if present plans are carried out. Nearly 70,000 acres of this immensely rich soil is scheduled to be drained and will be utilized to grow celery, mint, potatoes and many other crops. Some of this land is already being drained and more of it is under development contracts.

Strawberry Weevil Survey Is Made

To establish the limits of strawberry weevil infestation and release plants for shipment from weevil-free districts, B. B. Fulton, specialist in entomology at the O. A. C. experiment station, has been detailed to make a complete field survey of the situation. The presence of this weevil in some parts of Oregon has resulted in the placing of a quarantine against strawberry plants from Northern Oregon. Oregon growers likewise should guard against the introduction of this serious strawberry pest into uninfested areas, says A. L. Lovett, station entomologist. Care in purchasing plants, insisting that they be from weevil-free territory, is said by Professor Lovett to be the best insurance against infestation.

Farm Bureau Work Will Be Advanced In Yakima County

Yakima, Wash., Jan. 8.—Farm bureau work in Yakima county will be put on a more extensive basis for the coming year than has ever been attempted heretofore, according to plans laid by R. B. Coglon, county agent, who announces that already the work has been outlined for 12 communities and 49 projects have been planned. Coglon expects to organize from 30 to 35 communities by the time the crop season begins. The leading crop in each of the communities is its project for the year, and in connection with this three or four lesser projects are taken. With the study of each crop, questions of culture, fertilization, cost of production, handling and marketing will be taken up and the topics carried through a series of community meetings. In one community the cost of apple production will be studied; in another cooperative buying of seed potatoes. A better sires campaign will be initiated in one of the dairy communities, and in another soil fertilization will be the chief activity.

PEARS ADAPTED TO WESTERN OREGON

Now that the planting season is coming on, C. I. Lewis of the Oregon Growers' Cooperative association, calls attention to certain varieties of pears that do well in Western Oregon.

First comes the Bartlett, which to some extent is the standard pear for the Willamette, Umpqua and Rogue River valleys. Next in importance is the Bosc, which is becoming popular, bringing high prices in the East. It was this pear that topped the London and New York auction market the last season in sales of the Oregon Growers' Cooperative association. The New York top price was $7.38 a box.

The Clairgeau pear also thrives in Western Oregon. The Anjou is not favored, as it has a functional disease and is slow in coming into bearing. The Winter Nelis also seems hard to grow and difficult to produce large fruit.

For those who are contemplating planting of prunes, Lewis advises the Italian. It is the standard of Oregon and in the long run, is a paying investment. Other varieties might be planted to advantage, especially some of the new ones, but the standard remains Italian.

In the planting of cherries, a very important feature must not be overlooked, and that is the fact that the Royal Anne, Bing and Lambert are each self-sterile and also inter-sterile. With these varieties must be planted a fair proportion of Long Stemmed Waterhouse, or some other good pollenizer.

For the apple grower, Lewis holds out encouragement, even if the last season was unfavorable. History repeats itself and the large crop in the East the last season is likely to be followed by a short crop. This seems to be the history of apple bearing. Hence the West, with its short crop this year and small sizes, should produce a fine crop the next season with more favorable prices.

Prune growers are also given some encouragement. The indications now are that the California crop will not be so heavy next year, and that on account of extensive advertising both by the California associations and the Oregon Growers' Cooperative association, there will be a greatly increased demand.

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It's a wonder and will tell whether the eggs are fertile (hatchable), female or male, before incubation. Will indicate the sex of any bird or animal of any age whether alive or dead. A simple little conical metal suspended by a thread and held in the hand over eggs or baby chicks, etc. Your money back if it doesn't do all we claim. Price with full instructions, $2.00 postpaid.

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If you intend to build a new henhouse inquire about our New Model Poultry House. It's right up to date, well lighted, correctly ventilated and yet protects the birds from all drafts. Shows latest and best style of nests, feeders, roosts, etc. Hens have the use of the entire floor space (no outside runs). We furnish blue print and full instructions for building, including itemized bill of lumber for house, 20x40. Price $2.50

NOTE—Poultry Supply Catalog mentioned above ready for mailing now but our 1921 Complete Annual will not be off the press until about January 15th.

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My model 16 Kirstin works fine. My daughter, 16 years old, pulled the first stump, a tamarack, 18 inches through. I have cleared about 6 acres with your machine.—Henry Trant, Orin, Wash.

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