

# SALEM DISTRICT INDUSTRIES

## SIXTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

THE DAILY STATESMAN dedicates two or more pages each week in the interests of one of the fifty-two to a hundred basic industries of the Salem district. Letters and articles from people with vision are solicited. This is your page. Help make Salem grow.

### THOUGH BUSY SHOW SEASON ON HAND, FLOYD FOX GIVES A FEW GOOD WORDS

One of Our Most Successful Sheep Breeders and Exhibitors at the Coast Fairs, Tells Our Farmers to Keep Sheep. They Will Utilize the Waste—Offers Slogan, "A Few Sheep on Every Farm."

Editor Statesman: In reply to your request for an article on sheep for your annual Slogan, will say that I cannot reply very strong, on account of the very busy show season on hand. All indications show that the sheep business will be better this year for the breeding ewe and mutton lamb and than last year. I was talking with an eastern Oregon sheepman this morning. He told me that there was a big ewe shortage and that they were going

will make a farmer more money than anything on the farm, for the money invested. After one has purchased his farm flock, he should beware of scrub sires and purchase a good sire to head his flock, for a good sire is the cheapest in price in the long run. The Willamette valley is well adapted for sheep raising, producing a great quality of mutton, and a good quality of light shrinking wool.



Twin ewe Shropshire lambs, undefeated in the 1922 fair circuit. Exhibited by Floyd T. Fox, Silverton, Oregon.

to keep their ewe lambs. They were bid as high as \$12 per head for fall delivered ewe lambs, and he said that breeding ewes will be higher, according to his viewpoint.

Let this be our slogan: A few sheep on every farm.

FLOYD T. FOX, Silverton, Or., July 28, 1926. (Mr. Fox, though a young man, is a very successful sheep breeder. Just now he is handling about 1400 head; though the number varies with the sales of lambs and breeding stock. He has some grade ewes, but his major operations are with all registered Shropshire, Oxford and Dorset sheep, and he exhibits at all the fairs in both the northwest and California fair circuits. On Tuesday he sent a car load of sheep to be exhibited at Vancouver, B. C. He has never exhibited at a fair at which he did not carry away some ribbons. At some fairs he carries away a good share of the ribbons, in his class.—Ed.)

### KARL STEIWER FOR MORE AND BETTER SHEEP AND FOR FEWER AND BETTER DOGS

One of Our Most Successful Breeders and Dealers Believes Our Farmers Should Also Work for the Improvement of Their Flocks and Especially for an Increase in the Average Fleece—The Best of the Ewe Lambs Should Be Saved

Karl Steiwer, of Jefferson, Oregon, one of the most successful of the sheep breeders and dealers of the Salem district said in the Slogan issue of 1924 that the sheep industry in the Willamette valley is more stable and more profitable than it is in eastern Oregon (and he has had sheep in eastern Oregon); that a man with sheep can rent stubble fields in the Willamette valley and other good sheep pasture, too, for around 15 cents a sheep a month—and that this is cheaper than keeping eastern Oregon sheep breeders with all their expenses at \$50 a month salary for each herd.

A Bad Practice "Last year many sheep owners kept some ewe lambs till spring, then the best ones found their way to market. This partly owing to the high prices prevailing last spring and partly due to the shortage of funds to carry on other farm enterprises. The result has been that the sheep, while not young last year, are just a year older and no yearlings are available to take the places of the inevitable loss.

Last year, Mr. Steiwer wrote the following for the annual sheep Slogan number: "With wool from 40 to 50 cents per pound and lambs from 10 to 14 cents per pound the past year has been very gratifying to most sheep owners in the valley. Like previous years since 1921, sheep have been the best crop. In spite of the high regard farmers have for sheep, there is great danger of a material decrease in flocks unless a larger percentage of this year's and next year's ewe lamb crop is saved for breeding purposes.

Eastern and southern Oregon have also been heavy lamb sellers, so there is no outside source from which to increase our breeding ewes. Since it follows that we must raise our own ewes, it would seem to be a good business to try to improve them in some particular. We have in the past given considerable attention to the mutton lamb, because that was where the profit lay. "Increase the Fleece "Inasmuch as the next two or three years will see a large percentage of our flocks replaced with something younger, why not replace with a better woolled sheep? With more care in the selection of rams and the proper culling out of the offspring, it should be easy to increase the

fleece a pound or two, and at the same time not detract from the quality of the wool. I am not speaking of purebred sheep, but more especially of the common kind. By selection of rams I don't mean that we should all raise fine woolled or all coarse woolled sheep, but blend the two together, depending upon what we have to start with, and moreover, specially do away with rams that do not produce wool. This class of rams will always be numerous until farmers cease to be afraid to castrate spring lambs. There is no sense in spending good money for rams and then permit a lot of cull lambs to sire the next year's crop. Too many sheep men wait for a favorable moon, or until the crops are in, or until the lambing season is over. By this time the lambs are perhaps too big; and they decide to let them go. My experience has been that the best time is when the lamb is from one day to one week old and today is always better than tomorrow.

Fewer and Better Dogs "The Statesman's efforts for more and better sheep should be appreciated, and in this connection something might also be said for fewer and better dogs. Last spring I know of two very ordinary dogs—now deceased—that in 24 hours killed outright not less than \$500 worth of sheep and goats. The damage to the balance of the flocks in cripples, orphan lambs and loss of morale would probably exceed twice that amount."

### ARE YOU 6000 YEARS BEHIND THE TIMES?

You Are More Than That Far Behind if You Do Not Keep Some Sheep

Editor Statesman: The avocation of sheep husbandry is as old as time itself. It was more than nineteen hundred years ago that the gentle Chaldean shepherds saw the Star of Bethlehem that heralded the first glad tidings of a Savior's birth, and after years the divine Man of Galilee took the sheep as the type of his people, the lamb as the child he had loved. Going back eleven hundred years we find David, the sweet singer of Israel, a keeper of his father's sheep, of whom this testimonial was given: "He is cunning in playing, a mighty valiant man and a man of war; prudent in matters and a comely person; and the Lord is with him."

Still further back, six centuries, and we find another framer of history, who won a youthful reputation as an honest, truthful and careful shepherd of his father's sheep. Sold into slavery by his brothers, he later became the foremost man in the Egyptian empire and saved his people in the time of famine. The shepherd of the priest of Midian led his people out of bondage and became the great law giver upon whose writings the law of every civilized nation of this and past ages has been founded. If it is a pretty love story, you wish, read of Rachael as she came with her father's sheep. If it is an example of steadfast character you seek, read the story of Job, the shepherd of 12,000 sheep. So on back through all the cycles of human history until in the book of Genesis four thousand years before the birth of Christ, as we approach the family of our first parents we are told of his sons that while Cain was a tiller of the soil Abel was a keeper of sheep.

I mention but a few of the prominent characters of the past who have been associated with our favorite industry. To dwell upon all as found in sacred history alone would fill a volume, but what I have mentioned simply shows the sheep industry to be the most ancient and time-honored of all, and if you have not yet become a keeper of sheep, you are at the least calculation 6000 years behind the times.

A SHEEP BREEDER, Salem, Ore., July 28, 1926. Salem is the fine flax and linen center of the North American continent. Salem is the flint center of the United States. It is the center of the only district in this country where the flint is a commercial proposition can be made a success.

### Dates of Slogans in Daily Statesman (In Weekly Statesman)

- (With a few possible changes) Sugar Beets, Sorghum, Etc., May 6, 1926
- Water Powers, May 13
- Irrigation, May 20
- Mining, May 27
- Lamb, Irrigation, Etc., June 3
- Floriculture, June 10
- Hops, Cabbage, Etc., June 17
- Wholesaling and Jobbing June 24
- Cucumbers, Etc., July 1
- Hogs, July 8
- Goats, July 15
- Schools, Etc., July 22
- Sheep, July 29
- National Advertising, August 5
- Seeds, Etc., August 12
- Livestock, August 19
- Grain and Grain Products, August 26
- Manufacturing, September 2
- Automotive Industries, Sept. 9
- Woodworking, Etc., Sept. 16
- Paper Mills, Sept. 23, 1926
- (Back copies of the Thursday edition of The Daily Oregon Statesman are on hand. They are for sale at 10 cents each, mailed to any address. Current copies 5 cents.)
- Loganberries, October 1, 1925
- Fruites, October 8
- Dairying, October 15
- Flax, October 22
- Filberts, October 29
- Walnuts, November 5
- Strawberries, November 12
- Apples, November 19
- Raspberries, November 26
- Mint, December 3
- Beans, Etc., December 10
- Blackberries, December 17
- Cherries, December 24
- Pears, December 31
- Gooseberries, January 7, 1926
- Corn, January 14
- Celery, January 21
- Spinach, Etc., January 28
- Onions, Etc., February 4
- Potatoes, Etc., February 11
- Bees, February 18
- Poultry and Pet Stock, Feb. 25
- City Berries, Etc., March 4
- Great Cows, March 11
- Paved Highways, March 18
- Head Lettuce, March 25
- Silos, Etc., April 1
- Eggs, April 8
- Asparagus, Etc., April 15
- Grapes, Etc., April 22
- Drug Garden, April 29

### THIS WEEK'S SLOGAN

DID YOU KNOW That the Salem district is one of the best countries in the world for the raising of medium wool sheep; that every farm in this section ought to have some sheep; that they provide two crops a year—the wool and the lambs; that besides this the sheep pay for their keep in rendering the lands free from weeds and in fertilizing it; that sheep breeding is carried on here with the minimum of cost and care, with green grass the year through; that the young man here who will get some land and some sheep will always have a bank account, and that the Willamette valley ought to become known as the home of pure bred sheep, as it is now famed the wide world over for its pure bred cattle?

### INVESTMENT IN SHEEP WILL DOUBLE FIRST YEAR, AND KEEP ON DOUBLING

Henry Porter of Aumsville, Pioneer and one of the Successful Breeders of Sheep in This Section, Advises That Every Farm Should Have Some Sheep—Give Your Boy or Girl a Sheep or Two—An Example of Profits

H. C. Porter of Aumsville, pioneer and successful sheep breeder in the Salem district, known familiarly as Henry Porter, and looked up to by all his neighbors, in a former article in the Slogan pages of The Statesman, gave the following example: "Suppose two neighbors with farms of equal size have each laid up a little money after harvesting their crops in the fall. A loans a friend \$50 at 8 per cent. At the end of 12 months he has a profit on his investment of \$6.40. B takes \$50 and buys 16 ewes at \$7 per head and a buck for \$10. The next spring those will have 10 lambs and if Shropshires, which are good breeders, they are more likely to have 15 or more lambs. Many of my ewes raised twins this season, and one raised three big nice lambs. At shearing time those 11 head of sheep will each shear from eight to 10 pounds of wool or more. Eight pounds each at 35 cents per pound—this year's market price would bring \$30.80. In the fall the lambs should weigh 75 pounds each and if sold to the butcher at 8 cents per pound would bring \$60. This added to the \$30.80, the price obtained for the wool, would make a total of \$90.80 for the original \$50 invested by B. And the fertility of his soil has been strengthened instead of diminished, had he sold a crop raised from the land."

The next spring you will have a field of clover on which to pasture the flock during lambing time. The sheep should be taken off the field early in April to insure a good crop of hay. Feed them all the clover hay they need during the winter months, but would not advise the feeding of cheat, oat, wheat or other coarse hay as those varieties might cause the sheep to have the staggers.

A Lamentable Fact "It is a lamentable fact that owing to the high price of lambs in the Portland market, many of our sheep raisers sell their ewe lambs along with the others as soon as they are large enough for the market, therefore making it difficult for one desiring to get a start of sheep on the farm to find young ewes for sale. But do not let this discourage you. Buy a few old ewes, which you can find for sale at a reasonable price in most any flock, and you will be surprised to see how a small band of old ewes will thrive on good pasture and how soon you will have a nice start of good young sheep.

For the Boy or Girl "Buy your small boy or girl a sheep or two and let them see how the investment will double and keep on doubling, and thereby instill into the lives of the boys and girls a love for farm life. Keep sheep—yes, keep more sheep."

Salem is the loganberry center of the world. The loganberry industry in a commercial way had its birth here.

Salem is the greatest gooseberry country known. Oregon cans more gooseberries than any other state in the Union, mostly grown in this district.

Salem is the Oregon walnut center. Our walnuts are of better quality and command higher prices than the famous California product.

Salem is the center of the greatest strawberry district in this country. Oregon leads all the states in tonnage of strawberries canned and put into barrels.

### A PLEA FOR MORE BOYS' AND GIRLS' LAMB CLUBS FOR THE SALEM DISTRICT

The Club Members of the Salem District Have Some Advantages That Are Pointed Out by a Man Who Was a Boy Club Member—Some Marion County Boys Who Have Done Well With Sheep

(The Salem district should have more boys' and girls' clubs carrying lamb and sheep projects; many more; scores and hundreds of them. Homer C. Bray, a student of the Oregon Agricultural College, and a former club member, last year pointed out the advantages of lamb and sheep projects for club members in the Salem district. His article is reprinted below. But since that time there have been large additions to the prize money offered by the Oregon state fair board to club members. Both Eldon Fox and Lyle Rains, whom he mentioned, made good winnings again at the 1925 fair. Following is the Bray article.)

Good Prize Money The state fair board has appropriated \$3,300 to be offered as prizes to livestock club members. With the advantages at hand and competition in the sheep classes a little slack, the opportunities for sheep club members in Marion and Polk counties are great. However, only purebred stock of the highest quality will stand a chance to win, as the older club members have the best sheep available. A project should never be undertaken with a scrub purebred or grade.

Editor Statesman: The ease with which sheep are produced and the comparatively small cost of production make them a most convenient and profitable project for club members. There is room on nearly every farm for at least a few sheep, and they are easily cared for. Club members or prospective club members will do well to carry a sheep project.

From personal experience as a club member the writer would like to encourage club members to take a number of projects. Sheep club members should extend to other projects, so that their knowledge of farm animals will not be limited. Club members who have never raised sheep should give them a trial, as the sheep project is one of the most interesting and educational club projects.

HOMER C. BRAY, Corvallis, Or., July 28, 1925.

Boys and girls in Marion and Polk counties have a decided advantage over other club members in the state because they have easy access to state fairs. This is a double advantage for livestock club members, especially those owning sheep, because less handling is required and the animals are in better condition when they reach the fairgrounds.

Club members in Marion and Polk counties have excellent opportunities to procure choice sheep particularly of the medium wool breeds, as some of the foremost flocks on the coast are held in these two counties.

Flock Built Up Quickly The possibilities of sheep as a means of profit are becoming better and more widely understood by club members. It is chiefly the ambition of ownership that fills a boy with the desire to raise an animal, and ownership can well be realized by the boy owning sheep, as a flock is quickly built up. Marion county has some excellent examples of how club members have established flocks in a short time. Eldon Fox of Silverton entered club work four years ago with two ewes. He now has a flock of 20 registered Shropshires worth, approximately \$1,000.

Lyle Rains of Salem is another club member who has made an excellent record with sheep. Lyle bought three Shropshire ewes early in 1924. They produced him four lambs. At the state fair he won several prizes to buy two more pure bred ewes. He now has a nice flock of 14 pure bred Shropshires. Other examples of successful prize winners and flock owners might be cited.

Unsuccessful sheep club mem-

### A FEW SHEEP ON EVERY FARM HERE ARE BETTER THAN 100 PER CENT PROFIT

One Reason Is That They Thrive on What Would Largely Be Wasted Without Them—The Hot Days That Cut Down Our Wheat Yield This Season Did No Harm to the Sheep Industry—Registered Shropshires Considered Best for Our Section

Editor Statesman: Raise more sheep and cut down overhead. Our sheep are our hired help, but we don't pay them—they pay us. The many showers we had this spring and early summer made the grain look as if fall wheat would go 40 to 50 bushels per acre, but in the late summer came a few hot days which caused the heads to not fill. The farmers are now reporting that they are getting but from 14 to 20 bushels per acre on most of the farms. As many summer fallowed the year before, one will have to divide the bushels for the two years. This leaves not even enough to pay the expenses to say nothing about two years taxes and interest.

I see no reason why the sheep business should ever be overdone. We have tried several breeds of sheep. We like the registered Shropshires the best by far. F. A. DOERFLER, Farm Advisor, First National Bank, Salem.

The sheepmen suffered no loss on account of our late warm weather, as by the time the grass began to dry up most all the mutton lambs were sold and the breeding ewes do well on the dryer grass. Most of those who keep over lambs prepare by sowing rape, alfalfa, sweet clover or even green corn has been one of our best summer green feeds.

As our population is gradually increasing and the ranges depleted, for they thrive almost entirely upon the things on the farm that would otherwise go to waste. Mr. Doerfler finds annual increase in the number of sheep on the farms of the Salem trade district. But he is firmly convinced that the increase ought to be much faster; that, in fact, the industry can scarcely be overdone here; at least to the limit of providing for the consumption of all waste on our farms.—Ed.)

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