

The Slogan Pages Are Yours; Aid In Making Them Helpful to Your Wonderful City and Section

SALEM DISTRICT INDUSTRIES

NINTH 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.

THE FLAX AND LINEN INDUSTRY IN THE UNITED STATES

By Colonel W. B. Bartram, Manager State Flax Industry

The flax and linen industry up to the present has made no progress looking toward meeting modern requirements of quantity production with the aid of modern machinery. Hand labor in every phase of the industry has been considered indispensable from harvesting to spinning. Flax and linen workers have followed, without question, traditional practices.

At this time there has been successfully developed every mechanical factor to take the place of hand labor. Machines for pulling, machines for de-seeding, machines for decortiating, and machines for preparing fiber for manufacture. With these machines, all tested and tried out under normal every day conditions, the farmer welcomes a new, easily handled crop; the flax mills an economical profitable occupation; and the spinners and weavers a new material that costs less than cotton at present prices, with a resultant product that is the most desirable and durable textile ever discovered for domestic and general use.

Before the World War, Russia produced about 85 per cent of the flax fiber used in making linens and sold it to the manufacturers of Ireland, France, Belgium, America and other countries. From the very start of the war, Russia ceased to function agriculturally and thus was lost to the world its greatest supply of flax fiber for linen.

In the early days, flax was grown and linens made in the United States, but hard work such as hand pulling and retting caused the farmer to discard the crop for the growing of corn and other farm crops which could be handled by machinery—thus not being able to compete with the cheap hired labor of Europe caused the discontinuance of the industry.

The United States is the largest market in the world for commodities of all kinds, and especially for fabrics, and instead of growing all its own flax and manufacturing its own linens, it imports most of them causing the consumers to pay an import duty of from 35 to 55 per cent.

The outstanding feature of flax that marks it as the coming great industry of the United States is the fact that the market cannot be but stable for years to come. The supply of flax for years cannot begin to meet the demand, that is now increasing. Flax is now the cheap fiber, more desirable in a ratio of 4 to 1 than cotton, and, in attractiveness, second only to silk. The great consumer is the dressmaker, the commercial buyer. Flax is soon to be combined with durability and attractiveness in a ready market.

There is no security for the safe accumulation of profit like the fundamental of excess demand. By the rule of law and nature herself, flax and linen cannot be over-produced for many years to come.

By arithmetical progression it would take ten years and unpaid capital to even approximate the cotton industry, which some people consider decadent. No body of men ever tried to monopolize cotton, nor should they try flax. It would defeat its own end, for as flax and linen products increase the demand itself broadens and prices and profits will be stimulated.

The factor, and there is only one that makes this coming industry sure, is the substitution of mechanical labor for hand labor. We have modernized and Americanized an ancient industry that has been curtailed and hedged about by traditional practices.

After reading the foregoing the question naturally arises in the mind of the reader, "What parts in the United States are most adaptable to the growing of fiber flax and to manufacturing linens?" The State of Oregon has established the fact that her climate and soils are especially adapted to this crop and industry. In 1915 this state started growing fiber flax in a commercial way with 370 acres contracted. This season 3000 acres will be seeded.

The quality of the fiber is excelled by none. A noted authority in writing to the Oregon Flax Industry only this week stated: "I am not at all surprised to hear your XXX grade is equal to No. 1 Courtrai. It has always been my contention from the very first that Oregon flax would surprise the industry some day, and I am fully expecting to see you make rapid progress in so far as the actual quality is concerned. I can only say that I feel honored to have a connection with the work which is going on in your state."

Recently Oregon has made rapid progress in the flax industry. The yield of flax has reached as high as four tons of first quality flax to the acre, and which has produced over 1600 pounds of fiber to the acre. An interesting factor in this development has been the shipping during the past 90 days of over 200 tons of fiber to Ireland in addition to large shipments to the eastern states and supplying the mills in Oregon.

The problem confronting Oregon for some time to come will be being able to produce anywhere near enough flax for the demand. This state is now leading all others in the production of flax. The advantages of the happy companionship each year that will ensue.

LINEN MILLS NEAR THE FIELDS TO USE MUCH OF LOCAL FLAX PRODUCT

Marion County Has the Only Two Linen Mills in the United States Operating on Fiber Grown in This Country—Average Crop for This Year Two Tons to Acre—Adding Millions of Wealth to State

There is printed in this morning's issue an article by Col. W. B. Bartram, superintendent of the flax industry, written especially for this issue of the Statesman, that foretells epochal things in the near future in the growing of flax and its treatment up to the fiber stage, and its combination with the means of commercializing that we are certain to see in the near future. It has been demonstrated by our flax

Dates of Slogans in Daily Statesman

(Also in Weekly Statesman)

(With a few possible changes)

Loganberries, October 6, 1927	Grapes, Etc., April 26
Prunes, October 13	Drue Garden, May 3
Dairying, October 20	Sugar Industry, May 10
Flax, October 27	Irrigation, May 17
Filberia, November 3	Wiring, May 24
Walnuts, November 10	Mining, May 31
Strawberries, November 17	Land, Irrigation, Etc., June 7
Apples, Figs, Etc., Nov. 24	Floriculture, June 14
Raspberries, December 1	Hops, Cabbage, Etc., June 21
Mint, December 8	Wholesaling, Jobbing, June 28
Beans, Etc., December 15	Cucumbers, Etc., July 5
Blackberries, December 22	Goats, July 12
Cherries, December 29	Sheep, August 2
Pears, January 5, 1928	Hoops, August 9
Gooseberries, January 12	National Advertising, Aug. 16
Corn, January 19	Livestock, August 23
Celery, January 26	Grain & Grain Products, Aug. 30
Spinach, Etc., February 2	Manufacturing, Sept. 6
Onions, Etc., February 9	Woodworking, Etc., Sept. 13
Potatoes, Etc., February 16	Automotive Industries, Sept. 20
Bess, February 23	Paper Mills, Sept. 27
Poultry and Pet Stock, Mar. 1	
City Beautiful, Etc., March 8	
Great Cows, March 15	
Paved Highways, March 22	
Head Lathes, March 29	
Silos, Etc., April 5	
Legumes, April 12	
Asparagus, Etc., April 19	

(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.)

THIS WEEK'S SLOGAN

DID YOU KNOW that ours is the best country in the world for the production of flax for its fiber—for the making of yarns, twines, thread and linens; that our water, being "soft," is just right for the treatment of the flax straw, and taking it through all the processes of manufacture, from the retting to the weaving of the cloth; that our climate and elevation are just right; that, when these facts become universally known, the flax industry will be fully developed here, and that it will bring to our valley a hundred million dollars annually; that we have now in operation our first mills for making flax yarns, twines and threads and the woven linen fabrics of commerce, and that Salem is already the fiber flax center of the United States.

During the past 25 years and placed in competition with the best of foreign-grown flax. The state of Oregon, through the Oregon Flax Industry, contracts with farmers for acreage. It is thus grown under contract, and is supervised by the state. The question of markets and price is settled with the farmer before he signs his acreage contract. During the past year, the price, delivered in Salem was from \$33 to \$40 a ton, according to length and quality.

This year, about 2000 acres were seeded, producing a yield of about 4000 tons. There was a marked improvement this year in harvesting the crop. With 21 pulling machines available, each capable of pulling from six to eight acres a day, the crop was properly cared for when ripe. To grow good fiber flax requires good clean land plus a good farmer and good seed. A farmer who can successfully grow other farm crops can grow good fiber flax. After seeding two bushels to the acre, it is ready for pulling in about 90 days.

One of the interesting features of the flax industry is the processing of the straw into fiber flax. This is done by convict labor at the state penitentiary in Salem. More than 100 convicts are now employed in threshing, retting and scutching. The men receive a small remuneration for their work on a piece basis.

The daily output of the State Flax Industry at the state penitentiary is as follows: Threshing 250 bushels of flax seed, valued at \$550; green tow, worth \$150; spinning and stock food valued at \$400, making a total daily output worth \$1250 in flax products, in addition to \$300 worth of ground agricultural lime. This cannot be done every day in the year, because we are not growing enough flax to keep the men employed, but we hope to within a few years, flax planted for fiber is not hard on the soil. This has been fully demonstrated. Last year the average was about one and one-half tons to the acre. This year the average was two tons, with prices running from \$33 to \$40 a ton for the longer and better returns per acre than in any grain crop in the Willamette valley.

The operation of the State Flax Industry through the state board of control is making a great contribution to the state of Oregon in pioneering this new crop, and in establishing an industry that will

result in the addition of millions of dollars in wealth to the state. Oregon Linen Mills, Inc. Marion county has the only two linen mills in the United States operating on flax fiber grown in this country. These mills are the Oregon Linen Mills, Inc., and the Miles Linen company, both of Salem, Oregon. All of the linen mills in the East import their flax fiber.

The Oregon Linen Mills, Inc., is equipped for spinning flax yarn, weaving, bleaching and the finishing of linen fabrics of all kinds. The equipment of the mill includes 118 looms, seven spinning machines with 200 spindles on each machine, eight drawing machines, four winders, hacking machines, finishing cards, roving frames, yarn beamers, spooler and breaker card. In the bleaching room is a beetler, calendar machine, dampener, dryer and washing machine. There is also a steel tank capable of holding 100,000 gallons of water.

The Oregon Linen Mills is now turning out finished towels and toweling in bulk. It is shipping its surplus linen yarn to linen mills on the Atlantic coast in competition with the Irish linen yarns. All of which proves that the flax fiber grown in the Willamette valley is of such fine quality that our own linen mill products can compete successfully with imported products.

The Miles Linen company at Salem is now manufacturing successfully salmon twine used by the Columbia river fishermen for nets and for the Alaskan trade. During the past two years salmon twine manufactured by the Miles Linen company has been given the most severe tests by the Columbia fishermen. Having withstood these tests, the Miles product is now recognized among fishermen as equal to the best on the market and superior in many respects.

The manufacture of shoe thread to supply the great shoe companies in the east and the Mississippi valley is one of the leading industries of the Miles Linen company. Its thread is now being used by the Brown Shoe company of St. Louis, the Florsheim Shoe company of Chicago and the Nestleton Shoe company of Boston. The fact that these great

shoe manufacturing plants are using the Miles shoe thread is evidence that it is of a superior quality. Another line recently taken up by the Miles Linen company of Salem is the manufacture of sack twine, which is used in sewing grain sacks in the northwest. The manufacture of this sack twine promises to develop into one of the leading industries of the Miles mill. Both the Oregon Linen Mills and the Miles Linen company secure their flax fiber from the Oregon state industry at Salem.

THERE WERE ABOUT 128 GROWERS OF FLAX FOR THE STATE PLANT LAST YEAR

Receipts for Crop—The Districts Represented Every Kind of Land and Many Sections of the Salem Trading District in Five Willamette Valley Counties

Some of the High Points in Production and Therefore Receipts for Crop—The Districts Represented Every Kind of Land and Many Sections of the Salem Trading District in Five Willamette Valley Counties

In the following list, the first thirteen are among the best returns for consideration or fair sized acreage contractors—the number of acres and the gross payments or the crop deliveries.

The growers who produced long line fiber flax, at \$40 a ton, in considerable tonnage, did very well. They will nearly all contract for growing flax for 1928. There will be a considerable number of new contractors, for the acreage for the state plant is to be increased.

Name	Acres	Gross
Brentano, Chas. R., St. Paul	50	5,587.50
Beck, A. A., Turner	80	2,450.00
Deputy, Wm., Astoria	11	1,567.00
Wahones, F. W., Gervais	10	4,395.18
Grove, O. F., Turner	80	2,353.27
Hillier, Geo. S., Paul	80	4,206.14
Smith & Sacre, Monmouth	21	2,401.00
Heddel, Boos, Monmouth	29	7,672.46
Rockhill, C. A., Dayton	20	2,521.85
Schwarz, E. J., Gervais	20	1,994.84
Smith, S. J., Paul	18	1,790.27
St. Benedict's Abbey, Mt. Angel	80	9,178.05

W. R. Adams, Monmouth; Anderson Bros., Aurora; Annen Bros., Mt. Angel; Armstrongs, Robt., Aurora; Arnett, Leo, Ballston; Arstall, A., Dallas; Ballweber, Geo. Al., Woodburn; Ballweber, D. V., Gervais; Bartos, Ed., Astoria; Bartos, J. A., Salem; Benedictine Sisters, Mt. Angel; Berg, Richard, Mt. Angel; Berning, C. J., Mt. Angel; Berning, R. J., Mt. Angel; Bernt, Joseph, Mt. Angel; Bettencourt, R. J., Salem; Bradley, A. E., Astoria; Braden, Mrs. Winnie, Dallas; Bowne, Mrs. A. L., Turner; Buswell, G. C., Sherwood; Carpenter Bros., Salem; Combs, R. V., Sejo; Cook, T. H., Wells; Dakets, Geo., Butteville; Davidson, James F., St. Paul; Lohagh, Herman, Turner; Dick, E. H., Dallas; Donahy, R. E., Aurora; Ebner, Raymond, Mt. Angel; Edwards, Arthur, Turner; Edwards, J. J., Astoria; Ellers, Gerd, Aurora; Ellers, Chas., Aurora; Ellers, U., Aurora; Eskin, Chas., Salem; Etsel, John, Aurora; Etsel, Wm., Aurora; Evans, G. E., Monmouth; Freeburg, R. L., Woodburn; Gardner, John A., Salem; Gates, J. W., Hillsboro; Gilbert, C. and H., Grimm, Wm., Mt. Angel; Gooding, W. L., St. Paul; Gottenberg, S. C., Mt. Angel; Greiner, Carl, Hubbard; Bressanauer, B., Mt. Angel; Gungley, J. E., Salem;

The old fashioned boy who used to come to town on Saturday night playing the mouth organ came in for a lot of kidding but think how much worse it might have been if the saxophone had been popular in those days.

Whe-Ta-Lon
A Superior Breakfast Food
A trial will convince you
Whe-Ta-Lon Cereal Co.
M. A. BUTLER, Manager
Telephone 1090-W

GIDEON STOLZ CO.
Manufacturers of
Yinogee, Soda Water,
Fountain Supplies
Salem Phone 26 Ore.

W. W. ROSEBRAUGH COMPANY
Manufacturers of
Warm Air Furnaces, Fruit
Drying Stoves, Smoke Stacks,
Tanks, Steel and Foundry
Work, Welding a Specialty,
17th and Oak Sts., Salem, Ore.

DIXIE BREAD
ASK YOUR GROCER

DIXIE BREAD
ASK YOUR GROCER

MARION, THE BANNER COUNTY, TOLD ABOUT BY ONE WHO KNOWS THE FACTS

"On a Comparative Basis, There is No Section of the North-West of the Same Area that Can Compare With Marion County, Oregon, From a Standpoint of Fertility and Absence of Waste Land," Says Ivan Stewart

(The October number of Oregon Business, official publication of the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce, devotes its main front section to Marion county, and the following is furnished by Ivan Stewart, field man for the Chas. R. Archer Implement company, Salem, who spends nearly all his time as a sort of super agent for the Salem trading district.)

Marion county, Oregon, is often referred to as the banner agricultural county of the state, as it embraces a vast area of fertile and well drained valley floor and bottom land, in addition to rolling hill land. Its rivers and creeks have an unlimited supply of water, which is available for irrigation purposes.

Along the rivers in Marion county is a belt of silt bottom land exceptionally fertile, producing an average of 90 bushels of corn to the acre. Alfalfa in particular does well on these bottom lands, in addition to all small grains and forage crops.

Three great prairie districts lie between the rivers in Marion county. These prairies afford ideal opportunities for the raising of wheat, oats, barley, clover, corn and potatoes. And as Marion county has more paved and macadam roads than any county in the northwest, all these fertile acres are within a few hours of standard markets.

In the great prairie districts of Marion county, the growing of red and alsike clover is proving a most profitable crop. With the state lime plant located in Salem, farmers in this favored county secure their supplies direct, thereby saving freight.

East of the prairie section in Marion county is the vast rolling hill area of fine, tillable land of the red soil type. This section is famed for the growing of winter wheat and is the only district outside of Scotland where oats can be grown to perfection. That is going pretty strong, but it is a fact. Marion county winter oats will produce 10 more pounds of oat groats to the bushel than any other oats grown in the United States.

With the beneficial work being done by the Marion county Dairy Improvement association (a cow-testing association), there is a most remarkable interest in dairy

C. J. PUGH & CO.
Manufacturers of
Canning Machinery;
Graders, Trucks, Etc.
550 S. 21st St., Salem, Oregon

Air Painting
DONE WITH A GUN
M. B. Sanderson
1144 North Cottage

DO YOUR BEST
In your daily work it should be your ambition to always do your best. It is impossible for you to do this unless you enjoy health. You can enjoy that health only if you are free from nerve pressure. Remember the Neuroclometer accurately locates the nerve pressure while Chiropractic Adjustments remove it. Neuroclometer readings by appointment only.
Dr. O. L. Scott, D. C.
250 North High Street
Phone 67 or 1471-E

OIL-O-MATIC
What is it?
—SEE—
THEO. M. BARR
Phone 193

Oregon Pulp & Paper Co.
—Manufacturers of—
BOND — LEDGER — GLASSINE
GREASEPROOF — TISSUE
Support Oregon Products
Specify "Salem Made" Paper for Your Office Stationery

Oregon Pulp & Paper Co.
—Manufacturers of—
BOND — LEDGER — GLASSINE
GREASEPROOF — TISSUE
Support Oregon Products
Specify "Salem Made" Paper for Your Office Stationery

Oregon Pulp & Paper Co.
—Manufacturers of—
BOND — LEDGER — GLASSINE
GREASEPROOF — TISSUE
Support Oregon Products
Specify "Salem Made" Paper for Your Office Stationery