

# Help Solve Farm Problems

The boys and girls of Marion and Polk county schools have expressed their ideas of "Good Farm Management."

You are requested to grade and select the essays in the order you think prizes should be awarded. Each essay published herein will be a prize winner.

## Instructions to Voters:

Prizes to be given by First National Bank for each story published and awards will be based on the result of this popular vote.

Read stories carefully and then cast your ballot indicating your choice for each prize by inserting letter of alphabet in voting column designating the essay.

The name and address of each voter should be shown on the ballot.

Detach ballot and return to First National Bank, Salem, Oregon, on or before March 27th, 1928.

### A Necessity for Green Feed Calls For Careful Plan

#### FARM MANAGEMENT

In order to have a prosperous farm, one must have chosen a good location for their farm, and build up their soil, that is put into the soil improvements such as clover and other members of the legume family, that put nitrogen into the soil, for future crops to use.

Lime is greatly needed on boggy soils, that are rich in humus. It not only aids on boggy soil, but it quickens the growth of bacteria and aids in the decaying of vegetable matter.

Another builder for soils is manure, for it consists of three fertilizing elements, namely, nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, which are the greatest of value to plants. Manure should be stored under a cover, either from the rain and sunshine, with a cement floor, and not stored against the barn, for the heating of the sun on the manure, causes the loss of nitrogen and leaching if left where water can get to it, for it may wash away much of the valuable plant food which it consists. Manure should be spread directly on the field and not put in piles scattered in field, although it is sometimes the custom, for it makes crops uneven in growth and also in ripening. When large amounts of manure is applied to light soil, there is danger of the plants suffering in time of drought, during dry seasons.

Rotation has also proved a great help in the grain. In the corn and oats has proved ahead of the soil if grown successively, for the soil would soon exhaust its chief elements, while the growth of a variety of crops on a certain field will prevent it from exhaustion so soon. The greatest need in rotation of crops is when crops are suffering from different kinds of weeds, diseases and insect pests.

Catch crops are good to be grown as soon as a grain crop is removed, such as cow peas, soy beans and millet. Crimson clover and winter vetch can be mixed with winter grains and sown in a cornfield in July, so that they can occupy the ground as soon as the crops are taken off and are ready to be sown. Catch crops are useful in many ways, they help to keep the soil from washing away; they gather nitrogen from the air and store it in the soil for future crops; their roots help to unlock plant food in the soil and furnish the plants with the growth of weeds; they put humus into the soil, if plowed under as green manure; they also check late growth of the trees when grown in an orchard and temper winter freezing.

Winter rye can be sown in young orchards in early fall. When spring arrives soy beans or cow peas can be sown in June, to be turned under in the fall, in rye.

Another factor in the improvement of soils is drainage, therefore it is well to understand the following reasons: 1. To let off soil and roots of plants. 2. To deepen for feeding area or bacteria for the roots. 3. To reduce suffering at time of drought. 4. To make chemical action of the soil temperature. 5. To aid in tillage. 6. To remove free or surplus water. Succession cropping saves much ground and produces one crop after another, that brings a larger income, although more work is required, such as radishes, lettuce and tomatoes, grown successively.

Companion cropping or double cropping saves much ground, for instance, corn and pumpkins or corn and beans planted together, with the beans climbing around the corn. On farms, a great problem is to have enough grain feed for the livestock, at a time near mid-summer, when the pastures are apt to be too dry. In having plenty of feed at this particular time, this system of green feeding is called the wintering system. Crimson clover can be sown in corn in July, or August, ready to cut in May.

Each year after our harvest of crops we should carefully select our weeds, that is the ones that are free from impurities and heavy in their respective large and heavy of its kind and taken from the best of plants. A way to detect impurities in seeds is done by sprouting a sample of seed and then carefully observe the difference in their growth, for they may differ in shape or number of seed leaves. Also determine the germinating power of the sample.

Troublesome weeds should be sprayed with iron sulphate. In order to get rid of deep perennial weeds, which will frequently, also, dense growth of grasses will smother out many weeds. Sheep also will crop down many weeds and keep them under control.

Every farmer should keep bees, for they not only provide the farmer with honey, but they greatly help him by distributing pollen from one blossom to another, therefore producing a better succession of crops. An accurate record should be kept of sales of various products and expenses, also of the various tests to be performed each week successively (outside of daily routine) checking them off daily as performed.

Electric lights in farm homes, in barns and poultry houses are far less troublesome, less dangerous and more convenient than kerosene lamps.

Piped water and other conveniences greatly change the modern farm from that of which many less fortunate people have to contend with.

We can now devote our time to farm improvements. The many inventions of farm implements has made farming a much more comfortable life.

Fences should always be kept with care and replaced with hard wood posts, such as oak or cedar, when the posts begin to rot off next to the ground, causing the fence to sag.

Soil on hill sides of farms must be cultivated with care, to prevent the soil from washing away.

Many farmers neglect their orchards, letting their trees become diseased from lack of pruning and spraying. When pruning one should cut some side twigs where they strike across the tree top and when the branches are too thick, such pruning is equivalent to thinning the fruit, making it larger. Let in the sunlight. All dead or diseased parts, even broken limbs should be pruned. In picking an orchard site, one must consider exposure, soil and air drainage. When the orchard is somewhat above the surrounding land, the cold air of frosty spring nights can drain away, thus saving the early blossoms from injury. An easterly or northeasterly slope is preferred for sunny, westerly winds are often injurious to trees. The early spring is preferred in planting trees.

By using the modern farm machinery, fewer work horses are required, although a few horses are required on every farm. The Clydes are well suited for heavy farm work, because of their strength and rapid walking gait.

The Jersey breed is one of the most popular of the dairy breeds in America because of the richness of the milk and for the large quantities of butter which they produce.

In raising swine, the Poland China and the Berkshire are much preferred, especially the Poland China, for the fat. The pig pen should be well equipped for plenty of sunshine, that is, he a sun roof of glass. Pigs should have plenty of green feed. After the soy beans are matured, the pigs can be turned into the field of beans to fatten.

It is very important to keep variety of poultry best suited for the purposes desired. Poultrymen use the egg breeds, and use them while young. For table use, keep the meat breeds.

Chickens should have special places for to roost and lay eggs. It is a bad practice to allow them to use places intended for other purposes. Their houses should be well ventilated, artificial heat is not advisable, in a poultry house, except for brooder chicks, for heat often leads to some kind of sickness.

A high spot should be selected for the chicken house, because of natural drainage. Care should be taken towards keeping their houses clean and sprayed. Chickens require an abundance of sunshine and green feed, and fresh water at all times. Every farmer should have a poultry house to provide the farm with electricity.

The modern farmer also requires a suitable place for his farm machinery and also a tool shop.

### B Diversity of Crops Insures Revenue Year Around

My father is a farmer, and so I am a farmette. Since I shall probably always live on a farm, I want to help make our farm a pleasant and profitable place to live.

LOCATION The drawing which accompanies this story is our farm near Broadmead, Oregon. It consists of 68 acres of rich, loamy, sloping soil, drained by the Salt creek. About 40 acres lie on the south side of the road between the county road and Salt creek, and about 28 acres lie on the north side between the county road and Salt creek, which makes a large bend and almost surrounds our place.

Our place is about one-half mile from school, postoffice, market and station, two miles from a flour mill, one-fourth mile from a saw mill, 6 miles from town, and we are right on the milk route.

porch, which leads into the woodshed and also to go outside.

To make the kitchen a pleasant place to work and live in we have cupboards, drawers and bins built in, with windows over the sink to make it light for dish washing and other work.

We have two large six-foot windows in our living room. The bedrooms all have plenty of windows for light and ventilation. At the top of the stairs we have a hall for flowers and sewing.

We have our house piped for a water system, which we are planning to get in as soon as possible. The electric line is about one-half mile from our place, as soon as it comes down our way we will be connected.

BARN Our barn has room for 12 cows, but more room could be made if necessary. It has room for three or four horses. It contains shelves for tools, bins for wheat, oats and potatoes. The barn loft can hold 25 tons of hay, that is put in from the outside by forks or slings drawn by horses. Connected with the barn is a shed for machinery and a shed for calves and pigs. Behind the barn is a shed for the cows when it rains or is cold in the day time. There is also a barnyard which leads down to the creek and permanent pasture.

HOUSE YARD Our yard in front of the house, to the barn and garage is about 250 feet. We have a walk from our front porch to the road. I planted some rose bushes in our yard this spring, and am planning to plant bushes such as: Persian lilac, gallica, indica and red leaved barberry. I am going to make a flower bed close to the house this spring and plant flowers such as: sweet peas, gladioli, golden queen aster, and others. This spring we are going to plant some evergreens in our yard and along the house to cover the foundation, so it will make our home look more attractive.

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The farm building are facing the county road, near the middle of the farm from east to west.

HOUSE Our house is a newly built one, two stories high. It contains seven rooms, bed rooms, closets, living room, kitchen and dining room combined, cool room for fruit and vegetables, bath room, entry room for washing, and a large front porch. We have a smaller back

In order to keep up the pastures the farmer should, harrow, fertilize, mow, reseed and liming the pastures.

The fields should be arranged properly, so that the farmer won't have to go through another field in order to reach one.

And all the other things should be practiced too, because they are necessary.

### FARMING PLEASANT BUSINESS

Since city people are depended on the farmer and his labor, farming should be considered a business proposition. By proper management it can become a pleasant and profitable business, with no more a grind than that of a factory work. The children can work together with their parents, and when everybody works together the farming business will be pleasant and profitable.

### C How to Make A Success on 150 Acre Farm

The farm in question consists of 150 acres, 80 acres of it is divided into four fields, which are nearly square, and in these fields the rotation crop system is practiced. One field contains corn. Two silos were filled last year. One hundred bushels of corn were also gathered from this field. The second field contained clover from which 19 tons of clover hay was taken last year and 10 cows were pastured till September 20 in it.

The third field had oats in it, which yielded 6 3/4 bushels to the acre last year. Nearly 1,000 bushels were first class seed oats, so it is seen that the rotation crop system is very helpful. The last field had wheat in it, which yielded 32 bushels to the acre. Nearly all of this wheat first class seed wheat.

The 70 acres in fruit is broken by 2 creeks which run along the end of the place. The farm buildings are on about five acres of land, which includes one acre for the family orchard. The house has eight rooms, built for comfort and rest. A large barn which has two silos, is capable of holding 30 tons of hay, four horses and 4 cows are also kept in it. Close to the barn is a machine shed and a blacksmith shop. Thus it makes everything quite comfortable for the farmer. There is also a chicken house near the barn in which a few chickens are kept to furnish eggs for the household. There are 25 acres of pasture and timber in which the cows and horses are kept. Part of it is creek bottom, which is cleaned and dredged will be valuable for truck garden. Now, however, it furnishes good pasture during the dry summer months.

The other 45 acres are divided into different kinds of fruit. The first field out from the barn you see on the drawing is planted in raspberries and Italian prunes of which there are nearly 12 acres. The prunes which are 5 years old, yield 2 bushels to the tree or 216 bushels to the acre on an average. It is found that one acre of prunes which averages 3 bushels to the tree at 60c a bushel will go way over an acre of wheat, which yields 60 bushels to the acre at \$2.00 a bushel on the prunes at 40c will equal more than the wheat. From the raspberries planted between the prunes 12 1/2 tons were picked last season which sold for 8c a pound. These will be grubbed out when the orchard becomes matured.

The five acres walnuts, filberts, chestnuts and almonds are young, and the gooseberries which are planted between the trees come next on my drawing. The gooseberries pay for the work of themselves and the nut orchard to making it so the nuts don't have to be worked for nothing.

Next to this is a 6 acre cherry orchard which has just commenced to bear. Between these trees is planted a row of evergreen blackberries which not only pay for the working of the trees but yield a very good profit. The next is a 7-acre patch of loganberry, and prunes. The trees are not bearing yet but the loganberries yielded 2 tons to the acre last year, which was a very good profit. The Burbank standard prunes had their first crop last year which was nearly a gallon to the tree. They were dried and sold to hotel in Portland at 12c a pound, cracked and all. The blackberries which are between the trees pay for their upkeep besides yielding a fairly good profit.

In planting corn the ground should be plowed at least two times. Early spring then in May double disk the ground and plow again. Harrow the ground and use it off and plant the corn. Cultivate the ground and hoe at least 4 times. Wheat ground should be plowed early fall. Harrow and seed the ground as soon as possible to give grain a good start. Harvest it in July. Don't let the grain get too

The house is large and well built, with electric lights. There is a large hayloft which holds enough hay for the livestock during the winter. The manure is taken out to a place where it is drained. The pasture for the livestock is a short distance from the barn. It is large with good grass and a few trees.

The chicken shed is well built so as to project the machinery. It is built near the barn so that we do not have to go so far with the horses to get the machine.

The chicken house is built on a high spot so that natural drainage away from the building will keep the ground dry and free from disease. We never had artificial heat in the chicken house, except for brooder chicks. The winter feathers of the chickens are warm enough and artificial heat often leads to some kind of illness. The house is built with a low ceiling with the open side to the south. The chicken yard is large with plenty of fresh earth for the chickens to scratch in.

We keep seven cows. They furnish enough milk for our own use, for the chickens and for the hogs. They bring in enough cream for our own use and to sell. We keep four horses, they are of the heavy draft type.

There are 120 acres in this farm. There are 40 acres wheat, 25 acres

ripe before cutting. Do the same with the oats ground. Plow in early fall, harrow the ground and seed it as soon as you get the ground cleared off. Clover ground should be plowed in the fall and seeded to grain. In the spring sow your clover. Italian Prunes — The ground should be worked and cleaned. Plant your trees in February or March. Prune and spray in Jan. or Feb. Work your ground good all season. Keep this up every year and in four or five years you'll be able to gather a big prune crop. Raspberries should be planted in early spring. Cultivated all season. In early spring cut out all the old vines, train up new ones. By the second year, you'll have a fair crop. All nut trees are planted in early spring, cultivated all season, pruned in June. In 5 years you'll have a fair crop of nuts. Gooseberries are planted in November, worked good all season. Pruned and in spring. Spray in the fall with bordeaux and again in spring with lime and sulphur. In three years they should bear 8 lbs. to the bush, if taken care of the year around. Cherries are planted in the fall or early spring. Pruned in Jan. Sprayed in Feb. with lime and sulphur and again in July with arsenate of lead, 1 lb. to 50 gallons of water and 1 pt. of black strap molasses this is for the cherry fly. If kept care of for four years you'll have a fair crop. Evergreens are planted in early spring, worked good all year. Cut them back first year. Second year put up posts, wire and train up your berries. Pear spurs should be planted in the fall or spring, cultivated all season. Prune them in the fall and spray early spring with lime and sulphur. In two years you'll be picking loganberries. Standard prunes should be planted in the fall or spring, worked all season. Prune them heavy either in Dec. or Jan. the first three years. Spray in February with lime and sulphur. In three years you'll have a small crop of very large prunes, three prunes to the tree. The reason for the many different kinds of fruit is because at no time will a person have a certain crop which he cannot sell, for fruit will be bought to get the other fruit you have. And during the summer months when the grain is ripening you can be picking fruit of all kinds. Thus there is work all the season around on this farm.

This is my essay on farm management.

### D Proper Four-Field Rotation Needed On Dairy Farm

I appreciate living on the farm because it seems to me to be the most independent way of earning a living and the healthiest.

The house of this farm is large, modern and complete. It has electric lights which are convenient in every way. It has a good water supply which is pumped to where it is needed by a gasoline engine. There is water in the house, barn, chicken house and pig pen. The basement of the house is cool in summer and is a good place for storage foods. The separator house is made of brick, and has a little side room in which the cream is kept.

The barn is large and well built, with electric lights. There is a large hayloft which holds enough hay for the livestock during the winter. The manure is taken out to a place where it is drained. The pasture for the livestock is a short distance from the barn. It is large with good grass and a few trees.

The chicken shed is well built so as to project the machinery. It is built near the barn so that we do not have to go so far with the horses to get the machine.

The chicken house is built on a high spot so that natural drainage away from the building will keep the ground dry and free from disease. We never had artificial heat in the chicken house, except for brooder chicks. The winter feathers of the chickens are warm enough and artificial heat often leads to some kind of illness. The house is built with a low ceiling with the open side to the south. The chicken yard is large with plenty of fresh earth for the chickens to scratch in.

We keep seven cows. They furnish enough milk for our own use, for the chickens and for the hogs. They bring in enough cream for our own use and to sell. We keep four horses, they are of the heavy draft type.

There are 120 acres in this farm. There are 40 acres wheat, 25 acres

oats, one acre strawberries, 15 acres alfalfa, one acre clover, five acres alfalfa, two acres cow manure and beet, one acre corn, one acre potatoes, one acre orchard, one acre vegetable garden, the pasture, barnyard, chicken yard, lawn and buildings take up five acres.

Wheat is an important crop. We grow it on heavy soil, because on light soil the kernels will not develop fully. We plow the ground in early fall. We sow the grain in fall, early enough to let the plants get a growth before winter. A grain drill is used for planting. We use one and one-half to three bushels of seed per acre. We cut the grain before it is too ripe for the kernels to fall out. The cutting and binding is done with a self-binder. It is then shocked and left in the field for about two weeks to cure. It is then threshed and sold.

Oats make one of the best feeds for horses. We plant the seed on heavy soil because there heavier crops are produced. The soil is plowed and harrowed before planting. We plant the seed in very early spring with a grain drill. We use between two and three bushels of seed per acre. Oats are in the same manner as wheat.

We plant our flax in rich soil, not too wet. We sow it in the spring, "break" it in fall and disk it the next spring. We use between six and nine bushels of seed per acre. The flax is pulled by hand. Then the plants are tied into bundles and placed in shocks, and left in the field a short time before shipping it to the fibre works.

We sow clover in a field of grain sown the fall before. The seed is sown in early spring. We cut it just before the heads turn brown. The first crop which is cut for hay is cut in June. The second crop is cut in August and the seed is threshed in September.

Alfalfa is the best milk producing crop we can grow. We use it for green feed. We cut a little at a time so as to keep it fresh for the cows. By the time the entire field is cut the part of the field first cut is already ready for cutting. The field selected is well drained and no water stands at the surface. We sow the seeds after the first August rains. We use around 20 pounds of seed per acre. The crop is cut the June after planting and is cut four times a year. We cut when the blossoms are showing a little over the field. It is then brought in the barn before the rains can spoil it.

Mangles and beats are valuable as feed. They contain water and are very digestible for cattle.

The potatoes are grown in sandy soil which has much vegetable matter in it. We plant the soil shortly before planting. After plowing we go over the land with a harrow. We plant the potatoes as soon as the soil can be prepared. The rows are made three feet apart and the plants in the rows between 12 and 18 inches. We allow 10 bushels seed per acre. The plants are cultivated until the vines shade the soil well. Later the plants are sprayed. We dig the crop by a potato digger. Then the potatoes are picked up and put in sacks.

I use my corn for ensilage, my clover for hay. I sell what wheat I do not use for my chickens and pigs. I have my wheat chopped and mix it with oats for pig feed. What oats I do not use for my pigs and cattle I sell. I have my oats rolled and feed them to my cows. I also want them chopped and feed them to my pigs.

My orchard is fenced with poultry and hog-proof fencing, the remainder of my farm is fenced with hog-proof fencing so that my pigs can run in the same field as my cattle.

In the fall after my crops are off I pasture all my fields excepting the corn and potato field until the rainy season, as it is not good for land to be pastured when wet.

I rotate my fields every year doing as follows: In my corn and potato field I plant wheat, in my cow pasture I pasture my sheep, because they keep the weeds and grass eaten down close so that it makes it easier to cultivate. The sheep do not pack the ground like the cattle would, making it much easier to plow and work down. In my wheat field I plant my clover and in my clover field I pasture my cows.

I plow my corn and potato ground in the fall and again in the spring. My wheat, clover, and oats are sowed in the fall.

I do my farming with horses. I have a manure spreader and I spread it on the fields and use on the flowers and garden, on the field in which I am going to plant my corn and potatoes.

I keep the Durham cattle. I like them because they give a large quantity of milk and if they are good milkers I can receive a large sum for them by selling them for beef. I keep most of my calves for a while, then sell them for baby beef.

I sell my cream to the creamery because I like to have my separated milk for my chickens and pigs. I like to feed the separated milk to my pigs because it is good growing food, and I like to have my pigs ready for the market by the time they are six months old.

I have the registered Duroc pigs. I like them because I believe they are better grazers than any other pig.

I have the Rhode Island Red chickens. I keep them because they are good layers and a heavy breed.

I keep the Shropshire sheep. I like them because they have a large fleece of medium wool, they are a large sheep, and sell well for mutton.

My cow barn is a modern dairy barn with electric lights. It has a silo at one end.

I have a horse barn to keep my horses in with a tool shed on the side of it.

I have a large hog-house. My chicken-house is a modern chicken-house large enough to accommodate three hundred chickens. I have it equipped with electric lights so that the chickens can work part of the nights during the winter months.

I have a Dairy-house equipped with electric lights, hot and cold water and a tank of cold water to set my cream in to keep it cool.

My garage with a work-shop in one end is large enough to hold two cars.

My house is a modern eight room house with eight up to the second floor.

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Buildings consist of a conveniently arranged seven-room house, which is modern throughout. Barns are of sufficient size to house stock on the place properly and conveniently. Water is piped to barns and hog houses. The silo is, of course, located upon this place, as an absolute necessity as it enables us to get the maximum feed value out of the corn raised on the place. The fence on the place are all of the wire-type and cause no further inconvenience after the first construction.

A garden of ample size, fenced with chicken-proof wire, lies opposite the house facing the road. Fruit trees of all kinds make up the family orchard which produces fruit of a quality that will equal that produced in any other part of the state.

In starting out to manage this place properly and economically, one of the first steps taken was the testing of the soil in order to learn, if possible, in what element it might be deficient. We found that lime was one of the principal ingredients lacking in the soil. After applying about two and one-half to three tons of ground lime-rock to the acre, we found that the soil worked up much more readily and it seemed that even the subsoil was loosened up considerably. Thus the plant food contained in the soil was made more readily available for plant nourishment and after applying a fair coating of barnyard manure the returns were very materially increased. We found that vetch and clover could be produced on the land so treated, and consequently our corn and grain crops were practically doubled. Neighboring straw piles were also bought and hauled out on the land and plowed under, which added also to the much needed humus of which the soil here has been practically depleted by the continuous one-crop farming—wheat and again more wheat.

In order to get the manure of which mention is made above, I will state that we keep our hogs and 15 to 25 head of live stock, consist of four horses and the above cows. These cows, under management bring in a good amount at the end of each month producing the much-needed milk which keeps up our soil fertility.

Then there are the hogs, chickens, each of which in place produce a good income in addition to a good part of the of the family table.

In addition to the crops referred to herein, we raise quite a nice tonnage of berries, such as strawberries and loganberries which have always produced and helped materially to increase the fertility of the soil. We set out five acres of prunes and to set out three acres of which will add to the annual income in the near future.

The method of farming on this farm is based entirely on diversification and rotation of which in our opinion and experience is the best and only way to high-priced land pay a fair dividend on the money invested and at the same time maintain and often increase the fertility of the soil. The value of the farm is therefore increased which is another important factor to be considered.

Farm values are also increased in the same. With correct arrangement on the farm one man can do more with less work than two on a place not so well arranged.

Another important part of management is the choice of livestock kept on the place. Keep good cows only. Boarded weeded out as soon as detected. Same is true of hogs and pigs. Considering the fact that the soil is just as much and more to be taken care of a poor animal good one it is therefore good sense to have none but the such can be secured at a fair reasonable price.

There is another part of management which is too often neglected and that is the housing proper care of farm machinery. Bring all our implements back to good machine shed as soon as they are used. The machine is used, is finished. This is important considering the high cost of machinery.

A plat or drawing of the herein described is attached. Location of buildings, fields, pasture is given on the same.

This essay refers to an farm as it exists today, and if the owners of it have anything doing for the past eight years

### F Proper Fertilization Requires Careful Soil Tests

The farm in question consists of 60 acres and is located near Macleay, Ore. or in what is known as Waldo Hills country, less than one-half mile from a standard school, the Macleay store, and railroad. A paved highway less than a mile from the door of the buildings. The place is also served by mail delivery and telephone.

CUT OUT HERE

### Essay Contest Ballot

1st Prize	4th Prize
2nd Prize	5th Prize
3rd Prize	6th Prize

Name of voter \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this ballot to  
FIRST NATIONAL BANK, SALEM, ORE.

