FLAX INDUSTRY HERE OFFERS BOUNDLESS POSSIBILITIES

State Making Marvelous Strides In Development of Flax Raising Industry BEING STUDI

Crop Projected For Next Year Will Come From 4,500 Acres With Yield of 8,000 Tons All Under Contract to Oregon's Own Mills

ARVELOUS developments are taking place in the flax Industry of Oregon. The state's flax industry was used. The methods were comparatively crude. Yet the in-columns of The Statesman, is mak-and spring crops, the question of crop we recommend clover sod or less that unit could be land like in the opportunity for the opportunity started at the penitentiary in 1915, with 370 acres of flex ing a study of the flax acreage for next year has old pasture land or new land that purchase a flax pulling machine word destruction. When planting the flax acreage for next year has old pasture land or new land that purchase a flax pulling machine word destruction. When planting the flax acreage for next year has old pasture land or new land that purchase a flax pulling machine word destruction. contracted for. It had its ups and downs; more downs than

More Efficiency

The local linen mills at present

quality line fiber, 26 for second.

There is accurate grading of all

fibers at the state flax plant. Ev-

manufactured product. Nothing

Heads the List

labor in all departments.

The J. W. S. Seed

The state started with less than

an acre planted to the J. W. S.

of straw and 1000 pounds of fiber

In regions where parasites in-

best to breed ewes in time to

lamb early and market before the

Everything in Building

Materials

Cobbs & Mitchell

A. B. Kelsay, Manager

349 S. 12th St. Phone 813

parasite share the profits.

here, in advantages possessed by tories. Flax imported to 1913 in no other section of the New to Ireland was 84,270 tons, valued

terfere with sheep raising, it is 000,000. In 1912 Ireland grew

Col. W. B. Bartram is now

A humidifying plant has been

dustry persisted. Despite the destruction of the scutching plant by fire, there was put into the scutching room, so marked progress, compared that work may go on in the dr. with former periods, for the is a balanced all the year around four years preceding April 1, operation. 1927, when the present administration of the penitentiary are taking all the fiber products. began under H. W. Meyers as paying 28 cents a pound for first

dustries. marvelous developments. The de- ning tow. All based on New York tailed list of them would take market prices. (There has lately pages beyond the available space been a small advance.) for this article.

Is On Its Own First is the fact that the flax erything is done according to the industry has been put on a defin-rules of the trade. The whole itely certain net paying basis. The thing requires the entire time of legislature of 1925 made an appro- a bookkeeper. Everything has priation of \$100,000, when the been or is being systematized, acpresent revolving fund law was cording to the practices in the passed; but this represented a high class manufacturing plants saving of the cost of maintenance of this country. Sheets are preof the two years previous, and the pared so that in the office there \$100,000 was all used the capital is a record of every worker and every item of the material or machinery and equipment.

In 1927 the legislature added at all is guessed at. \$200,000 to the revolving fund, but about \$84,000 has been put into buildings an dequipment since making a tour of the east, getting a year ago last April, and a great every new slant of the marketing deal more than the balance into and manufacturing details of the A few weeks ago, after figuring United States. He will be home flax-growing and linen manufac- perience with this crop in Oregon the crops of the farmers.

the total cost of the crop of about the first of November. He turing industries. In addition to to know that in a normal season 1928, including the part of it that writes in one of his letters just making his own personal investi- it is a very profitable cash crop 1928, including the part of it that writes in one of his letters just making his own personal investing and that it demands good farm-received:

"Oregon is now producing one districts, who had not contracted of the finest flax fibers in the districts, who had not contracted of the finest flax fibers in the districts, who had not contracted of the finest flax fibers in the districts, who had not contracted of the finest flax fibers in the districts, who had not contracted of the finest flax fibers in the lack of good farm-received:

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"Oregon is now producing one districts, who had not contracted of the fibers in the lack of good farm-received:

"Oregon is now producing one districts, who had not contracted of th with the state, there was still 2 world. Oregon is producing yarns textile school of the Belfast Muniforming has accounted for most surplus of cash in the revolving that are meeting a ready market cipal Technical institute. He is by of our agricultural troubles up to fund of over \$12,000; and with everywhere in the manufacturing profession an electrical engineer, this time. We believe that the flax on hand in the sheds that, in districts of the country." the process of manufacturing, will There is no other district in the versity. His daughter has also eral hundred thousand acres of be turned into scores and hun- entire world that is as up to date graduated at his alma mater, and this flax will be grown in western dreds of thousands of dollars in flax growing and fiber manu- his son will enter his third year of activing as Organ's away. No reth of products.

New money is now being turned other section that employs all the worth of products.

into that fund at the rate of over latest machinery and equipment. \$1000 for each week day. This With the contemplated improvefund is piling up so satisfactorily ments for 1929, the end of the the states, declares Mr. Robinson, able conditions that now exist. that it is now thought there will coming year will witness an oper- is growing rather than decreasing. be enough to pay for the 1927 ation that will be a model for all The Oregon Statesman, in its cop of flax on 4500 acres of land, nations. The state flax industry farming and industrial magazine to a high state of fertility and op of flax on 4500 acres of land, nations. The state flax industry farming and industry stated that he maintain them in that condition than 8000 tons of it with a hill then be on a basis of approach—section, recently stated that he maintain them in that condition.

"2. The question of weed conng mal crop; and more with a ing \$2000 every week day for its has for a number of years been bumper crop.

The reader will realize the im- of doubling this within a few the growing and production of sixth of the fibre consumed in the pertance of all this fhen he knows years; or more than doubling it- flax and linen in the Willamette factories. Nearly all the flax in that the flax crop (the raw material supplies) of the state flax ployed, and a large force of free time and money in this work. Mr. plant must be bought and paid for one year, and cannot be turned into cash for another year, and mileh of it for two years. The raw materials must be taken in and paid for a year or more in ad-

of straw and 1900 pounds of fiber to the acre. (Sooner, perhaps, if suitable additional seed can be secured from other countries.)

This may go on, without further appropriations, to 6000 acres, then 8000, and on up to 10,000, without legislative appropriations. And after 10,000 acres of flax can be produced anywhere. It will mean that the state will have to be self supporting—forever will be self supporting—forever will be self supporting—forever where and more linen mills.

of straw and 1900 pounds of fiber inson in anarticle on the importance of flax culture and the value of scutching mills to towns, that in Belfast in 1913 there was invested in the linen factories about \$83,000,000. According to the latest data secured from the department of commerce, the United States receives from 47 to 55 per cent of all the manufactured linen in the United Kingdom. will be self supporting—forever have more and more linen mills. linen in the United Kingdom. and a day. And a small wage paid it will mean that Oregon will be "'In Ireland during 1912 the "Dealing with to every inmate worker, as is the well on its way towards the \$100,- acreage under flax was 54,917. goods imported in to the Unit-case now in the flax industry. To 000,000 annual industry that is Russia in 1910 planted 3,216,255 ed States, Mr. Robinson says it

sy nothing of a large free labor surely coming to this district—the largest permanent industrial oplant. At the state flax plant, there eration in this state. Old as hismany products; line fiber of tory. Stable as wheat. Mounting is down and out as far as flax 47 per cent. This does not take several grades, spinning tow, pa- into uncomparable final figure; production is concerned. The Rustransportation charges into acper stock, uphelstering tow, drug for every acre employed—the final sian flax is an inferior grade, and count." and resceding seed, drug meal, stock food and seed for the ott tapestries, laces, etc., etc. Namilis—the shives being used for the ott ture has laid the sure foundations

State Owns Machines The state owns 28 flax pulling nachines. It will build 15 more for the next crop. It builds unestionably the best pulling mahine in the world; the 1929

As high as 158 bags or 16 bushels of flax seed is threshed here in a day, selling at \$2.23 a bushel over \$700 worth in a day. Vast improvements in efficiency of working forces have been made in the threshing or deseeding; the me in scutching. The efficiency a scutching shift has been run p from 700 pounds a day to 3000

Dates of Slogans in Oregon Statesman

(With a few possible changes) Loganberries, October 7, 1928. Prunes, October 14. Dairying, October 21. Flax, October 28. Filberts, November 4. Walnuts, November 11. Strawberries, November 18. Apples, Figs, etc., Nov. 25. Raspberries, December 2. Mint, December 9. Beans, etc., December 16. Blackberries, December 23. Cherries, December 30. Pears, January 6, 1929. Gooseberries, January 13. Corn, January 20. Celery, January 27. Spinach, etc., February 3. Onions, etc., February 10. Potatoes, etc., February 17. Bees, February 24. Poultry and Pet Stock, Mar. 3. City Beautiful, etc., March 10. Great Cows, March 17. Paved Highways, March 24. Head Lettuce, March 31. Silos, etc., April 7. Legumes, April 14. Asparagus, etc., April 21.

Grapes, etc., April 28. Drug Garden, May 5. Sugar Industry, May 12. Water Powers, May 19. Irrigation, May 26. Mining, June 2. Land, Irrigation, etc., June 9. Floriculture, June 16. Hops, Cabbage, etc., June 23. Wholesaling, Jobbing, June 30. Cucumbers, etc., July 7. Hogs, July 14. Goats, July 21. Schools, July 28. Sheep, August 4. Seeds, August 11. National Advertising, Aug. 18. Livestock, August 25. Grain & Grain Products, Sept. 1 Manufacturing, Sept. 8. Woorworking, etc., Sept. 15. Automotive Industries Sept. 22. Paper Mills, Sept. 29. (Back copies of the Sunday edition of The Daily Oregon

Statesman are on hand. They

are for sale at 10 cents each,

Current topics, 5 cents.

mailed to any address.

Interesting Interview to Belfast-Newspaper

The Belfast, Ireland, Telegraph Contracts:" the Willamette valley. Mr. Robinis pursuing. The following is part and organizing our work now. of the article from the Irish news-

flax and linen industries in the his main object being to study the years. We have had enough ex-

products. And with a certainty quite active in the promotion of trol must be mastered, particular-

Robinson has made an exhaustive

study of the whole industry, s

summary of the results of which

lamette valley (western Oregon),

at that time at about \$21,000,000.

and at the price now prevailing

for fibre in Oregon about \$144,-

14,452 tons of flax. In other words

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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 derivalley a hundred miliion dollars and ally; that we have now in successful operation out 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,

being a graduate of Stanford uni- time is not far distant when sev-

The market for Ulster linen in have to master many objection-

with an immediate future that is most promising?

LINEN INDUSTRY State Flax Industry Has **Definite Contract Policy**

the flax acreage from 3000 to will materially assist in bringing Aurora Man in Ireland Gives 4500, the state flax industry, H. about objectives number 1 and proposition. W. Meyers, superintendent, by W. number 2. B. Bartram, manager, prepared "4. The following rotation is and sent out to the farmers of this suggested as a guide: Clover, flax, all future flax contracts in units tion. On land that is planted section the following bulletin, un-fall wheat or barley or oats, cul-

industres in Europe, with a view been taken up by the manage- has one or two cultivation crops from us. The idea of letting out

to entering those industries in ments here as early as possible. son owned the electric light and control has authorized 4500 acres noxious weeds. power plants in the Aurora and for planting this year. This is Canby sections, but sold them last 1500 acres more than was planted have to contend with in the flax found very costly in every way. year, giving him the opportunity last year. In order to handle this crop so far are wild oats, Canada and means to take the course he acreage we must start planning thistle, several varieties of the furnish all spare parts required

That there is still a big market largely due to a very unfavorable easily controlled under normal chanics, at reasonable cost." in America for Ulster linen is the definitely expressed view of F. C. spring. You will agree with us spring conditions and by rotation.

Outstanding Problems superintendent and Col. W. B. 24 for third, and several grades definitely expressed view of E. G. only by a supreme power. The

ative flax mills located through-

reach this desirable situation we

Course of Action

it is producing only about Flax Land Here

"1. We must build up our soils

"According to soil experts,

OIL-O-MATIC

WHAT IS IT?

SEE

THEO. M. BARR

Phone 192

mamette valley.

On September 13, immediately ly in our spring crops.

after the state board of control put its O. K. on the increase of field crops must be adopted that grower or a group of eight to 12 growers may purchase a machine.

der the heading, "1929 Fiber Flax tivation crops; the flax to follow farmers located within an area of

on it, all of the land to be well flax contracts by units is to avoid

mustard plant and wild black- for the flax pullers and also would "The flax crop this past harvest berry vines. The other common consider servicing them for the was not as good as last year, varieties of weeds are more or less first year, by our experienced me-

> "One of the outstanding costly ing flax at fixed charges each ing machine .- O. A. C. year, adding improvements to the flax pulling machine and also rethe freight to Oregon.

board of control have decided to cessfully for this purpose. sell the flax pullers to our flax growers at less than half the original cost of these machines and

The 1928 and the 1929 models are to be sold at \$1250 each. The 1929 models have no engines on them. They are operated from a power take-off on the tractor and this model operated very success-

fully this past harvest. We are willing to consider either

Unit Plan Adopted —that is to say, a number of "6. The worst type of weeds we farm to farm, which we have

able for planting on ground on Bartram in charge of the in- still lower bringing smaller prices. Robinson, of Aurora, Or., who, flax crops in a large part of Eur- problems confronting our flax which potatoes or other row crops Paying 15, 13 and 12 cents a with his wife, is spending sever- ope were also the poorest that growers has been the question of are harvested. Clean cultivated Since that date there have been pound for different grades of spin- al months in the North of Ireland they have experienced in many pulling the crop. We have not lan dis subject to leaching or loss been unmindful of this and be- of plant nutrients. A good cover lieve the following will reduce the crop such as vetch will help preost of pulling 50 per cent; after vent this. Winter crops of weststudying, this question for some ern Oregon usually yield best on years so as to hand on to our soils which have fair to good farmers a definite plan that would drainage. Vetch can be broadcast solve this to the satisfaction of all. by hand, after the potato harvest, The state has for years been pull- if rains prevent the use of a seed-

> Cracks in slate, soapstone, or ceducing the cost or purchase price ment laundry tubs can be made of these machines. The first ma- water-tight with litharge and chines cost \$2250 plus the cost of glycerin, mixed and stirred to the freight to Oregon.
>
> "The operation of the flax crop abould be worked onto the cracks have now become so large, and as with a case knife. A paste of these machines can now be oper- Portland cement and water, or ated much cheaper and more ef- the white of an egg and fresh ficiently than in years past, the lump lime, also can be used suc-

The new practice of putting a high finish on grass-fat cattle by accept flax in payment of them, feeding them a supplement to These machines will be sold as grass is increasing rapidly in certain sections of the middle west "The first machines will be thor- and the Appalachian regions. The oughly overhauled and recondi- supplements usually are corn and

Our Flax Industry

THE dreams of the dreamers of a great flax and linen industry in Oregon are coming true—the foundations are firmer and the hope of realization clearer than at any time

produce here as fine a fiber as the best in the world; because we can turn out a yarn finer in quality than can be had elsewhere in any market; because the state flax industry, upon which all substantial progress has been built here, is now definitely on a paying basis, and set for growth from 370 acres in 1915 and over 3,000 acres this year, to 4,500 acres of flax

seed, yielding three to four times former per acre tonnages and a still larger proportion of line fiber-

pounds or over of fiber; against around 260 pounds an acre of cotton fiber to the acre.

pedigreed seed in 1926; five acres in 1926; five acres develop the cultivation and scutching, so we have vast possibilities good in quality, in wearability and durability.

There will be about 150 ing of flax throughout the Willing of flax throughout the Willing of flax throughout the willing of the raw material. We have

The industry is now "on its own," or nearly so. That means a year, 750 acres in 1930, a great deal. It means a year, and 3750 in 1931. Then, beginning with 1932, Oregon's flax will arable. It means a year, and industry found in the proved beyond all doubt that which is 130 miles long, 60 miles which is 130 mile "It is pointed out by Mr. Rob-inson in anarticle on the import-not deteriorate the land; it is "No are making for me inson in anarticle on the import-not deteriorate the land; it is

since they were first sensed, over a half century ago. Why?

Because all experts now know definitely that we can

And set for growth on the basis of J. W. S. pedigreed

These things are epochal; the larger production of fiber

We are definitely set towards the realigation here of a

tioned and sold at \$1,000 each. cottonseed cake or meal.

next year, and 10,000 acres within three to four years-

Set to four tons or over of straw to the acre, and 1,000

there are more than 100,000 acres summary of the results of which of land in the Willamette valley to the acre will make linen manufactures "price sellers." that are adapteable to flax grow. They will be cheaper than cotton, and four to ten times as

The most favorable period to plant fall grain is usually between October 10-20 in Oregon, "We desire and expect to let finds the O. A. C. experiment stamuch before this date there is ofthe clover with late fall or winter one square mile or a little more ten little opportunity for suffiwill contract for not less than 125 cient cultivation to destroy the surface drainage before the heavy son, who as has been stated in the prepare the program for their fall "5. In selecting fields for a flax acres. One or all of these farm- weed crop. The main advantage rains come. Recent rains have weed destruction. When planting plowing. The fall seed beds need is delayed until after November 1, not be worked down fine, as a "The Oregon state board of drained and known to be free of having to move the flax pulling unfavorable weather may prevent moderate proportion of the small machines by motor truck from the plants from becoming well es- lumps tends to prevent the surtablished in the fall, and this will face from "puddling" or running Growers get best results when ment station.

fall sown wheat is treated for smut with copper carbonate after it is cleaned and freed from smut balls. Oats and barley are treated with liquid formaldehyde. Grain so treated is planted as soon a: the grain is dry in order to prevent killing a certain amount of

Progressive farmers are now leaning out surplus runs and outlet ditches and connecting these with "dead" furrows to provide reduce yields the following year. | together, says the O. A. C. experi-



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