

WEBFOOT HELD WRONG HANDLE

Oldtimers Insist Willamette Valley Has Just Enough Rain for Crops

Who said the people of the Willamette valley are web-footed, just because it rains once in a while during November, December and January of each year? Call to the witness stand J. A. Baker who has lived in Salem for 30 years. He has seen the Willamette valley product sprout, grow, blossom and develop into maturity and yet he has no record of having seen a real web-foot.

Nor has Abner Lewis who was born near Salem in 1846. He has seen them come and go. And so has W. T. Rignold who has lived in and near Salem for the past 79 years.

Judge P. H. Darcy will soon celebrate his 70th year in Salem and the judge will testify he hasn't seen a genuine web-foot or anything like a web-foot in all his newspaper and legal experience.

Fact is, away back in ancient times it rained a couple of weeks in Salem and some one who didn't understand that rain was necessary for the wonderful development of the Willamette valley started a wide propaganda about the web-footed folks in western Oregon.

Of course there are a few who can remember February and March, 1909, when it rained almost continuously for two months right here in Salem. The sun came out a couple days during those two months, but all the old timers knew such weather conditions were exceptional, just as it is when the Los Angeles river suggests a Sahara. Exceptional conditions will happen, you know.

The government through its weather bureau has a record of precipitation in Salem since 1890 and these figures are of course official.

On the basis of its observations for the past 39 years, the weather bureau reports that the average rainfall in Salem is only 37 1/2 inches annually.

Now if people are to become web-footed on the basis of annual rainfall, how about Indianapolis with an average of 41.48 inches a year and Boston with 43.38 inches and Washington, D. C., with 42.50 inches.

The record for New York city is 44.63 inches annually and of Tacoma, 45.51 inches. In the southern part of this country where it rains by the bucketful, Galveston has an average rainfall of 47.06 inches and New Orleans, 57.42 inches.

The difference is this: Salem has but half an inch of rainfall during July and August, which makes this an ideal country for camping out and hiking and for the tourist. In Chicago the average rainfall for July is 3.64 inches and for August, 2.88 inches.

In November, when Salem has an average rainfall of 6.35 inches, Chicago has only 2.50 inches. November is our month of heaviest precipitation.

Those who have lived in the mountain states or the Mississippi valley know all about thunderstorms, lightning, crashes and electrical storms. In that country, when it rains, it rains and the night. In the Willamette valley, the weather man provides the moisture in a more leisurely, aristocratic fashion. No rush at all. Plenty of time and hence once in a while, it requires a day or two just to produce a rainfall that the eastern states would experience in an hour or so.

Web feet? There ain't no such animal in the Willamette valley of Oregon.

FARM LAND AREA IN OREGON GREAT

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Aug. 8. (AP)—Recommendations were made today at the 54th annual convention of the American Poultry Association in session here that four scholarships in agricultural colleges be established, one in the east, one in the middle west, another in the south and a fourth in the west. The recommendation stipulated that holders of the scholarship major in poultry husbandry during the course of the college residence and for two years thereafter.

Complete accord was reached during this afternoon's session on the rules and regulations for certifying and grading flocks for an American poultry inspection certificate. Harry Atkins of Des Moines, Ia., chairman of the committee on licensing flock inspectors, submitted a complete report on procedure in certifying hatcheries, the report standardizing an action which heretofore has been at loose ends.

Gervais on Main Line of Railroad

Gervais is located on the main line of the Southern Pacific railroad and one-fourth mile west of the Pacific Highway and 14 miles south of Salem. Gervais has the Gervais State bank, two merchandise stores, drug store, hardware, confectioneries, shoe shop, two garages, four warehouses, express and telegraph office, hotel, Catholic and Presbyterian churches, Masonic Hall, fraternal organizations, Union high school, public and parochial school. Three rural mail routes and seven rural telephone lines center here.

Silverton's Hopefuls



Top row, from the left: Ernest Starr, manager; Lloyd Seely, Merrill Nehl, George Hibbard, Howard Syster, Ralph Holman, Orville Schwab, Kenneth Manning, Dr. C. W. Simmons, past commander. Bottom row: Earl Ramp, Ralph Dimick, Alphonse Rudehouser, Vincent Keber, "Babe" Schwab, mascot; Jesse Arbuckle, Ernest Garbarino.

Legion Teams Ready to Put On Mighty Hard Battle on Friday at Olinger Field

Portland, Silverton Posts Find Players That Can Play Great National Game as Old-Timers Used to Do it

Probable Lineups		Silverton
Gyro Cards	Koch, ss	Syster, cf
	Fawcett, If	Seely, cf
	Wilson, cf	Manning, 1b
	Bishop, c	Hibbard, ss
	Henry Olsen, 3b	Schwab, p
	Hilands, 1b	Nehl, 3b
	Herber Olsen, rf	Keber, 2b
	Voll, 2b	Holman, rf
	Charles, p	Rudehouser, c

BY RALPH CURTIS

The national game and the American Legion have much in common. The boys who went away to fight in 1917 were the boys who had been playing ball on the sandlots and the school grounds; they discarded gloves and spiked shoes for rifles and trench coats, and they were the better soldiers for having played baseball. In camp on this side of the water, every company had its ball team, and there was a lot of baseball played even in the A. E. F.

Recognition of baseball as a builder of manhood and character caused the American Legion two years ago to launch a gigantic program for the encouragement of the national game; and that is why the department of Oregon has listed, as one of the major features of its convention program this week, the state championship game between teams which have fought their way to the finals by defeating all opponents in their respective districts.

200 Teams Hustle
That means that the Silverton team and the Gyro Cards of Portland are the best aggregations out of the 200 hustling teams in Oregon that started competition early in the spring, and no matter how the final contest goes, the thousands of baseball fans and convention visitors who attend Friday's game, at 2:30 p. m. on Olinger field, will see real baseball.

Winners in the various districts were: No. 1, Astoria; No. 2, Silverton; No. 3, Eugene; No. 4, Medford; No. 5, Hood River; No. 6, Milton; No. 7, Ontario; No. 8, Gyro Cards of Portland.

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cleaned from the following roster of the players:
James Arbuckle, 15, outfielder; Silverton; Ralph Dimick, 16, shortstop and outfielder; H. Hibbard; Ernest Garbarino 18, second base and outfielder; Brooks; George Hibbard, 15, shortstop; Molalla; Ralph Holman, 15, catcher and outfielder; Molalla; Vincent Keber, 14, second base and outfielder; Mt. Angel; Henry Lefler, 14, pitcher and outfielder; Hubbard; Kenneth Manning, 15, first base; Gervais; Merrel Nehl, 14, third base; Woodburn; Alphonse Rudehouser, 15, catcher; Silverton; Orville Schwab, 16, pitcher; Gervais; Lloyd Seely, 18, outfielder and pitcher; Gervais; Howard Syster, 16, outfield and third base, Molalla.

DeLay Is Coach
The team has been coached by G. W. DeLay, Silverton high school coach; Ernest Starr is manager, and Dr. A. W. Simmons, commander of the Silverton post, has general charge.

In the seven games of the elimination series, the Silverton team has scored 110 runs and 98 hits. In the district games it defeated Salem 11 to 1, Dallas 24 to 1 and Newberg 25 to 3. In practice games it defeated the Sherman Clay team of Salem 11 to 5, won from Central Howell 6 to 4, from the Monmouth town team 5 to 3, from the Grant Seniors of Portland 7 to 4. It lost to the Silverton Woodmen 10 to 6, and to Central Howell in a second game 4 to 2.

The Gyro Cards also have an impressive record. They won 16 games and lost one in regularly scheduled American Legion Junior games, and defeated several independent teams by impressive scores. They won nine out of ten games in the sectional series, thus qualifying for the elimination series participated in by six sectional winners.

The teams in this round were evenly matched, and close games resulted, but the Cards and the Hilland Aces came through to the finals undefeated. In the final game the Cards won 4 to 3 after a sensational pitchers' battle. Koch, shortstop, driving in the tying and winning runs in the ninth after the Cards had trailed behind most of the game.

No Stars Among Cards
The Cards have no outstanding stars; they are just a bunch of good ball players almost perfect in their teamwork and on the hustle all the time. Much of their success may be credited to the coaching of "Bill" Garbarino, who took charge of the erratic group of youngsters early in the season and moulded them into a smoothly working machine, drilling them in the fine points of the game and instilling fight and confidence that will be hard for any team to surmount.

The personnel includes: Dick Bishop, catcher; Treadway Charles, Elmer Williams, Joe Kilne and Jim Farmer, pitchers; Walter Hilands, first baseman; John Voll, second baseman; Henry Olsen, third baseman; Roy Koch and Don Glens, shortstops; Don Fawcett, left fielder; John Wilson, center fielder; Herman Olsen, right fielder.

FLAX-GROWING DEVELOPS FAST

Penitentiary to be Self-Supporting in Time; Acreage Large

(Continued from Page 1.)
No successful method has been evolved for artificial retting or drying fiber flax straw, notwithstanding that millions of dollars have been spent in an effort of this kind.

Straw Retted and Bundled
When the straw is thoroughly dried it is bunched up and taken into our retted straw warehouse where it is required to season for some time before going into the mills for further processing. From that department the straw goes into a number one mill where it is scutched, that is, the fiber and spinning tow is recovered from the straw. About eighteen months ago this plant was turning out about 300 pounds of fiber and about 400 pounds of spinning tow. This same plant is now turning out 4400 pounds of fiber and 2000 pounds of spinning tow per day.

We have recently installed what is known as an All-Through scutching machine. This machine replaces hand labor at a greatly reduced cost and gives a higher yield of fiber from the straw. We propose to abolish all hand scutching at the earliest possible

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date and replace it with these "all-through scutching machines." The fiber from these scutching machines gives a larger yield in backing because the fiber is not torn or broken to the extent experienced from hand scutching.

Private Capital Sought
Progress made in the flax industry now warrants private capital investing in flax mills. Several districts have been waiting for two or three years for this condition to arrive. I make this statement for the following reasons: You are now able to pull your flax by machine and every subsequent operation can be handled by machinery. The time has arrived when small flax mills may be organized and operated in centers where it has been proven that fiber flax can be grown profitably. These plants in my judgment will have to be operated under a co-operative scheme, and they will have to have experienced and progressive management. I would further advise any person or group of persons going into this industry to keep in close touch with our state flax industry which will be glad to give them the benefit of their experience.

Markets Are Well Established
In regard to markets we are in a very happy position. We have established a demand for our flax in Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York states. We have shipped approximately 300 tons of fiber and spinning tow to Ireland and Scotland. Our logical mills will require between three and four hundred tons of fiber annually. From this you will see we have got to move along from now on to keep pace with the demand of the market; we have opened up. On several occasions during the past year we have had to refuse offers for as much as one hundred tons for the only reason that we did not have the fiber to fill the orders.

Another pleasing feature has been that we have never received one word of complaint on any flax fiber that we have shipped outside the state of Oregon. On the other hand we have received several letters advising us how satisfactory our fiber was and inquiring as to when further shipments would be available.

In connection with the manufacturing end of this development, the prospects for a vast industry look very promising to me. The first mill built here—the Miles Linen company—is manufacturing shoe trends and seine and sack twines. Their product is meeting with favor among the fishermen and other channels of trade in competition with firms who have been established for generations. They have orders enough ahead to keep their mill in production during the next seven months.

Second Mill Strong
The Oregon Linen Mills, the second mill, built to spin yarns and to manufacture linen cloth, is gradually working towards a desirable condition. This mill has at present about 80 employees working two eight-hour shifts. It spins wet, damp and dry spun yarns. The quality of the yarns are entirely satisfactory. Very shortly we expect to start weaving crashes and glass checks and they

will find a ready market for all such goods produced in the Pacific Northwest.

Summing up the whole situation we find our flax industry running on a profitable basis both to the farmers and to the state and our spinning and weaving mills working out also towards a profitable investment. To make this development a greater contribution to our state is now only a question of expansion. I can see no reason why the industry cannot be made to expand and to be brought to such proportions so as it will replace many millions of dollars worth of linen yarns and woven cloth linen goods that are now imported into our country.

CRASH KILLS FIVE
KENOSHA, Wis., Aug. 7.—(AP)—Ten persons were burned in an automobile crash near here tonight, five of them probably fatally.

Good Morning American Legion and Auxiliary

Just thought we'd call your attention to the fact that there are NO POOR FISH at the

Fitts Market

216 N. Com'l.

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Verne Legionnaires Jack

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