

Culling of the Farm Sheep Flock Important Item in Business of Good Breeding

High Authority of the Oregon State Agricultural College Forces the Outstanding Rules For Flock Owners of the Willamette Valley

John C. Burnett, associate director of the college news service of the Oregon State Agricultural college, sends the following, on "Culling the Farm Sheep Flock," by H. A. Lindgren, extension animal husbandman of that institution:

Most of the sheep owners of the Willamette valley are beginning to think about culling their ewe flocks for next year. This is a paying proposition, and a great aid in building up the quality of the flock.

It is comparatively easy to determine the best type of ewe in the flock along about the latter part of August or early September. One has an added advantage at this time too, knowing also which ewes have produced lambs and which have not.

One of the first things that a flockmaster is concerned with is the age of the ewes. Such ewes as have lost their teeth or are otherwise run down because of age are best discarded, as they sometimes do not even live through the winter. The condition of the mouth, however, is generally more important than the actual age. If an ewe has enough good teeth to chew her food, she can reasonably be held over the winter, if necessary, to hold up numbers.

Next to age, the flockmaster considers the udder of the ewe. It sometimes happens that one portion of the udder is spotted, or some other defect makes it difficult for her to raise the lamb properly. Such ewes are discarded without any further examination.

The general conformation of the animal is next considered. All ewes that are shallow bodied, small at the heart girth, or that have a narrow muzzle, are replaced with deep-bodied, thrifty, well-muzzled animals—the kind that usually prove the best producers. They give a large quantity of milk and consequently raise strong, vigorous lambs.

Affect Wool Production These points affect not only the mutton production, but also have some significance in wool production. It has been found that age, feed and health influence the weight of the fleece as well as the strength of the staple. In culling the flock, wool growers generally select as nearly as possible for heavy fleeces, giving plenty of length and covering over the body. The best authorities say that length and density mean less shrinkage after clipping. Fineness of fiber is also a desirable quality of the fleece.

After the flock has been culled as to age, condition of the udder, general conformation and quality of wool, the next question is uniformity in the flock. There may be some sheep that stand out as being off-type as compared with the others, and it is best that they be replaced.

With the use of the weighing scales at shearing time and the breeder's judgment of body conformation and age at breeding time, the ewe flock may be brought up to a high standard. One item, however, is often overlooked because of lack of records—that is, the breeding efficiency of the ewes. Too often no record of dry or barren ewes is made, or else the record is lost before the breeding flock is made up. As a result these dry ewes in the fall

are in prime condition, and are retained, instead of being sent to the butcher. Barren ewes are those that miss a year or two, probably producing lambs two or three seasons out of the usual five. Such animals lower the breeding efficiency of any flock.

Should Produce Two Crops Speaking of lambing percentages, in a flock of 30 ewes it would be quite possible to have 10 ewes each producing twins, 10 ewes producing one lamb apiece, and the remaining 10 ewes producing no lambs. The lambing percentage would be 100 per cent, 20 ewes and 30 lambs, but nevertheless one-third of the ewes would be dry. If these non-producers could be eliminated the lambing percentage would go up to about 150 per cent, making quite a profitable flock, ordinarily.

There is just one time to detect dry ewes, and that is at the close of the lambing season, when a record of them is made. One suggestion is to put the record right on the ewe herself, so that she carries it for the rest of her life. Many breeders do this by cropping the ear of the ewe that has no lamb. The first time an ewe fails to breed one ear is cropped, the next time the other ear. Such a mark is a permanent record and cannot be lost. It is generally not advisable to dispose of an ewe merely because she fails to breed one year, especially if she is young. However, an ewe failing to breed a second time is best disposed of as soon as possible. To be most profitable, an ewe must produce offspring and a crop of wool each year.

The ewe flock, after culling in late summer, is given good pasture on which to fatten prior to breeding. This usually puts the animals in the good, thrifty condition necessary for best results. At breeding time it is well to have the flock in small pastures where the ram will be accessible at all times.

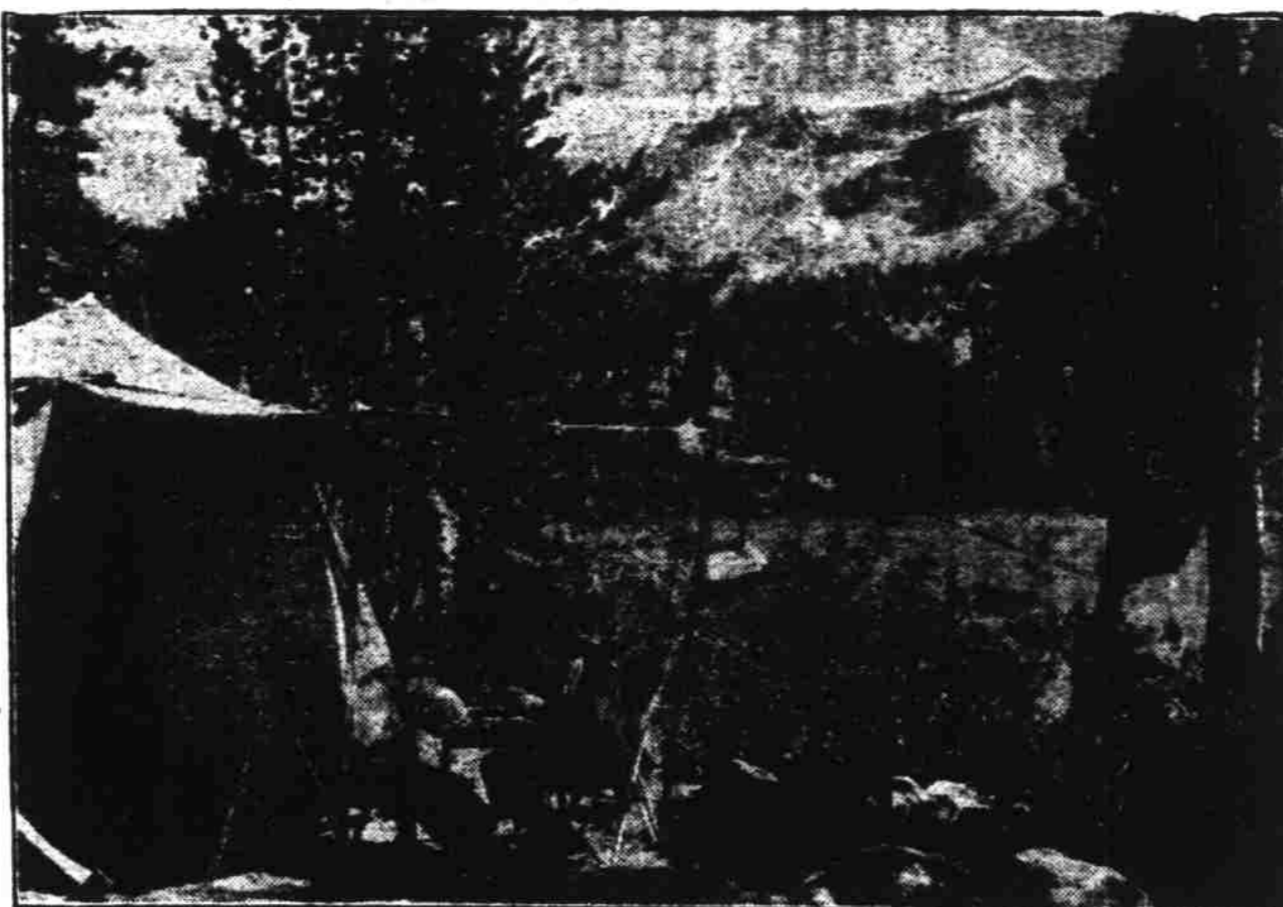
It is well to winter only as many animals as can be properly fed, as experienced sheep men know. A shortage of feed at lambing time takes the profit out of the enterprise.

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Making Vacation Tours Successful



Now that camping can be done with comfort and convenience, it is rapidly becoming America's major outdoor sport, according to the Western Auto Supply Company who furnished the above enticing display. There are many beautiful vacation lands in the United States but none are more alluring than the wonderlands of the National Forests of the West. Twenty million acres of forests offer the vacationist countless camp sites like the one shown here.

Ample Supply of Beeves of Highest Quality Seems Now In Sight For This District

Recalling an Important Interview That Was Printed in These Columns Three Years Ago This Month That Became a Last Message

In the little more than nine and a half years since the Valley Packing company opened for business in Salem on January 1, 1920 there has been a vast improvement in our live stock industries, largely due to the operations of this local plant.

On Thursday, August 19, 1926, slightly more than three years ago, the Oregon Statesman reported the following interview:

F. W. Steusloff, who with his brother, W. H. Steusloff, and Curtis B. Cross, is in direct charge of the business of the Valley Packing company, Salem's packing house, told a Statesman reporter yesterday that the Salem district must do one of two things, in order to produce an ample supply of beeves of the highest quality.

"Raise more alfalfa for feeding them, or establish beet sugar factories, in order to have the beet pulp in helping to finish off the beeves; these two things, and the producing of pure bred beef cattle of the approved breeds and strains.

"Mr. Steusloff said the markets of this section are now largely supplied with local lambs and mutton, veal, and second class beef, and a few beeves of the higher class.

"But most of the high class beeves come from southern Oregon, where alfalfa is raised on a considerable scale, especially in Josephine and Jackson counties, and from eastern Oregon alfalfa districts, and from Idaho, where both beet pulp and alfalfa have been available, and from the alfalfa district of Montana.

"He said no doubt that the spreading of the Grimm alfalfa will help, but the development of a beet sugar industry here will help more in giving us a large supply of beeves that are necessary to supply the best cuts that are demanded by the high class trade that calls for the choicest meats.

"Until that time comes, most of the first class beef stock, which a packing house with a reputation to maintain must supply, will have to be brought in from the points named, obtained largely from the stock yards in Portland and shipped to Salem in car lots."

That interview was in the nature of a last message, for the day after it was given, in the forenoon of the day it was published, Fred W. Steusloff was suddenly and unexpectedly stricken by the hand of death—ending a signally useful career for his city and section and state.

So the interview became a last message on a subject on which Mr. Steusloff was singularly competent to speak.

The Grimm alfalfa boom in the Willamette valley, and especially in Marion and Polk counties, where it was then just getting a fair start, has grown and expanded beyond all expectations.

This boom promises well in the solution of the matter that was the theme of the interview.

But even so, beet sugar factories in the Salem district would benefit vastly the supply of the best beeves, not only for supplying the local packing plant, but also for extending its operations far, and for giving an export supply of that kind of live stock. Besides this, sugar factories would make the Salem district the best dairy-benefit vastly every phase of our industries on the land, besides conferring indirect benefits that would help in adding solidity to all the industries in Salem and the other cities and towns of this section. It would even help in Grimm alfalfa growing, by giving a most desirable clean cultivation rotation crop.

CASCARA ORCHARDS WILL BE DEVELOPED

Cascara orchards will have to be developed in western Oregon. This is the cascara country, and the wild forest growths are fast disappearing. They will not last.

The coast sections of Oregon and northern California (mostly Oregon) have been supplying 7,000,000 pounds a year of this bark. There is no substitute. The trade will have to continue. The forestry department of the Oregon State Agricultural college is carrying on projects of cascara (or chittim) tree growing. They are making a good showing. In a little while, we will see cascara orchards all over this section. It will have to come, and it will return an annually increasing revenue, and a certain one.

Cover crops, particularly those of a leguminous nature, are beneficial to Oregon soils in a number of ways, says the Oregon experiment station. They tend to check leaching or erosion, increase the nitrogen content of the soil, and provide organic matter, thus improving the physical nature of heavy soils.

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A Livestock Valley

THE Salem district will achieve its greatest growth and most splendid and best balanced prosperity by developing and using the diversity that is hers by the laws of nature—and this is truly the land of diversity.

Ivan Stewart, when he was engaged as agricultural expert for this district, proclaimed and proved that this is among other things naturally a live stock valley. He showed by facts of experience that we should breed more good horses, cattle, sheep, goats and swine. These all tend to keep the flow of money coming our way the year through, and they help to maintain the fertility of our soils.

Live stock fit in with rotation crops, and this is one of the main essentials of successful farming.

Poultry takes its place with this kind of agriculture, and with fruit and nut growing, which are bound to grow indefinitely in magnitude of acreage in orchards, and in quality and abundance of crops.

So the highest good of both country and city will be fostered by making this more and more a live stock valley.

FALSE OR FORCED MOLT IS NOT GOOD

Culling the poultry flock in August and disposing of those birds that have stopped laying, and feeding a moist mash at noon to the balance of the flock, is considered a much better management plan than putting the birds through a false or forced molt, believes the Oregon experiment station. When the days begin to shorten, the lights may be turned on and the birds given about a 13 hour daylight day. This practice keeps the hens laying well until late in the winter, and often until early spring, when they usually molt and can be marketed. Birds forced to molt late in the summer have a strong tendency to go into a natural molt in October or November.

RETURN FLIGHT TO CALIFORNIA PUT OFF

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—(AP)—Captain Roscoe Turner who flew from Los Angeles with passengers day before yesterday and who had hoped to fly them back today has indefinitely postponed the flight.

Continued poor weather late today made it possible that the flight would be abandoned altogether.

It was Turner's plan to fly his passengers back to Los Angeles and then hop alone to Cleveland for the air races. He indicated today that if weather held him up another day he might go direct to the races from here.

O. A. C. WILL CONDUCT DAIRY COST STUDY

OREGON STATE COLLEGE, Corvallis, Aug. 24.—Forty-five milk cows, feeding on 12 acres of irrigated ladino clover pasture, with complete 90-day data on the cost of maintaining this pasture and its effect on the butterfat production of the cows will be ready for the inspection of Oregon dairymen who will convene here August 27 for the irrigated pasture field day.

Irrigated ladino clover pastures are advocated by the experiment station as one means of overcoming the problem of dried up pastures in Oregon during the usual dry season, July, August and September, according to P. M. Brandt of the dairy husbandry department, who is in charge of the 90-day experiment. Reports from county agent demonstrations in central and southern Oregon, as well as on the moist, unirrigated sections of the coast, show that ladino clover pastures in these areas have far outstripped all other pasture crops in carrying capacity.

Juice for jelly making can be extracted from all berries, and from grapes, without adding water, by crushing some of the fruit to start the flow of juice before cooking. Blackberries, however, have been found to yield better and more delicately flavored jelly if one-fourth to one-half cup of water is added to each pound of berries, says the O. A. C.

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BULGARS MAY PUT ISSUE UP TO LEAGUE

SOFIA.—(AP)—Bulgaria is considering the advisability of asking the League of Nations to adjudicate the bothersome frontier questions which are constantly arising with Jugo-Slavia. The border passes within a few miles of this capital and cuts through several villages, separating houses from gardens in some instances and in others dividing a house.

The two governments, after a three weeks conference at Piro, Jugo-Slavia, reached an agreement last March regarding frontier traffic and providing for the guarding of the border. It also provided for a mixed commission to adjudicate any differences that might arise.

This agreement has not been ratified by Jugo-Slavia and Bulgaria has accepted it only with reservations. The unacceptable proposals would have created a neutral zone six miles wide on both sides of the line from which the bulk of the population would have been evacuated and moved into the interior. Bulgaria has decided it can not furnish enough arable land to support the number of people affected.

New incidents of clashing authority and individual rights have been so frequent that public opinion here is demanding an international inquiry. It is argued that the status quo threatens the peace of the Balkans.

BEETS WOULD HELP IN CROP SCHEMES

The harvesting of sugar beets in the districts where they are grown will begin generally around the middle of September.

This crop would come in well in the Salem district, to give employment to many of the hop pickers who come in from other points to help in that harvest.

The more nearly a season through for harvesting we can have, beginning in the spring with berry picking, the easier it will be to get ample help—and ample help we must have in order to maintain our growth in the industries on the land here.

There are many good things that will follow and attend the growing and manufacturing of sugar beets here. Their timely harvesting will be one of them. They will help in our live stock industries as no other one thing can.

FAST HOP PLANNED
ROOSEVELT FIELD, N. Y., Aug. 23.—(AP)—Captain Roscoe Turner announced tonight he would take off tomorrow at 5 a. m., in an attempt to beat Captain Frank M. Hawks' record of 19 hours and 23 seconds for east-west transcontinental flight.

AN O. A. C. PASTURE DEMONSTRATION

OREGON STATE COLLEGE, Corvallis, Aug. 24.—A two-year cost and economic study of the dairy industry in Oregon that will be one of the most comprehensive cost studies ever made is being undertaken by the college experiment station. The work will be carried on entirely with federal funds made available under the Farnell act for use in this state.

Costs of dairy farm production in the different regions and on various types of dairy farms will be studied to find means of reducing costs so that increasing competition can be met successfully. The economic place of the dairy industry in Oregon, what types of dairy farming are most profitable and what factors in the internal organization of a dairy farm are most important to the success of the enterprise will also be gone into carefully.

The study will cover the years 1929 and 1930. It is planned to obtain records from about 500 dairymen each year, approximately 200 of whom will be in the Willamette valley, 100 in the coast region, and 100 in eastern Oregon. The total number will be divided between the various counties according to the importance of the dairy industry in each county. This is to determine in what regions of the state, on the basis of comparative costs, prices and markets, dairying can advantageously be encouraged and increased.

The survey will be under the general supervision of P. M. Brandt, professor of dairy husbandry, and H. D. Scudder, professor of farm management. Prof. H. E. Selby of the department of farm management will be in charge of the field work. County agricultural agents will also cooperate by compiling lists of the dairymen in their counties for use in carrying on the study.

This Week's Slogan: The Willamette Is By Natural Law a Live Stock Valley

PHONE 44

Night or Day

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Invite Us To The Blow Out

If It's Tire Mileage

Buy KELLYS They Cost Less

If It's Car Washing

The Price is Low—The Car is CLEAN

If It's— Power Lubrication

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THE STATION WITH A CLOCK