

Polk County Backs Work of Farm Development Expert

COUNTY AGENT WORK EXCELS; YEAR BUSY ONE

Large Number of Projects Handled by J. R. Beck; Boys, Girls Aided

DALLAS, December 31.—That the office of the county agent is a definite factor in the agricultural progress of Polk county is evident after a study of the report of J. R. Beck for the year 1929. More use was made of the services of the county agent during the year than ever before. 2864 persons either calling in person or by telephone; 751 personal farm visits were made, and 2200 letters were written. More farmers cooperated in the meeting and projects of the extension department. Two-thirds of the time of the county agent is spent in the agricultural communities and 161 meetings were held during the year.

147 in Club Work
In addition to the agricultural work, the county agent also supervises various phases of the boys' and girls' club work, mainly in livestock. One hundred and forty seven were engaged in the work, and nine clubs finished their projects 100 per cent. They won prizes totaling \$589 at the state and county fairs, and also won several state contests for club teams.

Perhaps the most interesting phase of development has been the increased alfalfa acreage in Polk county. In 1925 there were 11 acres in the county, this increased to 78 the next year, then to 334 in 1927, 560 in 1928 and finally in 1929 totaled 1097. Signs on the James Gentle and Robert Pence farms have called attention to their alfalfa acres. The use of sulphur on the M. L. Capps farm increased the yield 1.3 tons per acre.

Opening up of the lime plant southwest of Dallas, through the activities of the farmers and county agent has resulted in greatly increased applications of lime rock in the county, being estimated at 3500 tons this year. Demonstrations of the Joe Staats flower hay at Airle showed an increased yield of one ton per acre and the vetch and oats on the Ed Vieth farm at Parker showed an increase of 33 per cent in weight.

Red Clover Tested
Several test plots of anthracnose resistant red clover were started this year on the S. H. Robinson and A. R. Cagle farms in the Rickreall district, and the Martin Van Gross place in the north end of the county. This is being looked to as a replacement in the event the present market continues unfavorable.

Pruning demonstrations have been carried on, showing the possibility of increasing the size of prunes, and to even up production. Actual records showed that crops harvested from pruned trees had an increase of nine points and the dry out per 60 bushels was greater by three points. Several hundred acres of prunes were treated for root borers from information sent out by the county agents office.

Codling Moth Treated
Orchardists are notified at the proper times to spray for codling moth in the pear and apple orchards, as county fruit inspector, Mr. Beck has issued a number of neglected apple orchards to be taken out to protect adjacent properties.

Information was sent out to the hop growers to assist in the prevention of the downy mildew, and this was partially responsible for national quarantine for importation of hop roots from Europe. Groups of farmers in the Gold Creek, Bethel and Buell communities working with the county agent and veterinarian are having their cows tested to prevent infectious abortion in their dairy herds.

Various pests have also come in for attention, sodium chlorate and calcium chloride being used by some 26 farmers to eradicate Canadian thistle, morning glory and other weeds. Six hundred seventy nine acres were poisoned for grey squirrels in addition to the damage to their own work. Gopher control was gotten under way, with five men whose service can be secured by those needing them.

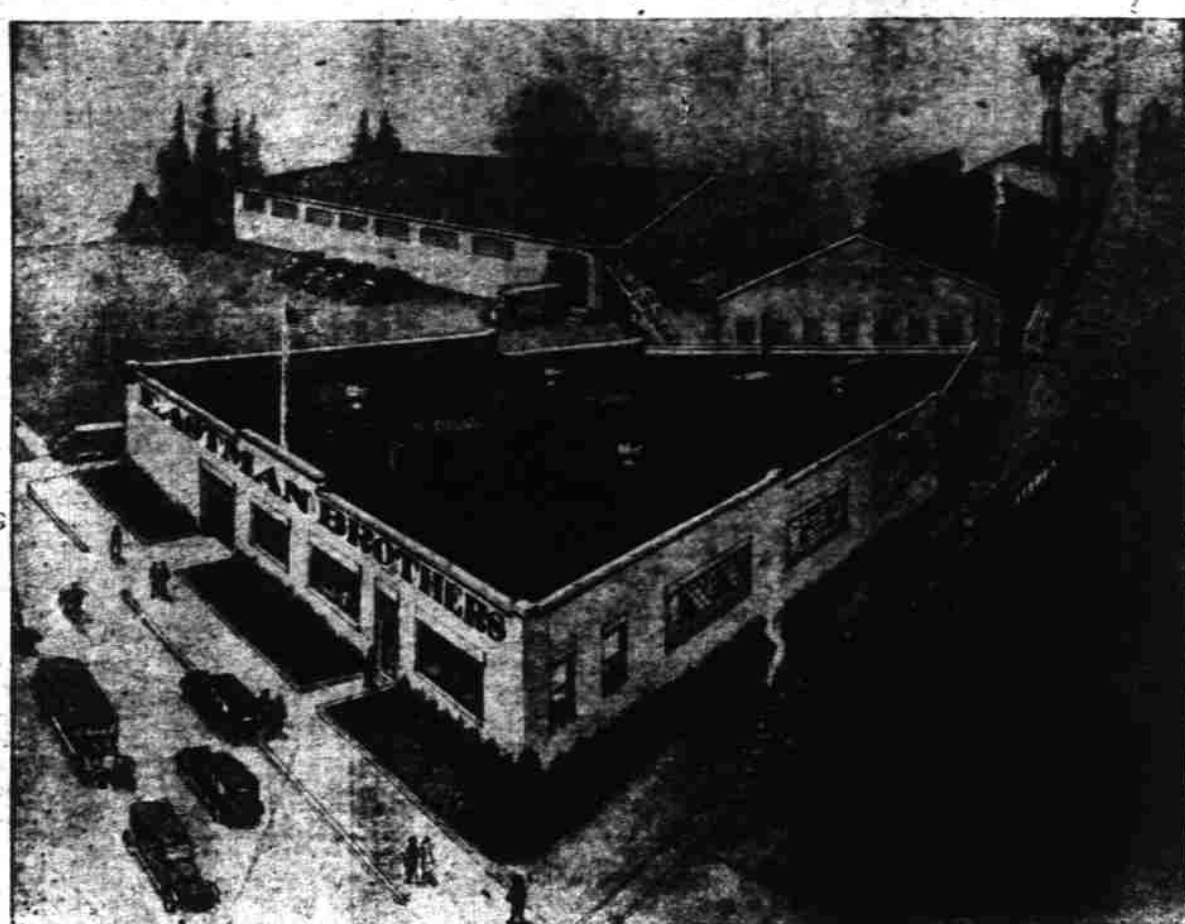
Sheep flocks in the county were found to have internal parasites, and meetings and demonstrations held have helped to overcome this menace.

Average Income \$4768 per Farm
Farmers are also becoming business men, as two groups have been keeping books during the past year in conjunction with the Monmouth National bank. It showed that the average farm income is \$4768, and the value of the average farm and equipment to be \$20,000. Farmers are also coming to plan their operations on the basis of production and demand outlooks, and will have a tendency to stabilize products for which there is a constant market.

Housewives also come in for their share of service, as has been evidenced by the number of farmers making inquiry as to the construction of septic tanks for their farm homes and other modern appliances. Through its systems of sending out bulletins, letters, personal visits, and farm meetings, the office of the county agent has rendered a very valuable service to the residents of the county.

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THRIVING VALLEY INDUSTRY



Furnaces, hundreds of them, are manufactured annually at Silverton where George Eastman has built up a thriving business. The plant is pictured above.

Readjustment Period Passed Through By Silverton During Past 12 Months

Gradual and Steady Expansion Anticipated by Prosperous Community as Attention Turns Toward Coming Year; Business Found Good

No big building activities have taken place and no big enterprises have been opened at Silverton during 1929. As a matter of fact Silverton has spent 1929 in readjusting itself. Her growth has been a "settling-down-to-business" growth in which she has been rounding off the corners and filling the vacancies left by her rapid growth from a village into a very attractive little city of 4000. During the past year she has caught her stride and she is ready with the beginning of 1930 to start ahead with renewed vigor on a prosperous area.

Every during this period of readjustment Silverton has made improvement. For instance, there is the city park. For years this park has been the summertime Mecca for those from all up and down the Willamette Valley who are searching for a beautiful and quiet spot to spend a day. The splendid swimming pool in Silverton creek, within the confines of the park, has done much to attract these visitors. During the past summer each day saw large numbers here and on Sundays the number ran into thousands.

Paper Pleads for Pool
Toward the close of the summer, L. C. Eastman, mayor, started a movement for a wading pool for the younger children. The matter was taken up and sponsored by the Silverton Appeal. Before the season was over the pool was built, and it is arranged in such a manner that mothers will have no difficulty in caring for their youngsters. An ornamental metal railing for the pool has been a recent gift and will in all likelihood be set in place before the opening of the next season. Other improvements have also been made in the park. Old stumps have been removed and much cleaning up has been done. Silverton is looking forward to a big picnic season this coming summer.

Another park, which has always been thought of as one of Silverton's playgrounds, is now owned by Silverton people. While this park is a commercial venture it has served to draw people through Silverton from many Oregon cities and some out of state cities as well. This is the Silver Creek Falls park which was purchased during the past year by Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Geiser of Silverton. Mr. and Mrs. Geiser have been working assiduously during the past summer making improvements for the pleasure and comfort of visitors. Other improvements are planned here for the early spring. The south side road to the Falls country has been made into a market road and greatly improved.

Let readers might be led to believe that Silverton is thinking only of the aesthetic improvements, let us hasten to add that the reduction of city taxes has been about 20 percent during 1929; that Silverton has taken care of all obligations now due, and that she still has something like \$12,000 on hand.

One Store Structure Built
Some improvements have also been made within the business district of the city. I. D. Worden did much for the personal appearance of Silverton when he built the corner store building on Oak and Water streets. This added three attractive store rooms and reconditioned another one which had been empty for some months. All of these are now occupied.

In one day alone last autumn, Silverton's number of businesses increased by four. Silverton had never had a flower shop. Two were opened the same day. The Silverton Greenhouses, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Adams opened a floral shop in the new Worden building. C. W. Cross opened one in the Coolidge & McClaine bank building, in the store room formerly occupied by A. L. Larson's jewelry. The other two businesses opening on this day were grocery stores. Julius Alm & Sons, one of Silverton's oldest firms, opened a cash and carry grocery in the Worden building. This grocery is managed by Henry Alm. The Piggly Wiggly, opening in the corner store of the John Wolford building.

A few days after this grand opening of businesses, Mrs. Addie Van Valkenburg, the daughter of the late John Wolford whose name is so inseparable from Silverton's pioneer history, opened a ready-to-wear and silk shop also in the Wolford building.

Business Improvement Made
During 1922 Omar White opened a garage in the Tom Davis building and Col. A. R. Purvis started a second hand store on Jersey street. The Silverton Laundry has added a cleaning and dyeing department to its equipment. Eastman Brothers, one of Silverton's most widely known firms, has added the manufacturing of hog fuel burners to their famous furnaces and fire chutes. The Palace theatre, Silverton's one motion picture house, has done its bit of "city" Silverton by adding sound pictures.

Considerable promotion work was done through Silvertonians to establish the Cascade highway from Oregon City, passing through Silverton, to Eugene. Agricultural conditions in the country surrounding Silverton has materially improved, and at present local real estate firms report considerable activity in farm lands. The local co-operative cannery, the Silverton Food Products company, has been a big aid to fruit and vegetable growers.

CATTLE PLAGUE MAY BE DOOM OF FOX HUNT IN OLD ENGLAND

\$25,000,000 Appropriate to Stop Hoof and Mouth Disease but Fight Goes Steadily on

BRIGHTON, England, (AP)—One of the oldest sports of England—the hunting of the fox—may be sacrificed to scientific agriculture. Farmers, smarting under the loss inflicted by foot-and-mouth disease, are blaming the fox for years in England. Destruction of the infected cattle is accepted by authorities as the only sure way of suppressing an outbreak, and approximately \$25,000,000 has been paid to farmers as compensation for herds destroyed in the public interest.

Farmers patiently accept the inevitable when their herds are condemned, but they are demanding more drastic efforts in other directions. The government, they feel, might hasten the discovery of a cure for or vaccine against the disease by more liberal appropriations for research.

And meanwhile, they ask, why not lessen the risk of contagion by exterminating the fox? He may be exceedingly important to sport, but he is a roamer at night, prying into hencoops of widely-separated farms—a general nuisance at best, and where there is foot-and-mouth contagion to be spread, a deadly menace.

Plan Expenditure Of Some \$695,000 On County Roads
EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 31.—(AP)—A program of road and bridge construction and maintenance entailing an expenditure of \$695,000 in the ensuing six months will be Lane county's answer to President Hoover's call for collective action of industry to aid the present economic situation, according to County Judge C. P. Barnard.

Judge Barnard estimated that \$475,000 of the \$695,000 to be spent will go for road construction. Betterment and the maintenance of roads will cost \$145,000. Bridge construction is estimated at \$50,000 and maintenance at \$25,000.

Yaquina Bay Mill Prospects Bright
TOLEDO, Ore., Dec. 31.—(AP)—The possibility of early consummation of a pulp mill on Yaquina Bay was brightened by the announcement by Colonel Lukash of the United States engineer office, that dredging operations, with funds provided from maintenance appropriations, would be started.

The offer of ports in this district to withdraw pleas for jetty extensions met with approval from Colonel Lukash.

BUILDINGS AT WOODBURN ARE NOW IMPROVED

Construction Takes Place in Form of Remodeling and Revising

WOODBURN, December 31.—Although building in Woodburn has not been extensive the past year, much improvement has been noticed in structures already erected. Many old houses have been remodeled and painted, old buildings have been torn down and due to the efforts of the garden club, many yards and vacant lots have been improved.

The largest project for building in Woodburn was the St. Luke's community hall which was finished the early part of the year. The labor for the building, which is a concrete structure with a stucco exterior finish, was all donated, the most of it being done by John E. Rubis, Matt Hermle and Oscar Johnson. Father Rubis drew the plans for the structure and the main auditorium of it is 46 feet by 18 feet, the kitchen sixteen by sixteen feet, the stage eighteen by forty-six feet and the hall in the basement 18 by 46 feet.

The hall is a hexagonal shape and is well ventilated and heated. The excellent hard wood floor makes it possible for dances to be held and community dinners are readily handled because of the spacious kitchen and the long tables and chairs ready for use at any time. The stage is well equipped with special lighting effects and scenery.

From the exterior view the hall is a community asset in beauty as well as a necessity, its tiled roof and neat appearance making it an attractive building. The cost of the material alone is estimated at between \$7000 and \$8000.

EIGHT PERSONS DIE IN TERRIFIC STORM

LONDON, Dec. 30.—(AP)—At least eight deaths were caused by the southwest gale which swept over Great Britain and the European seacoast over the week end before it blew itself out late today.

Most of the casualties were on land where the wind blew down trees and steeples and caused the collapse of several houses. The fatalities reported were in England and France, but several persons were injured in cities of northwestern Germany.

A member of the crew of the steamship Atlantic, hull to Alexandria, was killed when a huge wave hurled him against a bulkhead and another man had both legs broken. A derelict wooden vessel floating bottom up drove ashore today against the high cliffs of Scousburgh, Shetland, but salvagers were unable to reach it before night.

By this evening conditions had returned nearly to normal except for floodwaters in the Humber valley. Channel shipping and the imperial airways resumed service.

SILVERTON AIRPORT SEES IMPROVEMENT DURING YEAR

Field at Marion County City Highly Lauded By Numerous Visiting Aviators

By MARY GARMACK
CLOVERDALE, Dec. 31.—The rough, hilly country south of Salem and covering something like 10 square miles, is usually called "The Red Hills" because of the reddish, brown colored soil.

This soil seems especially well adapted for prunes and some of the finest, and some of the best tasting, prunes are grown here. The oldest trees were planted by the Oregon Land company in 1892-1895. It planted about 1000 acres. However there is more than four times that acreage at present. The greater part are of the Italian variety though there are also several petite orchards.

The growers have just harvested a fine crop averaging something less than a ton to the acre. The price has been from 7 1/2 to 10¢ per pound on 30 to 35's.

Twenty-eight driers were operated in the Rosedale district along the past season. Stack and tunnel driers are both used, though

more of the former. There are two of the Miller dehydrated driers owned by Mr. Robinson of Prospect and Mr. Corpstein of the Sunnyside district.

The trees seem to be in fairly good condition, the principal enemy being the borers. Some growers plan to use defoliate means to control these pests next year. Pruning has been done quite extensively and more will be done this year. Two orchards owned by the state, in the Rosedale district have been pruned since the drying season, by convict labor; also disked and put in general good shape.

The "Twin Hills" ranch, owned by F. W. Turner in the Fairview district has an especially nice young orchard. The Palmers also have a nice one just in bearing a few years.

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DAIRYING REPLACES GROWING OF WHEAT

Passing of Grain Fields in Red Hills Brings Decided Change

By MRS. C. H. TAYLOR
SUNNYSIDE.—The passing of the great wheat fields from the Red Hills is making a decided change in the farmer's program. The song of the binder and mow and the hum of the threshing machine will soon be a thing of the past; and neighbor and neighbor will no longer help back and forth through the harvest season, which will mean the fading away of much of the old neighborly intercourse.

There is a turning to horticulture and dairying. The big fields are now great orchards of prunes, cherries, pears, and berries. The orchardist is setting his field with the best of nursery stock, and the dairymen with fine herds of Jersey.

Fields of grain which used to yield 45 bushels to the acre are now prune orchards.



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WHERE THERE IS A HORSE, THERE IS JOY!



Photograph shows Salem Hunt club, organized this year by a group of energetic seekers after the pleasure of outdoor exercise "a la Prince of Wales."