

State Department of Education Commends Mill City High

MILL CITY HIGH WINS PRAISE

Inspector Pronounces Plant One of Best of its Size

MILL CITY, Feb. 7.—As a result of an inspection made last fall of the Mill City high school by J. M. Burgess of the state department, comes now a comprehensive and exhaustive report from Mr. Burgess, which is very complimentary to the Mill City high school, its principal, faculty and the schoolboard members.

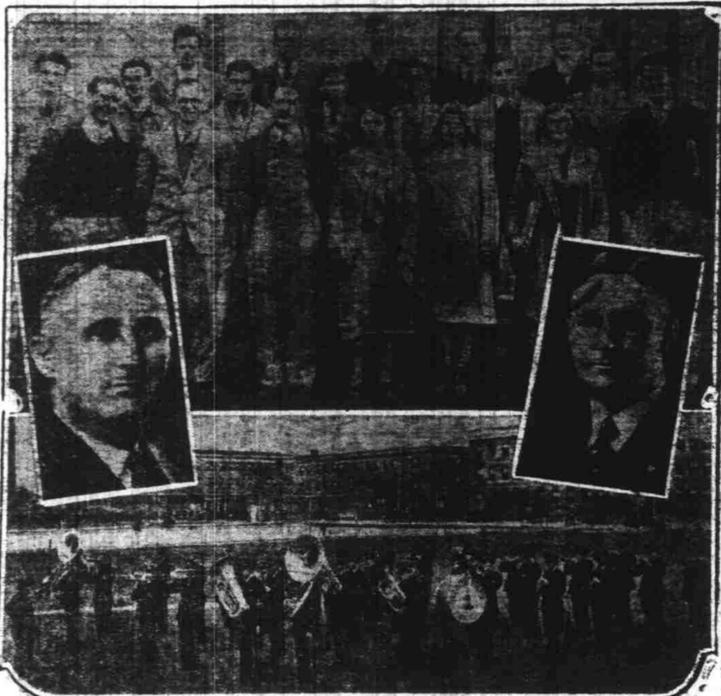
In his report, Mr. Burgess states: "The school at Mill City is certainly to be commended on its equipment and upon the attitude that was observed while there. Principal Miss Hickey is apparently doing a very splendid job of administration and the school and plant is pronounced to be almost super-standard for one of its size.

"The extreme and careful cleanliness of the building was noted as evidence of the fact that it is not an impossible feat to keep a school building clean—a statement that has been made to the inspector many times in the course of his visits to the schools about the state.

"The library was noted to be very carefully catalogued and to contain a number of volumes of very fine reference. The principal's office was colorful and very artistic and deserves a favorable comment. Equipment in chemistry and home economics was observed to be distinctly at standard and in many respects above that required by the state.

"In the course of visiting so many schools present and the equipment is good and such small excursions made for the labor that are performed, it is indeed a pleasure to meet and to inspect a building that can be classed as the high school of Mill City. The state department of education is very pleased to go on record as stating that this would be one of the very few schools of the state of its size that should be classed as super standard."

O. S. C. EXPOSITION READY FOR VISITORS



Above—Student committee in charge of eighth annual Educational exposition at Oregon State college Feb. 13 and 14. Below—Cadet band which will take part in all-college musical concert for visitors. Inset—Dr. Joseph Roemer of Florida, vocational guidance specialist, (left), and C. A. Howard, state superintendent of public instruction, two of principal speakers on the program.

'Lime, Legumes, Livestock' Still Regarded as Standard Rule of Keeping Soil Fertile

By R. E. STEPHENSON
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"Lime, legumes, and livestock" is an old slogan that has been handed down both by word of mouth and in written form as the essence of soil fertility maintenance. Lime is emphasized largely because it is necessary for continued successful production of legumes. From the soil fertility point of view, livestock are for the purpose of consuming the legumes and soles feed to convert them to manure which may be returned to the land.

Thus the legume becomes the "key" of this old slogan, which stands for permanence of soil fertility. As soils become older and the fertility more depleted, the need becomes more urgent to resort to the growing of legumes to restore the reduced productivity.

A legume is any plant (such as the clovers, peas, beans, vetches and alfalfa), which is able to take nitrogen from the air, through small organisms, or through fixing bacteria in the nodules of the roots of the plant. It is the nitrogen fixing power of legumes which has made them renowned as soil improvers. The supply of nitrogen in the air is inexhaustible, (nearly 80 percent of all air is nitrogen) and the bacteria of legume plants, make no charge for bringing down the air nitrogen and changing it into a form that may be utilized to grow crops.

But in spite of their great value as soil builders, and their utility value as feed for livestock, the acreage of legumes in Oregon is not as large as might be. Estimates place production at seven or eight acres of legumes for each hundred acres of improved land. This rate of production is not sufficient to maintain the soil nitrogen and organic matter.

To fully maintain the supply of nitrogen in the soil would require a legume crop once each two to four years. Legumes and especially clovers, fit well into a rotation. The greater portion of the clover grown in the valley is seeded early in the spring in wheat. The next season the clover furnishes one hay crop and a seed crop. The seed crop may reasonably return \$25 per acre, and the threshed clover straw contains 40 pounds of nitrogen per ton, worth at commercial prices something like \$6.00 when spread on the land for fertilizer. Clover is perhaps the most practical legume for general production in the Willamette valley.

Better Rotated. Legumes not only fit well into crop rotation but nearly all legumes do better when rotated. Clover usually "runs out" in a couple of years and needs to be plowed up for some other crop. Even alfalfa which sometimes produces wonderful yields for years under favorable conditions is usually better if plowed up at certain intervals. In the older countries alfalfa is often not al-

lowed to stand more than three years. Alfalfa is well suited to form part of a regular rotation of crops when not allowed to stand too long. The greatest soil improvement results when the stubble and residue or part of the top growth is plowed under often. There is probably not much further accumulation of nitrogen and humus in the soil after alfalfa has stood for three years.

The truck farmer and the fruit grower, however, do not grow much clover. His need is for something that can be seeded in the fall or under in the spring as a green manure. Vetch seeded with oats or barley has long been successfully used for this purpose. Recently the farm crops department is recommending Austrian field peas as a crop well worthy of a trial.

The legume cover crop to maintain orchard soils is especially desirable, since nitrogen and organic matter more than mineral fertilizer is necessary for successful fruit production. The legume as a green manure is the most satisfactory substitute for farm manure, which is scarce but always highly valued. The cheapest humus available to the fruit grower at the present time is that obtained by green manuring.

Good Organic Fertilizer. When mineral fertilizer is used as a common practice in growing many crops, a legume plowed under as a green manure is very helpful in increasing the efficiency of the fertilizer. Mineral fertilizers are not substitutes for organic matter and are not effective unless organic matter and nitrogen are maintained. Not even a nitrogen fertilizer is a satisfactory substitute for soil humus.

Legumes not only renew the organic matter but they are very effective in improving the physical condition of the soil. Some of the legumes such as clover and alfalfa are deeper rooted than any of the commonly grown farm crops. The root development is also profuse, about equivalent to the top growth. This enormous underground growth permeates,

pulverizes, and loosens the soil in a way not possible by any external treatment. After legumes the soil is noticeably looser and pulverent. On heavy soils this factor of physical improvement is very important.

But nature has been generous in providing legumes adapted to almost every type of soil and to any degree of infertility. Sweet clover will grow on almost any soil if lime is present. Most legumes are helped by the use of lime on poor acid soils. The usual practice in Oregon is to use from one to two tons of ground limestone per acre according to the degree of acidity. The lime should be well mixed with the soil.

Lime Drilled In. Some recent demonstrations in the east have indicated that a much smaller application of lime will insure a stand of clover if the lime is drilled with the seed at the time of seeding. By drilling the lime and seed together, the soil is neutralized near the young plant, and the new seedling is able to get a good start. Once started the clover or alfalfa is able to care for itself, even though only a small volume of soil is neutralized. Using this method, Missouri farmers have been able to grow as good clover with a few hundred pounds of lime as when more than two tons of limestone were broadcast and mixed with the soil in the usual way. This method of seeding requires machinery especially adapted for the purpose, but is worthy of trial wherever clover falls without lime.

Clover and other legumes are quite responsive to applications of phosphate fertilizers also. When clover is seeded in grain which has been fertilized there is a "carry over" of the fertilizer to the clover crop which is very helpful to the clover. The phosphate is especially helpful in stimulating root development of the young clover, and thereby strengthens the new growth in its struggle through the drought of summer. Indirectly the phosphate helps the clover in another way. Phosphated grain ripens earlier and is removed from competition with the clover sooner. The difference in the date of harvest for the fertilized grain may amount to as much as a week or ten days.

Benefit to Soil. Any legume that can be grown successfully benefits the soil. The benefit is relatively greater on poor soils. On very poor soils it

GRANGE GROUPS TO MEET IN DALLAS

Plans for Years Activities in Agriculture Work to Be Made

DALLAS, Feb. 7.—To lay plans for the activities of the 8 subordinate granges in Polk county for 1931, a meeting of the agricultural committee will be held in Dallas, February 1 in conjunction with the county agent's office.

Many of the foremost things of farm life have been fostered and encouraged by the granges and they contribute a great deal to the advancement of agriculture. This meeting is for the purpose of making these programs even stronger and more valuable to the farmers of the county. It is expected that representatives of the state grange will be here to cooperate in this meeting with the county agent and county grange committees.

Many Represented. A partial list of the granges to participate and their members of the agricultural committee are: Riddell, Glen Hoeg, F. B. Pearce, J. H. Harlan; Monmouth, Wm. Riddell, Velma Smith, C. H. Parker; McCow, S. L. Stewart, G. L. Shields, C. L. Gilson; Buell, Joe Eisele, Herman Endres, Chas. Muller; Brush College, F. C. Ewing; Wayne Henry, Chas. McCarter; Dallas, Forest Martin, Loran Wilson, C. E. Farrer, Oak Grove, S. H. Robison, W. B. Gillen, Justice Rowland.

Names of the Sayer and Fort Hill grange committees were not available but it is expected they will be represented.

CHURCH REPRESENTED. WEST SALEM, Feb. 7.—Ford Memorial church was represented Friday night at the Evangelism and stewardship meeting at Jason Lee church by Rev. M. A. Groves, Waldo Baker, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Miller and Mrs. Rose Kimball Burleigh. Dr. M. A. Marcy, district superintendent was

present and called the meeting to order. A 6:30 o'clock dinner was served by the ladies of Jason Lee church. This was followed by a devotional service. Dr. Luther E. Loveloy, national leader of the stewardship department of the Methodist church gave the address of the evening after which a round table discussion was held and plans were discussed for conducting some sort of campaign which shall make for more efficiency in stewardship among the churches of the district. About 25 different churches were represented at Friday night's meeting.

W. C. T. U. RALLY AT BROOKS TODAY

HAZEL GREEN, Feb. 7.—Hazel Green is invited by the W. C. T. U. to join with Brooks and Labish Center in a rally at the Brooks Methodist church Sunday, Feb. 8, at 3 o'clock.

Mrs. Neola E. Buck, field worker and lecturer of the W. C. T. U., and the president of the county unit and Mrs. Prescott will be speakers.

A local union W. C. T. U. of the three districts, Brooks, Labish Center and Hazel Green will be organized. A cordial invitation to the general public and all interested is extended.

INTERESTED IN LAND

SCIO, Feb. 7.—Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Bunn and son of Beaver, J. W. Bodyfelt and William Dort of Hebo were looking at land in the Scio neighborhood Thursday.

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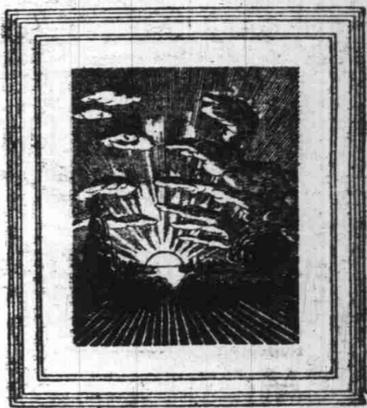
TURNER S. S. CLASS IS ENTERTAINED

TURNER, Feb. 7.—The Loyal 6-8 Sunday school class of the Christian church held a very enjoyable Valentine party at a short business meeting at the home of their teacher, Mrs. E. J. Gilstrap, Wednesday evening. Mrs. A. A. Dumbuck is the assistant teacher. The decorations were in keeping with the Valentine season.

The following new class officers were elected: president, Clarissa Clark; vice president, Rue Westfall; secretary, Mildred Bones; treasurer, Vern McGowan. A variety of games were enjoyed and refreshments were served; each guest received a Valentine favor. Guests present

POPULATION INCREASING

STAYTON, Feb. 7.—The population of Stayton is growing. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Kelly are the parents of a daughter, born Friday; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bass are the parents of a son, born Saturday; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lulay are the parents of a daughter, born January 29; Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Bogert are the parents of a son, born January 31, and Mr. and Mrs. Dolph Heister are the parents of a daughter, born February 4.



The Passing of a Perfect Day

When the sun sets, enveloping each day with cool peace of night, how restful this world seems. Each day the same sun marks the passing of a life, enveloped in the sweet peace of eternal rest—a rest that may be ushered in with assurance of continued care.

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CLASSES FOR HOG RAISERS POPULAR

GRAND ISLAND, Feb. 7.—The fifth weekly meeting of the men interested in hog raising was held at the schoolhouse Thursday evening with Professor Burris L. Young in charge. The interest in these meetings has been continually growing and the attendance has gradually increased until the number has reached about 25.

Mr. Clausen, a representative of the Swift Packing company in Portland was present and gave some very interesting and valuable pointers on raising hogs for pork and profit.

The main question for the evening "Which is the better feed for fattening hogs, corn or barley?" presented a very instructive round table discussion. The final decision seemed to be that barley soaked in milk proved to be more satisfactory than the valley corn which has a tendency to be somewhat soft.

Next Thursday evening another representative from Swift's will be present to talk on the subject of minerals for hogs. All men who are interested in the subject are welcome at all of these meetings.

Mill City Has Threat of Snow

MILL CITY, Feb. 7.—The beautiful spring weather prevailing here for the last week Thursday turned into a real freeze and some indications predicted snow. However, it turned milder and a general rain relieved the populace from the prospects of a possible realization of immediate fulfillment of the predictions by Mr. Groundhog.

During the past week, there were frosts on Feb. 2 and 3, the maximum temperature was 60 above on Feb. 1, and the minimum temperature 26 above on the same day.

Bluebirds have been seen around here the past few days, according to reports of some of the natives, and they were gathering materials for building nests; some informants say, which, old timers say is invariably a sign of spring.

PLAY IS APPRECIATED

JEFFERSON, Feb. 7.—The high school play, "The daughter of the Duke of Ballyboe," under the direction of Miss Aurdina Medler, was put on in the Masonic hall Tuesday evening to a large and appreciative audience. The students who took part deserve much praise for the manner in which their parts were given. It was one of the best plays ever given by the students of the Jefferson high school. The door receipts were over \$50.

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