

The Valley Agriculturist and His Work

Markets -- Crops -- Farm Home -- Livestock

The Diversified Interests of
Willamette Valley Farmers

Editor's Note

Mrs. Madeline Callin, Valley News editor of the Oregon Statesman, on the 15th day of Sunday writes concerning the agricultural news of interest to valley farmers. Contributions are invited.

FARM CENSUS REPORTED

Size of Polk County Farms Has Increased in Past Ten Years

DALLAS, March 14.—A preliminary report of the federal farm census for Polk county gives a most interesting story of the farm situation during the past 10 years.

The year 1920 was the peak in value of land and buildings and land alone, also for average number of acres per farm. The value of horses, mules and hogs on farms were greater than at the present time. The average value per farm and per acre was greater in 1920 than in 1930. Also the value of land and buildings operated by owners, managers and tenants was higher than at the present time.

On the other hand the number of farms has increased from 1761 in 1920 to 1882 in 1930. The value of buildings has increased as well as implements and farm machinery. The average size of farms has increased and there are eleven operators of farms of over 1,000 acres. There are 33 more owners operating farms, managers have decreased by six, while there are 34 more tenant farmers. Owners are operating 11,132 acres more than in 1920, while managers and tenants are farming less acreage.

1910 High Point
The year 1919 was the high point for production of corn harvested for grain, oats threshed for grain, and wheat for feed. Production of barley, mixed grains and corn for silage has increased.

Milk cows have increased by 765, chickens 3,535 and cattle 1,344.

Dairy cattle have increased about 2,000 head in Columbia county in the past five years, says the St. Helens Sentinel. In the Nohem section the increase has been 300 per cent, and now with a cooperative dairy at Clatskanie the increase will continue. County Agent Nelson reports an advance movement among farmers in general and that more attention is being paid to cropping and small fruit raising and intensified farming. The poultry business is increasing and the sheep and goat industry has just fairly started.

Grand Island Shows Rapid Advance in Farm Methods During the Past 10 Years

By MRS. C. F. FERGUSON

GRAND ISLAND, March 13.—In the last decade many "advancements" have been made in the Grand Island community along the line of various projects such as market gardening, the raising of clover for seed and the growing of field corn both for ensilage and for the feeding of hogs. One of the more outstanding of these projects is the growing of field corn, the development of which has been primarily due to the increase in dairying and hog raising.

In the fall of 1920 an ear of corn was picked from a field on the George Letley place for seed purposes. After the entire field had been carefully sown over this special ear was selected to be among the very choicest. The measurements of the ear were eight inches in length, 6 1/2 inches around the butt and 4-3/4 inches around the tip.

It was thought to be well filled although the kernels were small in size. With the average height of the corn being about seven feet the farmer was exceedingly happy if his field yielded as high as 3 1/2 bushels per acre. After the silos were filled the meager surplus was husked out and fed to what few hogs were raised.

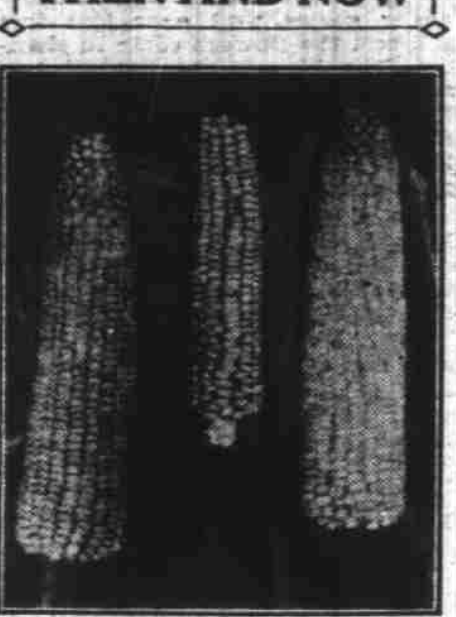
In the fall of 1930 two very choice ears were saved from a large field on the Charles Ferguson farm which joins the Letley place. One of these ears measured 11 1/2 inches in length, 8 1/2 inches around the butt end and 5-3/4 inches around the tip. The second ear measured 11 inches in length, 8 1/2 inches around the butt end and 5-3/4 inches around the tip.

Ears Well Filled
The ears were well filled with large kernels and the corn stalks all averaged at least 10 feet high while the summer one was found to measure exactly 13 feet and two inches in height. After the silos were filled the remaining acreage of corn was husked and stored for future use in the fattening of hogs during the winter months.

The month of October last year found Ernest Douglas husking out 15 acres of the finest corn grown. Charles Ferguson with 11 acres, Roy Clark with 10 acres, and C. A. Rockhill with seven acres. All of these fields were estimated to have averaged between 90 and 100 bushels per acre.

There are probably about three reasons for this development

THEN AND NOW



Center ear shows the best corn grown on Grand Island in 1920 while at right are ears of corn grown there in 1930.

which has set such a high standard. First, the type of corn grown has been changed to some extent. The seed now being used is a cross between the bloody butcher and the yellow dent. The second reason is the very careful selecting of seed from year to year, and third more thorough cultivating and tilling of the soil. The picture shows the choice ear of 1920 in the center with the two 1930 ears, one on each side.

KINGWOOD HOMES ENTERTAIN GUESTS

KINGWOOD, March 14.—Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Blevins were Mr. and Mrs. John Buckarech and children, John and Fred, of Salem. Afternoon guests were Mr. and Mrs. Albin Stewart, also of Salem and Mrs. Bonnie Grimm and son Bob, of Monmouth. Mrs. Grimm is taking post-graduate work at the Monmouth Normal school.

Recent guests of Mrs. Mary Lister at several different periods were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Elser and children, Bertha Pauline, Leo and Raymond; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mitchell, Mrs. Garfield Greenley and son Vernon, Mr. and Mrs. Sheets and daughter, all of Pleasant Point; Rev. Oscar Payne of Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Lister and Miss Ethel Hogan, all of Portland.

Mrs. B. B. Flack, with Mrs. George Bishop of Salem, spent the week-end at Cutler City.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kubin visited over the week-end in Portland as the guests of Mrs. Kubin's mother, Mrs. T. Kladek.

TURNER SPEAKS AT KIWANIS LUNCHEON

DALLAS, March 14.—R. R. Turner, city superintendent of schools, was speaker at the Kiwanis luncheon Friday noon when he discussed the Oregon education plan. He explained that the results would be from adopting this uniform plan in handling finances, records, equipment, buildings and programs of study suited to the aims of achievement for elementary and secondary school subjects.

Mr. Turner also explained the provisions of the free text book law and how it is planned to put it in operation in the Dallas schools. The present plan of school taxation and how the provisions of the free text book law and how it is planned to raise an additional \$1190 in Dallas this year to cover the cost of text books for the grade school pupils.

A number of members of the woman's club and chamber of commerce were present for the meeting. They are also invited to be guests for an evening meeting March 20, when pictures will be shown by the Hawaiian steamship company.

Alf O. Nelson Returns Home

SILVERTON, March 14.—Alf O. Nelson, who returned recently from a trip to see his mother, Mrs. O. G. Nelson in the Dakotas, who had suffered a stroke, has received word that she is now improving.

Mrs. Nelson is 76 years of age and never had a sick day until the first of the strokes which she suffered some time ago. She has now weathered two strokes and Nelson says that he has great hopes of her recovering from this.

Mrs. Nelson has mothered 11 children, has 43 grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.

POK 4-H CLUBS KEEP ACTIVE

One Group has Been at Work Nearly Twelve Years

DALLAS, March 14.—Activities among the boys' and girls' clubs of the county are well under way. The oldest continuous club in the county is that of the Independent club with seven members under the leadership of Mrs. Hugh Hanna. They have been working for 11 or 12 years. The Elkins club has eight members under Jesse Johnson. All of the boys and girls of these two clubs have one or more purebred Jerseys.

The Alrite district has a brand new club of five members under the direction of J. F. Wlenert. Another new club with seven members has been organized under the leadership of G. Yungert. They will have Guernseys and Holsteins, some will be registered and others grade animals for the first year.

One of the most successful poultry clubs in the history of the county club work, was that of the Orchard school district last year, working under direction of Henry Hoekstra, the northern corner honors at the state and county fair last year. This year they have 10 members with Mr. Hoekstra in charge.

STUDENTS PROFIT IN FARM WORK

WOODBURN, March 13.—Proof that good profit can be received from farming was brought out by final reports of the home projects courses of the 1929-30 season at Woodburn high school. The reports were sent to the state supervisor of agriculture this week by Ronald E. Burnett, instructor in vocational agricultural work. The projects reported on were started in the fall of 1929 and finished November 1, 1930.

Forty-one students finished project work, with an average profit of \$84.59. They allowed an average of \$23.34 for their own labor, giving a total average profit of \$112.93.

A gross profit of \$2,464.08 was made by the 41 students. Gross income totaled \$9,765.76 and expenses amounted to \$6,301.68, including all labor. Labor by the students themselves was estimated at \$1,161.39, so that actual income was a total of \$4,625.47.

The more profitable projects completed were with hogs, dairy cows where the milk was sold retail to neighbors, flax, canning beets and cucumbers, and sheep. Three projects showed a loss. Two of them involved cows that were poor producers. The cows were disposed of before the project was finished. The other project showed a loss with sheep. The sheep became infested with worms and low prices prevented any profit from sale. The sheep have been treated for the worms and are expected to be a source of profit yet.

Ask Death For Five Mutineers

JACA, Spain, March 14.—(AP)—Death for five and life imprisonment for 66 of the army officers implicated in last December's short-lived mutiny here was asked today as court martial of 77 officers began.

DAUGHTER IS BORN
LYONS, March 14.—Word was received here of the arrival of a baby girl at the G. Paul hospital, Monday, March 9. She has been named Carroll Marie.

REMEMBER WINTER

Home Gardens Planted With Canning in Mind VARIETY IS UNLIMITED

By ANNA KLAMPE
JEFFERSON, March 14.—Instead of "Are you going to have a garden?" the question now is, "How large a garden are you going to plant?" As a beginning the ground should be plowed, or spaded, first having much fertilizer spread as you can afford, and harrowed in opposite directions.

The harrowing should be done as near planting time as possible, in order to make a good start. The plan should then be made, on paper or in mind, of the general layout, the character of which must depend upon available space, and if the garden is to be run by yourself.

Almost all kinds of vegetables with the exception of potatoes, can be planted in a small garden. I do not think it wise to attempt potatoes unless there is lots of room.

Out of a small garden the housewife can get many vegetables for canning and this is always an important consideration when planting the home garden.

Of tomatoes, one should can all that are not used fresh, either plain or in the form of puree—the latter consisting of tomatoes cooked with a flavoring of onions, turnips, carrots, celery, all run through the meat chopper; parsley, cloves, and bay leaf added, and the whole rubbed

Poultry Business First to Recover From Depression; Future Prices to be Higher

By W. C. CONNER

(Editor Northwest Poultry Journal)
The fact that eggs have been selling at lower prices than for many years may be a blessing in disguise insofar as the extremely low prices were of the greatest assistance in cleaning up surplus storage holdings, and, no doubt, re-introducing the egg to the American appetite.

In general, the outlook is very much better than was expected 30 days ago. Advance orders for baby chicks show a healthy, though conservative demand. Much, of course, depends upon the weather but the remarkable open winter as experienced not only in the Mississippi valley but throughout the east and west, will have a tendency to stimulate chick buying. A downward revision of feed prices will also prove of great help.

Under normal conditions there is an annual output of over a million baby chicks from the Salem district. Last year the shipments, while a little below normal, were in the neighborhood of 1,750,000 baby chicks. The Salem Chickeries, C. N. Needham, manager, 300,000 baby chicks. The Willamette Valley hatchery, W. H. Park and sons, 150,000 baby chicks. Several smaller hatcheries including Ernie Flake's Petland and the Salem Petland shipped out several thousand chicks during the 1930 season and all are busy at this time filling orders, but the orders are not as large this season, nor will the volume of business, as a whole, come quite up to last year's average.

A gross profit from present indications. However, the baby chick business is proving better than was anticipated or predicted along about the first of the year when it looked rather discouraging. It is generally conceded now that late orders for April and May business is going to be quite satisfactory. This is the result of late market reports which are on the upward trend as a result of the complete cleanup of heavy storage stocks.

High Prices for Eggs
On Friday the following very encouraging item appeared in the Portland market report: "Everyone in the trade and those who watch its progress are of the opinion that egg prices are going to shoot high this fall as a result of the limited storage demand as well as decreasing poultry production."

Explosion Held Work of Thief; Blown to Bits

TULSA, Okla., March 14.—(AP)—Bellet was expressed by county investigators here that the explosion of 400 quarts of nitro glycerine in a magazine near Red Fort early Friday was caused by a thief who apparently was blown into bits.

Discovery of pieces of clothing and fragments of an automobile near the scene of the blast led to the conclusion that a thief probably stumbled after obtaining a quantity of the explosive from the magazine.

Yellow Rain in Jugoslavia Said Quakes Result

BELGRADE, Jugoslavia, March 14.—(AP)—Rain which stained with bright yellow the hats and clothes of pedestrians fell on Belgrade today.

The phenomenon was attributed to presence in the sky of dust lifted by recent earthquakes and borne northward by the wind.

One Slain When Smugglers War

GALVESTON, Tex., March 14.—(AP)—One man was shot to death and another seriously wounded here Friday in a gun fight on crowded downtown streets believed to have grown out of liquor smuggling operations.

Clarence "Ky" Gregory, 25, died in a hospital from bullet wounds. Mitchell "Miche" Frankovich, 31, was taken to a hospital in a serious condition.

Steamers Hit; Oiler Missing

NEW YORK, March 14.—(AP)—One man was missing and four were in hospitals tonight after the Mutual Towing line tug Britannia and the American Diamond line steamer Coahoma County, from Rotterdam, crashed in the North river.

Raymond Bristow, an oiler on the tug, was believed drowned, while the remainder of the seven-man crew were rescued.

Olympia Solons Yet Deadlocked

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 14.—(AP)—The legislative tug of war settled down to a real endurance contest tonight as house and senate leaders agreed the overtime session of the 1931 legislature could not end until a late hour tomorrow at the earliest.

GUATEMALA SHAKEN
GUATEMALA CITY, March 14.—(AP)—Violent earthquakes occurring at intervals since last night, have caused considerable alarm in Guatemala.

GRAIN VARIETIES ARE NUMEROUS

County Agent Gathers Facts as to Best Types

DALLAS, March 14.—Interesting information on the varieties of wheat, oats and barley being grown in the Willamette valley has been given out by J. R. Beck, county agent. Thirty-four varieties of wheat, 37 of oats and 11 of barley are listed, out of which only about six varieties of wheat, three or four of oats and two of barley are suitable.

Almost all of the Polk county farmers are using for fall wheat, white Holland, Jenkins club, pink and white winter, as this stands more of a chance for profit. In nearly every case they are using the best three varieties for the wheat acreage, three of oats and two of barley.

For the best returns on barley O. A. C. No. 7 and Hannchen are recommended. Green winter is the favorite for oats, with three grain in second place while many farms are giving attention to Kanota oats.

15 CENT OLEO TAX IN WASHINGTON

Governor Hartley Signs Bill Carrying Emergency Clause

OLYMPIA, March 14.—The oleomargarine bill, proposing a tax of 15 cents per pound on all butter substitutes sold within the state became law March 9, when it was signed by Governor Roland Hartley. The bill, carrying an emergency clause as it does, becomes effective immediately.

The bill, when passed by the senate on February 2 by a vote of 34 to 7, carried the stock emergency clause stating it was necessary for the immediate preservation of the peace and safety of the state and its existing institutions.

When carried to the house, its sponsors changed the clause in hopes of making it air-tight, because of opinions expressed that the court might not hold the bill as being an emergency measure.

"Whereas, the revenues of the state are insufficient to support the state government and its existing public institutions as at present organized, and this act will furnish additional and necessary revenues now required by this state, and will aid in the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety; therefore, this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and support of the state government and its existing public institutions

LAMBING SEASON IS FAVORABLE

DALLAS, March 14.—A real help to sheep men with the problems encountered during lambing period is a leaflet prepared by Dr. J. N. Shaw of the state college, and which may be secured from the office of the county agent. Some of the subjects covered are stiffness, lameness, scours and sore mouths.

This has been a very favorable season for lambing. Seth Fawk of Oak Grove reported that he had 26 lambs from the first 14 ewes. T. Ottinger on the Hawkins and Roberts place north of Independence, reported that for over 600 ewes, the percentage of saved lambs was over 120. Ewes are said to be in good condition and lambs should be ready for an early market so as to command highest prices.

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Garden Combinations Very Important if Full Soil Value Is Obtained in Small Space

The average amateur gardener finds it rather a puzzling and difficult task in figuring his garden on paper to figure out practical combinations of vegetables which it is necessary to do to obtain full use of the producing capabilities of the soil. As an aid to planning, a number of combinations which have been tried out successfully are set down:

Cauliflower, lettuce, radishes—early cauliflowers in rows three feet apart. Between the rows plant a row of lettuce. Between the lettuce and the cauliflowers sow a row of radishes. This would give you the following distances: cauliflower, 9 inches; radishes, 9 inches; lettuce, 9 inches; radishes, 9 inches, then the second row of cauliflower.

Cucumbers, peas, radishes—dwarf peas in double or single rows 4 to 6 feet apart, radishes in rows 6 to 8 inches apart, and between rows of peas and later hills of cucumbers in rows midway between the rows of peas.

Carrots, parsnips, spinach, lettuce or radishes—plant carrots or parsnips in rows 2 feet apart, or in alternating rows 2 feet apart. Midway between the first two rows plant radishes, lettuce in the second two rows and spinach in the third two rows.

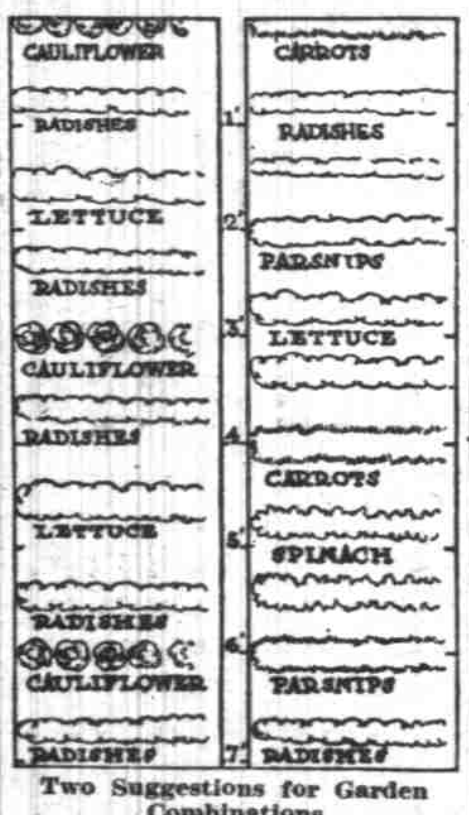
Beans, spinach and radishes—spinach in rows 2 feet apart. Midway between rows of spinach plant radishes. When radishes are harvested let their row be planted to strings of beans.

Tomatoes, cauliflower or broccoli, spinach, radishes—set cauliflower or Italian broccoli early in rows four feet apart, one foot apart in the rows. One foot each side of cauliflower or broccoli plant rows of spinach plant radishes between spinach and cauliflower or broccoli. Midway between rows of cauliflower or broccoli set tomato plants when weather is warm and radishes and spinach are out of the way.

Spinach, radishes and peppers—plant spinach in rows 2 1/2 feet apart. Between rows plant one of two rows of radishes and when radishes have been used set pepper plants midway of the rows and two feet apart.

Spinach, beets, radishes—spinach in rows 2 1/2 feet apart. Midway between rows of spinach plant a row of beets and between rows of spinach and beets a row of radishes.

Sow Seeds in Rows
The experienced and skillful gardener long since discarded the old time method of broadcast sowing of seed as wasteful and inefficient and a method bound to cause the greatest trouble and loss of plants. Sow seed in rows spaced sufficiently far apart to make transplanting easy. Also sow the seed thinly in the rows with an eye to transplanting with the least loss and least check in growth of the young plants. If you can take up the little plant with slight disturbance to its root system it will re-establish itself quickly when transplanted. The great advantage of sowing



Two Suggestions for Garden Combinations

in rows is that there can be no mistaking weeds for the plants. Weeds between the rows can be pulled as fast as they appear. The rows should be plainly marked, the plant labels sold chiefly by the hundred at seed stores are ideal for this purpose and a stock of them should always be kept on hand for the purpose of marking plants and seed rows in the garden.

For fine seeds, a mere line on the surface of the soil is necessary, pressing the seed into the soil, a brick being an excellent tool for this purpose. Rows for larger seeds should be made deeper according to size, the only danger of this is that at all practical being to cover them to a depth of twice their diameter. In sowing seeds that are large enough to handle easily space them a quarter of an inch apart or even an eighth in order that they can be transplanted without destroying a large number of them which always happen when seed is sown so thickly the plants come up in bunches.

Sow all the fine seeds which need the most care and protection in one part of the seedbed so all may be cared for with one operation in the way of covering or shading. Also it is an excellent plan to plant seeds that germinate at about the same time in adjoining rows, grading across the bed in order of their time of germination. Most catalogues will give an indication of the time of germination and the seed packets contain the same information.

Some seeds germinate in from three to five days under favorable conditions, but the vast majority need a week or more. Have screens and shades ready to protect the seed bed as soon as it is planted. This will save many plants.