

WILLAMETTE FARMER

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STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The adjourned meeting of the Society to consider matters connected with preventing the spread of orchard pests, was held in this city on Saturday. Mr. Dunne was presented with different works published in California and copies of laws of that State on this subject.

Mr. Hayden, of San Francisco, who is local officer there, to act in disinfecting and destroying insects injurious to fruit, happening to be in our city, by request read an essay of great interest relating to the dear bought experience of orchardists and vineyardists of that State as follows:

MR. HAYDEN'S ADDRESS.

Mr. President and Members of the Horticultural Society:—I have been invited to address you to consider ways and means for improving the condition of the fruit growing industries and other lines of business dependant upon them. Most prominent among the things to which your attention is called is the need of practical means of exterminating insect pests now infesting the orchards and gardens of the State. To those not intimately connected with fruit growing and insect attacks the call for this meeting has probably been strange reading, and perhaps some of you veteran horticulturists have come here with honest doubts as to the need of and the good that can come of it.

Let us review briefly the history of the industry in question and glance at its present condition and probable future, and see whether we have before us a subject worthy of consideration. Among the first acts of the early pioneers that came to Oregon was the planting of orchards. They not only wished to replace the comforts of civilized life which they had left behind them, but well understood what a hold bearing fruit trees would give them in a country so far removed from civilization. The vine and fruit tree ever have been and will be the emblems of contentment and home thrift. Those early planted trees thrived, and, although mostly of inferior varieties, they showed this land to be well adapted to some of the most important species known to man. But a few years ago your trees and fruits were noted for beauty and freedom from blemish through insect attacks; now these tiny adversaries are but too well known to you, and their number is legion. Large and valuable parts of the State are already infested and they are rapidly spreading over more territory. Whence came these insects? Most of them were imported on trees, vines, and vines, but a large portion came from California, hid in the fruit and crevices of boxes, scattering broadcast over your land, something as much to be dreaded in your orchards as the yellow fever or smallpox would be to your families or homes. It is unnecessary for me to speak of the amount of damage that may be done to your fruit crop, especially apples and pears, by these pests. Unfortunately it is too well known to all parties interested in fruit growing and the various branches of business connected with that industry, and in order to impress upon your minds the necessity of an immediate warfare for the extermination of these pests. I will state the experience of some of the commissioners of the horticultural boards of California. One says, "I have visited all the orchards in my district and find three-fourths of the entire crop of this season has been destroyed by the codling moth." Another says that in his district the crop of pears, apples and quinces will not amount to one-third of the value of 1880.

From these statements, I assure you that they are not exaggerated, the prospects of the fruit growing industry are not encouraging. The system of fruit growing as practiced in your State by a large number of your orchardists may be termed the go-as-you-please order, and has produced a chaos from which order can only be restored by the aid of legislation, and such legislation can be obtained, and the object of the meeting is to construct a solid foundation upon which can be organized a united warfare for the extermination of those evils which through negligence have been allowed to spread throughout your orchard and fruit growing countries of your State. Let it be distinctly understood that no longer will orchard property be allowed to be kept, as it were, for the express purpose of propagating insect pests, and to spread contagion in the neighborhood where such property is located. Such places should be declared a public nuisance. The shipments of fruits or other transportable material infested by insect pests should no longer be allowed without incurring the penalties of law.

Since ignorance can no longer be pleaded, strict quarantine laws should be made and enforced to secure the best results in this effort and to improve the condition of your fruit interests. There must be a clear understanding of what is aimed at and a cordial co-

operation among all parties interested. Many of our States have laws requiring land owners to prevent thistles from going to seed on their premises. Michigan has a law to control the spread of the disease of the peach known as the yellows, which served largely as a model for the California horticultural bill. You have a law in your own State that compels the washing of sheep that are scabby.

Where can you find a country with such a list of fruits as you are able to produce? and will you sit idly down and see them destroyed? Your sister State is already battling with the foe. She has her laws and they are being enforced. Orchards that two years ago were deemed only fit to cut down and be destroyed are now being reclaimed, and in some instances where the land owners had offered to part with land for one-fourth of its original cost, you could not buy them to-day for double the amount, and all this has been in one year under the horticultural law.

You have it in your power before it is too late to stop the spread of these insect pests. Will you do it? If so, now is your time to act. Your Legislature is now in session; see that a bill is drawn that will put a check to the increase of these pests, and then see that these already here are destroyed. I know that the Chief of the Horticultural Office of California, Matthew Cooke, will give all the assistance in his power, and although some of California's laws are somewhat defective, you must remember that it was something new, and impossible to make perfect on the start; but you can make use of her experience and avoid the difficulties she has had to encounter.

It is but a short time before you will be in direct communication with the East by railroad. Canneries will spring up; a demand will be created for dried fruits, and by rapid transit an avenue will be opened along the line for green fruits. I can predict that fruit growing in Oregon is only in its infancy. With the advent of canneries will come an industry in every way desirable, giving employment directly to thousands and indirectly to tens of thousands of people. Boxes and baskets call for timber and nails; cans for tin and solder; labels for paper, ink and paint; and in transportation, wagons, trains of railroad cars, steamers and ships play their part. What good citizen can be indifferent to the welfare of an industry which keeps so many hands busy? What taxpayer can afford to have it languish?

The amount of money expended by the orchardists of California for the year 1882, in clearing their orchards, will not fall short of \$150,000, and in some instances as high as \$4,000 have been expended by single individuals.

I will close by giving you a sentiment, which will, I trust, meet with your approval: The horticultural industries of Oregon, they must and shall be preserved.

As a result of the deliberations of the meeting the following bill was drawn up as the expression of the views and wishes of the society, and one secretary was instructed to see that the same was presented for action of the Legislature, now in session. This bill presents many changes and additions to the one previously published as intended to be introduced, and the full text is now given:

A BILL FOR AN ACT

To protect and promote the horticultural interests of the State.

Be it enacted by the legislative assembly of the State of Oregon.

Section 1. Whenever a petition is presented to the board of the county commissioners of any county, and signed by five or more persons who are resident freeholders and possessors of orchards, stating that certain or all orchards, or nurseries or trees of any variety are affected with codling moth or scale bug, or other insects that are destructive to trees or fruit, and praying that a commissioner be appointed by said board whose duty it shall be to supervise the destruction of such insects, as hereinafter provided, the board of county commissioners shall, within twenty days thereafter, appoint some resident of that county to act as such commissioner for said county, who shall be known as county horticultural commissioner, and shall exercise the duties of that office as hereinafter described, for the term of three years.

Sec. 2. The county horticultural commissioner shall give bonds, in the sum fixed by the county commissioners of each county, that he will discharge the duties of that office faithfully and impartially.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the county horticultural commissioner, whenever he shall be informed by any person, or learn by his own knowledge, that an orchard, or nursery, or trees, or fruit, or any fruit-packing house, storeroom, saleroom, or any place in his jurisdiction, is infested with scale bug, codling moth, or other noxious insects, or their eggs or larvae, known to be injurious to fruit or trees, and liable to spread contagion, he shall cause an inspection to be made of the said premises, and if found infested, he shall notify the owner or owners, or the person or persons in charge or possession of the said trees, or places, as aforesaid, that the same are infested with said insects, or any of them, or their eggs or larvae and shall require such person or persons to disinfect the same by

destruction of such insects, larvae or eggs, within a certain time to be specified. If, within such specified time, such disinfection has not been accomplished, the said person or persons shall be required to make application of such treatment for the purpose of destroying them as said commissioner shall prescribe. Said notices shall be served upon the person or persons owning or having charge or possession of such infested trees, or places, or articles as aforesaid, by the commissioner, in the same manner as a summons is served in a civil action. If the owner or owners, or the person or persons in charge or possession of any orchard, or nursery, or trees or places, or articles infested with said insects, or any of them or their larvae or eggs, after having been notified as above to make application of treatment as directed, shall fail, neglect or refuse so to do, he or they shall be deemed guilty of maintaining public nuisance, and any such orchards, nurseries, trees, or places, or articles thus infested, shall be adjudged, and the same is hereby declared a public nuisance and may be proceeded against as such. If found guilty the court shall direct the aforesaid county horticultural commissioner to abate the nuisance. The expenses thus incurred shall be a lien upon the personal property of the defendant.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of said county horticultural commissioner to keep record of his official doings, and report the same to the county board and also to the secretary of state, who shall incorporate the same in his biennial report.

Sec. 5. Each county commissioner may select one or more persons, without pay, to assist in the discharge of his duties, as he may deem necessary.

Sec. 6. Directions for treatment of trees, premises or articles infested, as described herein, shall be furnished by the commissioners of the county wherein the same shall be located.

Sec. 7. The compensation of the county horticultural commissioner shall be \$3 for each day actually employed in his duty as such commissioner, to be paid by the county wherein the same shall be located.

Sec. 8. Whereas there is danger of the spread of insects injurious to trees, orchards and fruits, this act shall take effect from and after its approval by the Governor.

GENERAL NOTES.

According to the *Minneapolis Tribune*, the Northern Pacific land department, which sent East last year an elegantly fitted up car, with a fine exhibit of the products of the country along the Northern Pacific line, has this year fitted up another new car for the same purposes, which is an improvement upon the other. This car will be sent out upon the road this week to be stocked for the south-western exposition at Minneapolis and will afterward go to Chicago and St. Louis.

The work of seeding the broad acres of Kureka Flat, W. T., goes bravely on in spite of the lack of rain. Over a thousand acres of land have been sown in that region already and more is being sown daily.

An immigrant came driving into Walla Walla recently with a single mule, and a small one at that, hitched to a light wagon. Our informant says the man told him that he drove that animal in the way you see all the way from Kansas.

William Cochran & Co. is probably doing the biggest logging business of any firm on Puget Sound. They have run two large camps all summer one on Lake Union and the other on Squak Slough. At the Lake Union camp 500,000 feet were put in the water for the month of August. The cut on the slough was large, the 1,700,000 feet now in Black river being all taken out at that camp. He is now opening a logging camp on the Adam Tash place, where he expects to run all winter with from 15 to 22 men and eight yoke of cattle.

A Washington Territory paper correspondent writing about the Willamette valley says: We learn that the Willamette valley crops are better than for six years past. Among the extensive wheat growers may be mentioned Joseph Watt, Charles Burch and William Thurman, of Amity. Ebenezer Kite, Perrydale, has this season threshed 50,000 bushels. The West Side railroad track is now being well ballasted. The Yaquina and Prineville railroad is being pushed forward. The presumption is that it will connect with the eastern roads of Jay Gould. A fine bed of coal has been found about twenty miles east of Albany.

Immigration is beginning to drift into Colville valley this year. It seems to be generally supposed that the Northern Pacific branch to Kettle Falls will be among the first feeders to be built, as the Canadian Pacific would doubtfully use it in the construction of its line east and west in the crossing of the Columbia. This is the more probable since the selection of a pass through the Selkirk range only 140 miles north of the boundary line. The Columbia is navigable about 250 miles north of Kettle Falls, and the road from Spokane Falls to the latter point would be only about 100 miles long. Rumor has it that Hallett's force has but two more months' work ahead and where that force next goes is a question of vital importance to this part of Washington Territory.—*Spokane Chronicle*.

Correspondence.

TAXATION AND INTEREST.

POLK COUNTY, Or., Sept. 9, 1882.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

We see in the *FARMER*, of Sept. 5th, a well written article, headed "Taxation and Interest." But it seems to us, Mr. Editor, that you, too, have fallen into the error that taxation and interest are united, or directly go hand in hand. Let us investigate this matter a little to see who is right or wrong, or whether we are both wrong. A certain amount of taxes have to be levied annually for State and county purposes. An assessor comes around and assesses all property, both real and personal, notes and accounts, etc. But now the assessor comes to a man, who owns a farm of 320 acres of land, 200 acres of which is under cultivation, 120 brush pastural land. The cultivated land is assessed at \$15 per acre, (all it can bear at present) and the woodland at \$4 per acre, (more than much of it is worth.) This man says he owns personal property worth \$1,500; now add all together, and the assessment comes to just \$4,980. A pretty, fair showing for a man in this world's goods; but behold, he claims \$5,000 indebtedness—this must be deducted for the Courts have said so, and that man pays no taxes whatever, though his children draw school money levied on his neighbor. He neither helps build, or repair school houses, nor does he work the road, as he is just a little over 50 years old, but does all the grumbling for the whole road district, because the roads are not worked to better advantage. His neighbors live economically, pay their debts, and keep out of debt, and have taxes to pay on all the property they own. The debt of the man, above set up, is secured by mortgage, and the mortgage is on record with the county clerk; but the notes have gone to Frankfort-on-the-Main, where we fear, our assessor does not go. What manner of business is that? If a man, in his private affairs, were to follow that style of business, we fear he would soon alight in the county poor house. As we have seen any where the grass grows is being done, let us see now, how to provide a remedy. Land cannot, at present, be assessed higher than its being done, so no farm yields over 4 per cent. land income, when wheat is only 80 cents per bushel. Nor would that provide a remedy for the evil. Our Legislature should provide an entirely new assessment law. First, that law should provide the assessor with a blank for every man to be assessed, with a printed call and affirmation on each blank. Secondly, the law should make it obligatory for every man assessed, to sign his full name to either the oath or affirmation, after stating, if indebted, to whom, whether secured by mortgage or judgment, and of course, also, the amount of indebtedness. Now provide that the assessor proceed to the records of the county, and assess all the mortgages or judgments then recorded and not canceled. If the assessor finds a case, where a man swears to an outright falsehood, make it his duty to report the case to the prosecuting attorney, and let the clerk of the county courts be prohibited from canceling any mortgage or judgment, without a receipt in full of all taxes levied on such mortgage or judgment. Nearly all the wrong is being done by debts, secured by mortgage, which latter pays at present not a cent of taxes in our State, as the notes take wings and fly to Egypt. But we have a copy of the notes and the security for the same on record, where it must be taxed, if taxed at all. Now, Mr. Editor, do you say that such a system would raise the interest on money? I think not! But suppose it did! Shall four-fifths of the tax payers suffer an injustice to relieve one-fifth of money lenders from all taxes? Do justice to all, and let interest take care of itself, for it is able of doing so.

REPLY.

We agree with Mr. Eilers in every word he has said. If we retain the present law let us tax the mortgage or the debt that has been set off against taxes, and if taxes cannot be collected from the money-lenders then not allow the deduction for indebtedness. We say with him: tax the property, or its encumbrance, where the property is located. We fully recognize all the evils he recites and appreciate the force of his arguments, but we only incidentally connected interest with taxation, and with his permission will again renew our suggestion, for it was only a suggestion and not an argument. We do not say that deduction for debt should be abolished, but show what might be expected if it was abolished.

Our position is this: Ten millions of money evades tax. Money always has and will evade tax. It is demoralizing that it does so. The State and county lose heavily and tax comes heavier on honest men, because dishonest men evade tax. Is it not better to change the law so that there will be no inducement for fraud, if it can be done? Can it be done without hardship to borrowers? It is claimed that if mortgages are not taxed money will come here abundantly, and interest will be lowered so as to fully compensate the debtor for the tax he pays. As of proof this we quoted that money on good real estate mortgage is abundant in California at 6 to 8 per cent.

We hope that Mr. Eilers and others will see the force of this proposition and not misjudge the *FARMER'S* suggestion, for it is only a suggestion. If we had positive views we should boldly set them forth. The *FARMER*

never shrinks. But we are not yet satisfied, as we have not time to investigate the subject thoroughly. We are unfortunate in having to deduct indebtedness from assessment, so our interests are enlisted on the popular (or unpopular) side of this matter, but we rather feel willing to risk carrying out the suggestion we offered last week.

MORE ABOUT GRASSES.

SILVERTON, Or., Sept. 11, 1882.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

I have taken a very great interest in reading your paper, and especially your articles on "Pastures and Pasture Grasses," and am in accord with your views that farmers as a class farm too much of their land to grain.

I wish to seed 25 acres to grass this fall with wheat on summer fallow, and would like your advice, and also the experience of your subscribers who are able to advise, as to the best kinds of grasses and clovers, and the best time to sow the same, whether in the fall or spring.

My land is the "red hill," and this particular piece is of a light nature.

I have been advised that timothy and orchard grasses do better if sown in the fall, while some other grasses, such as the clovers, do better if sown in the spring.

I would like to hear from yourself and others as to the value of "Rye grass," the Mammoth White clover and Kentucky Blue grass, with a description of the nature and character of the English Rye grass for a permanent pasture.

Hoping to hear the subject of grasses more fully argued, I remain,

Very respectfully,
"OCCASIONAL."

REPLY.

Friend Mascher asks us rather a difficult question. Our assortment of grasses was chosen, with a view to the land being especially made ready for sowing in the spring, say the latter part of March. How such an assortment will do sown on summer-fallowed land, after wheat is another thing. We submit that part of his inquiry to farmers, who have had that sort of experience. It is true that some grasses do well, or tolerably well, with wheat, but what those kinds are we are not prepared to say. We have readers who can answer that inquiry, and by so doing they will confer a favor to others, besides Mr. Mascher.

The English perennial rye grass is very valuable for pasture. It grows thickly, comes early in the spring, makes a large quantity of fodder of a good character; and Mr. Minto gives it the preference over any other grass for that purpose. Will not some one conversant answer the inquiry more in full than we can do?

Concerning the Mammoth White clover, we can give no information, save that we have heard about it, but not in detail. Some one else can write about that also.

Kentucky Blue grass is found to do well in some parts of this valley in the spring and early summer, but does not keep on growing. It dries up through the summer and fall. While it does to mix with other grasses for a variety, it is not a grass to do alone, as orchard grass, perennial rye grass, or velvet grass (miscalled Mosquito.)

Rye grass and English Rye grass are probably identical with the perennial rye grass we have already alluded to.

We ask correspondents to reply to Mr. Mascher's questions in full.

Lane County Fair.

MOHAWK, Or., Sept. 20, 1882.

Editor Willamette Farmer:

The first annual fair of the Lane County Agricultural Society will be held Thursday and Friday, October 5th and 6th, on the Coast Fork, on the farm of J. R. Sellers. Much interest is being manifested by the farmers of this county in making a varied and important exhibition of farming products. There is to be no entrance or admission fees, but an absolutely free exhibition of farm and manufacturing products. To the people of Lane County will be afforded an opportunity of meeting together in pleasant rivalry and compare ideas as well as the products of field and shop. Like an oyster in its shell and embedded in the solid rock are many of our farmers walled in by their unchangeable ideas, notions and methods, and all the agricultural papers, lectures and schools in Christendom could not cure them. But a comparison of systems, methods and plans, with their corresponding results, cannot but effect a lodgment in a brain though it were encased in adamant. We will bring all classes together and force the slovenly into better methods of farming by showing them their own foolishness, and make them adopt better systems from sheer necessity. Give them something to think about, instead of listening to saloon bummers' talk. Create in them—if not in

them, at least in their children—a desire to do something and be somebody. We will, at least, do our best to enlighten and aid farmers towards better ways.

J. S. CHURCHILL, Secretary.

Fruit Farming.

MOHAWK, Or., Sept. 20, 1882.

Editor Willamette Farmer:
Mr. Bradford decidedly objects to my estimate of the cost and profit of fruit farming. First, as to the cost of planting land, etc. He asks: "Where can we find land suitable for orchards at \$2 50 per acre?" And second: "Where can we find men who will purchase trees, plant and cultivate them at the figures named?" Well, Mr. B., will you contract for the purchase of land, planting of trees, cultivation of orchard, etc., at figures named? I have not a copy of the *FARMER* containing my estimate, but can approximate from a memorandum at hand:

Land \$2 50 per acre	\$ 2 50
Cost of trees 20 cents	30 00
Setting do 10 cents	15 00
fencing 50 cents	5 00
cultivating ten years	50 00
Total cost	\$102 50

ESTIMATE OF PROFITS.

Sixth year, 20 cents per tree	\$ 30 00
Seventh year, 30c per tree	45 00
Eighth year, 30c per tree	45 00
Ninth year, \$1 per tree	150 00
Tenth year, \$1 per tree	150 00
Total returns	\$420 00
Present worth of land	300 00
	\$720 00

Balance in favor of grower \$617 50
Now, Mr. Bradford, I did not make the former estimate from my own experience altogether, but from statements in the *FARMER* and other papers, and instead of correcting the exaggerated items, you simply give a growl or two, and let the matter drop, which, whether intended or not, tends to deter our people from engaging in that business. Why did you not, a practical fruit man, make proper estimates from your own experience and enlighten the public? Why not endeavor to encourage the upbuilding of all industries profitable to its owners and of value to the State and its people? Is there not room for more fruit farmers, room for intelligent, pains taking people of all classes? I mean no offense, of course, but think we can discuss this and other matters energetically without getting our "dander up."

J. S. CHURCHILL.

Yakima Hop Crop.

At your suggestion I write you concerning the hop interests of Yakima county. Hops were first raised here in 1874, and the business has been gradually growing ever since. The first yard planted was that of Charles Carpenter, who is considered, as he really is, the father of the hop industry here, both on account of his having started the business, and also because he brought with him an experience in the business that has had a marked effect in keeping up the standard of Yakima hops, which are quoted as high, and are as good in quality as any in the world. The climate of Yakima is peculiarly adapted to the culture of hops, the average yield counting all yards, good and indifferent, will not fall short of fifteen hundred pounds to the acre, while as high as three thousand pounds have been raised on a single acre, and some yards have averaged as high as one ton. The yield this year is fair, and perhaps as good as usual, and will reach about sixteen hundred pounds. The total acreage at present is about 85 acres, distributed as follows: Charles Carpenter, 10 acres; George Carpenter, 17 acres; H. M. Benton, 10 acres; H. Wiley, 12 acres; J. R. Filbin, 6 acres; A. D. Egin, 10 acres; Jackson (planted this year), 10 acres; A. Durgan, 8; total, 83 acres. Hops bear a full crop the second year after planting. Of the foregoing 73 acres are in full bearing the present year, which, at the average of 1,600 pounds for the present year, at 40 cents per pound, which they will doubtless bring, over and above all expenses, will make a total income on hops of \$46,720. This industry will grow in importance from the fact that hops will bear transportation by wagon, while cereals raised here will not, although the yield of all crops is very large. The present prices will stimulate those who have not engaged in the business to do so, and will prevent those already in the business from deserting it. Hops fluctuate in value, and for this reason several raisers, a few years ago when prices were low, planted their hops; but those that have followed the business one year after another are getting rich, and so may any one that will patiently follow it up. The price for picking hops from the vines is 70 cents per box. There can be no prettier scene imagined than one of our hop fields in picking time. Indians are largely utilized for this kind of work. The picturesque trappings of the dusky sons of the forest, together with all ages of the wearers are seen all over the hop plantation, while the trailing vines, trained upward by cultivation, are surmounted with rich clusters of golden hops.—*Cor. Gazette*.