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How happy is he born and taught
That serveth not another's will;
Whose armor is his honest thought,
And simple truth his utmost skill?
—This man is freed from servile hands
O' hope to rise, or fear to fall;
Lord of himself, though not of lands;
And having nothing, yet hath all.
—Sir Henry Walton.

THE TOLSTOI OF OREGON.

One of the most remarkable scientists and industrial students in Oregon is Professor A. B. Leckenby, superintendent of the Oregon Experimental farm at Union.

Professor Leckenby lives closer to nature, and is more conversant with her various moods and meanings, probably, than any other man on the Pacific coast.

He is proud to call farming an art, and prouder still, to call all true, thinking farmers, artists. He believes and has proved by a long and varied experience, that plant life and the earth, are but clay in the hands of man, to be shaped and directed at his will.

By studying the growth, life, movements, adaptability, diseases, joys and developments of plants, he has learned and determined to his own satisfaction, that their lives are closely allied to human life, in its progress through the various stages of existence.

Plants love certain conditions and thrive under those conditions with actual joy, expressed to the observant eye, in vigorous development, and healthy advancement.

They have individual characteristics, like humans. All potatoes are not the same. There are sick, dissatisfied potatoes, just as there are humans tainted with those peculiarities. If the soil is not adapted to their growth, plants sicken and wither and pine away, just as a consumptive or an asthmatic person, in a climate unsuited to their disease. There must be intelligent cultivation and systematic care, to preserve the life of plants, and cause them to yield the best returns, just as there must be care and attention to a growing family.

Most of the failures in farming he attributes to ignorance of these vital fundamental principles of farming. Too many men think that a seed should produce and multiply, under any conditions, and the failure of the abused seed to bring returns, is called crop failures, or is attributed to the unfavorable climate or soil, when the trouble is too often with the farmer.

The object of the experiment station, is to study the soils and plants of Oregon, and find which crop will yield the greatest returns to the farmer, under certain intelligent lines of cultivation, and in certain soils. Farming is a progressive science. The scientific farmer can improve his crops from year to year by the selection of good seed and the improvement of his individual plants by care and tender solicitude.

Professor Leckenby lives the simple life of the farmer, in the minutest detail. He believes farming to be the most ennobling of the sciences, for the reason that the farmer who grasps his occupation and converts it into a work of joy, is independent. The earth can be made to produce every luxury, and there is no adulteration in the workshop and alchemy of nature.

Health, vigor, intelligence, independence, wisdom, experience, and contentment are to be found in the cultivation of the soil, and the rush of mankind should be reversed, and instead of the country boy losing himself in the abysses called cities, the chil-

dren of the cities should rush to the tree life of the country.

Professor Leckenby is a lover and follower of the great Russian philosopher, Tolstoi, and like that great man, loves and studies the little things of life and nature. A scientist and an expert in his line of activity, he despises notoriety. Discoverer of the art of expressing colors in photographs, and the inventor of a plow, which can be drawn by one-third the power required to draw the modern "horse-killers," he yet refused to patent his inventions, saying: "I am not a discoverer; they just came to me, and I am surprised to think I have failed to see the simple principles behind them so long."

It is interesting and inspiring to watch him among his plants and flowers at the farm. He caresses them and calls them by familiar names, just as a father would talk to a son. He watches the development of each specie and plant closely, and knows in an instant when something is wrong.

Ex-Governor T. T. Geer, in his remarks before the irrigation association, said that while in Missouri last winter, working in the interest of a Lewis and Clark Fair appropriation, he incidentally called attention to Umatilla county wheat crop of 1897, which amounted to about 5,000,000 bushels, or one per cent of the entire wheat crop of the United States, that year. The fact seems so fabulous to the Missourians and so many expressions of surprise and wonder were made by men of experience and knowledge, that after telling that true story about Oregon, and hearing such broad insinuations regarding his veracity, he always cut the truth half in two, when talking about Oregon after that. It seems unjust and unfair to the resources of the state, to think that citizens must really suppress the actual truth, when telling of its wonders in order to protect their reputations.

Every delegate to the recent irrigation convention, interviewed on the subject, expressed the intention of attending the next meeting of the National Irrigation Association, to be held at El Paso, Texas, in September, 1904. Those meetings are educational in a high degree, and Oregon must send a delegation to El Paso that will bring the 1905 congress to Portland, in order that the citizens of this state may have an opportunity of hearing the valuable proceedings of that national body.

THE SIZE OF THE LOAF.

Is there any scarcity of flour?
No; the granaries of our nation are overflowing.

But our loaves in Spokane are to be smaller?

Yes, an ounce or two to the loaf. What of it?

Why, do not poor people eat more bread than rich people?

Yes, and more potatoes and more bacon.

Bread is certainly cheap. It is almost as cheap as light and air. It is, in truth, the staff of life.

The Press hasn't the slightest adverse criticism of the plan of Spokane's bakers in clipping the size of the loaf. That's their business. Any law regulating the size or price is class legislation, objectionable to the democratic spirit of our country. The theory of all sound business is to buy as cheap as you can and sell for all the market will stand.

In clipping the size of the loaf, The Press does not for a moment believe that Spokane's bakers are trying to get all they can.

The condition was forced on the

HARD DRIVEN.

The mother slowly times her footsteps to those of her baby driver. Yet she is hard driven because not alone in the brief moments of play, but all day long must she keep pace with baby's wants and needs. Generally the mother who experiences a larger demand on her energies has less and less strength to respond. Sometimes she suffers from diseases peculiar to her sex, and often has never thoroughly recovered her strength after baby's coming.

For all women who are weakened by womanly diseases or who are run-down by maternal and household cares Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is commended as a medicine which promptly cures disease and restores the strength. It establishes regularity, dries weakening drains, heals inflammation and ulceration and cures female weakness. It is unexcelled as a tonic and

nervine for weak, run-down women. "If mothers who dread the baby's coming would take Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription they would find it a great help and benefit," writes Mrs. L. E. Henderson (President Milwaukee Woman's Literary Club, of 67 Grand Ave., Milwaukee, Wis. "After the birth of my first child I did not seem to regain my health, so began to take your medicine, and in two weeks I felt stronger and able to be about, so kept taking it for two months and found at the end of that time I had completely regained my usual health. I also found that it was of benefit to take a few months prior to baby's advent; in fact it is of great benefit in all forms of female weakness."

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bakers. It is not a question of profits, but of the right to live.

When the price or size of a loaf of bread is concerned it is high time for all classes, irrespective of race or party, to grow thoughtful.

Spokane, like all our nation, today presents a strange economic anomaly. Never were we more prosperous, never did nature pour out her abundance with more lavish hand, yet never in the history of our city or country was the cost of living higher.

In other words, the law of supply and demand is reversed; and with an overflowing market, prices have gone far above the timber line.

Now bread is the staff of life. A loaf is certainly cheap; cheap as air.

The point is right here: When it is necessary for bakers to clip the size, in order to meet living expenses, the era of high prices has reached the summit.

Between the unprecedented demand of the Spanish war, and the grasping hand of the great trusts, prices have soared beyond all marks in American history.

Therefore, the Press draws this lesson: That bread, the most necessary, cheapest food, going up in price, or falling in weight, is a forewarning that a great economic change will soon be coming; that, in a word, our country must seek a new scale of prices, else the wage earner will no longer be able to keep body and soul together.—Spokane Press.

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