

CONSERVING MOISTURE FOR INLAND EMPIRE FARMS

- How to Save Moisture in Soil.
- This may be done and good crops may be grown every season, over the greater part of the inland empire, by—
- 1. Fall disk land that is to be summer fallowed the following season.
- 2. Fall plow and leave rough land that is to be seeded to spring crops, oats, wheat, barley, corn, potatoes, etc., etc.
- 3. Put a mulch on all your land in early spring, so far as possible.
- 4. In all spring and summer plowing work down daily, rolling down with some compacting tool of the subsurface packer type.
- 5. Subsequent cultivation should be sufficient to keep soil clean of weeds, and covered with loose dry mulch. The knife type of harrow is best for this purpose.

Among the concentrated addresses on farm subjects given by the instructors on the farming demonstration train over the O. R. & N. lines in the Palouse country last March, was one by Prof. Geo. Severance, agronomist of the state college at Pullman. Professor Severance said:

The previous speakers have been urging the importance of growing a crop on our land every year, but with the majority of farmers the rainfall is not sufficient to grow a crop annually. Careful experimentation has shown that we have enough to grow abundant crops every year is a fair proportion can be caught and held in the soil to feed the growing crop, and I am going to suggest a few practices that will help to save this moisture.

First, the precipitation of fall and winter must be caught and allowed to percolate deep into the soil. Land that has been fall disked or fall plowed will catch much more moisture than land left hard at the surface.

In one investigation on the College Farm soil, soil with a loose surface was found to have taken up three times as much moisture as soil six rods away on the sand slope, but with a fine surface. We suggest, therefore, fact if land is to be summer fallowed it be disked in the fall. If the land is to be put in corn, potatoes or other spring crop, fall plow instead of disk and leave rough. The water will be caught more completely, the rush of work the following spring will be relieved, the weathering of the soil will improve its physical condition, the forming of the furrow, which should be done on spring plowing to prevent drying out, and must be done at considerable expense for labor is done, in case of fall plowing by the packing effect of fall and winter rains at no expense to the farmers.

Loose Earth on Surface.

Second, after spring opens up the moisture of the soil evaporates very rapidly from the surface and pumps up from below as fast as it evaporates from the surface, as oil moves up a lamp wick. Experiments have shown that if we work up three inches of loose, dry and moderately fine earth on the surface, this loss may be quite largely overcome because moisture will not draw upward through moist soil, nor coarse soil as fast as through fine, nor through loose soil as fast as compact.

Stubble land that is to be plowed during late spring or summer should be disked as early as the soil is fit to work in spring, to form the desired soil mulch. If the disk breaks the surface into chunks it should be harrowed to break up the chunks. Farmers who have tried this find that the soil will plow up moist and mellow in July, while adjoining land not so disked will begin to plow quite cloddy in May. Besides holding the moisture the early disk will induce the germination of considerable foul seeds before plowing. Chop the stubble in so the furrow will work down better and lessen the danger of "burning" and keep the soil in better physical condition. Fall plowed land that will not be seeded for three or four weeks after spring work opens should receive a harrowing as soon as fit to work.

Harrowing Fall-Sown Wheat.

Fall-sown wheat should be harrowed when it becomes crusted in the spring before the wheat covers the ground. If the wheat has gotten well established the harrowing will do it little harm and will do many times as much good. Alfalfa that has stood two years or more should be thoroughly disked in the spring or worked with some tool that will loosen the surface thoroughly. In short, wherever the moisture problem is a serious one the farmer should aim to come as near to forming a good mulch over his entire farm in the early spring as his crops tools and force of teams will permit.

Clow the Soil Down.

Third, in all spring and summer plowing the soil should be worked down as fast as plowed to prevent the furrow drying out. The desired result should be to pack the bottom of the furrow down tight onto the fine soil underneath without pulverizing the surface too much. In nearly all parts of the inland empire thorough working of the summer fallow is said to aggravate the puddling of the soil in the winter, because it becomes too fine. In certain places this excessive pulverizing of the surface aggravates drifting. This necessitates the substitution of more appropriate tools than the smooth roller and the spike harrow.

For a compacting tool the Campbell subsurface packer type of tool will pack the bottom of the furrow and leave the surface almost untouched. This tool consists of a series of skeleton wheels with wedge-shaped rims about one inch wide and five inches apart. A tool of this type should follow the plow pretty closely and if the soil is getting dry or there is considerable trash to plow under, it should be gone over twice with the packer. The subsequent working of the soil, whether in a cultivated crop or a summer fallow should be sufficient to keep clean of weeds and keep a loose, dry and moderately fine mulch on the surface.

Weeds sap the moisture from the soil and use up available plant food. Whenever rain beats down the mulch the soil needs harrowing to renew the mulch. To cut off the weeds and loosen the soil, mulch as frequently as is usually necessary without fining the surface too much. A knife type of harrow or cultivator is the best. These are made in all sorts of forms and for all sorts of pieces, but the essential thing is to include a knife or a series of short knives or shears that will cut under the surface, cutting off all weeds and permitting the soil to slide back over the shear and lie very loose without being much pulverized. A proper use of the Campbell subsurface packer type of compacting tool, and the knife type of harrow and cultivator will do much toward solving the moisture problem, and will largely overcome the objection so commonly urged against thorough working of soil to be seeded in wheat.

WAIL FROM PRINEVILLE.

Pessimistic View of the Crook County Situation.

The Prineville Review prints the following pessimistic item on Prineville conditions as a result of prohibition:

The maddest man in town is Mayor Wurzwiler. He has the city finances on his hands, and as it is heavily in debt he naturally wants to clear up some of the bills against it and finish his term with his usual good record for economy.

But it's all off now, unless an occupation tax be levied upon business houses and professional men to meet the deficit caused by closing up the saloons. The mayor hasn't called a meeting of the council yet, and probably will not until he thinks he has the means of getting the problem solved.

We do not deem an occupation tax advisable, and the council will undoubtedly share this view. It is composed entirely of business men who would resent the imposition of a tax on their businesses. And an attempt to tax professional men would have exactly the same effect as ordering almost half of them to leave the city.

So it is presumed that the city affairs will be allowed to drift as they are for a time or until the people grow accustomed to the new order of things and are willing to dig down into their pockets for any money the city may happen to need. Everything will straighten out in time.

TO EXTEND TO SNAKE RIVER.

Electric Line From Boise Will Tap Rich District.

One of the most feasible propositions which has come up in the railroad discussion is the proposed road of the Boise & Interurban railroad. This road is to continue on from Caldwell to the Snake river, says a Caldwell item. This is to intersect a boat line which will ply on the river from Huntington to Swan Falls. The Interurban is also to run from Caldwell to Payette, and on to Weiser. This will make quick transportation between all of these towns and be the means of making a thickly settled country all the way up and down the Boise and Payette valleys.

The proposed road from Caldwell to Snake river will probably be commenced in the near future for it has been definitely stated that the plans and data have all been prepared and that movements are on foot to finance the proposition.

Escaped Lunatic Recaptured.

After wandering at liberty for over four years, a lunatic named Brock, who escaped from the provincial asylum in Westminster, B. C., in 1904, was recently captured at the Goldstream ranch in the Okanogan country and returned to New Westminster. The man is unable to give any account of his whereabouts during his long absence from the asylum and remains a hopeless lunatic.

Marked for Death.

Charging him with being responsible for the death of his brother-in-law, John Murray, a few weeks ago, Postmaster T. W. G. O'Connor of the little town of Nasel, in Pacific county, Wash., has been greatly alarmed by the receipt of anonymous letters telling him that he is marked with death and that he must "make peace with god."

Log Driver Drowns.

Richard Riley, a log driver working on a boom near Skykomish, was drowned Wednesday. Riley attempted to pull in a cable; his hands slipped and he fell backwards, going under the boom. The swift water carried him 1000 feet down the stream, where he drowned in two feet of water.

A. J. Murphy, a young man living near Almira, Wash., who was to have been married in a few days, shot himself Thursday at the home of Jens Weisman. No cause is known for the act.

NORTHWESTERN COMING.

Idaho and Oregon Will Be Tapped by New Line to the Coast.

Another report confirming the rumor that a proposed extension of the Northwestern railroad through southern Idaho and Boise on through southern Oregon with a view to establishing a terminal at San Francisco, has been brought to this city by F. W. Hatch, of Chicago, traveling representative in the west of the Wycoff Advertising agency of Buffalo, N. Y., who arrived here the latter part of last week from the Pacific coast country, says the Boise Capital News.

It was learned from Mr. Hatch today that there seems to be little question but that the proposed line into southern Idaho is the ultimate purpose of the extension of the Northwestern, for which surveys have been run into parts of this state and are now being established towards Boise.

He states that the primary idea of the promoters is to extend the road from Lander, Wyo., through southern Idaho to Boise and either make this city its terminal or extend the line from here through eastern Oregon striking a pass over to the Pacific coast in the southern part of the last named state, coming out of the mountains near Medford, and then running parallel with the Southern Pacific to San Francisco.

At the present time Lander is the terminal of the Northwestern and although that city has been dead, so to speak, for a long time, it is now booming owing to the increased traffic it has obtained through the railroad and its future prospects of being one of the main cities on the western division.

While reports of proposed railroad extensions have been numerous in this city for some years past, Mr. Hatch is inclined to think that the Northwestern people are aiming to connect Boise with the east. This means in the end a through railroad for Boise.

Thinks It Saved His Life.

Wester M. Nelson, of Naples, Me., says in a recent letter: "I have used Dr. King's New Discovery many years for coughs and colds, and I think it saved my life. I have found it a reliable remedy for throat and lung complaints, and would no more be without a bottle than I would be without food." For nearly 40 years New Discovery has stood at the head of throat and lung remedies. As a preventive of pneumonia, and healer of weak lungs, it has no equal sold under guarantee at Tallman & Co.'s drug store. 50c and \$1. Trial bottle free.

MODEL FARM ABOUT READY.

Rosalia Experiment Station Is Nearing Perfection.

The new experiment farm being installed adjoining Rosalia by citizens, to be operated by Mr. Seneca, late of the experiment station of the Washington State college, under the direction of Professor Elliott, head of the department of agriculture in that school, is progressing nicely, says a Rosalia correspondent of the Spokesman-Review.

The farm consists of 29 acres and is less than a mile from Rosalia. A modern barn is being built and other improvements will be made. A portion of the farm will be planted to orchard and small fruits. Alfalfa, clover and other grasses will be grown. Five Jersey cows have been purchased and a number of hogs and chickens will be placed on the farm.

The object of the farm is to show what can be done on small farms in this vicinity. Mr. Seneca has undertaken to produce not less than \$1000 worth of products per year from the 29 acres. This means \$50 per acre, and it is argued that if this can be done annually the value of the land will advance rapidly.

If this small farm is the success that is expected, it is likely the same plan will be tried on larger tracts, the talk now being to try a farm of 40 and another of 80 acres, using scientific methods and farming the land intensely, raising crops every year and never summer following.

The result of this experiment will be watched with deep interest by a great many people. It is along the line suggested in one of our recent editorials and is, we believe, as practical work as the state can enter into, especially when these stations can be made self-supporting, or very nearly so.

Two Injured in a Wreck.

Fred Hind and another young man, name unknown, were severely injured in the wrecking of a freight train on the F. S. & N. railroad, near Arden, Friday morning. Hind had his shoulder dislocated and his jaw crushed, and the other man had a leg broken. Both are at Harvey hospital in Colville.

Our Special Inducement

For you to dress well on the Fourth of July and during your Summer Vacation.

We will put on sale commencing Wednesday June 17, our entire Spring and Summer line of Stein-Bloch Smart Clothing at 25 per cent (1-4) off--this grand offer will last until July 5th 1908.

The man of 17, the man of 30, the man of 50--All have different views--All are reflected in their Clothes tastes and in Stein-Bloch Clothing

We can please you all--at a sacrifice of 25 per cent while this sale lasts

See Big Window Display

The Alexander Dep't. Store

Store Closed all day Fourth of July

Dam Gave Way.

Deep creek dam, nine miles from Malad, Idaho, gave way Friday and a wall of water 20 feet deep swept down the valley, doing a large amount of damage. Considerable stock was drowned.

Prisoner Escaped.

Robert J. McNamara escaped from the guardhouse at Fort Walla Walla Friday night. He was wearing irons because of his attempted escape a week before, but filed them off. He has not yet been recaptured.

Garden Hose and Refrigerators

Are something that everybody needs now that dry and warm weather is coming on and it behooves everybody to get the best for their money. If that's what you're looking for, call around and examine my line of refrigerators and garden hose.

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216 E. Court Street, Phone Black 3171

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Your Fourth of July Needs at a Saving

We are now passing through the most prosperous period in our history, undoubtedly due to the simple but effective method of supplying just the merchandise wanted, at just the price one wants to pay for it.



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between our clothing and the high-class merchant tailors' is the PRICE. Ours are made especially for us by America's foremost tailors whose designs are the best in the world. Every garment has back of it our guarantee—absolute satisfaction.

Men's Shirts for Less

We carry only the very best styles in plains and pleated, dots, stripes and figures, plain white pleated shirts, attached or detached cuffs—all sizes—also work shirts at your own price.

Hosiery for You

Men's and Boys' hosiery in plain and fancy silks, plaids, stripes, dots, plain black and tan, to fit you at a surprisingly low price.

Neckwear for Men Who Care

The prettiest line to be found anywhere. We are foremost in neckwear for "the man who cares."

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and that fit the foot. Oxfords, black and tan, dress shoes, patents, and every kind of a work shoe.

Underwear

We carry only the best makes. Nicely finished, light weight, unshrinkable underwear, all colors. We can save you money on the underwear.

Workingmen's Clothing Co.

Old Hunt's Depot. Cor. Main and Webb Sts.

Where You Get the Best Goods for the Least Money

MARKET DAY

Will be held on June 27th, owing to the regular day coming on July 4th.

Be sure and attend, bringing what stock and Farm Implements you wish to dispose of

A number of good articles already listed and stock is being registered daily. A Mecca for buyers.

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