

LIVESAYS HOLD OREGON RECORD

Egg Production Will Be High In 1925, Too

Scientific Management and Thorough Sanitation Bring Results

- ♦♦♦♦♦ Other articles of the Central Oregon farm series appeared as follows in The Weekly Bulletin: ♦♦♦♦♦
- ♦ A. C. Kietzels, March 19. ♦
- ♦ E. M. Eby, March 19. ♦
- ♦ A. F. Frazier, March 26. ♦
- ♦ Herman K. Allen, April 2. ♦
- ♦ George Thompson, April 9. ♦
- ♦ E. C. Dickes, April 16. ♦
- ♦ M. W. Knickerbocker, April 23. ♦
- ♦ C. P. Becker, April 30. ♦
- ♦ Nick Lambert, May 7. ♦
- ♦♦♦♦♦

It is said that every sailor who sails the high seas has a secret desire to make a final trip across the deep and then to settle down on a poultry farm. Probably it was such a desire that in 1919 gave to Central Oregon a man who, assisted by his brother and wife, has placed this part of the state definitely on the poultry map of the United States.

When Vern Livesay, then commissioner of public docks in Portland, first came to Central Oregon on a vacation trip in about 1917 he had no intentions of starting a poultry farm in the mid-state country. In fact, he knew nothing about poultry, and Central Oregon was looked on as a stock and alfalfa district, not an area favorable for the raising of chickens.

That was in 1917. Last year the Livesay brothers' poultry farm, in the Plainview community of Deschutes county, had the record egg producing flock of hens in Oregon—a record which will probably be duplicated again this year. "The average number of hens in the flock was 245, and each hen averaged 228.7 year," to quote Oregon Business. "The average for the United States is 55 eggs per laying hen per year, and 70 eggs per hen for the entire state of Oregon."

Was Pioneer Farm
The history of Oregon's premier egg producing farm is not capable of being reviewed in a few sentences, even though this history were confined to the work of Vern Livesay and his brother, Corbie, in developing the flock of prize white Leghorns. Peculiar to note, the farm which has brought renown to Central Oregon as a poultry center, unequalled in any part of the country, is one of the oldest farm sites in this section of Oregon.

It was just a little less than 40 years ago that the place which now bears the name of Melvin Springs Poultry Farm, first emerged from a tract of timber, truly primeval. This place was first settled by Harrison A. Melvin. If reasons why the pioneer filed on this tract of land are sought, they can probably be found in the three large springs which issue from the earth on Melvin butte, just west of the poultry farm.

Melvin, by the way, was one of the picturesque pioneers of the mid-Oregon territory. In the early days of Central Oregon he made "shakes" by hand from trees cut on his place, then hauled them to the distant town of Shaniko, where they were sold and the money converted into a year's supply of food. This ranch figured in the news of the state when Melvin killed S. H. Dorrance in 1896. The trouble which resulted in the death of Dorrance arose over a contract which Dorrance held for the sawing of timber on the Melvin ranch.

View Is Scenic
The old Melvin place was deserted when the Livesays first came to Central Oregon. In 1913 it was purchased from the Melvin estate. The farm, surrounded on all sides by a forest of virgin pine, contains 320 acres, 75 acres of which can be irrigated. The poultry farm is located in a small gulch, leveled with rich sediments and silt, washed in from the slopes of the Cascades. The gap

CAMP FIRE MESSENGER



Katherine Hayden, camp fire girl, is shown holding "Radio," the pigeon which brought the message which she is reading from Chicago to New York. The pigeon was dispatched from the Chicago conference and made nearly as good time as the Twentieth Century train.

in the west end of the gulch holds the scenic profile of Broken Top, seemingly only a few miles distant.

When the two Livesays—one a native of Nebraska and the other of Illinois—first bought the Melvin farm, they started raising poultry on a small scale. The place was purchased in 1919. Since that time the farm has gradually been improved, and this summer the 35 year old house and barn will be replaced by modern structures. A new laying house, 20 by 100 feet, is also to be built this year. This house will be of the same type—the Pullman college type—as the two houses now in use.

One of the features of the poultry farm which impresses the visitor is the electric light system, operated from storage batteries, charged by a small gasoline engine—the same engine which furnishes power for the cream separator. Not only is the house electrically lighted, but incandescent bulbs are strung in the laying houses. The purpose of the electric lights, it is explained, is to provide a 12 hour day for the laying hens. With a longer day, the hens eat more, and the laying average is maintained.

Lights Help Hens
The electric lights are first used in the laying houses in the early fall, October, and are used for varying periods until the following March. In the winter, the lights are "doused" several times before being turned off for the night. Immediately when the lights are turned off and on several times, the hens take warning and climb to their roosts—"all the same as a boarding school," said Vern Livesay as he showed his interviewer through the laying houses.

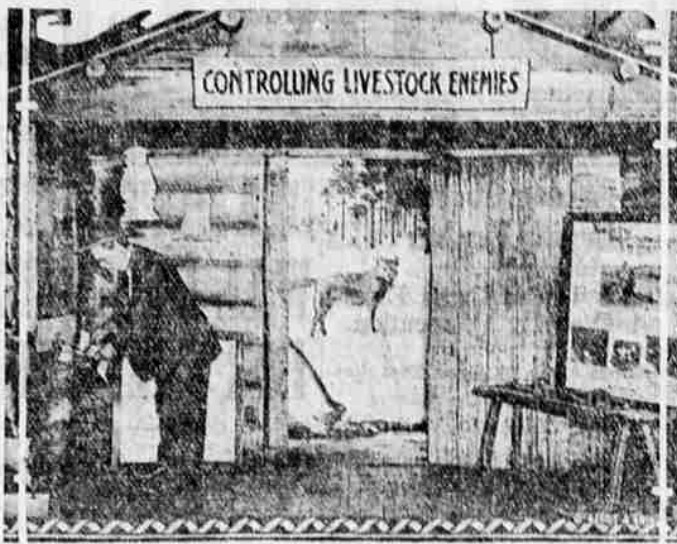
If any one word can be used to characterize the method of operation on the Melvin Springs Poultry Farm, that one word is sanitation. Cleanliness is stressed in all phases of egg production. The feed troughs are so arranged that it is impossible for the hens to get their feet into the mash. Likewise, when drinking, the hens are forced to stand at a distance from the water, sticking their heads through small openings.

In line with sanitation, the Livesay brothers have devised a nest which has a wire mesh bottom, permitting the litter to fall through the hay and mesh to the floor below. These nests were used for the first time on the Livesay farm, and are already becoming popular in Central Oregon.

The Livesay brothers experience no difficulty in marketing their eggs, for their entire output is purchased by the Skaggs store in Bend. The Livesays, primarily because of the sanitary methods practiced, command the top Central Oregon price for their eggs. The eggs are gathered twice daily, and are taken into Bend once each week. Also, a daily record of each flock is kept, as well as a record of the cost of production. A total of 9,796 eggs were produced on the Livesay farm in March of this year.

State Honors Won
There are 212 hens at present in

Designed for Uncle Sam's Hunters



Charles Corwin, artist of the office of exhibits, United States Department of Agriculture, has designed and built this model cabin representing the home of the government professional hunter of predatory animals. Steel traps, poison bait, gun, ax and even a timber wolf painted in the background are portrayed in this exhibit.

The flock which won state honors last year. These hens are now two year olds. The second flock contains 282 hens, one year of age. These hens at present are laying better than the prize flock, the two year olds. This spring, the Livesays shipped in 1,000 baby chicks from Canby. These chicks are now six weeks old. About half will be producing eggs by this fall. The representative of The Bulletin who visited the Livesay farm found an attraction in the farm home which cannot be overlooked in a write-up.

	No. of Hens	No. of Eggs	Per Hen	Average Price
October, 1923	268	3,376	12.5	\$9.42
November	261	5,089	19.5	.50
December	260	4,670	18.	.46
January, 1924	258	4,191	16.2	.37
February	252	4,818	19.	.27
March	246	5,650	23.	.19
April	244	5,704	23.4	.25
May	244	5,675	23.3	.28
June	240	4,876	20.3	.34
July	239	4,917	20.5	.35
August	235	4,290	18.	.38
September	232	3,884	15.	.44

It was an evening meal, prepared by Mrs. Livesay, who is described by her husband to be the "balance wheel" of the poultry farm. A few of the "highlights" of this meal consisted of fried chicken, nicely prepared potatoes, salad, a vegetable side dish and peaches and cream. No canned

goods are purchased by the Livesays, Mrs. Livesay preparing all fruits. In connection with their poultry farm, the Livesays operate a small dairy plant also, primarily for the purpose of supplying milk feed for the chickens. Seven cows are milked at present on the Livesay farm. The cream is marketed. Other stock on the farm consists of several work horses, two young mules and a few hogs.

Following is the state flock record made by the Livesay brothers for the year ending September, 1924:

The gross receipts per hen for the year totaled \$6.47. Feed cost per hen for the same period totalled \$2.82 (exclusive of green feed and skimmed milk), leaving a net profit of \$3.95 per hen, or a total net profit from the flock of \$959.73 for the year.

Powell Butte Grange Sponsoring Ball Team

POWELL BUTTE, May 12.—The Powell Butte grange visited the Post grange on Saturday night, May 2, and on Wednesday night following, 30 Powell Butte grangers visited with the Tumalo grange.

Powell Butte now has an up to date baseball team, sponsored by the local grange, with William Peterson as manager. Practice is held each Sunday afternoon on the Wilson school grounds. Next Sunday the team goes to Prineville, where a game is staged against the K. of P. team.

The Powell Butte Cooperative association met Thursday evening of last week and after the regular business the evening was spent with interesting talks by visitors from Bend and Prineville. V. V. Harpham of Prineville gave an interesting talk on "Forest Protection." Mayor L. M. Bechtel spoke briefly on the plans for the coming American Legion convention in June. Senator Jay H. Upton of Bend spoke on the future development of Oregon. Singing by the audience was led by Mrs. Cook.

Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Gould of Redmond were Powell Butte visitors Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Stauffer of Pleasant Valley were visiting in Powell Butte Monday and attended the sale at the Bob Elliott place.

Alvin Riggs is driving a new Ford sedan.

S. R. Babcock of Mullen, Nebraska, who has been visiting with his brother in Powell Butte, left Sunday for Sheridan.

Frank Kistler was a business visitor in Redmond Monday.

Mrs. J. J. Chapman made a visit to Redmond Monday in the interests of the proposed transportation of the high school pupils for the Redmond union high school.

Mrs. C. E. Valpey was called to Paulina last week to do some nursing.

Herman Allen lost two horses last week from poisoned grain.

W. O. Hall of Prineville was in Powell Butte Sunday.

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with Miss Dyer at the piano.

Mrs. D. A. Yates of Hood River, who has been visiting friends in Powell Butte for the past week, left Sunday for Bend, where she will visit with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Pauls were visiting friends and relatives in Bend Sunday.

Mrs. Dobson of Redmond was a guest at the E. A. Bussett home Sunday.

Mrs. John Kistler and Mrs. Curtis of Redmond were visiting relatives in Powell Butte Thursday.

Mother's day was appropriately observed at the community hall Sunday, the services being conducted by Mrs. Cook.

The teachers of the Wilson school, Miss Morse and Miss Dyer, will present the children of their school in the play "The Silver Scandals" Wednesday evening, May 20. The proceeds go towards paying for the piano.

Woodson McDaniels is one of the Crook county boys who will attend the summer training course at Camp Lewis.

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CLASSES TO GIVE EXHIBITS TONIGHT

Manual Training and Domestic Work to Be Seen

"Open house" will be held by the manual training and machine shop classes of the Bend schools this evening, at the shop in the basement of the Kenwood building. Work done during the school year just ending will be demonstrated by the pupils, under the supervision of C. A. Gunderian and Charles W. Frost, instructors. Parents and others interested in this work may visit the building any time between 7:30 and 9 o'clock.

The exhibit of the cooking and sewing classes will be given Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock at the gymnasium in the form of two playlets by the cooking classes, "The Budget Ghost" and "Mother's Cure," and a style show by the sewing classes, garments being exhibited which have been made during the year by the pupils.

The playlets have been prepared under the direction of Miss Ellen Dahl, cooking instructor, and the style show is being supervised by Miss Anne Arnoldus, sewing teacher in the high school. The entertainment is free to the public, parents being especially invited.

Those taking part in "The Budget Ghost" are Evelyn Roberts, Stella Claypool, Wilma Cummins, Minnie Hoover, Alice Gales, Bernice Shaw, Edna Ogle, Violet Pickett, Josephine Marsden, Hope Sheppard and Mae Palmer.

Students in the cast of "Mother's Cure" are Edna Ogle, Mae Palmer, Clarice Swick, Bernice Shaw and Elizabeth Marsden.

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TRAFFIC CHARGE FILED

Charges of not having his automobile under proper control were filed in County Judge R. W. Sawyer's court today against Gideon Weaver, State Traffic Officer Earl B. Houston found Weaver asleep at the wheel of his car, parked beside the highway.

Houston reported. A small quantity of homebrew beer was found in car, Houston said.

Put It in The Bulletin

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