

Farmers Should Organize

Realizing the great need of a Farmers' Organization that would bind together the toiling masses of farmers into one internal brotherhood and business organization, and lead them into paths of cooperation and a mutual fellowship, a small group of farmers, numbering ten, led by one, Newt Gresham, met at a cross-roads school house in the State of Texas, and organized a society, which they named the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America.

This was in 1902. At that time the southern farmer was taking 5c and 7c for his cotton, much less than the cost of production. The cotton raiser was so oppressed that he was often forced to mortgage his crop before he could purchase his seed. Now look at the price of cotton; from 12c to 17c. The southern farmer never could have accomplished this had it not been for organization and cooperation in warehouses and many other things.

In April 1907, the first Farmers' Union local was organized west of the Rockies, at Waitsburg, Wash. Now the State of Washington and the Panhandle of Idaho have about eight thousand members in good standing.

When the Farmers' Union came to Oregon and Washington, the farmers were paying 10c, 11c, and 12c for sacks; this was considered an extortionate price and the next winter, January, 1908, about 200 farmers came together in Walla Walla, Wash., and succeeded in bringing the price down to 7c; this was done by purchasing 1,500,000 sacks in one deal; soon after, this was done all over the state of Washington, and in some parts of Oregon similar reductions were secured. But in most counties that year where the Farmers' Union was not in operation, the old price for sacks maintained.

The next year 1909, the price of sacks was still further hammered down by cooperation and buying in large lots. The present year, 1910, will be marked by the lowest price of grain bags ever known. Now, Brother Farmer, we have recently learned that when sacks cost us 10c they cost the importer no more laid down in Portland than they do now.

The farmers were also convinced that they were not getting a square deal from the system warehouses; shortage in weights, excessive storage rates and many disadvantages in selling grain were a topic for constant conversation. Now, the farmers of Washington, Oregon and Idaho, are the owners and operators of about 125 Farmers' Union warehouses. All tell the same story: Much better satisfied with weights, storage rates have been reduced to 50c, and still they declare dividends of from 10 per cent to 30 per cent on their investment. Besides, they have been able to get from 3c to 5c better prices for grain by having their grain stored in their own houses.

Through the efforts of the Farmers' Union the freight rate on grain bags was reduced one-third, both in carload and partial carload lots.

Through the efforts of the Farmers' Union the farmers have been granted the privilege of ware-house sites by the railroad companies at many shipping points.

The Farmers' Union secured the privilege to the farmer of allowing him to clean his grain before testing, thus making a difference in the grade of many lots of wheat from 1c to 3c in favor of the producer.

The raisin growers of California felt that they were not being treated right: the raisin trust would offer them but 2c and 3c per pound for their raisins; at the same time this raisin trust was charging the retailers 9c. Well, the raisin men got organized into the Farmers' Union; then they wrote to some locals in Oregon and other parts of California to help them out. They succeeded in less than three months in almost doubling the old price and still the locals that bought of them were only paying about one-half the ordinary retail price. Four different counties in Oregon

have bought through the Farmers' Union several tons each of prunes, figs, peaches, honey and raisins at greatly reduced prices after almost doubling the price, which was formerly being paid the producer. This is cooperation, and its work has just begun. A more systematic exchange of farm products has been planned the coming year between the different locals in Oregon.

Where the locals have taken up the matter of purchasing binder twine, wood, posts, coal and stock salt considerable reduction has been secured.

Thus the sack trust, the warehouse trust, and the dried fruit trust are pretty well demoralized, and are casting about to see what it was that struck them.

But, by far the greatest thing ever attempted by the Farmers' Union was the placing of one of its men on the Board of Trade, where prices of wheat and hay are determined. This terminal agent, after securing the true price of grain, telegraphs it to inland agents, thus giving to the members of the Farmers' Union the true world's price of farm products; these prices are identical with the prices sent to the agents of all grain exporting companies. When the Farmers' Union came to us we were getting 60 cents for wheat; now wheat is \$1.00. Thus the farmer can, with but little expense, be put next to the real market of grain; this is done by maintaining an agent on the Board of Trade, who sends the price at every change. One of the essential features of our organization is to teach the farmer the importance of systematic methods of marketing. Men outside of our organization have observed the steady prices maintained through the efforts of organization, and have freely expressed their opinion that we were getting from 3c to 5c better for wheat through our agents than could have been realized without organization. These agencies were established during the summer of 1909, and it is designed for them to reach every local in Oregon and Washington in 1910.

Chas. A. Hill, according to his letter, will be in this valley early in March to organize the farmers.

GOOD COUGH MEDICINE FOR CHILDREN

The season for coughs and colds is now at hand and too much care cannot be used to protect the children. A child is much more likely to contract diphtheria or scarlet fever when he has a cold. The quicker you cure his cold the less the risk. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the sole reliance of many mothers, and few of those who have tried it are willing to use any other. Mrs. F. F. Starbuck of Ripley, W. Va., says: "I have never used anything other than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for my children, and it has always given good satisfaction." This remedy contains no opium or other narcotic and may be given as confidently to a child as to an adult. For sale by C. Y. Lowe.

Halley's Comet a Menace To the World

In these days of interoceanic cables and wireless telegraphy we are accustomed to the annihilation of terrestrial distances. Civilization has progressed so far that almost everybody now and then discusses the possibility of communication with the supposed inhabitants of Mars, and grave astronomers believe that such communication may yet be possible. These questions, however, are remote from the present life of man.

A much more important question is just now vital. News of the coming of Halley's comet overshadows every other problem today before the world's scientists for practical consideration. People everywhere are beginning to ask, as in olden times. What will be the result of our collision with the great gipsy of the skies? That collision will take place on May 18. As in every other collision, the result depends on the character of the bodies that collide. The quest of science, therefore, is to learn everything possible concerning the tail of Halley's comet, for on the character of that tail depends the fate of the inhabitants of the globe. Within the last three days this

historic giant has begun to show its colors to the wise men who sit in observation and study the mysteries of starry space. Astrophysical science has reached such a state that we shall probably know every essential fact concerning the tail of the wanderer long before the earth and its atmosphere come into collision with it; for hundreds of chemists and astronomers, stationed at the great observatories of the world, are just now using photographic and spectroscopic means to determine the character of the 20,000,000 miles of cometary substance through which we are to pass at a terrific velocity shortly after the middle of May. The speed of the earth in its race around the sun is almost 20 miles a second, but that of the comet is much greater.

Compared with the 35,000,000 miles that separate us from Mars—a mere step in the infinitudes of interstellar distances—the feat of making Halley's comet tell its story at its present vast distance from us seems almost superhuman. Yet the spectroscope is forcing this giant of the far-away heavens to tell the trained eye of science of what he is composed. The spectroscope makes the rays of light from the comet form an image. In this image the parts are arranged according to their refrangibility or wave-length, forming a band that displays the seven colors of the rainbow. Chemists can deduce from these colors vital facts concerning the source of the color.

The comet is not yet close enough to enable the observers to determine with accuracy the character of the tail; but enough has been achieved in this direction to indicate that a deadly gas is a prominent constituent. If this occurs in great quantities, we are told, all life on earth will cease on May 18. If, as may be probable, the gas is very tenuous, or rare, we may escape without serious inconvenience.

For thousands of years, through ages of darkness and superstition, the races of men have prophesied the end of the world. With fasting and feasting and hallelujahs, trembling thousands have now and then expected to behold the spectacle of fire or flood, earthquake or tidal wave. But suns and stars have continued to shine on a world peopled with infinite varieties of life.

Science has never named the Day of Judgment. Throughout the ages she has been a sphinx, except to say that in 10 or 20 million years this or that might happen; and Holy Writ tells us that we cannot by searching find out the ways of the Eternal, which must remain forever unknowable. But the human brain has so far solved the riddle of the universe that science may be able to say with unerring accuracy that the Doomsday of which Bibles and poets have sung will be on May 18, 1910. If the tail of Halley's comet is composed of dense and deadly gases, May 20 will be more than a realization of Byron's "Dream of Darkness," the tragedy that leaves this ancient globe as silent as the empty spaces of the moon, which hangs dead and deserted among the stars.

Let us hope that the Eternal Power that forever guides the hundreds of millions of stars that stud the skies has not permitted the annihilation of humanity to be a part of this year's plan!—Leigh T. Irvine.

Flammarion Says It Is Harmless

Camille Flammarion, the French astronomer, in a letter, says that the vaporous tail of Halley's comet will envelop the earth on May 19. "For several hours," he says, "we will be immersed in the gaseous caudal appendage whose chemical constitution is still little known. The comet will pass directly between the sun and the world at 2 o'clock in the morning of May 19. At that hour the Pacific Ocean will be in full day light, while in France it will be night. Little danger may be expected, however, for the tail probably will be so rarefied as to be inoffensive.

Advertise in the RECORDER and you will get results.

A Giant Radish From Japan

The February issue of The Fruit-Grower, published at St. Joseph, Missouri, is an Annual Gardening number, and comprises eighty pages and cover. It contains a number of interesting articles on the subject of spraying, marketing and packing fruits, in addition to a mass of interesting data on the subject of gardening.

One of the main features is the story telling how readers of The Fruit-Grower raised the Giant Radish from Japan, Sakurajima, to an enormous size, some of the radishes weighing as much as twenty-three pounds.

The article in question is profusely illustrated and gives reports from a number of readers who have grown real giants of this giant radish. Sample copies of The Fruit-Grower will be sent free to our readers, who will write to the publishers and ask for them.

AN IDEAL COUGH MEDICINE

"As an ideal cough medicine I regard Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in a class by itself," says Dr. R. A. Wiltshire of Cwynnville, Ind. "I take great pleasure in testifying to the results of Chamberlain's Cough Medicine. In fact, I know of no other preparation that meets so fully the expectations of the most exacting in cases of croup and coughs of children. As it contains no opium, chloroform or morphine it certainly makes a most safe, pleasant and efficacious remedy for the ills it is intended." For sale by C. Y. Lowe.

The Alliance arrived in from Portland this morning in command of a new master, Captain Astrup having succeeded Captain Parsons at Portland. The change was a surprise to everyone here. While Capt. Parsons had intimated that he intended to resign and go back to the simple life on a ranch, no one here knew that he meant to do so quickly. Capt. Astrup, the new master of the Alliance has recently been captain of the Newport. He is familiar with Coos Bay having run in here for the Simpson Lumber Company on the Signal several years ago—Coos Bay Times.

STIFF NECK

Stiff neck is caused by rheumatism of the muscles of the neck. It is usually confined to one side. While it is often quite painful, quick relief may be had by applying Chamberlain's Liniment. Not one case of rheumatism in ten requires internal treatment. When there is no fever and no swelling as in muscular and chronic rheumatism, Chamberlain's Liniment will accomplish more than any internal treatment. For sale by C. Y. Lowe.

Passenger service on 25 miles of completed road at the west end of the Southern Pacific Tillamook extension will be begun, it is expected on April 1. Trains will be run from Tillamook to Vosburg, giving service to Bay City, Hobsonville, and other intermediate points. Meanwhile work is steadily going on across the Coast Mountains and by next Fall it is expected trains will run through from Portland to Tillamook Bay.

FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN

Nearly all diseases of the skin such as eczema, tetter, salt rheum and barber's itch are characterized by an intense itching and smarting, which often makes life a burden and disturbs sleep and rest. Quick relief may be had by applying Chamberlain's Salve. It allays the itching and smarting almost instantly. Many cases have been cured by its use. For sale by C. Y. Lowe.

A Columbia University professor has advanced the prophesy that air ships will be used within ten years on Uncle Sam's rural delivery routes. It will not be long before the airship men will be as plentiful as the automobile owners at present, and the aviator will look upon the automobilist with the same contempt that the automobilist now looks upon the bicyclist.

A PLEASANT PHYSIC

When you want a pleasant physic give Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets a trial. They are mild and gentle in their action and always produce a pleasant cathartic effect. Call at C. Y. Lowe's drug store for a free sample.

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BANDON LODGE, No. 133, I. O. O. F. meets every Wednesday evening. Visiting brothers in good standing cordially invited. C. F. Thomas, N. G. A. J. Hartman, Secretary

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MEETS in K. of P. hall every second and fourth Fridays. Practice nights first Friday of the month. Social evening the 3d Friday of the month. A cordial invitation extended to all members in good standing. Inez Jenkins, N. G. Belle A. Kolp, Secretary.

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Seaside Camp No. 212 meets every first and third Thursdays of each month. Visiting neighbors cordially invited. R. W. Bullard, C. C. J. N. Hosking, Clerk.

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