

# THE BOARDMAN MIRROR

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### STATE MARKET AGENT DEPARTMENT

By C. E. SPENCE, Market Agent.

A movement has started in eastern Oregon to organize the stockmen into a co-operative selling agency. It has started in but one county, Wallawa, but the state market agent says it is the expectation that all the other cattle raising counties will follow with organizations and that a state-wide shipping association may be the result and that the ultimate purpose is a stockman's commission firm at the Portland stockyards.

At the organization meeting in Wallawa, reports of the condition of the cattle raisers from nearly all sections of the state were made, and the outlook is most gloomy. It was the general sentiment that there must come some speedy relief or the most of the cattle men must quit the business and abandon their ranches.

That this condition is not exaggerated, the following from a bulletin sent out by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, from the division of crops and live stock, will show. The bulletin is circulated from the Portland office, and gives the outlook and condition of the stockmen in all the cattle raising counties of Oregon, as sent in by the department's reporters in the various counties. The following are the condensations:

**Baker county, Keating:** "The price of cattle is 'rotten' here, can hardly give them away."

**Crook county, Paulina:** "The financial condition of the cattlemen in this vicinity is very bad; the feed situation is very good, plenty of hay and not enough cattle to eat it."

**Deschutes county, Bend:** "The financial situation is bad. The price of labor and the price to be had from products are out of proportion. As a result we are going to have many less farmers and stockmen very soon."

**Grant county:** "Most ranchers are in debt as far as they can go; by living economically they can pay their debts and interest but none of the principal. If taxes and what we have to buy would come down to normal, we might yet pull out."

**Ritter:** "Cattlemen are in very bad shape and if they are crowded very much, or if conditions do not change a considerable number are liable to go broke this year."

**Gilliam county, Condon:** "We should have just double what we are now getting, as a cow dollar is only worth fifty cents of most everything we have to buy."

**Harney county, Burns:** "Twenty percent of the cattle in this county have been sold and moved out. The financial situation is very depressed on account of low prices and high cost of production through labor, taxes and freight rates."

**Jackson county, Ashland:** "Am holding my herd over until spring in hopes of disposing of the entire lot at somewhere near cost. Estimate of cattle in county 50 per cent of normal. Herds are being bought in this county for \$20 per head, small cattle thrown in."

**Josephine county, Taklila:** "One cannot begin to raise cattle for what buyers will pay."

**Klamath county, Bly:** "Cattle are below the cost of production, so if there is anything you can do, for God's sake, do it as once."

**Lorella:** "Many of the cattlemen have gone bankrupt and the rest are going that way."

**Lake county, Fork Rock:** "Bend butchers offer us eight cents per pound for beef, dressed and delivered."

**Lake County, Landax:** "Poor markets, high taxation and cost of grazing. I was forced to sell everything. The reason I have marked the range 75 per cent of normal is because it is growing up to worthless brush."

**Union county, Elgin:** "These are troublesome times for the cattlemen and wheat growers. Forty per cent of the cow men here have sold out and quit."

**Wallowa county, Bartlett:** "Every dollar I have received from cattle for the past three years has cost me at least 200 cents."

**Wasco county, The Dalles:** "The cattlemen is but little better off than the wheat raiser, and both are about at the bottom of the hill."

Isn't it about time that the business interests of Oregon realize the results that are certain to follow? Isn't it about time that a state-wide movement is made to save the cattle industry?

### Fertilizer Work is Extensive

Among the concrete results of extension work along agricultural lines which may be cited is increased interest on the part of farmers in the work with soils and in the use of commercial fertilizers. During the year 1922, according to the United States Department of Agriculture, 213,000 farmers consulted their county agents in regard to the use of commercial fertilizers. In addition farmers conducted 15,235 fertilizer and 4,935 lime demonstrations.

As a result of the activities in connection with lime, 48,000 farmers used 530,000 tons, according to the methods advocated by the agents. In addition to the above, 105,000 farmers modified their methods of soil management. In order to maintain and improve soil conditions, 3,750 drainage systems, involving 575,000 acres, and 29,000 pieces of terracing, involving 445,000 acres, were carried out according to the methods outlined by the extension forces.

### REV. HUGHES AT OLD OREGON TRAIL MEET

Rev. B. S. Hughes reports a great gathering at the meeting of "The Old Oregon Trail," at Baker and La Grande. He represented the Umatilla Commercial club at both places, making an address at Baker before about 400 men then at La Grande to about 200 men.

Mr. Hughes said it was the little town by the "damsite", but was ready to make it the big town as it was known when it was the landing place for all boats in the freighting days.

Mr. Hughes talked to all the high-way commissioners regarding Umatilla Bridge and they gave promise of their hearty support.

The La Grande Observer has the following to say in regard to Mr. Hughes' talk at La Grande:

Reverend B. S. Hughes, formerly Presbyterian pastor at Union, but now in Umatilla county contributed one of the most interesting speeches of the day. Ministers of the gospel are always orators and Reverend Hughes is above the ordinary. He eulogized the great home-seeking trail in a manner that met instant applause and concluded with the recitation of the following poem:

**IN OREGON**  
The moonlight falls the softest  
—In Oregon;  
The summer days come ofttest  
—In Oregon;  
Friendship is the strongest,  
Love's light glows the longest  
And you always feel the youngest  
—In Oregon.  
Life's burdens bears the lightest—  
—In Oregon;  
The home fires burn the brightest  
—In Oregon;  
The kitchens are the cleanest,  
Our appetites the keeneast,  
And the ham is always leanest,  
—In Oregon.  
The melons grow the roundest—  
—In Oregon;  
The bankers are the soundest—  
—In Oregon;  
The game is always gamest,  
The wardens are the lamest,  
And the bulldogs are the tamest,  
—In Oregon.  
The new is always newest—  
—In Oregon;  
Politicians are the fewest—  
—In Oregon;  
The water is the clearest,  
The wine is never dearest,  
Yet it often acts the queerest  
—In Oregon.

Mrs. Ed Sylvester of Lebanon, Ore., came a week ago to visit with her parents Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Calkins, who purchased the Larsen place. Mrs. Sylvester has been quite ill for some time and came home to recuperate. Miss Hazel Newton of Echo, an old friend of the family, will come Saturday for a short visit at the Calkin's home.

The teachers left on No. 1, for their various homes for the week-end.

### BOTULISM (Allantias)

Botulism is a deadly food poison. The name botulism has lost its original significance when was sausage poisoning. It was thought that the germ that produces the poison causing botulism would grow only in sausage, but it is now known that it will grow in ham, cottage cheese, string beans, corn, asparagus, and ripe olives.

Botulism is a rare disease but is more common in Europe than in America. In a period of twenty-two years there were 129 people ill and 111 died of the disease, among approximately 100 million people. Therefore it cannot be compared in magnitude to tuberculosis or syphilis. Botulism is the cause of forage poisoning in horses and of Habberneck in chickens and turkeys.

There has been a marked increase in the number of recorded outbreaks of botulism in the United States within the last few years. The present outbreak in Albany is the only one in the history of Oregon and in the number of cases and rate of fatality is one of the greatest in this country.

The bacillus botulinus grows only when deprived of air and at room temperature. It produces the botulinus toxin. The botulinus toxin is the only one of the true toxins that is poisonous when taken by mouth. It is exceedingly poisonous. A 250 gram guinea pig was killed by 0.000-001 c. c. or 1-200,000 of a drop of toxin. Persons have been known to die from "infibling" a small portion of a pod of string beans.

Symptoms of poisoning may appear in as short a period as four hours and as long as six days after eating food containing the poison. The general appearance of the patient is one of muscular weakness, anxiety, utter helplessness, difficulty in swallowing, struggle for breath, and unsuccessful attempts to articulate, making a picture which once seen will never be forgotten.

The poisoning is caused by a toxin and not the germ. It may develop in many of the foods we eat when the conditions are right. All that is necessary for the formation of the poison in many kinds of canned food, is that spores of the organism remain alive within the container after it has been processed. The spores of the bacillus will resist the temperature of boiling water several hours.

Botulism can be prevented by exercising the following precautions:  
1. Do not use any canned food which shows the slightest sign of spoilage.  
11. Use no canned food unless it has been processed at high temperature; this is especially applicable to vegetables of the type that are used in salads. To insure high temperature a pressure cooker is a necessity.

The farm population of the Nation, although less than 30 per cent of the total, is carrying more than 25 per cent of the child population, says the United States Department of Agriculture. The farm is charged with the duty of educating this excess of youth and turning it over to the cities at the producing age.

Farm products are often shipped great distances when they might be sold with greater profit close at hand says the United States Department of Agriculture. Surveys are now being made by the department in various parts of the country to determine the extent of this wasteful practice and to help farmers make readjustments in their farming and marketing to enable them to meet local market demands.

### CITY STORAGE TANK EXPLODES

About 5 o'clock Thursday evening Boardman inhabitants were startled by an explosion which proved to be one of the storage tanks of the new city well which blew up, the end having blown completely out. Fortunately Mr. Macomber, who has charge of the pumping, was not in the pump house but was at his home.

On examination it was found that the tank must have been defective, because there was not an excessive amount of pressure; in fact, was not as high as usual. The tanks were just covered, the last of the gravel put over when the accident happened.

The tanks and pumping outfit were purchased from the Fairbanks-Morse Co. Everyone is pleased that Mr. Macomber was not injured.

The Washington-Lincoln program, given at the school house was very good. The drill given by the Woodmen Soldiers—some of the primary pupils—was especially enjoyed. All did well and reflects great credit on the teachers who trained them.

Weeds, some new and dangerous, have increased throughout the state to such an extent that they have become a menace both to crop production and land values. Heavily seeded annual weeds are troublesome to some districts while others are troubled with perennials such as Canada thistles, quack grass and morning glories.

No part of the state is free from this pest so the farmers at the agricultural conference held at the state college in January made the following part of the state-wide program for combating this menace, if possible, they wish to stop the weeds from gaining a foothold in Oregon.

Control of weeds by continued scientific experiments, and compensation by the land owners, for the renter who succeeds in effective control of them, are suggested.

A world crop and market report service has been developed by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, to collect, summarize and interpret demands and competition in foreign markets. The news is flashed out by radio and telegraph, so that the farmer may know as soon as the trader the size or condition of crop in other parts of the world.

By scraping the scaly bark from trunks of apple trees and cleaning out the crotches with a dull hoe or other tool the number of codling moth wintering there may be reduced. These hibernating forms are the progenitors of next summer's apple worms.

I don't think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday.—Lincoln.

Patience is bitter, but its fruit sweet.—Rousseau.

ANY GIRL in trouble may communicate with Ensign Lee of the Salvation Army at the White Shield Home, 545 Mayfair Ave., Portland.

THE QUELLE—A good place to eat in Pendleton.

### President's Conference Endorses Export Commission Bill

Support for the McNary-Haugen Export Corporation bill has resulted in an unanticipated but powerful stimulus in Washington as a result of the Northwestern financial conference, called by President Coolidge. The conference, after considering methods for relieving the banking situation in Northwestern states, the result of low prices for farm products, turned over to the agricultural delegates who had been called by President Coolidge, the task of selecting the proposed legislation now before congress which should be endorsed. These agricultural representatives numbering in all about thirty men of northwestern farm sections unanimously urged upon congress the enactment of the McNary-Haugen Export Corporation bill, with resolutions including the following:

"The agricultural delegates here assembled take this occasion to urge upon the Sixty-Eighth Congress that they enact into law, for the relief of agriculture, the substance and basic principles of the McNary-Haugen measure to restore farm purchasing power, and the Norbeck-Burns measure for government credits to promote diversification of production in wheat areas both of which measures are now before Congress."

### Digger Returns Possible From Better Livestock

Kansas dairy farmers could increase their returns \$20,000,000 a year by better feeding and better stock, according to reported estimates of J. M. Frandsen, a dairy specialist, at a recent Kansas agricultural convention. This estimate is considered typical of conditions throughout the country by livestock and dairy experts of the United States Department of Agriculture.

which is prepared to assist state organizations and individuals in improving their methods in breeding and feeding. The use of purebred sires particularly, is a practical economical and rapid means of improving the quality of domestic animals. According to department records, more than 12,700 livestock owners have placed their herds and flocks on a strictly purebred sire basis, and reports from these farmers show that purebred livestock has about 40 per cent utility value over common stock.

As a means of encouraging better breeding methods, the department has developed a simple problem sheet, which may be procured and filled out by any livestock owner. A specialist of a state agricultural college or the department, then makes an analysis of each problem and points out the means for solving it.

### FARM POINTERS

Orchard sanitation means the removal of sources of disease and insect infestation from the orchard. Linnated fruit and diseased or dead twigs and branches should be carefully removed at pruning time. This together with the ordinary runnings should be destroyed by burning. The old leaves in the orchard, which are an important source of disease, should be plowed under before the trees begin to come into leaf and bloom each year.

Brown-rot is the subject of experiment station circular number 53, written by H. P. Brass, station plant pathologist. The great loss of stone fruits in Oregon last year, prompted the publication of this circular. Results and information secured from 5 years of experiment work are included in it.

The nature of brown-rot and related troubles, natural conditions promoting and retarding growth, and the control measures and material used are main topics of the circular. This is the first material put out of brown-rot in Oregon for nearly 15 years. The circular is well illustrated and like all station circulars, it is distributed free to citizens of Oregon on request.

Unmarketable potatoes can be fed gradually up to a maximum amount of 25 pounds per day. Contrary to general opinion potatoes do not affect the milk when fed. Cull apples may be fed in a similar way with no bad effect to the cow, such as decreasing the milk flow.

You receive more for first grade apples, eggs and grain—why not more for first grade cream? Keep your separator clean and handle the utensils in a sanitary way. Many farmers do not clean their separators right after each separation which results in the accumulation of dirt and bacteria causing much of the cream to be graded as second grade cream. Quality pays in cream as well as in other products.

February is the ideal month in which to spray for the control of San Jose scale and blister mite. In case of a period of settled weather more effective results may be obtained than with later applications.

Road ways and ditch banks are the winter quarters of injurious crop insects. By burning over these waste places the hibernating pests are exposed to unfavorable conditions which will destroy many of them.

### CLEAN EGGS, GOOD STOCK PRODUCE HEALTHY CHICKS

New Extension Circular Gives Other Points on Right Ways of Getting Vigorous Hens

Dark, clean nests will reduce the number of cracked and dirty eggs for hatching, reports H. E. Cooby, poultry extension specialist in a new extension service bulletin on hatching and feeding chicks.

"Strong, fertile eggs are necessary in hatching strong vigorous chicks," he says. "It should not be expected that strong healthy chicks will be hatched from breeding stock which is underfed, overfat, of low vitality, or unhealthy, any more that it should be expected to hatch vigorous chicks from breeding stock that has been reared for high egg production."

Free range is an important factor in hatching eggs, but if through necessity the breeds are confined to a small area, it is imperative that they be given a variety of feeds and be compelled to exercise.

It is desirable to gather the eggs or hatching purposes two or three times a day to prevent chilling. Eggs for hatching should be kept in a temperature between 59 and 60 degrees. Though stale eggs frequently will hatch, it is not advisable to use for hatching eggs that are older than 10 days.

The breeding pen should be mated about three weeks before eggs are to be incubated. During the first three or four days it will not be necessary to turn eggs intended for hatching, but after that time they should be turned daily. Hatching eggs should be placed in a regular market egg-tray and the case turned on a different side daily after the first week. Eggs that are purchased for hatching should rest 24 hours before being incubated.

### PROPOSAL TO MAKE MILK THE NATIONAL DRINK IS FAVORED

"Resolved that we, the agricultural representatives of the commonwealth of the great state of Kansas, do favor and recommend the establishment of milk as a national drink."

This resolution was adopted at the Kansas Agricultural Convention held early in January at Topeka, Kans. The convention included prominent agricultural organizations and officials of the state.

The resolution was based on the preamble that "our boys and girls are the men and women of tomorrow, and healthy physique is conducive to good citizenry." Another basis for the resolution was recognition that the dairy cow is the foster mother and an important financial support of the Nation.

This resolution is believed, by dairy officials of the United States Department of Agriculture to be the first of its kind on record. Dr. C. W. Larson, Chief of the Dairy Division of the department, expressed the opinion that the proposal to make milk a national drink is an appropriate recognition of "the drink of health," as it is sometimes called.

"Certainly," Doctor Larson remarked, "milk is worthy of the distinction as a national beverage. In addition to its high nutritive value and health-giving properties as a drink, it yields other valuable food products, including butter, cheese, ice cream, milk powder, and condensed milk. Its by-products enter into the manufacture of almost countless products. The widespread distribution of dairying in every state and its growth in our island possessions also appear to warrant the selection of milk as a national drink."

**Causes of Tuberculous Infection**  
The causes of persistent tuberculous infection in herds of cattle under the supervision of State and Federal officers are outlined in a recent report by the United States Department of Agriculture on the progress of the eradication of bovine tuberculosis.

Among the causes are: Exposure to infected animals at county fairs, streams contaminated by tuberculous material, infected water in ponds, sludge infected from hog litter, and additions of tuberculous cattle to the herd.

One instance reported was of a herd of 13 head that had "clean" and was put on exhibit at a county fair. Eleven of the herd were placed opposite an infected herd so that they faced them. On retesting, the 11 all reacted and the two that were stalled elsewhere passed clean.

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