

THE BOARDMAN MIRROR

VOLUME IV

BOARDMAN, MORROW COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 1924

NUMBER 17

STATE MARKET AGENT DEPARTMENT

C. E. Spence, Market Agent, 723 Court House, Portland.

The New Hampshire Division of markets is showing its section of the country what really is the matter of agriculture, or at least one of the things. It takes for illustration the potato crop of Minnesota, and shows that the growers portion of the retail price is 20 per cent, the country buyers' part 15 per cent, freight 13 1-2 per cent, city distribution 50 per cent and retail price 100 per cent. Commenting on this condition Commissioner Felker says:

"Can a fair minded person consider our distribution system efficient or just when the farmer who furnishes land, seed fertilizer, labor and other necessary overhead, receives but one-fifth of the price paid by the consumer for his commodity?"

Co-operation in the east and middle west is taking big strides. A federation of all the dairy interests of the New England states is under way with consumer ownership of the factories for the manufacture of butter, cheese and by-products. Minnesota and Wisconsin are federating their creameries and cheese factories and propose to bottle and sell their milk, sell their cream, butter and cottage cheese.

"The farmer who sees his market broken year after year by promiscuous crop dumping and speculative marketing, and who sees the middle men receive approximately four times as much per capita as the producer, is fast coming to learn that the principles of co-operative marketing must be substituted for unrestrained competition if the farmer is to exist in this day of organization."—Washington State Grange News.

How fast the farmers are learning is illustrated by a report from the Department of Agriculture of Washington, D. C., which states that up to April 1, of this year that 10,160 co-operative associations had made reports to the department. Out of this vast movement results are coming. Co-operators are learning. They are federating and taking over the field where others have profited from reselling their products, and when they learn to carry their products from the fields to the retailer,—then will they be running their own business as the manufacturing industries run theirs.

In a lengthy review of the potato season of the Pacific coast states, R. L. Ringer of the federal service, of Portland, gives many interesting facts. He states that Oregon is considerably behind Idaho, Washington and California in production per acre. During the past three years Idaho has averaged 182 bushels to the acre; Washington 145; California 140 and Oregon 97. Irrigation has much to do with the difference in yields, and Oregon's late crop matures later. Mr. Ringer states that Oregon has a distinct place in the potato industry, but that growers must get a higher price for the products to offset lower production per acre, and that this be done by certified seed, better product and high grade standards.

The review states that State Market Agent Spence solved a large part of the difficulties by securing federal co-operation, and that because of grading, standardization and compulsory inspection Oregon's well graded stock soon advanced from the bottom to the top of the markets in California; that dealers early found little difficulty in enforcing acceptance of cars bearing a Federal-State certificate, while many cars rolling in from Clarke county, Wash., without such certificates were a loss to the owners when the market broke.

The Co-operative Associated Grange Warehouse Co. of Seattle is the wholesaler for 65 retail stores of the state. The movement is fast going ahead in our sister state, because the producers do less talking and more organizing than in Oregon. Sixty-five retail stores in a state, controlled by co-operatives, are bound to help both producers and consumers by market regulation.

FEDERATION WHEAT BEST IN MALHEUR IRRIGATION

Out Yields Other Varieties in Farm Tests; Production Leaps From Small Beginnings.

Federation wheat under irrigation in 12 plantings by Malheur farmers cooperating with L. R. Breithaupt, county agent, averaged 56 bushels an acre against 41 bushel average of other varieties including Jenkins club, Dicklow and early Baart.

The plantings covered the entire wheat area of the county, and the high yield led to use of Federation for more than half the county acreage this year. It was introduced by Mr. Breithaupt on recommendation of the state experiment station in 1922, when 900 pounds was distributed to seven farmers.

"The differences in the yield in 1923 in favor of Federation are not entirely due to the real yielding ability of the varieties reported, because there is a tendency for growers to give a new variety somewhat better treatment than a variety commonly grown," says Mr. Breithaupt. "Federation has several characteristics, however, that make it peculiarly suited to Malheur county irrigated lands."

Chief among these is the stiff, upright straw which prevents it from lodging on rich, well watered land. Varieties such as Dicklow and Jenkins lodge badly under these conditions, with a consequent lower yield. Federation also has the advantage of being as early as any variety and it produces as high quality of grain as any unless it be Early Baart.

NOTICE

The annual school meeting of District No. 25, Morrow County, Oregon, will be held at the school house in Boardman, Oregon, June 16, 1924, at 2:30 p.m.

MRS. GLADYS GIBBONS, Clerk

POTATO BUGS

The Colorado Potato Beetle, or common potato bug, is starting its work on potato plants in this season of the year. The easiest time to control it is to get it early. The insect passes the winter in the soil as the adult striped beetle. They appear in the Spring just as the potatoes are coming up and feed on the tender leaves of the plants, and after a few days begin depositing eggs. The eggs are laid in masses under the surface of the leaves. The larvae are slug-like, deep reddish in color and feed upon the leaves of the plant. These bugs are easy to control and immediate steps should be taken by all farmers to eradicate them. Spray made by mixing four pounds of powdered calcium or lead arsenate to one hundred gallons of water, will kill them. Paris green, mixed at the rate of three pounds to one hundred gallons of water, will also control them, but is liable to damage or burn the plant. Another method is to mix one part of powdered calcium or lead arsenate by weight, to nine parts of air-slacked lime and apply as a dust. This can be done by putting the mixture in a sack and shaking it over the plant.

OREGON STATE NEWS ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Southern Pacific company has secured an option on 39 acres of Klamath Falls property which will be utilized for switching, shops and roundhouse facilities for the new Eugene-Klamath Falls line.

Organization has been perfected by Portland of a daylight lodge of Masons, whose membership is composed of members who are employed at night and who therefore can attend only sessions held by day.

After receiving no fish since the opening of the season on Rogue river, the Macleay Estate company at Wedderburn has reached an agreement with the union fishermen, who will be paid 8 1/2 cents for their catches.

Ten thousand pounds of chittim bark from trees in the Siuslaw national forest have just been sold by the forest service to William Wilbur of Deadwood creek, according to Ralph S. Shelley, supervisor of this forest.

Governor Walter M. Pierce was the principal speaker at the community picnic held at the Beaver Creek school grounds Thursday, June 12, under auspices of the Beaver Creek grange and the Beaver Creek Co-operative company.

Chester Wheatfill and Harold Stuman, Eugene youths found guilty in circuit court on the charge of assault and robbery while armed with a dangerous weapon, were sentenced to serve seven years each in the state penitentiary.

Fire that started in the dry kilns of the Gold Medal shingle mill, in the Nehalem, near Birkenfeld, destroyed 39 trucks of shingles that were in the kilns and about 1,500,000 shingles on the outside, entailing a property loss estimated at \$10,000.

A. W. Stone, who on June 1 terminated his connection with the Hood River Apple Growers' association, immediately began the task of converting the Mosier Fruit Growers' association into an organization characterized by strictly co-operative lines.

As soon as arrangements can be completed, an airplane forest fire patrol will be established at Eugene, Senator McNary was told by Secretary of War Weeks and Colonel William C. Greeley, chief of the forest service. Three planes are to be provided for the use of the patrol.

Several hundred residents of the country lying north of Salem, staged a demonstration in Salem with the presentation to the county court of a petition asking for a paved roadway connecting Brooks and Mount Angel and piercing part of the Lake Labish district. The petition contained 67 names.

Carl D. Shoemaker has tendered his resignation as master fish warden, to become effective July 1, after which he will be known as office manager of the state fish commission until the new master fish warden becomes familiar with the work of the department. Mr. Shoemaker has no plans for the future.

Opposition to his policy in handling the horse show in the state fair caused Dr. J. W. Morrow, democratic national committeeman, to send his resignation from the state fair board to Governor Pierce. Horace Addis of Portland, field editor of the Oregon Farber, was appointed as a member of the state fair board to succeed Dr. J. W. Morrow.

Dallas was selected as the site for the 1925 convention of the Oregon state grange, in final sessions of the 51st annual meeting of that order. The convention held at The Dalles was attended by more than 850 grangers from over the state. George A. Palmer of Hood River will serve as master of the Oregon state grange for another two years. His election to that office, through a referendum of the various grange lodges in the state, was confirmed by the convention.

The extent of motor travel from other states into Oregon during the current year may be forecast from the fact that during the month of May 7081 motor vehicles licensed under the laws of other states were registered under the Oregon non-resident law according to figures made public by Sam Kozar, secretary of state. Of this number the greatest registration was of California cars, of which there were 3921. Next in number is 179 cars from the state of Washington and third, 538 cars from the state of Idaho.

With the arrest of Cyril Goff, an employe of the Irwin-Hodson company of Portland, on charges of larceny, police officials declared they had made the first step in uncovering a ring of men who have been defrauding the state out of thousands of dollars through the counterfeiting of automobile license plates. Goff, according to the police, helped furnish a pair of counterfeit tags found on the machine of P. J. Pierre, ex-motocyclist policeman, when he was arrested at McMinnville on a minor traffic charge. The Irwin-Hodson company has the contract with the state to furnish license plates. Dishonest workmen, the police said, have stolen or made duplicate sets of tags in the company's workroom and are thought to have done a profitable business in selling these at reduced rates to friends.

The Rev. Robert A. Buchanan of Sitka, Alaska, has accepted the pastorate of Grace Presbyterian church at Albany, succeeding the Rev. A. D. Thompson, who resigned after serving several years.

At the Quartz crossing about five miles east of Baker, a west bound freight train ran into a herd of cattle belonging to Palmer & Denham and killed twenty-two and seriously injured a number more.

A convention of music teachers and professional musicians of Oregon was held at the University of Oregon Friday and Saturday of last week. Several hundred persons from all parts of the state attended.

COST OF DISEASE

It is desirable to recognize that from the President of the United States to the laborer in the factory or on the farm, all citizens not physically incapacitated, are, or should be, workers. The fundamental needs are responsibilities of all citizens, and as to the maintenance of health are similar, and we cannot solve the problems of the laborer unless we consider him one of the great art of gainly employed in the state of Oregon.

Sickness is a hazard to which all are subjected and to which many fall victims. Those who are disabled by sickness suffer losses of time, cost of care, which varies from slight hardships easily borne, to those which absolutely ruin. There are today over 9,000 wage earners in Oregon confined to their homes on account of sickness. The workers lose on the average of seven days annually on account of sickness. 400,000 wage earners lose 2,800,000 days annually on account of sickness every year. At a daily minimum wage of \$3 this means a loss of \$8,400,000, \$3,300,000 is spent annually for doctors. An equal amount is spent for nursing and hospital care, \$4,000,000 is spent for drugs, mostly self-prescribed.

Forty per cent of the deaths are preventable or at least postponable. The estimated value of the average life is \$2500. In a state of this size with an annual death rate of 9,000—3,600 of these deaths are from preventable causes. At an average value of \$2500 this would mean a loss of \$22,500,000. The total annual loss from preventable disease is:

Wages lost.....	\$ 8,400,000
Services of physicians.....	3,300,000
Hospitals and nursing.....	3,300,000
Drugs of all kinds, patent, etc.....	4,000,000
Loss by death.....	22,500,000
	\$41,500,000

Disease costs the state of Oregon over forty millions annually. As these expenditures do not consider many of the other expenses incident to illness, the expenses in reality are much greater. Sickness undoubtedly causes a tremendous loss, and to a certain extent is preventable. It certainly costs less to prevent the disease. Public health is purchasable and within natural limits, a community may determine its own death rate. Take health work from uncertainty and place it on sure ground. Make it a potent factor and it will pay.

Surely if we are rich enough to spend \$18 per capita for tobacco, \$8 for candy and confections, \$8 for patent medicine, tonics and drugs of questionable value, \$1 for cosmetics and 75c for gum we should be willing to spend more than 10c per capita for the most essential part of life—health. Every community must estimate its own requirements and appropriate accordingly.

While other regions suffer from lack of water, the Warm Springs irrigation project enjoys the distinction of being the only project in the west with a surplus for 1924.

Charles H. Carey, delegate at large from Oregon to the republican national convention was selected to make a speech seconding the nomination of President Coolidge.

The state tax on sales of gasoline and distillate in Oregon during the month of April aggregated \$214,497.05, according to a statement prepared by Sam A. Kozar, secretary of state.

A seawall of more than a half mile in length is one of the ambitious projects of Newport. The wall has been started and about 800 feet is under construction by the port commission.

F. E. Mallory was wounded in the face, chest and abdomen in exchanging shots with five men whom he observed prowling around the merchandise store of H. N. Beck in Hubbard.

Henry Tuckman of Portland, died at a Salem hospital as the result of injuries suffered when a truck in which he was riding plunged down a hill on the highway between Dallas and Independence.

Closer organization of the live stock industry of the state and the Pacific northwest was emphasized at the 11th annual convention of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' association of Oregon held in Baker.

THE CALL OF THE HOME

By Miles Cannon, Director of Farm Economics, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation.

In our last article we referred to the demand for spring lambs and it is now our purpose to offer a concrete example of what can be done on a small unit.

Scott Brothers, whose postoffice address is Delta, Colorado, occupy a unit of the Uncompaggre valley project. They bought two cars of lambs during the fall of 1923, and ran them on sugar-beet-top pasture as the principal feed, although there was, in addition, some corn fodder and alfalfa pasture available.

The extent of the grazing ground was regulated each day so as not to permit any of the best tops to be wasted. Toward the end of the feeding period the lambs were topped off with a little alfalfa hay and some corn. The average gain was 21 pounds and the following financial statement tells the story:

Gross return,	
48,000 lbs. at	\$0.15.....
	\$7,200.00
Cost, 35,400 lbs. at \$0.11 3/4.....	\$4,159.50
Freight, pasture bills, labor and all other expenses.....	1,445.00
	5,604.50
Net profit.....	\$1,595.50

Studying this exhibit a little further, we would estimate that this crop would indicate not to exceed 400 ewes and if, instead of buying the two cars of lambs at a cost of \$4,159.50, the farmer could arrange to own these ewes himself he might augment this profit by the sale of 4,000 pounds extra cost of keeping the stock. He would also be able to contribute to his table a bounteous supply of most delicious meat and, in addition, he would have an asset of possibly \$100 in fertilizing his land.

The most unusual arguments that a farmer could not take a "summer trip to the coast" or a trip to the mountains" or, again, that no time could be spent joy riding with a bunch of pesky sheep to take care of, are, probably, unsurmountable. These features, perhaps, constitute the greatest barrier to success in our day. Another person would demur on account of the capital required. This objection, however, may be overcome. If a man is inclined to heed the call of the home, to build himself a reputation and take his place in the affairs of the community, surely it would be a short sighted banker who would refuse to finance him in the laudable enterprise of adding at least one car of sheep to his annual income.

There is yet another angle to the feature of spring lamb production. Many of the government projects are surrounded by a splendid summer range and several neighbors joined together can send their flocks to the prairies or to the mountains, as the case may be, and at a very reasonable cost and have them returned to the farm unit in the fall in splendid condition.

The only disadvantage we see to this line of activity is that, united with the other features of the farm unit, the water user would be compelled to concentrate to the fullest extent on his business. This rule, however, applies to the banker, the merchant, the professional man, or to any other line of human occupation. It is only a question of the call of the home.

Chintzes, when of good quality, color, and design are good in any room. Silks and velours are more often used in formal rooms, however. Chintz is associated with the country home.

Dr. W. W. Hilsley has returned to Hermiston from Kansas City where he has been for the past nine months attending a medical college, and announces the resumption of his practice at Hermiston.

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Ether Waves



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