

SOME RAMBLING THOUGHTS

(Continued from Page 1)

will doubt that the girl is tired when her daily tasks are done.

The orange shipping season will not reach its height before the latter part of January, as the crop has been slow in ripening. Yielding to the insistent demands of the dealers, a few cars were shipped in December to supply the holiday trade, but the fruit was green and in poor condition. The oranges have been coloring rapidly in the last few days, however, and picking will soon begin in all of the orchards. I do not know how the boys over at Redlands are going to get along this year without our old friend, Frank Hubbard, of Falls City. Frank and his good wife came down here last winter to enjoy a well-earned vacation from their long and busy life on the farm, but when Frank began spending his life time around the packing houses, the work proved so fascinating that he forgot all about what he had come for, and instead of taking his rest, he pulled off his coat and helped clear through to the end of the season. I am expecting to see him back next any day now, as he told me last Spring that he had never engaged in a more pleasant and agreeable work. I am not going to tell that the boys down here say that Frank picked out the softest job in the house and drew the biggest salary, for it is hardly probable that had anything to do with his love for the work.

I shall attempt no general description of Southern California's advantages of resources and climate, as that work has been well done by able pens than mine. No state has received more publicity, paid-for and otherwise, than has California; and no state is better known by reputation or personal knowledge to the people of the United States, or to those of foreign countries. I shall therefore close this letter by telling the Observer's readers of the former Oregonians I have met or heard of during my two month's stay in San Bernardino. There are doubtless many old-time residents of Polk County living in Southern California of whose whereabouts I have no knowledge at the present time. Of such of these as I meet or hear of later on, I shall tell your readers in a future letter.

Mrs. Mary Kirkpatrick, widow of the late Dr. J. E. Kirkpatrick, and mother of our townsman, E. C. Kirkpatrick, is living in Los Angeles, to which city the family moved from Dallas nine years ago. Her son, Clifford, and her widowed daughter, Mrs. Nina Cook, make their home with her. Nine years ago, the Kirkpatrick residence in Los Angeles was considered suburban property, but as rapid has been the growth of the city that the home is now within a short walk of the heart of the business district. Mother Kirkpatrick is a remarkably well preserved woman, and is enjoying life, happily surrounded by her children and grandchildren. The writer spent a delightful hour visiting her the other afternoon, during which time she inquired about all of her old friends in Polk County and asked to be remembered to them.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick's sons, James and Clifford, are engaged in the manufacture and sale of electrical fixtures and supplies, and are enjoying a prosperous business. James is superintendent of the manufacturing department, and Clifford has charge of the downtown salesroom. James is married, and lives near his mother's home. A daughter, Mary, who was a schoolgirl when the family lived in Dallas, is married to D. C. Barry, a prominent lawyer of Los Angeles.

Mr. and Mrs. Felix Noel and daughter, Blanche, live at Alhambra, a charming suburban town only a few minutes' ride from Los Angeles on the Pacific Electric Company's line. They have a pretty home, surrounded by orange trees. In company with J. W. Crider and son, Walter, and F. J. Chapman, the writer visited the Noel home on Sunday morning in early December. Mr. Noel had returned from a long stay in Oregon only a few days before, and our reunion was a happy one, as all who know the splendid hospitality of the Noel family will readily appreciate. Mr. Noel moved his family to Southern California seven years ago, a few months after having disposed of his interest in the Dallas flouring mill.

Zenas F. Vaughn, a former Dallas jeweler, is a resident of Los Angeles, where he is known as Doctor Vaughn. Just what he is a doctor of, I am not informed. I have not called on him, but an old friend of mine is engaged in manufacturing surgical instruments. His first wife died many years ago, and he later married an Eastern woman. His son, Leslie, and daughter, Arca, are both married, and live in Los Angeles.

Among other former Dallas people living in that city is Mrs. M. E. Smith, owner of the valuable business property at the northwest corner of the courthouse square in our city. With her five Mr. and Mrs. Riley Willard, Mr. Willard being her son-in-law, W. A. May, a grocery merchant of Los Angeles, was at one time a teamster in Dallas. Another Polk County man living there is Ira Foreman, formerly of Falls City. I am also told that Mrs. Carrie Freeman, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Stone, is now a resident of Los Angeles.

Dr. William Capps is another old-time resident of Dallas now living in Southern California. Dr. Capps was a practicing physician in Dallas twenty-five years ago, and is doubtless remembered by many readers of

the Observer. I am not sure of the kinship, but am under the impression that he is a nephew of Aunt Polly Hubbard, of our city. Dr. Capps has an office in San Bernardino, and enjoys a lucrative practice. His wife has been dead for many years.

John M. Phy, a pioneer resident of Polk County, lives at Highland, four miles north of San Bernardino. His son, Dr. Frank Phy, of Hot Lake, Oregon, is visiting him just now, having arrived from Oregon about two weeks ago. I have not visited Mr. Phy yet, but shall call on him before leaving for home.

Over in Riverside the other day, I found W. S. Mumaw, a brother of Mrs. Elizabeth Stoner, of Bicknell. Mr. Mumaw will be remembered by many people in Dallas, as he lived there seven months last year. He asks to be remembered to his friends in Polk County. Mr. Mumaw has employment in the Pacific Lumber Company's yards in Riverside.

Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Morrison, members of prominent pioneer families of Polk County, live just a short distance out of Riverside, where they have a large alfalfa ranch. When Mr. Morrison found it necessary to dispose of his fine farm in northern Polk County a few years ago and seek a new climate for the benefit of his health, he first moved with his family to Phoenix, Arizona. Failing to gain the expected relief there, he came over into California and purchased an orange grove near Redlands. The investment proved profitable, but the work was too heavy for him in his weakened condition, so he sold the property and moved over to the alfalfa ranch where he now resides. He is enjoying excellent health, practically all of the symptoms of the threatening tuberculosis having disappeared. He finds pleasure and just the proper amount of exercise in the work in his hay fields, and the doctors predict that he will live to the average old age. Mr. and Mrs. Morrison have a grown daughter attending school in Redlands and a little son at home.

Among the signs of the prominent real estate men in Riverside may be seen one bearing the name of A. I. Goodfriend. The Reverend Abraham Isaac was at one time a Presbyterian minister, but he isn't working at it now. He was formerly the pastor of the church of that denomination in Dallas, and is remembered by many of our citizens as one of the leaders in the movement to "purge and purify" an already clean city in the so-called law and order campaign of eight years ago. I have always had cause to remember Brother Goodfriend, not only because he was the first Christian minister of Jewish blood I ever saw, but because of his "pernicious activity" in trying to defeat me in my ambition to become a City Councilman—an effort in which he came distressingly near being successful. Brother Goodfriend devotes his entire time to the real estate business, and is said to have amassed a comfortable fortune. His son, Philo, was not long since connected with an oil company—whether he is or not, I am not able to say.

Cassius Sibley, a brother of Judge J. E. Sibley, is a resident of San Bernardino. Mr. Sibley has never lived in Oregon, but that is his misfortune. He came to California from Southern Illinois something like twenty years ago—about the time Judge Sibley and partner, H. C. Eakin, arrived in Dallas. Mr. Sibley has been engaged in newspaper work since his boyhood, and at present holds a responsible position in the office of the San Bernardino Daily Sun. He is a bachelor, and a man of fine social qualities.

H. D. Sibley, a cousin of "Joe" and "Cash," is Treasurer of San Bernardino County. His father resides at Rio, a suburb of this city, where he owns a large orange grove.

Miss Ora Collins, a daughter of Judge and Mrs. J. L. Collins, of Dallas, is spending the winter with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Ogden, at Glendale, a suburb of Los Angeles.

J. W. Crider and F. J. Chapman and family, who have been enjoying an outing in Southern California since late in November, returned to San Jose this week. They came over the mountains from San Jose to Los Angeles—450 miles—in their automobiles, traveling leisurely and stopping at the numerous places of interest along the route. After spending a few days in Los Angeles, they came up to Riverside and remained there until the first of the year. All are enjoying the best of health, and their vacation was one of much pleasure. Mr. and Mrs. Chapman are preparing to return to Dallas in a few weeks, and they will probably spend the summer in Oregon.

With the Chapmans and Criders a few days at Riverside were Mr. and Mrs. William Walker and Ben Smith, former residents of Dallas. They came down from their home in Santa Cruz in their automobile, and after touring the coast country as far south as San Diego, came up to Riverside for a short stay, and then returned home. They were glad to hear of their old-time friends in Oregon again, and send their best regards to all. Mr. Walker and Mr. Smith are engaged in the real estate business in Santa Cruz, and are prospering as two such good boys deserve to prosper.

I am unable to say just when I shall be able to return to Oregon, as that will depend altogether upon the progress of my treatment for a partial loss of hearing. The prospects for recovery are encouraging, although the treatment is necessarily somewhat

slow and tedious. Am enjoying excellent health, and am anxiously looking forward to the time when I may get back to work again. In closing, permit me to wish the Observer and all of its readers a happy and prosperous New Year.

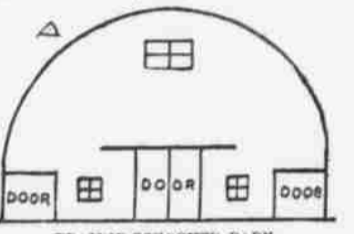
J. C. HAYTER.

Farm and Garden

PRAIRIE SCHOONER BARN.

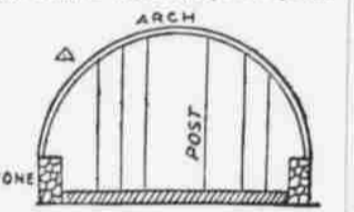
A Farmer's Original and Practical Plan For a Horse Home.

An agriculturist in Dowagiac, Mich., has made plans for a prairie schooner barn, and he states that the barn has proved satisfactory to him. He built his ten years ago. He calls it a prairie schooner barn because it is mostly roof and has no beams or mortise in its makeup and ordinary farmer help can do all of the work. The barn is forty feet long by sixty feet wide, and the arches which represent the bows of the prairie schooner or mover's wagon are made of inch boards six inches wide and of any length and six boards



PRAIRIE SCHOONER BARN.

deep, each board bent to shape as it is nailed to the others, using plenty of nails and giving plenty of lap over each joint. The arches form a half circle, and in building them the owner drew a half circle on the ground and set posts a few feet apart, overhead, to get the outside of the circle being three or more feet high, so several could be made before any had to be moved. Fourteen arches in all were used. These were placed about three feet apart on the side walls, four feet high by two feet thick. These arches, or rafters, were covered with roof boards and shingles, except the top being too flat for shingles, metal roofing was used. Six round posts are used in each end extending from stone wall one foot high to arches, on which the girders and siding are nailed. The floor is paved with field stone about twelve inches deep, except un-



DETAIL OF BARN.

der the horses, where eight inches deep was filled in with soft sand, and that covered with wooden blocks on end four inches long. The stone is covered with a hard, smooth clay. Both floors have given entire satisfaction. Stables are on each side of the barn next to the wall, but with eight foot driveway back of the stalls, so one can drive through with a wagon in cleaning the stable.

More Money in Live Stock Than Grain.

The value of farm animals is increasing rapidly, suggesting that farmers of the west are going more and more into general farming, not depending so much on raising grain for market. The statement is made by the American Cultivator. The value of farm animals is placed at about \$5,000,000,000, or one-fifth of the entire value of farm property. The value of receipts at leading market centers for about 50,000,000 head of cattle, horses, hogs and mules will total well over a billion dollars, this sum of the leading markets only, and probably nearly as much more live stock is sold at the smaller markets, as it is figured that about two-fifths of the farm live stock goes to market during one year. Of the annual income from live stock, cattle make up about five-eighths, hogs one-fourth and the balance sheep, horses and mules. The great iron and steel industry is surpassed in value of exports by the shipments of meat and dairy products. The tendency of all lines of animal products is toward increase, while the country is becoming less and less an exporter of grain. The farmers are wisely securing a double profit by turning their grain into the home market and selling it as a finished product in the form of meat, butter and cheese. The United States has more dairy cows (22,244,446) than any other country in the world, more horses, 23,000,000; more mules, 4,056,700; more swine, 57,976,561, and except British India more cattle, 78,246,573.

Mexican Timber.

According to data in the dairy circular and trade reports, there are from 25,000,000 to 25,000,000 acres of first class timber in Mexico. The heaviest stands of pine and oak are found in the states of Chihuahua, Durango, Jalisco, Michoacan and Guerrero and are said to compare favorably with similar stands in this country as regards quality, diameter and length of clear body. In addition to the open pine stands there are said to occur some twenty-five varieties of hard wood not well known to the lumber markets. Descriptive notes are given of the wood of many of these varieties, together with data on the whole industry, transportation developments, rating and prices of wood, cost of logging and manufacturing and statistics of the lumber trade with the United States for the years 1905 and 1906 and a list of wholesale prices of American Lumber Co. of City of Mexico.

MONEY IN OLD ORCHARDS.

Profitable Fruit Crops From Run Down Farms. A woman who owns and manages large orchards in the western part of

New York state furnishes interesting information which will be of interest in all states where fruit is raised. She says:

"Within the last two months I've had as many as twenty letters from women asking for advice about investing in fruit trees. Most of these women are thinking of investing in farms or small country places where there are already what they term old, run down orchards. They come to me to find out if they can ever make those old trees bear.

"According to my experience, an apple tree in this climate has to be pretty far gone to be ready for the ax—I mean, of course, when it is a good variety. The trouble with the apple trees which we see on these old places is that they need care and attention.

"They have been allowed to stand year after year with their roots covered by sod. They are actually dying of thirst and starvation. If one will only study the difference in the color of the leaves of trees growing in a tiled orchard and in one allowed to go to grass in midsummer he will see the signs of starvation and thirst.

"The first thing to do with such an orchard is to plow it up. If it has been in sod for a number of years there will be many roots near the surface. Do not be afraid of hurting the trees by cutting these roots with the plow.

"This plowing should be done early in the spring and should be repeated several times during the first season. If the roots are so thick that you cannot plow, then chop up the sod with a disk harrow. If the land is too rough even for that, turn in hogs. Drop a few grains of corn here and there in crowbar holes and leave the rest for the hogs.

"Trees in such neglected orchards always need pruning. This should be done when the trees are dormant. February is usually the best month.

"If the tree has not been pruned for several years, do not take out all the useless wood at one time. Let some of it go over.

"Now pruning is something that should never be carelessly done. The prunings should all be burned and the ashes scattered about the roots of the trees.

"After this severe pruning you will get a big crop of water sprouts in the summer. Rub them off promptly. After this first pruning it will be necessary to prune a little every season.

"As a rule, there is enough plant food in the soil if it is only put in shape so that the trees can use it. If, however, this should not be the case, then a fertilizer containing nitrogen is the best tonic. A liberal dressing of barnyard manure is the very best way of supplying this nitrogen. Nitrate of soda is also good.

"I have found it impossible to raise good fruit without a spray pump. If you have never sprayed, begin by writing to your state experimental station for its spraying bulletins. Don't spray feebly, but do the job thoroughly.

"Trees may be healthy and blossom year after year and no fruit be formed. This condition can be remedied in two ways. One way is to graft about every third tree in every third row with a pollen bearing variety. The other and sometimes the more convenient is to replant certain rows with pollen bearers. When setting out new orchards I always plant every fourth row with pollen bearers.

"Fortunately it is only in isolated orchards of a single variety that such conditions prevail. In fruit growing districts where several varieties are raised and bees are kept a total failure is next to impossible. It is not always necessary to keep bees, but it will pay a fruit grower, especially in a new country, to be on the safe side."

A Homemade Barrel Header.

A simple and handy device for the farm is that shown in the accompanying cut. It is of special value where the article contained in the barrel should be safely secured either in shipping or in storage. Its utility in other respects will be recognized at a glance. The barrel header is so simple in its construction that any directions as to how to make it would be superfluous.



HANDY BARREL HEADER.

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Rheumatism in Cows.

Cows are subject to rheumatism, says a writer, and it affects them in the legs between the knee and the hip. The following treatment is recommended by the writer: First of all provide a comfortable, warm, dry, well ventilated stable and well lighted, but protected from strong drafts. There should be an abundance of clean, dry bedding. The food should be soft, easily digestible, slightly laxative, and the water clean, pure and cool. Give half an ounce of saltpeter three times a day. At the outset of the treatment give one pound of epsom salts in half a gallon of water and occasional smaller doses afterward to keep the bowels open. If you can locate the pain rub daily with camphorated spirits.

SEAWEED AS A FERTILIZER.

Its Value to Coast Farmers is Increasing. Seaweed is a valuable fertilizer. The Irish peasants prefer it to manure, and the farmers of the Orkney Islands formerly fed farmyard manure accumulated unused on account of its inferiority to seaweed as a fertilizer. The seaweed that is brought ashore or drifts there is dried and burned, and the ashes are spread over the land. The ashes contain a good proportion of potash and phosphates, and some kinds of weed also yield nitrates. These three substances are the life of vegetation, and for this reason the ashes of seaweed are an ideal food for crops. Some years ago a French sea captain attempted to organize a company to send ships to the Biscayne sea,

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where they could easily collect big cargoes of drift weed and bring it to France to be burned for the fertilizing ashes. Capitalists told him, however, that they did not think it would pay to carry the weed so far, and the money was not raised.

It is asserted by some authorities that the great deposits of nitrate of soda which are sent from Chile to all parts of Europe and the United States to be spread over the farm lands were formed by the decay of huge masses of seaweed when the land was sunk under the sea. Undecomposed parts of seaweed, it is said, are still found there.

The attention of the Cape Colony government was recently called to the fact that very large quantities of seaweed are constantly being washed ashore along the northwest coast, and at last accounts the government had sent for samples of the weed to determine its value as a fertilizer.

Sir Humphry Davy was one of the first to recommend seaweed as a fertilizer about a century ago. For generations the inhabitants of the Channel Islands have gained a fair living by collecting and burning the weed and selling the ashes as manure. These ashes are also largely used in the British Isles and along the Norwegian and French coasts.

The publications of the United States agricultural department say that the use of seaweed as a fertilizer is increasing in this country, that for long stretches of the New England coast the weed is utilized by the farmers for fifteen to twenty miles inland and that it is especially favored for the stimulation of clover fields. Ryegrass is almost always sown with the weed, and few lands ever show so luxuriant growth of red clover as those in the neighborhood of this beach.

The seaweed thrown up on the shores in the neighborhood of Cape Town has long been regarded as an expensive nuisance. The city government has for years been paying teamsters to collect the stuff, haul it away and bury it. The amount of weed thus disposed of has been about 1,500 tons a year.

The city authorities have now seen a new light and are spreading the news among the farmers that the weed is a very valuable fertilizer.

Concrete Watering Places.

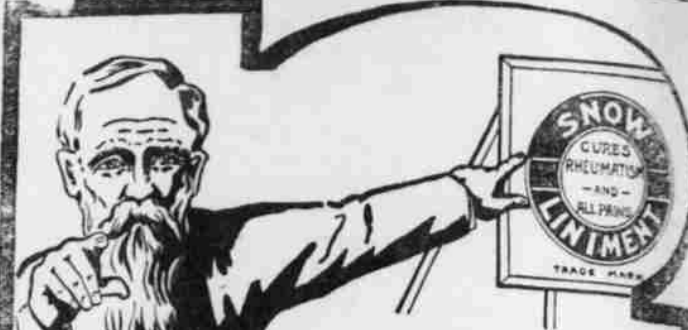
It is the opinion of a correspondent of the Country Gentleman that there is an excellent chance to combine utility and beauty in the erection of attractive and permanent watering places in village streets and along country roads. The old moss covered tub half buried in a bank of ferns and wild flowers, presents a picturesque appearance no doubt, but in a short time the hoops of the tub



UTILITY AND BEAUTY COMBINED.

give way, the staves fall in, and a long interval may elapse before the watering place is in commission.

The first requisite is, of course, a supply of running water. Then a substantial stone foundation should be laid below the front line—an iron supply pipe as well as a waste pipe being brought up through this foundation. On this foundation can be erected as simple or as elaborate a design as one may desire. A mold of rough boards can easily be set up for any rectangular shape, the boards being held in place by crosswise strips nailed to the upper edges. The boards can be raised as the work goes on.



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