

FOUGHT FARMING BATTLE ALONE.

Went Into Wilderness and Made a Ten Strike.

OLE MARTIN'S HEROIC STORY

Miles From Any Human Being, He Broke the Land With a Hand Cultivator and Won With His Nerve and Brains—Ole's Experience With Potato Growing.

This is the story of a farmer who won because he had nerve and understanding enough to sit down on his land and fight it out to a finish, a farmer who had never heard of the word discouragement and whose only definition of failure was that it meant "try again a little harder;" also it is the tale of a man who farmed as much with his head as he did with his hands, and he did an enormous amount of work with those latter.

His name—not that it matters particularly—is Ole Martin, and six years ago he drifted into these United States from Sweden, where he had been farming in rocky and exhausted land for fifteen years. Six months after his arrival at New York he was in Alaska, and six months after that he had a few acres of land on the Kenai peninsula. Then he began to farm. There were no neighbors—not then, at least, for it was not until later that a taciturn Scot sat down a short distance away and began to farm on his own account.

Had No Dogs or Horses.
The location was three and a half miles north of the new town of Seward, and there was no railroad; also there were no horses and at first not

got his seeds from Seattle, and he tried again and failed again. Then he began to farm with his head. He proceeded to educate his potatoes and teach them to grow respectably. This could only be done by growing and re-seeding. Soon he had real potatoes and began to sell them.

Cultivation was a problem, for without tools it was difficult. Martin solved this problem, however, in his own patient way. He built himself a hand machine and pushed it himself with prodigious labor. Later, when he had secured a dog team, he broke them to haul the cultivator. It was a severe task, for he was alone. There was no hired man—just Ole himself and the dogs.

Decided on Garden Truck.
Finding himself so close to a growing community, Martin saw that in garden produce there would be a market, and he set to put some seven acres under cultivation. In nearly all his work he had trouble with his seeds. Those from the States would not grow well in a soil where there were 140 inches of rainfall in a year, and so he had to educate his turnips, his cauliflower, carrots, cabbages and the rest to grow in damp soil.

The government maintains experiment stations, but these were and are too few; also they are only experiment stations, and the real work must be done by the real farmer. Martin went through it all, and he built his log house, barn and outbuildings. He cuts his hay—tons of it—by hand and ricks it alone. He finds time for flowers, and these are his amusements. He built an incubator and is raising chickens and is housing them in a log house equipped with a stove. Every bit of work on the place—every last tap—has been done by this farmer single handed. He has combined the work of the experiment stations and the farm, and to him is due the success of farming on the Kenai. Now the railroad has come to him, and he can ship his products in to Seward, even across the sound to Cordova and Valdez, and he is well to do.

Fought Twenty Hours a Day.
But the trials and the fight of those early days, when he was wrestling twenty hours of a summer day and

his home now, and he sees the time in ten years—no, five—when he will have farmer neighbors all about him and the rich soil will be working for the men who can conquer it.

Up in the Tanana valley and in the Copper river and the Susitna, too, farmers are following the track of Ole Martin, the man who farmed and made it go through—alone.

MONMOUTH NEWS

Roy Smith was a Dallas visitor Saturday.

Peter Springer was a Salem visitor Saturday.

A great many of our citizens have been suffering with la grippe.

We are glad to welcome the mild south wind and gentle Oregon rain once more.

Johnny Moran, one of our live real estate men, transacted business in Dallas Saturday.

A horse belonging to A. J. Haley had the misfortune to get badly cut on barbed wire recently.

H. M. Guthrie and wife are visiting the former's parents while enroute to Eugene where Mr. Guthrie will continue his work.

Mrs. H. E. Guthrie, who has been seriously ill the past three weeks, is now recovering her health.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh M. Guthrie attended services at the Christian church Sunday evening.

Monmouth Creamery Company held a stockholders' meeting Saturday afternoon and made a very favorable report for their past year's work.

Mrs. Dr. Price reports the little son of Jay Powell as much improved. The child has been very ill of typhoid fever.

J. Lindsay and wife returned Sunday from a week's visit in Portland. Mr. Lindsay was attending to business connected with his store.

The basket ball game Saturday evening in the Normal between Newberg and Monmouth high school teams resulted in a victory for Newberg. The score was 14 to 13.

Saved at Death's Door.

The door of death seemed ready to open for Murray W. Ayers, of Transit Bridge, N. Y., when his life was wonderfully saved. "I was in a dreadful condition," he writes, "my skin was almost yellow; eyes sunken; tongue coated; emaciated from losing forty pounds, growing weaker daily. Virulent liver trouble pulling me down to death in spite of doctors. Then that matchless medicine—Electric Bitters—cured me. I regained the forty pounds lost and now am well and strong." For all stomach, liver and kidney troubles they're supreme. 50c at all druggists.

Crops Are Promising.

Cold frosts of the past ten days are said to have done little damage to crops in Polk county. Observant farmers near Independence report only slight damage to vetch and oats, so slight that they believe grain will come out as soon as warm rains set in. A. Nelson has made a thorough test of his field of vetch and oats and says that where the ground is protected with stubble no damage was done; otherwise the freezes have lifted the top soil and some damage will result. In the latter case he believes that as soon as the rains set in the ground will settle and the grain will take root and continue to grow.

H. C. Constance made a trip across his fields the first of the week from his place, three miles, to visit an oil well near Monmouth. He took particular notice of the condition of the grain fields through which he went. He has formed an opinion from his observations that with good weather following the storms of the past six weeks all grain will make a fair stand. Fruit and hops are said by growers not to be damaged.

Portland Captures Convention.

Wool growers of the country will gather at Portland in 1911, bringing to that city a convention representative of a great industry. Delegates to the recent convention of the wool men at Ogden from the Pacific northwest were a unit for Portland as the next meeting place and they captured the gathering without serious opposition. Ninety per cent of the wool growers of the country are members of the organization and the convention will bring thousands of visitors to Portland. The next meeting of the national body will be held at Portland in January, 1911.

POLK COUNTY SCHOOL REPORT

Following is a report of the schools of Polk county for the school month ending December 31, 1909:

Number schools reporting correctly and on time	63
Number schools failing to report on time and correctly, District No. 59, (Cherry Grove)	1
Number of pupils remaining at last report	2448
Number of pupils registered new during month	30
Number of pupils registered secondary during month	32
Number of pupils readmitted during month	104
Total number of pupils on register during month	2614
Number of pupils dropped during month	19
Number of pupils remaining at time of this report	2419
Number of days taught during month	11.5
Whole number days attendance	26634
Whole number days absence	2328
Whole number times late	423
Number of pupils neither absent nor tardy	1303
Average number of pupils belonging	2522
Average daily attendance	2316
Per cent of attendance	92
Number of visits by parents	133
Number of visits by members of school boards	43

The following schools were placed on the roll of honor for the county for having made a per cent of attendance of 95 or more:—Peelee, Red Prairie, Bethel, Cochran, Buell, Spring Valley, Popcorn, Harmony, Upper Salt Creek, Lincoln, McTimmonds' Valley, Rock Creek, Grande Ronde, Mistletoe.

The following schools were placed on the roll of honor for having had no tardies during the month:—Smithfield, Red Prairie, Valley View, Polk Station, Gooseneck, Popcorn, Harmony, Upper Salt Creek, Lincoln, Enterprise, Etna, McTimmonds' Valley, Greenwood, Sunnyslope, Oakdale, Rock Creek, Mistletoe.

While the attendance this month is not as good as the months in the past, it was very good when the kind of weather the children had to contend with is taken into consideration and if all will try and attend all of the time from now on until the close of school, there will surely be no trouble in reaching the 95 per cent which all are after.

The county superintendent is very much pleased with the increase in the number of parents visiting the schools. This shows interest in the school work and will get results.

It is found that nearly all districts in the county have secured the window-boards and the individual drinking cups. These are meeting with the best of satisfaction in all cases with parents, teachers and pupils, and it is hoped that the few districts which have not secured the cups and window-boards will do so at once and thus put Polk county in the lead.

Cured of a Severe Attack of Bronchitis by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

"On October 18th, last, my little three-year-old daughter contracted a severe cold which resulted in a bad case of bronchitis," says Mrs. W. G. Gibson, Lexington, Ky. "She lost the power of speech completely and was a very sick child. Fortunately we had a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in the house and gave it to her according to the printed directions. On the second day she was a great deal better, and on the fifth day, October 23, she was entirely well of her cold and bronchitis, which I attribute to this splendid medicine. I recommend Chamberlain's Cough Remedy unreservedly as I have found it the surest, safest and quickest cure for colds, both for children and adults, of any I have ever used." For sale by P. M. Kirkland.

Hogs Take Wings.

An example of the big money in hog raising was given at Portland during the past week when a single porker, weighing 680 pounds, brought \$61.20. This is the highest price that a single hog ever brought at the stockyards. The hog was raised by Henry Larkin of Colfax, Washington. Hogs reached \$9.20 during the week.

COUGHS AND COLDS

SHOULD NEVER BE NEGLECTED
Take home a bottle of Red Spruce and White Pine Compound Cough Medicine and a box of Williams' Laxative Cold Tablets and be prepared.

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Independence, Oregon

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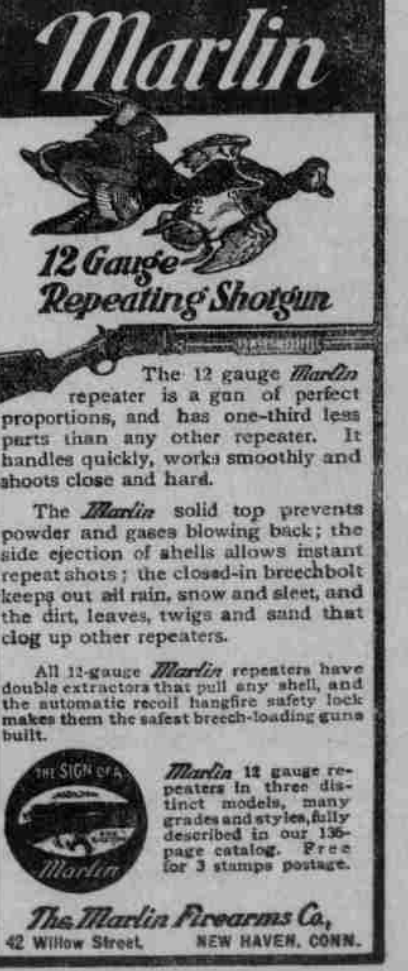
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OLE MARTIN'S CABIN AND EXPERIMENTAL POTATO PATCH.

even a dog, so supplies had to be "packed" in. A man who has never carried sixty to a hundred pounds on his back over rough, unbroken country can only imagine that. Ground had to be broken and cleared. Then it had to be prepared for sowing, and the old methods of Sweden and the United States even were useless. Martin began with potatoes and failed. His results were watery caricatures of the potato of commerce. He had

eight hours of a winter twilight with a rough, semiarctic country, pushing a clumsy, homemade cultivator by hand and smiling cheerfully, will not soon fade, nor will the days when eighteen hours of yellow sunlight brought the seeds rushing to the surface and matured them in five weeks. Those were the moments when he saw the things the future held. And he's not going to sell out and go back to Sweden. He's going to stick on the job. It's

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