

CARPENTER TELLS OF YEAR'S WORK

County Agent Shows There Are Many Demands Upon His Services

In summarizing the work of the county agent for 1922 and in a statement as to future conditions, Paul Carpenter says:

Polk primarily is an agricultural county. While no inconsiderable income is derived from lumber and several other industries, yet this is and always will be a section chiefly dependent on the land for its income.

Farm welfare is followed by business prosperity. Interests of the business people of Dallas, Monmouth, Independence and other points are identical with those of the folks on the farms and orchards.

The agricultural income for 1922 is running about:

For fruits	\$1,200,000
Grains	1,000,000
Hay and forage	400,000
Potatoes and other vegetables	75,000
Dairy products	500,000
Poultry products	175,000

Other items including hops, wool and mohair, hogs, beef stock, sheep and goats, account for a large sum.

Let us take each of these main income producers and consider their problems, how the county agent has touched them, and what improvement may be expected in the future.

But a part of the agricultural extension work is mentioned below—just a number of the outstanding features. Much time necessarily goes to office consultations, farm calls and other activities that may not be grouped under the headings below.

No county agent alone will get very far in farm improvement. There must be the hearty cooperation of many agencies, of local people, community leaders, farm and other organizations, the business people, and the extension service specialists who worked in Polk county a total of 291 days in 1922. It is safe, however, to state that but little of the work outlined below would have been brought to completion without an agent on the job.

In the planting, care and training of the fruit trees we have all degrees of success. Some prune orchards, for instance, are making returns at 7 years, others not until they are 10 or older. Many mature properties are not yielding satisfactorily. This condition arises from difference in care, cultivation, fertilizing and pruning.

The control of fruit pests, especially with apples and pears, has become of first importance. Codling moth and scab are always present. Other diseases and insects calling for regular attention are anthracnose of apples and cane fruits, mildew, aphid, curl leaf and blight of peaches, twig miner and bud moth with pears.

A most dangerous condition prevailing in many orchards is the all but complete stoppage of wood growth at from 12 to 15 years. Trees seem to stand still in development, bear indifferently and take on the appearance of age. The condition is due to depleted soils. Trees must be fed just as truly as animals and we may not expect even the best of soils to produce trees and fruit indefinitely without something going back on the land.

Prune drying has its problems with the tonnage always crowding the capacity of the dryer houses.

What is being done relative to fruits?

In 1922 6 pruning demonstrations were conducted with an attendance of 130 growers. Pruning practice was modified on no less than 1800 acres of trees as a result.

Two schools on the control of the pests were held, reaching 81 growers. The entire program of spraying for the year was taken up step and step so the men might go home, prepare and apply sprays with effect.

Throughout the season the fruit people were sent a circular letter just before the time to put on each spray, 9 letters being issued and 3,600 copies mailed. This service was appreciated especially by the apple, pear and peach growers as each spray on these fruits must be timed carefully to do the work well.

Four demonstrations right out in the orchards were made on the proper thinning of apples, 58 growers taking part. Eighteen apple orchards with an acreage of 211 were faithfully thinned later with a sharp increase in the size of the fruit and its value.

Four carefully checked demonstrations were conducted with cover crops in orchards. These promise to change materially our practices relative to kinds of cover crops and methods of stimulating heavy growth.

One hundred fifty-two growers were given individual help in orchard difficulties, principally with insects and diseases.

We have 175 prune dryers, no two alike. They have all the peculiarities and ills on the calendar. On request of operators 19 dryers

were gone over thoroughly during the drying season, improvements in the operation worked out for 16. When the green prunes are pouring in and the dryer "acts up" some one is losing money and losing it fast. This work was featured by close check on the temperature and speed of air travel in the tunnels.

Commercial potato growing in the Willamette valley is doomed unless control is secured of several destructive potato diseases. Many fields have gone down completely this and in other years from disease alone and virtually all fields are affected by wilt and other infection. The multitude of types and varieties, too, have a bearing on the market returns.

Certification, involving three field inspections a season, is a most practicable method not only in isolating and saving for seed the better lots of potatoes, but for giving the growers needed information on disease condition and potato types. A field entered for certification becomes the meeting place at inspection and other times of all interested growers in the neighborhood.

In 1922 11 growers entered for certification 23 fields with a total of 52 acres. While most fields could not qualify for certification, every owner and his neighbors became thoroughly familiar with disease control methods.

There are 6,000 milking cows in Polk county. Considerably less than 1,000 are purebred. Dairying is one of the major sources of the farm income. Four of the 8 class records of the Jersey breed are held in this county, yet the average production per cow the territory over is not high.

During the year just closing, 4 dairy farms have been used as meeting points and 10 gatherings held on feeding, breeding and herd management, reaching 167 dairymen. The average production can be doubled by feed alone.

As the first step in the eradication of tuberculosis passage of the compulsory test law was steered through the 1921 session of the legislature by the farm bureau dairy committee. In July and August, 1921, over 1900 head were tested for tuberculosis in order to acquaint breeders with the importance and method of doing the work. Thirty-one reactors were found. Dr. H. D. Peterson went on as county veterinarian Feb. 1st of this year and by Dec. 31st will have made the first complete test of Polk county milk cattle. This will be a tuberculosis-free cattle county inside of 3 years.

\$5,225 represents the value of cattle moved by the breeders with the assistance of the agent in 1922.

The poultry industry has just gone through a year of low values, but the 100,000 hens of the county are a factor in the farm income and a revenue producer affecting nearly every farm home.

Three demonstration plants were arranged to keep cost and production records for the year and to use approved methods of management. Seventeen meetings were held at these points, featuring feeding for eggs, hatching, brooding and culling; total attendance, 319. This work was well received in every section and drew poultrymen for long distances. The aim is to reach different communities each year with the demonstration farms and eventually to cover the county.

Proper feed and regular care can double the average production of Polk county fowls.

There are 49 varieties of wheat grown in the Willamette valley, all represented in Polk. The result is that the total yield from our 30,000 acres of wheat not only is lower than the proper kinds will make, but the wide mixtures of varieties are penalized in grade when offered on the market. Six varieties would cover all the needs and well selected, sharply increase the yields. To a lesser extent these facts apply to our 25,000 acres of oats.

For 3 years grain certification has been featured and certified stocks of 4,250 bushels are available for seed purposes for 1923.

Two demonstrations on the survey, location and laying of tile were made during the year, the entire project being completed in each case, acreage 42. A careful survey of 2 swamped districts has been made, ownership maps worked out and preliminary work done on 2 drainage districts running into 2,500 acres.

Copper carbonate promises to simplify the treatment of grains for smut, minimize the seed killing and get fully as good control as the older practices. This method has been introduced and will be watched closely.

In 3 years 8,770 pounds of poisoned grain has been prepared by the agent and distributed at cost to 982 farmers. In many sections the grey digger has been completely checked; in all others a good start made towards bringing him within bounds.

The annual pocket gopher tax on this county is not less than \$30,000. Since Sept. 15th, 11,223 acres have been utterly cleared of this pest at a cost within 12 1/2 cents an acre. A conservative estimate is that 14,000 gophers have been killed in this cam-

paign. Digger and gopher poisoning alone this year have netted savings of well over \$25,000.

Months of time of necessity go to activities of a miscellaneous nature. Exhibits work has been supported and interest in fairs built up throughout the county. The Independence Corn Show has been made the largest display of corn and of potatoes in Western Oregon.

Farm women have been organized into groups for the consideration of home problems, arranging 16 meetings this year with an attendance of 394.

The situation relative to cooperative marketing organizations has been steered materially. Much information bearing upon organization, administration, finance, methods of handling, and sales have been brought to grower members. Five meetings on the markets situation were held with an attendance of 289.

The outlook is encouraging. Farmers are alert and ready to make use of any assistance available. Business interests recognize the soundness of extension work and without exception approve its support.

I look forward to a distinct improvement in the quality of our fruits. More intelligent care of trees and soil will give us larger prunes and an increase in acre tonnage. Apples and pears of unsaleable and shy-bearing varieties will be grubbed out, the balance given faithful attention as to pruning, pests, soil management, packing and marketing. Control of the cherry maggot and other insects and diseases will be had. There now is general demand for the better care of fruit properties.

There is a strong movement to standardize on varieties of grains and potatoes to do away with the mixtures and to raise the yield. The demand for certified seed wheat could not be met in Polk this year, nor will it be met next season. Our men are ready to face the potato disease situation and, with some help, will gain control.

Grey squirrels perhaps never will be eradicated, but shortly will become a negligible factor in crop losses. In 2 years the last gopher in this county can be cleared out.

VICK BROTHERS

ANNOUNCE THEIR THIRD ANNUAL

Automobile Show

To be held in their Show Rooms

Friday and Saturday, Dec. 15-16

AFTERNOONS AND EVENINGS

ENCLOSED CARS will be Featured including

OVERLAND
WILLYS-KNIGHT
OAKLAND
PAIGE
JEWETT

MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT EVENINGS

Vick Bros. High St. at Trade, Salem

More, much more, study will be given feeding of all stock, especially dairy cattle and poultry. Better feed practices alone will increase the net returns immensely. Then will come better breeding. The common cow and the scrub hen can be but a memory 10 years from now.

Farm home conditions are due for wide improvement. \$50 will put a simple water system in most homes and farm women are going to stop carrying water from the well. House lighting, bath facilities, sewage

disposal, well equipped kitchens and other devices and conveniences that make home life agreeable are coming fast.

Light is being thrown on "what happens in the dark" to the bushel of box of prunes, and other products in the transfer from farm to consumer's table. Some marketing abuses will be corrected and farmers will do their share in more economical distribution by improving quality of product and method of pack. We may look for a narrowing of the "spread" in the distribution of farm products. The county agent office by common consent is the headquarters for the organizing and the clearing house for developing this work. Its primary object is to increase the farm income and make the farm home a thoroughly good place in which to live. That these objects are being attained is attested by the work of the last year and the general approval and support of farm people and other taxpayers.

Sensational Xmas Sale

CONTINUES

Your Xmas Groceries at a Saving

13 POUNDS SUGAR \$1 Saturday Special

CANDIES AND COOKIES ETC.

Your Christmas Supply at a Saving in price	
Extra Fancy French Mix Creams, per lb.	.28
Plain Cream Mix, per lb.	.19
Broken Taffey, yum, yum, it's good, per lb.	.16
Peanut Brittle, fresh each week, per lb.	.20
Old Fashion Grocers Mix, per lb.	.14
Broken Mix, the real Xmas Mix, per lb.	.16
Old Fashion Chocolates, per lb.	.23

NUTS AND DRIED FRUITS

will play an important role in your Christmas Dinner service	
Oregon Walnuts, per lb.	.15
Larger sizes to 30c per lb.	
Brazil Nuts, per lb.	.17
Hazel Nuts, per lb.	.17
California Soft Shell Almonds, per lb.	.28
Bulk Seeded or Seedless Raisins, per lb.	.15
Loose Muscat Raisins, per lb.	.15
Bulk Black Figs, per lb.	.21
Bulk White Figs, per lb.	.18
Dried Peaches, per lb.	.23
New Oregon Split Prunes, per lb.	.07
Citron Peel, per 1/2 lb.	.28
Plug Tobaccos such as Star, Horseshoe, Climax Plug	.77
Xmas pkg. Chesterfield Cigarettes per carton	1.43
We have a large lot of good Manila Cigars, retail for 5c	
Will sell at each	.03
Prince Albert, 16 oz. jar, Smoking Tobacco in Xmas pkgs.	1.45

COFFEE, TEAS AND SPICES

M. J. B. Coffee	.42
1s	1.19
3s	1.93
5s	
People's Cash Store Special Blend PEABERRY COFFEE	
A very fine grade, special per lb.	.30
Cinnamon, 2 oz. Cans	.10
Pepper, 2 oz. Cans	.07
Nutmeg, 2 oz. Cans	.11
Tree Tea, black or Japan 1/2 lb. pkgs.	.28
Gun Powder Tea, bulk, per lb.	.30
English Breakfast Tea, per lb.	.35

FLOUR

Crown Flour, per sack	\$1.99
per barrel	7.75
Blue Ribbon Flour, per sack	1.55
per barrel	6.00
Del Monte, patent Flour, per sack	1.85
per bbl.	7.20
Pride of West Flour, sack	1.35
per bbl.	5.30

WITH ONLY SEVEN DAYS REMAINING in which to select Christmas gifts the necessity of shipping at once is of pressing importance if you would complete your list in time. Every resource of this great store has been enlisted to the end that customers may find here, as in seasons past, BEST SERVICE—BEST VALUES—BEST MERCHANDISE—



GIFT SUGGESTIONS

For Her

- Breakfast Jackets
- Kimono
- Comfy Slippers
- Dressing Gowns
- Bath Robes
- Center Pieces
- Table Scarfs
- Pillow Tops
- Guest Towels
- Scarfs
- Sweaters
- Ten Aprons
- Silk Waists
- Petticoats
- Skirts
- Suits
- Dresses
- Millinery
- Gloves
- Veils
- Handkerchiefs
- Lace Collars
- Hand Bags
- Ivory
- Camisoles
- Woolen Blankets
- Indian Blankets
- Sheets
- Pillow Cases
- Table Linen
- Bath Towels
- Towel Sets
- Pair of Pillows
- Dollies
- Robe Blankets
- Bath Mats
- Bed Spreads
- Breakfast Cloths
- Satin Boudoirs
- Silk Underwear
- Silk Gowns
- Lingette Chinese
- Fancy Pajamas
- Silk Brassiers
- Dressing Gowns
- Morning Jackets

For Him

- Bath Robes
- Slippers
- Shirts
- Sox
- Ties
- Gloves
- Sweater Coats
- Hats
- Caps
- Silk Scarfs
- Kerchiefs
- Overcoats
- Rain Coats
- Suits
- Night Shirts
- Pajamas
- Suspenders
- Clothes Brushes
- Wool Shirts
- Wool Sox
- Wool Underwear
- Wool Gloves
- Purses
- Bill Folds
- Kid Gloves
- Silk Shirts
- Beaver Hats
- Belts
- Pongee Kerchiefs
- Pajunions
- Crocheted Ties
- Cheney Ties
- Novelty Ties
- Traveling Sets
- Shoes
- Pullovers
- Coatsweaters

For Little Sis

- Books
- Games
- Dresses
- Coats
- Middie
- Sweaters
- Shoes
- Slippers
- Stockings
- Hats
- Rain Capes
- Bath Robes
- Kerchiefs
- Gloves
- Dressing Sacques
- Fancy Ribbon
- Purses
- Ivory Sets

For Baby Brother

- Dolls
- Toys
- Books
- Ribbon Novelties
- Ivory Sets
- Silk Knitted Caps
- Silk Stockings
- Shoes
- Bootees
- Sweater Sets
- Blankets
- Carriage Robes
- Mittens
- Leggings
- Cashmere Sacques
- Rattles
- Bibs
- Coats
- Dresses
- Rompers
- Silk Comforts
- Novelties

BRING THE CHILDREN IN TO

SEE SANTA CLAUS

FREE GIFTS TO CHILDREN ACCOMPANIED BY PARENTS—SATURDAY FROM 1 TO 4