

WEST SIDE ENTERPRISE

FOURTEENTH YEAR.

INDEPENDENCE, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, FEB. 28, 1908.

NUMBER 7

ONE MAN'S EXPERIENCE

In Planting and Cultivating His Strawberries.

A. J. SHIPLEY OF ALPINE FARM

Writes a Very Instructive and Interesting Letter of Methods Used.

The following article was written by A. J. Shipley for the Oregon Agriculturist and is of such local importance that it is given space in our columns. Mr. Shipley is one of our foremost small fruit growers and his Alpine Berry Farm, west of Monmouth, is doing much to attract notice to this part of the county as a small fruit country.

In this commercial age the all absorbing question coming back to us after every crop we raise or field we cultivate is: "Did it pay?" In the past four years I have had this question propounded to me so many times that I thought an article on this line might be of some benefit to some of the readers of the Agriculturist.

Three years ago, after completing a six months' term of school, I arrived home about May 1st. According to the plans I had laid I had one-half acre of strawberries to plant. I immediately commenced work on my ground and put in nearly three days on it before I thought it ready for the plants. As I was putting the finishing touches on it, a neighbor rode up and his first question was "Does it pay you to spend so much time on such a small plot of ground?" I told him I thought it would, but I could plainly see he thought I had wasted about 24 days' time. I went ahead and planted it, one-half to Marshall and one-half to Wilson strawberries. We used especial care in trimming and setting the plants, and although we finished on May 15th, we saved 1700 out of 1702 plants. Now I ask the question, did it pay to have that ground properly prepared? The plants never wilted but commenced growing at once.

I cultivated the patch thoroughly and kept off all the blooms and kept the runners off until about July 15th, when I let them grow to furnish plants for setting. The plants all made an excellent growth, and on the following year from the quarter-acre of Marshalls I sold \$52 worth of berries. From the Wilsons I got practically nothing. There were few berries on them and they were so small they were not worth picking. The past year I sold \$65 from the Marshalls and about \$2.50 from the Wilsons. Did it pay to put that ground in proper condition, trim and set those plants properly and care for them the first year? I think \$117 pretty good pay for use of land and all labor expended.

Did it pay to plant the Wilsons? Yes. If I had not planted them then, since the canners are recommending them, I would have put out a large patch now and probably lost much more than I did. As it is, I know they are not adapted to my soil, consequently I will plant those I know will do well and let the other fellow raise the Wilsons. Last April I hired an acre of berries put out. As hands were very scarce and wages correspond-

ingly high, I thought I would use a little economy in setting the plants. I had the ground plowed twice and decided to risk planting. Then, to make matters worse, I neglected to give proper instructions about trimming the plants and they were planted untrimmed. As a result the plants kept dying until I did not have one half a stand, and I became disgusted and sowed the ground to vetches for hay. I saved one day's work with man and team, value \$2.50; one days work trimming plants, value \$1.50; total, \$4.00. I lost two crops of strawberries, value \$400. Did it pay? I leave my readers to decide. Of course this was not all a loss as I got some valuable experience, but I think all will decide that I did not get it at reduced rates. I paid full price. Now the lesson I have learned is, put your ground in the best condition possible plant with nothing but good plants taken either from a young patch that has never fruited or from a regular propagating bed, get varieties suited to your locality, work your patch thoroughly, and if the question, Did it pay? comes up, you can cheerfully answer yes.

POLK COUNTY TEACHERS INSTITUTE.

The teachers of Polk county held a very profitable and instructive local institute at the school building Saturday, February, 22. After the opening song, America, Supt. R. F. Robinson of Multnomah county began his talk on language and composition, which was completed at the afternoon session. Supt. Robinson believes that we require too much written work and not enough oral work in our language classes, and that we require work from pupils on subjects about which the pupils know nothing. He holds that language work should get close to the everyday life of the child. He then explained a plan for language work in the first six grades. Prof. Traver, of Monmouth, followed with a talk on grammar. He holds that the time given to grammar should be about equal to that given to composition. He then explained his methods of teaching some of the most difficult parts of the new grammar text book.

Mrs. E. M. Pennel, of Monmouth, gave a talk upon "The Appreciation of Art." Mrs. Pennel exhibited prints of several masterpieces and explained many of their beauties which are overlooked by the average person.

The program was interspersed with numbers by the O. S. N. S. faculty quartette and by parts of the Washington's birthday program given in the school the day before.

Many patrons and friends of the school were present thus showing their interest in education and educational work:

ANTIOCH

V. A. Fishback who has been visiting relatives in Salem returned home Monday.

Guy Suver, of Falls City, is cutting wood for Mr. Gillipin.

Jasper Thompson has returned to his home in Salem.

Lafe Johnson and George Swearingen made a business trip to Falls City the first of the week.

Jay Clark is working for Israel Marks.

Lettie Fishback visited Mrs. Heck in Independence last week.

Israel Marks is building some fencing on his place which he purchased from Allen Towas.

Mr. Bogart, of Monmouth, was seen in our midst Saturday.

Mrs. Allen Towns' sister Mrs. Cobb of Dallas, died the first of the week.

BIG MEETING ON SATURDAY

People to Discuss Plans for Cannery.

AT OPERA HOUSE 2 P. M.

All Those Interested Should Not Fail to be there and Aid.

The meeting tomorrow afternoon should be well attended by everybody that has the welfare of Independence at heart; There is not the shadow of a doubt but it will be of great benefit to the town and surrounding country. At Browns ville where the cannery has been running two years they are enlarging this year and real estate in the vicinity of town, or more strictly speaking, the territory covered by the cannery, has doubled in value since its installation. Here we have the largest body of land suitable to tomato raising in the state. Tomatoes are a standard product of canneries where they can be raised profitably and the demand is unlimited. Four hundred bushels are estimated as average yield per acre, yet there is no reason why there should not be three times as many raised on an acre of the bottom land adjacent to this town. Planted at the regulation distances there are 2700 plants to the acre and from personal experience the writer knows that such soil in this valley will produce one bushel for every perfect vine or hill, which would give, with the liberal allowance for bad plants, a yield of not less than 2000 bushels per acre, or sixty tons. At the lowest contract price ever paid for tomatoes west of the Rocky mountains this would give an income of \$480 per acre. Allowing double the amount usually paid for the care of an acre there would still be a profit of \$450 per acre per year. This strikes the average man as being a mighty good income from one acre of land. These are the best yields and the lowest prices; now we will look at the matter from the point of the lowest yield and the market price that has been contracted at Spokane for this years crop, which is \$13.50 per ton and 12 tons to the acre. This would give returns of \$162 per acre or approximately \$140 clear of expense. With very little outside help the average family can care for ten acres, after they have once gotten the hang of the work. This gives any one an idea of what can be done in the matter of production. Now for the other side of the case, which is the investors side. Vegetable canneries in the east last year declared dividends of a little over 30 per cent and there is no reason why a local cannery here cannot do the same. This then should make it a safe and good investment both for the business men and the farmer, especially the latter as he gets a double shot at the profits.

Spokane makes a good profit out of the business by paying \$13.50 per ton for raw material and then shipping to Portland, paying a freight rate that is nearly as much per hundred as Independence has to pay per ton. Is it not reasonable then that we have the best of the market?

By organizing quickly a cannery can be built and operated at a profit

this year, but time is precious and the people who want this matter settled in time to do anything this year should get a move on.

Turkey Dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kurre gave a dinner Sunday February 25 in honor of their son Charles Kurre and wife, who were recently married and are here visiting with relatives and friends. A general good time was had by all present, but the feature of the evening was the observance of the time honored custom of the older member of the family dancing in the pig trough when he was left single after the youngest had taken up the double burden of life. This fell to the lot of George Kurre, who is the surviving single member of the Kurre family. At first he demurred, but the persuasive eloquence of the ladies finally prevailed and he gracefully submitted to the inevitable. It is said that it was not his fault, this being leap year and he has had no proposals, therefore the young ladies should be blamed more than he, for no doubt he would have accepted had the proposal been made and then he would have escaped the dancing.

Those present were Mr and Mrs. Reeves Mr and Mrs. Claud Kurre, Mr and Mrs Willie Kurre, Mr and Mrs. Bullock, Mrs. Quincy Reeves and little son, Mrs. Chetlet, George Kurre, Maggie Evans, Lee Whitcomb, Alvi Lockridge Willard Reeves, Eva Huston, Miss Snyder, Nellie Kurre, Luis Reeves and Ernest Kurre.

Resolution of Condolence.

Whereas, it has pleased the supreme Ruler of the Universe in his wisdom to call from our midst our late Brother J. M. Mitchell and whereas the intimate relations held by our late Brother with the members of this lodge, render it fitting and proper that we should place on record our appreciation of his service as a Mason there for be it,

Resolved, by Lyon Lodge No. 29 A. F. & A. M. that in the death of Brother Mitchell this lodge loses a Brother, always zealous and active in the cause of Masonry, honest and upright as a man, faithful and true as a citizen, loved and respected by all not only within but without the order, therefore be it further.

Resolved, That this Lodge tender its most heartfelt sympathy to the family and relatives of our deceased Brother in their sad bereavement, and that these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of our Lodge, a copy presented the family and one given the local press for publication.

Oregon C. E. Union

The eighteenth state convention of the Oregon Christian Endeavor union closed last Sunday evening after the most successful session in the history of Endeavor in Oregon. Nearly 150 delegates were present, principally from the Willamette valley.

The list of speakers included the strongest men of the state—in fact, there was not a weak speaker on the whole program. Snap and vigor characterized all the sessions, and the Endeavor movement received great impetus from the meeting.

Rev. C. T. Hurd of Corvallis was reelected president, and Miss A. Viola Charleston as secretary. F. A. Tripp of Eugene was elected treasurer.

Eugene furnished entertainment for all the delegates, and through the cooperation of the merchants had the business streets ablaze with C. E. monograms and the C. E. colors. The next convention will be held in 1910, most likely in some place in eastern Oregon.

FIRST STATE BANK

Independence, Oregon.

CAPITAL, \$25,000

A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS CONDUCTED

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS:

W. A. Measner, Pres. E. Hofer, Vice-Pres. C. C. Patrick, Cash
Wm. Riddell F. N. Stump, J. P. Rogers

POLK COUNTY BANK

MONMOUTH, - OREGON.

PAID CAPITAL \$30,000.00

Transacts a general banking and exchange business. Deposits received, Loans made, Drafts sold.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. H. Hawley, Pres., F. L. Campbell, Vice Pres., Ira C. Powell, Cashier
J. B. V. Butler, F. S. Powell, J. B. Stump,
I. M. Simpson.

H. Hirschberg, Pres. A. Nelson, Vice Pres. C. W. Irvine, Cash.

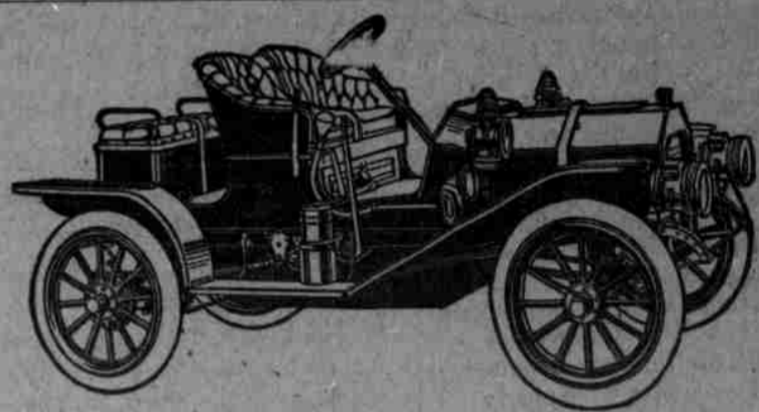
The Independence National Bank

Incorporated 1889

TRANSACTS A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS

Interest Paid on Time Deposits

Directors: H. Hirschberg, A. Nelson, D. W. Sears, B. F. Smith and J. E. Rhodes.



REO GENTLEMEN'S ROADSTER

The sportiest thing on wheels. 20 horse power, 45 miles an hour. Price \$1100; with doctor's Top, \$1140.

H. M. EDGAR, Agt., Independence

To the People of Polk County

To have uniformly good bread you must have good flour. Good flour can be made only from good wheat. We select the wheat used for our local flour from a large amount of wheat and thus get the best. We can therefore guarantee our flour to be the best. If you do not like it return it to your grocer and get your money back. We guarantee it.

"Pride of Oregon," "Valley," and "Prize Peach," hard wheat, are our brands.

W. T. Hoffman M. Tillery

Oregon Milling & Warehouse Co.