

# SUPPLEMENT TO ESTACADA PROGRESS

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The Press Bulletin aims to keep the state press informed in all matters of interest and value related to the work of the Oregon Agricultural College. Editors are respectfully requested to publish for the benefit of their readers such items as they think reasonable and suited to local use.

## EXTENSION

### HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR GROWING CHICKENS

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, June 7.—The attention given the young stock should not lessen materially when it has been placed on the range to mature or has been taken from the mother hens and placed in large coops. The value of the fowls as profitable producers at a later period will largely depend upon how well the stock has been kept constantly developing up to maturity.

The house accommodations for the growing birds are very important. The house should of course be of the open front type to insure fresh air and dryness through good ventilation. It is very desirable to have the house large enough and high enough for a man to enter. This will guarantee plenty of air space and make it much more convenient in cleaning or catching the birds. It is also highly desirable that the house be portable so that it may be moved about. In this way the young fowls can be isolated from the older stock which is a desirable plan. The birds can then be moved out on a pasture, stubble field or orchard, and thus have the advantage of clean ground where they will not be so liable to contract disease which might be among the old flock or in the ground occupied by it. Then, too, the young stock is interfered with considerably at feeding-time and do not have a fair chance if larger fowls are about.

If colony laying houses are used on the farm, these same houses, if portable, can be used for the growing chickens. Or, a good growing colony house could be built 6 x 8 feet in size with an ordinary shed roof and open front. This house could be used later as a laying house to accommodate about 20 hens.

## ENTOMOLOGY

### AMOUNT ARSENIC NEEDED TO KILL CATERPILLARS

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, June 7.—How much arsenic is needed to kill tent caterpillars?

Evidently not nearly so much as is generally used, if the right kind is applied in the right way. Many thousands of caterpillars have been poisoned on sprayed foliage in the entomological laboratories of the Oregon Experiment Station in an attempt to answer the question definitely. The result of having eaten the leaves sprayed with solutions of varying strength could readily be seen by the rapidity with which the larvae died, but in order to determine the actual amount of poison consumed Professor Wilson, conducting the experiments, had the bodies of the larvae analyzed and the recovered arsenic weighed.

It is generally known that there are two kinds of arsenate of lead in use as an insecticide. These are known to the grower as acid and neutral ar-

senates of lead and the acid form is considered more or less liable to cause foliage injury both alone and in combination with other spray materials.

Experiments of previous years demonstrate that if properly made either kind may be used without danger of foliage injury if not used in combination with other spray materials. When used in combination the neutral or basic form is preferable. Further experiments show that these two kinds of arsenate of lead also have different insecticidal values and that the so-called acid or, better, lead hydrogen arsenate is a quicker acting poison than the basic and that less than one-half as much lead hydrogen arsenate is required as with the basic.

The experiments also show that where strength of 2-100 has been recommended 1 to 100 or 200 are quite effective.

The value of this to practical growers who must contend against the caterpillar pests is in saving cost of spray primarily and in some cases saving foliage from damage by needlessly severe applications of poison. Whether the same fact is true of other insects has not been determined but there is possibility that it is the same with some or all of the pests that call for spraying.

### THE TRUE CLOTHES MOTH AND THE BUFFALO MOTH

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, June 7.—The adult clothes moth is about one-half inch from tip to tip of extended wings, is a light grayish yellow or buff color, and is usually seen flying about the house during the spring and summer. The larva is a dull white caterpillar, always found in a movable case or jacket that it constructs and carries with it, enlarging the case as it increases in size. Bits of wool and fur incorporated in the case often gives it the variety of colors of Joseph's coat.

The Buffalo moth is not a moth at all in the adult stage but is a small black beetle of mottled black, gray and reddish color and is three-sixteenths inch in length. The larva is a flattened brown, hairy, active creature, about a half inch long. It is probably more of a carpet pest but will attack all woollens and furs.

Heroic measures are necessary in the control of the beetle when it infests houses. House-cleaning must be undertaken seriously. All rugs, carpets and woollens should be thoroughly brushed and aired in the sunshine. Floors should be well scrubbed and all cracks and crevices sprayed with benzine and then filled with a crack-filler. Very serious infestations call for fumigation, which should ordinarily be done by some one acquainted with the work. Garments may be stored as recommended in last week's bulletin for protection from clothes moth.—A. L. Lovett, Assistant Entomologist, Oregon Experiment Station.

## AGRONOMY

### FLAX CROP FOR FIBER AS GROWN IN OREGON

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, June 7.—Flax in Oregon is grown for two purposes, fiber and seed. For a long time there has been considerable agitation toward getting a flax fiber industry started in Western Oregon. Various business men and women's clubs have tried to foster this industry and at one time some years ago a flax mill was established in Salem. It burned down very shortly after beginning and the industry has never been revived until in recent time. The legislature which met in 1915 appropriated a considerable sum

of money for the installation of a flax mill in the Oregon penitentiary. In a number of ways this was a very happy choice in that it will give a considerable amount of hand labor for the inmates of that institution and also it does not in any way conflict with organized labor or established industry in the state. Further than this, for those who are close enough to Salem that penitentiary labor may be used, it will be a very desirable thing because the labor will be cheap. Cheap labor is the primary requisite in connection with the production of flax for fiber purposes.

When the crop reaches maturity it is pulled by hand and tied into small bundles which are later moistened by dew or by being put in a pond or slow-moving stream and put through what is known as the "retting" process.

This process is a bacterial action in which the fiber is loosened from the woody part of the plant. After it is thoroughly retted, it is then put through a breaking mill and later a scutching machine which removes this coarse material and leaves the fiber.

The type suited to flax production is a long, slender, plant having very few branches. It is ready for harvest for flax purposes shortly after it has passed the full-bloom stage. Broadcasting is necessary in order that there be a uniform size and weight of plant.

## ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

### CARE OF MARES IN FOAL

"There is a lot of nonsense about the care of a mare in foal," say the Animal Husbandry officers of the Oregon Agricultural College. "After she is bred she should be kept rather quiet for several hours, but after that the best thing she can have is steady work and three good meals a day. She should not be worked so hard as to become run down on good feed. If there is any slackening of work it should be about the fifth or sixth month. During the last three months she can do a lot of farm work, such as plowing and harrowing, without injury clear up to the time she drops her foal. She will then be in good condition to stand the physical strain and have her digestive system in good working order."

## POULTRY

### BIG ADDITIONAL REVENUE FROM BETTER EGG YIELD

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, June 7.—"There is no telling what may be accomplished by poultry breeding in the way of increased production of eggs," says Professor James Dryden, head of the Poultry Department of the Oregon Agricultural College. "When it is known that the average of the State of Oregon and of the United States as a whole is about 80 eggs per hen in a year and that it is possible to secure an average of 200 eggs a year, the great possibilities will be at once recognized. As it is, the production of eggs alone in the State of Oregon amounts to over \$5,000,000 a year and of eggs and poultry over \$8,000,000. An increase of a dozen eggs a year per hen in this state would mean about \$1,000,000 added revenue in the year and at the same time a much higher percentage of profit to the producer. Taking the whole country over the increased production would soon pay the cost of the Panama canal."

"There is no section of the United States better adapted to profitable

poultry production than localities in Oregon. Men and women equipped with the requisite knowledge and industry need not hesitate to embark in the business here. The only danger is that people rush into the business who know nothing about its many details.

## HOME ECONOMICS

### HOW TO HANG HOME PICTURES

Pictures should always be selected with regard to the room for which they are intended, taking into consideration the use of the room, its size, the relative spacings of the wall, and the wall coverings. If the room to be furnished is a dining room, then one may use for it marine scenes, landscapes, still-life, but almost never are the so-called "dining-room" pictures of fruits and fowls either beautiful or appropriate. Family portraits or portraits of famous men are also out of place in the dining room. They may be displayed to advantage in the library; or if the house be too small to include a room given over to this purpose, the portraits of famous men might be grouped in the living room and the family portraits hung in the bedrooms of the members of the family. The widest range of choice lies in the selection of pictures for the living room. Here one may use almost any subject; scenes, still-life, or copies of any of the old masterpieces are always in good taste.

## COLLEGE NEWS

### O. A. C. LOAN FUND GROWS BUT SHOULD BE DOUBLED

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, June 7.—The Oregon Agricultural College has developed a loan fund of \$4345, to be loaned in small amounts at long time and reasonable interest to students who have to borrow a little money or give up their education until they earn money. To May 1, 1915, 178 loans had been made by the committee in charge of the fund. "But until our loan fund reaches a minimum of \$10,000 we cannot hope adequately to meet demands made upon it by deserving students," says the committee report.

The fund was made up of subscriptions by friends of the school in different parts of the state, by student body associations and by faculty contributions. A minstrel show given by faculty men recently netted \$247.07 for the fund and the base ball games with the U. of O., \$48.40.

## FACULTY

### Y. W. C. A. SECRETARY CHOSEN

Miss Lillian Francis, of Chicago, has been employed as Instructor in Domestic Science and Secretary of the Young Women's Christian Association of the Oregon Agricultural College. Miss Francis is a graduate of the University of Chicago with the Bachelor of Science degree, and has taken graduate work in the same institution. Her major subjects were in home economics and sociology. A number of courses were taken in the Divinity School under Dr. Schaller Matthews and Dr. Willett. She was graduated with honors, and has since traveled extensively. For three years she has been in charge of the home economics work in the Mary Crayne Nursery, which is a sub-division of Hull House. She has always taken a very deep interest in Christian Association work.