

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.

BOTANY

BEAUTIFUL OX-EYE DAISY DUBBED WORST OF WEEDS

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Aug. 30.—The ox-eye daisy is one of the most handsome and popular flowers of the thistle family, but when once established it is also the worst of weeds, troublesome and hard to eradicate. Probably the best way of clearing it from meadows is to mow it after blossoming and before the seeds mature, and curing it for hay, says H. S. Hammond, of the Oregon Agricultural College Botany department. Since the plant blossoms eight or ten days before maturing seed it is easy to cut it while in the best stage for hay, at which time stock eat it fairly well when it is nicely cured.

"In many eastern states," says Professor Hammond, "it has almost complete possession of pastures making them quite white when in bloom. It spreads chiefly by its seeds, scattered in hay, manure and various farm seeds. It has a perennial root stock from which it continues to propagate itself until killed. Many of these root stocks will die when the plants are mowed during the blossoming period.

"The plant is shallow rooted and may be readily destroyed from meadows and fields by plowing followed by cultivation. Rotation of crops offers a good means of riddance. If the meadow is to be continued repeated mowings and close pasturing by sheep to prevent blossoming may be continued until the plants die down.

"People who are not yet troubled with this plant should be on their guard against its introduction. When isolated plants appear about the fields and premises they should be dug up before they get established and begin to scatter seed."

DAIRY

COWS LIKE MIXED FEEDS

Although a dairy cow ration may quite often be well balanced with one or two feeds it is generally better to have a larger number, according to Professor R. R. Graves, of the Oregon Agricultural College Dairy department. The ration of the high producing dairy cow should contain at least two kinds of roughage and several kinds of grain. There should always be some laxative feeds among these, and otherwise they may be selected to afford carbohydrates and fat at the lowest cost possible when combined with digestible protein in the most economical form.

SOILING SYSTEM FAVORED

Soiling in dairy feeding is being more widely used every year where dairying is a leading industry or where it is conducted near large cities. Its advantages according to Professor R. R. Graves, of the Oregon Agricultural College, are increased yield of forage to the acre, saving of land and

fences, and more cows kept on a given area. It also generally leads to better care and use of manure, keeping the soil built up. Its disadvantages are more labor in feeding, more care in planning rotation, and difficulty of securing green feed just when most needed. Some of these difficulties may be overcome by supplementing pasture with soiling and storing the surplus green feed in the silo.

AIM OF MILK TEST LAW

"The purpose of the recent laws licensing testers in Oregon is to insure accurate and honest tests for the protection of both the producer and manufacturer," says E. B. Fitts, the Agricultural College Extension dairyman. "To secure this result requires fair and representative samples, correct measuring or weighing, accurate glassware, and correct reading of the test."

AGRONOMY

THINGS THAT BUILD SOIL

Among the more important factors that science has contributed to agriculture for maintaining the fertility of new soils and restoring fertility to depleted soils, the following are mentioned by the O. A. C. Press Bulletins: growing nitrogen gathering legumes and plowing under humus forming green crops; systematic crop rotation that provides for the more nearly equal use of the various plant nutrients of the soil, lessens soil diseases, favors good physical condition and provides time for release of unavailable plant foods; use of live-stock for returning organic matter to the farm, thus selling farm products in concentrated form and removing but a minimum of fertility matter; cultivated crops for summer fallow, serving the double purpose of protecting the soil and producing a source of income; use of lime and commercial fertilizers to produce desirable soil conditions and supply needed fertility elements; and relentless warfare upon noxious weeds that waste the energy of the soil and crowd out valuable farm plants.

PLANT PATHOLOGY

FIREBLIGHT ON NATIVE TREES

That fireblight persists on native shrubs and trees has been pointed out frequently of late by plant pathologists of the Oregon Agricultural College. Field men working to eradicate the disease find that this condition is one of the most serious that has to be met. This source of infection is declared by C. E. Stewart, fruit inspector of Lane County, to be worse than fruit trees and that if it could be eliminated danger of spread would be placed at a minimum. He thinks it would be a good thing to compel the destruction of every wild crabapple tree in the county, if that were possible. Of course the policy would have to be extended to every other county in which the blight has appeared, and include other native hosts, notably the hawthorn, service berry and mountain ash.

AGRICULTURE

OREGON FIELD CROPS

More than 40 per cent of Oregon's agricultural products are field crops, according to recent estimates. These consist chiefly of grains, hay, hops, root crops, and green forage. They are important not alone for the income they produce but because of their relation to other sources of in-

come—livestock, dairy and poultry products, aggregating sixty millions of dollars. The importance of the field crop industries of the state justifies the policy of the United States Department of Agriculture and the Extension division of the Agricultural College in placing a farm management specialist in charge of farm survey work to learn how to make farming operation more efficient and satisfactory.

INDUSTRIAL CLUBS

ENCOURAGING THE BOYS

Opportunity will be offered to 25 Oregon boys to attend the Agricultural College summer camp school, all expenses paid, if the plans now under way mature successfully. N. A. Maris, of the State Educational department, and F. L. Griffin, state agent of boys' and girls' industrial clubs, have agreed upon the general features of the plan, which provides for sending the winner of each of the 25 main and subdivision projects in which the industrial club work is to be carried this year, to the popular Boys' Short Course at the College next summer. It is the plan of the departments to have all expenses of every winner fully paid from the time he leaves until he returns, no matter what part of the state he comes from.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

EXAMINING HORSE'S EYE FOR DAMAGING DEFECTS

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Aug. 30.—Examining a horse's eye for defective vision or other unsoundness is best done in a darkened stable having a door through which strong daylight is admitted, says Carl N. Kennedy, specialist in horses at the Oregon Agricultural College. While making the examination the examiner should have his back to the light while the horse faces it. Some of the defects and their indications to be sought for, if present, are the following:

The two eyes should be compared as to size, color and relative position in their respective sockets. The eyelids should be examined for injuries, inflammation, and lashes growing in the wrong direction. The pupils should be of equal size and should respond readily to light. This may be tested by holding the hands over the eyes in such a position that light is shut off for about half a minute. When the hands are removed both pupils should be equally dilated, and both should contract upon exposure to light.

The posterior chamber of the eye, as seen through the pupil, should be of a uniform dark color. White or gray spots in this region usually indicate an abnormal crystalline lens.

EDUCATION

MANUAL TRAINING WANTED

Oregon school boards are calling for more teachers of manual training than can be found among those trained to teach the subject. The entire available list of O. A. C. graduates of manual arts, who are listed with the teachers' appointment committee, has been exhausted but the demand still continues. In some instances the school boards have asked teachers without preparation for teaching the subject to install a plant and do the best they can. Some of the teachers thus urged have availed themselves of the College facilities

for imparting instruction and are working up the proposed course with the help of the College either by correspondence or in person. Others needing the help of the College department may get it by addressing Frank H. Shepard, O. A. C., Corvallis, Ore.

EXTENSION

FARMERS COUNT COST

The Oregon farmer is beginning to take note of the decreasing yield of crop production and its increasing cost, says E. T. Reed, of the Agricultural College, and to keep records and count the cost. He is giving more and more attention to growing the kind and quality of products demanded by the markets and to grading them to conform to market standards. He is beginning to value his real estate at prevailing prices, to appraise his hay and grain at market rates, and to make due charges for the labor of himself and his family at current wage rates. He is taking these means to secure a reasonable income on his investments and his labor, and though he has not yet succeeded in doing so he has made a good start and should succeed on these lines, other things being properly cared for.

EXTENSION OFFICER RESIGNS

Paul M. Collins, secretary of Extension at the Oregon Agricultural College, has resigned to accept the superintendency of the city schools of Bonners Ferry, Idaho. Mr. Collins' labor for the advancement of agricultural interests in Oregon has been highly efficient and his retirement from extension work will be regretted by the College and by the citizens of the state, many of whom have benefited by his extension work.

ENTOMOLOGY

SPRAY FOR TOMATO APHIS

The tomato aphis is a small, dark green insect that attacks the tomato frequently in Oregon, and less often the potato, says A. L. Lovett, assistant entomologist of the Agricultural College. It does not often occur in injurious numbers, but when it does the contact sprays as employed for similar aphids will prove effective in the control of this aphis.

Y. M. C. A.

Y. M. C. A. ON DUTY

Bert Howell, secretary of the Y. M. C. A. at the Oregon Agricultural College, has returned from a study of college Christian Association methods in other parts of the United States, and is organizing his committees for effective service at the opening of the College year, September 17. The association assists students in many ways, two of which are in finding satisfactory homes for them while at college and finding employment for the very large number that contribute to their own living. Lists of rooming and boarding places have been made out and all new comers will be informed of suitable places. Those who desire advice will be given the judgment of the committees, after the particulars of their requirements are known. Students coming for the first time should as far as possible send advance notice of the date and train on which they expect to arrive. Address Bert Howell, Y. M. C. A. secretary, Corvallis, Oregon.