

# 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 seasonable and suited to local use.

## AGRONOMY

### BIG VALUE IN STRAW

Thirteen burned or burning straw-stacks were seen by the O. A. C. Press bulletin editor a little less than a year ago, in traveling 60 miles along a Willamette Valley railway. Formerly much of the straw now wasted in smoke was hauled to mills and made into paper. The loss to the land is the same in both practices, not only carrying away fertility elements but leaving the soil in easily puddled condition. The value of the former is about \$2.84 in each ton of wheat straw, \$4.05 in each ton of oat straw, and \$7.48 in clover straw. Draining the soils of these elements for plant making year by year causes losses that lead to depletion, and at the same time renders less available the portions remaining by taking out the supply of humus—the soil ingredient that makes the soil work readily and gives it the dark, rich look, so much sought after in general farm lands. Since the season of the year is now approaching when large quantities of straw are burned, the Press Bulletin has secured for its next issue an illustrated article by Professor G. R. Hyslop on methods of returning straw to the soil.

## EXTENSION

### MOTHERS AND TEACHERS WANT LESS INFRINGEMENT

The Oregon Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations believe it to be their duty to do everything in their power to create a public sentiment in favor of the following proposition:

Parent-Teachers Associations, so that the school and the home may be brought to have a sympathetic appreciation of the work of the teacher and in every way may help in the betterment of the school and of the whole community.

Industrial and vocational instruction in the public schools of the state. Such industries are the basis of the life of all times. Too long has there been a separation between living and learning to live—between participation in constructive activity and mere book knowledge.

The elimination of politics in the election of members of school boards and superintendents and teachers. Public sentiment should demand that members of school boards should be business men and women of education, interested in and informed concerning modern educational methods, and capable of managing large business interests, and of selecting capable men and women, who shall be given unlimited power to handle the educational matters of the school district. Public sentiment should create a school spirit in each community which would maintain good teachers and school officers in their positions more securely than any law that could be drafted in their behalf.

The extension of suffrage on school questions to the registered voters of the district.

Women are vitally interested in all matters pertaining to education.

Women in Oregon, who today vote on all other questions should not be deprived of the privilege of voting on school questions. The school tax is only about one-fourth or one-fifth of the total taxes. If registered voters can vote to elect representatives who apportion four-fifths of the taxes, why are they not qualified to vote for men who apportion one-fifth of the taxes?

## COW TESTING GROWS

Preliminary work is now under way for the organization of three more cow-testing associations in Oregon. Twelve of these associations are now conducting scientific tests on the production of their herds and the addition of those now in charge of the O. A. C. dairy specialists for organization will place this state at or near the head of progressive dairy states of the Union. Oregon now leads in the number of pure-bred Jerseys under official test. Some wonderful records are being made and the fame of the state as a source of high-producing Jerseys is spreading throughout the country.

## ALUMNI

### SALEM O. A. C. ALUMNI ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Sept. 6.—One of the first O. A. C. alumni associations to renew its activities is the Salem Orange Club. Its annual picnic was held August 30, at which time officers were elected for the coming year and committees appointed to carry forward the club work. Joe McAllister was chosen president and Miss May Steusloff secretary.

The meeting was favored with an address by Governor James Withycombe, who expressed pleasure that the graduates of the Agricultural College are taking such a prominent part in the affairs of state. Other addresses were made by leading citizens of the community, including J. H. Albert, who said that he had received much benefit from the four short courses he had taken at the College, and Percy Cupper, an O. A. C. graduate now in the State Engineer's office. A spirit of optimism and good cheer prevailed and the club looks forward with much confidence to the work of the College.

## COMMERCE

### TRAINING FOR CITIZENSHIP

That every citizen of Oregon has business and social relations that justify a study of the fundamentals of political economy, is the declaration of the O. A. C. economists. The need of this study is particularly acute in a democracy wherein every man and woman is a voter and directly influences public policy. A knowledge of the origin, composition and operations of the government is so necessary that if it was not secured in the course of school work it should be acquired by a systematic course of reading or in some other effective manner.

## PLANT PATHOLOGY

### JACKSON'S SUCCESSOR NAMED

H. P. Barss, whose research and field work in economical plant pathology has made him known to many Oregon growers, has been appointed head of the department at O. A. C. to succeed Professor H. S. Jackson, who resigned to become chief of the Botany department of Purdue University. Professor Barss is not only

a proficient plant pathologist but has the added advantage of being well acquainted with diseases that attack Oregon field and orchard plants and with the best measures for their control. His appointment gives great satisfaction to the College men and will no doubt be highly acceptable to farmers and orchardists of Oregon.

## BOTANY

### SPRAYS FOR WEED CONTROL

"About the only sprays that I know of used successfully in the control of weeds are those that are used primarily to prevent seeding," says H. S. Hammond, of the O. A. C. Botany department. "Three of the most common are 12 pounds of copper sulphate, or 100 pounds iron sulphate or 119 of common salt, each dissolved in 50 gallons of water. This will make enough weed spray to cover one acre. It will not destroy the plants but it will hinder and prevent seed formation." This will control annuals and retard development of some perennials, but the best way to eradicate such plants as the Canada thistle is to keep them down for a few months by hoe cuttings, when the root portion will gradually die of starvation.

## AGRICULTURE

### MUST DO FARM WORK

The O. A. C. School of Agriculture announces that in order to receive degrees in agriculture all students will be required to have had experience in the work in which they are majoring. This experience may have been secured either before entering upon the course or during its progress by work during college vacations. In conformity with this ruling a large number of students of agriculture have spent the present summer in working on farms, either in horticulture, field crops, animal husbandry or dairying.

## AGRONOMY

### MAY SELL UNLABELED SEED

Oregon farmers may sell seed of their own growing on their own premises to purchasers that buy for their own use. This notwithstanding the rigid law requiring that all seed offered for sale in quantities greater than one pound shall be labeled with the percentages of purity and viability. It is pointed out by the Agricultural College Press Bulletins that any possible inconvenience in buying seed under the new law may be overcome in this way and that not only seeds free of bad weed seed and of strong germinating power may be secured by farmers and gardeners, but that the home-grown seed will also have a certain amount of acclimatization. All these factors enter largely into the problem of a good crop yield next season.

## COLLEGE NEWS

### STUDENTS ARRIVE AT O. A. C.

Although opening of College is still two weeks away groups of students are beginning to reach the Oregon Agricultural College in large numbers. This early arrival, more or less usual, is larger than usual this year, because of the changes brought about by raising the entrance requirements of degree students to four years of high school work, or its equivalent. College home associations will be formed on a slightly modified basis, and many

club houses will be opened this fall for students' associations. Planning the future under the new conditions is now the pleasurable occupations that calls the early assemblages of College students.

## OIL GRAVELED ROADS

The graveled roads and drive-ways about the O. A. C. campus are being treated to a coat of oil. Most of these roads were constructed a couple of years ago and have stood up well under the heavy strain of campus use and scores of automobiles that daily pass over them on business or sight-seeing. Clay and the dust of wearing gravel have been the only binding matter used up to the present.

## WIDE LATITUDE IN FEEDING SILAGE

### Ensiled Products May Be Fed at Once or Kept For Many Years

## CHEMICAL CHANGES PRESERVE

### Acid-Forming Bacteria Developed that Kill Putrefactive Germs if Sealed from Air.

One of the big advantages of silage is that feeding it may be begun as soon as it is put into the silo, and continued, with or without intervals of non-use, until it has all been fed. Of course the feed has not really become ensilage until it has undergone the necessary chemical changes, but the ensiled product may be fed as a soiling crop until such changes do occur. On the other hand, not less than an inch and a half should be fed from the surface every day after feeding begins if no loss is to be encountered. But if conditions are such that it is advisable to stop the use of silage for a few days or longer, it may be done with the loss of only a few inches on top. The decay of the upper layers will cause a mold that soon makes the surface impervious to air, and then spoilage stops. The silage may be kept for many months and even years without damage after it is sealed air tight.

So said Professor R. R. Graves, head of the Oregon Agricultural College Dairy department, in reply to inquiries from many farmers and dairymen of Oregon, who are beginning to feed silage for the first time. These advantages make the use of silage highly desirable not merely in the winter but also for summer feeding. By the use of the silo the entire crop may be stored at one operation and fed out according to the demands controlled largely by the supply of other succulent feeds. While it is recommended that feeding be continuous where feasible it may be suspended with advantage when new sources of pasture, kale roots or other similar perishable feeds arise. During the time that this supply lasts the ensilage may be left unused. But a small amount will be spoiled at the worst, and even this loss may be avoided by covering the surface with wet soil, sacks slightly covered with straw, or sprouting grain. The saving thus secured, however, is thought by Professor Graves hardly to be worth the trouble and expense of saving it in this way. The chemical changes which turn the green

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