

MISTAKES IN EARLY OREGON FARMING

Apples Grown Without Market for Crop, Grain Production Depleted Soil

DIVERSIFICATION LACKING

Unbalanced Specialization Resulted in Waste of Labor, Expense and Resources.

(By D. A. Brodie, of U. S. Department of Agriculture in O. A. C. Lecture)

Before there were any railroads in the west the earliest pioneers planted large apple orchards all over the Willamette Valley. Why they did it no one seems to know. The only use they ever were was to furnish an abundance of gnarled and scabby apples, only a few of which could be used by the family. The bulk of the crop rotted on the ground. No commercial use was ever made of the fruit except in certain localities in which cities began to grow up and created a small local demand. There is hardly a trace of the old pioneer orchards left. They died out quickly after fruit diseases and insect pests came in because the trees were too large and had been neglected so long that the expense of renovation was too great.

After the railroads began to build across the mountains, wheat growing developed rapidly and as long as good prices prevailed the farmers made money, but a period of low prices and the depleted fertility of the soil made it impossible for the Willamette Valley to compete with sections where the lands were new and rich.

Hop growing has been a feature of agriculture of the Northwest, but the industry is held within certain limits by the limited market for hops. Whenever the farmers begin to plant hop yards, which invariably occurs after a few years of good prices, it is not long before the price goes below the cost of production and the whole hop industry passes to other hands simply because it was overdone.

When the country is young, and industries are being developed, types of farming develop as the demand for certain products grows. When the demand for these products change the type of farming must change.

After the country has passed through a long period of uninterrupted growth its business becomes settled and stable. The temporary industries

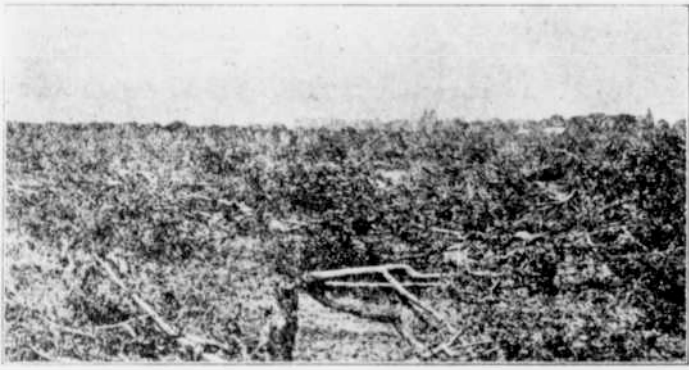
and manufacturing of New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and hundreds of lesser cities have steadily grown up without any disturbing influence since that time. Whatever changes are taking place in the types of farming of that locality are taking place so gradually that a period of 20 years makes so little change that it can hardly be noticed.

Where older sections have been disturbed in their development, as was the South when it abolished slavery, the types of farming are rendered unstable. The old plantation system with its splendid organization was disrupted. Its labor uncontrolled, became unreliable. The single crop system developed because it was the easiest way to handle the labor. Now this system has been proven to be out of adjustment with the local needs, because, with cotton the only revenue producer, there are periods when the price is below the cost of production, and the population suffers for lack of money to buy the necessities of life. There is also disaster when something unusual destroys the crop, as in the case of the boll weevil ravages or when the markets are closed by international disturbances such as exist at the present time. In either of these cases the need of other products is greatly felt.

Contrast this with conditions in New York State this year. The prices of apples and potatoes are away below the normal, yet the farmers are not suffering because they never have relied on any one crop and with other crops to sell at good prices they do not feel the loss of revenue from apples and potatoes.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR PHARMACY DEPARTMENT

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Ore., Oct. 4.—The department of Pharmacy at the Oregon Agricultural College has been received as a member of the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties. As a result of this membership the credits of students in the department will now be accepted by all other members of the Conference, which comprises practically all the great state universities having schools of pharmacy in this country. The standards of the conference are accepted, moreover, by practically all state boards of pharmacy, including the Oregon State Board. The requirements of the latter, issued in its latest circular of information, are as follows: Beginning January 1, 1917, all candidates for examination as registered pharmacists or assistant pharmacists must be



The ultimate fate of many orchards—shallow soil, poor drainage, wrong varieties, and improper management rendering the business unprofitable under such conditions.

such as lumbering, exploitive farming, and the like die out and manufacturing and broader lines of commerce become established, creating a steady demand for certain products from the farm which adjust themselves as to distance from market and means of transportation into definite and settled channels.

To illustrate this all we need to do is to look back over the history of the past 20 years of this country. We have seen how Oregon passed through three successive changes and what caused these changes. Compare this with the history of Chester Co., Pa., the ground upon which the Battle of Brandywine was fought during the Revolutionary war. The commerce

graduates of a college of Pharmacy recognized by the American Conference. Graduates of the O. A. C. department of Pharmacy are eligible to take the state examinations. Students who have had a year's work in the department are eligible to take the examinations before January 1, 1917.

The admission of the department to the Conference is a result of the reorganization of equipment and courses of study completed last year under the direction of Professor Zieffle, the new head of the department. Graduates of its four-years courses will now be on a par with those of the leading schools of Pharmacy throughout the country.

FEATURES EMBODIED IN FARROWING PEN

Protection From Weather and Predacious Animals Is Required

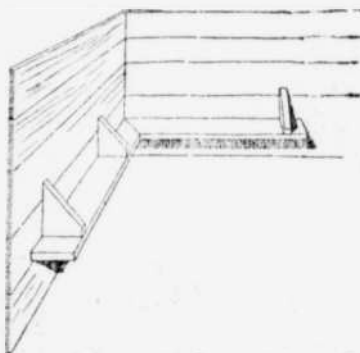
SIZE IMPORTANT FACTOR

Structure Either Colony House or One Room of Large Centralized House in Section.

(By G. R. Samson, Swine Specialist at O. A. C.)

The features to be embodied in a farrowing pen are sunshine, cleanliness, slope or drainage of the floor, protection of the sow from weather and draught and from other pigs, and of the pigs from predacious animals.

These points will involve a space at least 8 ft. x 10 ft., and preferably



Fender Rail for Farrowing Pen

10 ft. x 10 ft. The farrowing pen may be one unit of a large or centralized piggery or it may be a detached building or sty in the nature of a colony house. In the latter case 8 ft. x 10 ft. or ever 8 ft. x 8 ft. is very satisfactory if a platform outside is provided on which to place the trough in muddy weather. For late spring and summer pigs, however, it is suitable and the initial cost is approximately only one-sixth that of a farrowing pen in a centralized house.

To secure direct sunlight on the floor, the windows should be located in the side of the pen which promises the greatest amount of sunshine. This will usually be the south side, and if the pen is in a centralized house, the latter may well face the south, the windows being at such height that the light strikes the floor of the pen as long as possible during the season when farrowing is planned. If colony houses are used and rains do not come from the south, the house may have the open front to the south or have a window in the south end; if rains prevail from the south, a sash may be inserted in the south side of the house or the house may face north and have a glass in the back. The latter is less satisfactory for the light either passes over the bed or else if the window is low enough for the light to strike the bed, the sow is likely to break the glass.

To secure drainage of the floor, the latter is frequently sloped toward the door, the bed being highest. Some plan for removing the manure and liquid excrement will need to be provided both for sanitary and economic reasons. Sometimes the entire floor slopes to an intake for liquid which is piped to a cistern or pit and the solid manure is cared for separately.

The roof should be tight to keep the bed dry and avoid an excess of liquid to be cared for with the manure. The walls of the pen may be tight except for openings for ventilation which should be so located as to avoid direct air currents on the bed; or if a centralized house is used, the bed at least should be enclosed on the windy side by tight boards two or three feet high. This may be either a part of the enclosure or if the partitions are of woven wire or open work of any kind, wind breaks around the bed should be temporarily provided as large houses are likely to be draughty.

Protection from other pigs will, of course, be secured by excluding them from the farrowing pen. Other hogs sometimes eat the young and in this way may also induce the habit in the sow.

The little pigs need protection from their mother lest she lie on them or mash them against the wall. A fender rail such as shown in the drawing affords a fair degree of protection, though a sow may lie on a pig or step on it in the middle of the pen; but by far the most young pigs are killed by being mashed against the wall or in the bottom of too deep a pig bed. This latter can be avoided by seeing to it that only a small amount of straw be provided, and that it is fairly chaffy.

WORK BEGINS AT O. A. C. WITH LARGE ATTENDANCE

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Sept. 27.—Enthusiasm reached its height in opening the college year at the Oregon Agricultural College when the student body first assembled for convocation. Because of a change in the system of registration it had been impossible to secure comparative figures on registration and while it seemed evident that an increase would be shown no one really knew. But just before the first assembly, on Wednesday of the first week, the registrar succeeded in tabulating some registration data. This showed that on the preceding day 1062 students had registered as against 836 one year ago. Completed registrations at 11:30 numbered just 1133.

But it was when the students entered the large convocation hall and attempted to find seats that the full effect of the heavy registration was seen. All chairs were filled and scores of young men were forced to seek standing room in the rear of the hall. As President Kerr and the faculty entered lusty cheers broke from the student ranks and were promptly followed by pledges of student loyalty in the work of the opening year.

President Kerr then greeted the students, new and old, and in a few earnest words, eloquent with purpose to direct and encourage young men and women in taking full advantage of their college life, showed how the unequalled opportunities of this year may be most fully used. He pointed out that although student government has been in operation at O. A. C. for eight years, it has not fully passed the probationary stage, and that its final success depends upon a wise and unselfish use of its many advantages.

INSECT PEST BULLETIN

A new and revised edition of the O. A. C. Extension bulletin, Insect Pests of Truck and Garden Crops, is now ready for distribution. To those Oregon gardeners that have been forced to fight insects in order to protect their crops from the ravages of the many pests, this announcement will come as a welcome bit of news. Numerous experiments and trials lie back of all recommendations offered specifically, while less definite information is invariably given as reports. In this way growers may discern the tried-in-Oregon control measures, which can be definitely relied upon, while in cases where this personal knowledge is lacking helpful suggestions may be found. Write for copies and save more of your own crops while protecting your neighbor's from migrating swarms out of your garden.

BUSINESS SIDE OF FARMING

With the publication of the third number in the business side of farming series of O. A. C. bulletins, Oregon farmers have a vast fund of carefully selected and reliable information on three important phases of this subject. The latest number deals with real property rights, titles, transfers, etc.—and was written by Hon. E. E. Wilson, former member of the Board of Regents. The preceding numbers are farm accounting, by Dean J. A. Bexell, and rural organization and co-operation, by Dr. Hector Macpherson. Copies of these numbers are free to all residents of Oregon.