

DEER CREEK FARMS

(Continued from page Nine)

rented by Chauncey Messenger, who has some 150 acres in cultivation, mostly grain, for hay and threshing, pasture and 3 or 4 acres of alfalfa.

The next farm of considerable size is the A. A. Hanseth place of 280 acres with 100 acres cultivated, and irrigation for a small tract. Mr. Hanseth has 12 acres of alfalfa, from which he takes two good cuts and one without irrigation, yielding a total of 5 tons per acre for the season. There are 26 acres of grain, from which he expects on threshing, 200 bushels of wheat and 300 of oats. He is milking from 3 to 5 cows and is starting in the Shorthorn line, having purchased jointly with other farmers a pure bred bull of that type. He has 40 thoroughbred Shropshires and 16 head of Duroc Jerseys and Berkshire hogs.

J. C. Smith

In this vicinity are also the D. E. Gerald, Bert Hogue, Harliss and Christy places. Next above the Hanseth place, however, in the way of larger cultivated farms is J. C. Smith on the George W. Walton tract. Mr. Smith is cultivating, or pasturing 60 acres of the 108 acre tract, but has very little water for irrigation purposes. He had 20 acres of grain from which he took 600 bushels besides what was out for hay, his wheat running about 25 bushels and the oats about 50 bushels. Five acres of Yellow Dent corn helped in filling up the 30 ton silo and furnish winter feed for the dairy cows, of which he is milking about 8 head. Mr. Smith is building up his herd into pure blooded Shorthorn, having joined in the purchase of a thoroughbred bull. He has 5 acres of alfalfa which has yielded 10 tons with only one irrigation and two cuttings. He now has 25 head of stock cattle on the Grayback range, and plans to increase his stock to 15 head of milk cows and 30 head beef cattle. In the hog line he now has 60 head of purebred and high grade Duroc Jerseys with a few Berkshires, but liking the former better.

Crooks Creek

At this point we turn up Crooks creek and proceed to the Crooks ranch one of the oldest holdings in the valley. This consists of 247 acres, with some 75 acres cultivated and 45 more denoted at meadow,

producing hay. Of this 15 acres are in alfalfa, from which they take two cuttings for a total yield of about 30 tons, 40 acres in grain for threshing and nearly the same in grain hay. There are about 6 acres of corn, partly irrigated, and of Minnesota 13 variety, and 1 acre of orchard. The grain hay weighed in at about 45 tons and the threshed grain went about 20 bushels for the wheat and 30 for the oats. They milk 3 cows, Durhams and Jerseys mixed. In the dairy line, and run 75 head of Berkshire hogs, and 20 head of beef cattle. The hogs are sired by a registered boar, which weighs up to 600 pounds. They are filling their 30 ton silo for winter feeding.

Above this place are J. V. Welland with an 80 acre tract and some 25 acres cultivated. W. M. Barr, with 35 acres in cultivation and Chas. Harmon with about 30 acres of his 80 cultivated and in alfalfa. Now, at the W. M. Williams farm, where there are about 35 acres of a 107 total now in cultivation and 60 to be shortly. Mr. Williams has 4 acres of alfalfa from which he takes two good crops without water, yielding 5 tons to the acre, and 16 acres of grain, 5 of oats, 7 of wheat and 4 of rye. Most of this was threshed and yielded well. There were also 5 acres of corn which gave an excellent stand, grown from River Banks Farms Minnesota seed. One acre of potatoes made a wonderful growth. Mr. Williams has 7 head of beef cattle and milks from 2 to 3 cows which test better than 4 per cent each. He is heading his dairy herd with the first registered bull in Deer creek valley, a Shorthorn, and will increase along the dairy line. He has also 15 head of Berkshire and Poland China hogs and 64 head of Shropshire sheep. A 30 ton silo was filled this fall.

We have now passed also the Tuttle and H. N. Noble places, the latter having been a homestead, with some 18 acres in grain for hay. Also along the line were the De Grasse, Breazeale, Wm. Sargent, Bishop and Prost properties, with, however, very little in the way of production.

Above Dryden—Deer Park Ranch

A short run up the road now brings us to Dryden, a store and post office, but nevertheless a land-mark. We turn sharp to the left here and after plunging through a veritable jungle of undergrowth, come out upon Deer Park Ranch, the T. G. Harmon property of 280 acres. Of this there are 75 acres in cultivation, and will be 100 acres, with irrigation for 30 or 40 acres. Six acres have been

but recently put into alfalfa and 45 acres in grain, largely for hay, although some 100 bushels of wheat and 60 of rye were threshed out. Corn makes up 5 acres and will produce silage for the 30 ton tank, and there is over one acre in orchard and the rest of the second in potatoes. Mr. Harmon has been engaged in dairying to some extent, along with running 40 hogs, Durocs and Poland Chinas, partly pure bred animals. He has also one pure blooded Shorthorn bull. A considerable part of the 280 acres included a magnificent stand of timber which is to be milled a little later.

Clarence Messenger

Adjoining this is the 140 acre farm of John Harmon, of which 20 acres is cleared and 12 acres cultivated, in grain and clover. Now returning to the road we again wind through an apparently virgin growth of brush and timber, little expecting to come out in less than a mile upon one of the very finest farms in the entire valley, and one of the most impressive sights. Stepping out of a twilight of dense growth we look up over the broad, level valley bottom which makes up the 480 acres of Clarence Messenger's farm. Here Mr. Messenger has some 120 acres in cultivation and all under irrigation, this tract comprising one beautiful meadow surrounded by an exceptionally heavy forest growth on three sides, and flanked by the road which leads to the home and farm buildings at the upper end. Mr. Messenger has 10 acres of alfalfa, irrigated, which yield 4 to 5 tons per acre per season from 2 and 3 cuttings. Ninety acres of grain threshed 1500 bushels of wheat and 100 bushels of oats, with some 20 acres of corn for grain, in addition. He has previously run a herd of stock cattle, but now has none, although he plans another herd of 200 head. He has also 100 Poland China hogs. Farming is strictly up-to-date, a Fordson replacing several horses, and his own separator for the threshing.

Tollin Farm

We have now come up the creek under the towering tip of Kirby Peak and Little Grayback, and turn about to return to Dryden. Here our road leads again to the left, down the other side of the valley, and brings us shortly to the R. L. Tollin farm. This tract totals 170 acres with 40 acres cultivated and no irrigation. There will be 100 acres cultivated here eventually and a pumping plant, taking water from Thompson creek, a tributary, could cover 30 acres for

irrigation. There are this year 15 acres in grain, which was threshed, and was largely wheat, 8 acres running 15 bushels, and 7 of oats going 25 bushels. There were 20 acres devoted to grain hay. Dairying here runs to the Holstein strain, with 6 head now milked. There are further 10 hogs, Duroc Jersey type, and 40 head of Shropshire sheep. They have 22 head of beef cattle and plan some 20 or 40 head of stock cattle, going into thoroughbred Herefords.

Thompson Creek

In this vicinity are the Mastin and Walton places, with some cultivation, and in the tributary systems, Levi Scott, Tom Stephens, S. S. Dellinger, W. M. Garbee, James Tollin, Isaac Hutchins, E. A. Humpton, Guy Buell, and J. R. and E. Clark. Viewing these places up Thompson creek we note particularly the W. L. Tuttle farm, where 10 acres of 60 total are in production, and the E. J. Tollin property of 160 acres with 30 acres cultivated and to be irrigated next year. M. Tollin has here 2 acres of red clover, 3 acres of Yellow Dent corn, 1 of alfalfa and 10 of meadow. He has been doing some dairying, milking 9 cows this summer, and running 30 head of beef cattle. He has also 10 head of Shropshires sheep and 13 head of Duroc Jersey and Poland China hogs.

Under Little Grayback

The run up Thompson creek has taken us through a beautiful forest growth and continuing to the end would bring us to the foot of Little Grayback where its summit caps an almost sheer mountain wall of nearly 4000 feet above the valley floor. By an odd combination of facts, E. A. Humpton, the school-teacher, owns one of the largest tracts in this part of the valley, between 400 and 500 acres, has ten acres in cultivation with garden, orchard and irrigation, but nearly all of the uncultivated land lying, or rather clinging, to this precipice towering above.

Back to Highway

We are now ready to take the main highway again, and turn toward Kerby. The farms along this main road are small, but there may be noted Henry Hudson's 80 acre place with a small tract in cultivation, in hay and garden, and L. C. Hudson with some 20 acres cultivated, as well as A. B. Smith's place of 13 acres with a small part producing. As we near Kerby are Nicholas Sauer at the Spalding mill and the Duncan farm, then Lucius Robinson and the Jim Hogue tract of 20 or 30 acres.



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Health Note.

There is no question but that we, as a nation, are fast acquiring an excellent knowledge of food values and a sense of appreciation of the "balanced ration" in diet. And one of the principal things we are learning is that a definite amount of easily digested oil is indispensable to the proper maintenance of health and efficiency.

Not Numerous, Anyway.

The quiet, secluded, inconspicuous life is not without its attractions amid the mad rush for prominence and fame, and we often wonder if, after all, those homes are not happiest where the husband and father never lost his automobile by theft, the wife and mother never underwent an operation and the children still have their tonsils.—Ohio State Journal.

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