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OREGON GROWERS' COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION NOTES

Having purchased more than 1,000,000 pounds of prunes packed under the Mistland brand from the Oregon Growers Cooperative Association this past season, one of the largest firms in England writes the Association as follows:

"Your Mistland have on the whole been very satisfactory with regard to quality and size. Practically every one of our buyers are well satisfied and speak highly of them. As far as Oregon prunes are concerned, there is nothing to beat your pack this year."

To encourage more steamers to call at Portland and Seattle for especially domestic trade and to encourage ports on the Pacific to put in facilities for handling fruit shipments, the Pacific Coast Producers Association was recently organized. Conferences were held with steamship lines and tentative arrangements were made for a big English steamship company to divert to the northwest three steamers with cold storage facilities. These boats carry 200 car loads of fruit each. Other steamship companies have become interested with prospects of securing sufficient tonnage to justify a regular schedule. Rates proposed by steamship companies should mean a great saving to growers in the northwest.

As a butter producing food, there is nothing wrong with dried prunes, according to O. B. Nichols, member of the Oregon Growers' Cooperative Association. He says that cows like dried prunes and the butter is of good color, quality and flavor, well granulated and churns easily. After first trying to break prune pits, the cow soon learns to swallow the whole prunes into the first stomach. Mr. Nichols says. She then regurgitates the prunes after they have become softened, separates the meat from the pits and then drops the pits out from the mouth. He says he knows as he has emptied a lot of prunes from the feed box.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Freda Viola Dell, Lafayette, to Emil Thayer Lindroff, Carlton.
 Elizabeth Dorsey Eccleston, McMinnville, to Oliver Howard Hendrix, McMinnville.

Cleo Oneta White, McMinnville, to Claude Craig Pillsinger, Portland.
 Agatha V. Howard, Grand Ronde, to Joseph Albert Howie, Grand Ronde.
 Lizzie Chentelle, Grand Ronde, to Paul Buffalo Lafferty, Grand Ronde.
 Hillel Martha Haveman, Laurel, to Okey Ansal Tykeson, Willamina.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank those who showed their sympathy and interest at the time of the death of our beloved brother and also those who brought floral offerings.

Mrs. C. J. Leavitt,
 Jethro Hardwick.

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COMFORT FOR SITTING HENS

Give "Broodies" Nests Where They Will Not Be Disturbed During Period of Incubation.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture)

There are several ways to tell when a hen is becoming broody and wants to sit. Soft, downy feathers are left in the nest; the hen stays on the nest longer when laying. On being approached she will remain on the nest, making a chucking noise and ruffling her feathers. When one is reasonably sure that the hen is broody, and her breast feels warm to the hand, she is ready to be transferred to the nest previously prepared where she is to sit.

At this time it is advisable to dust the hen thoroughly with insect powder. In doing so hold the hen by the feet with the head down, working the powder well into the feathers, especially those around the vent and under the wings. The sitting hen should be dusted again on or about the eighteenth day of incubation to be sure that no lice are present when the chicks are hatched. Powder should also be sprinkled in the nest. Sodium fluoal may be used for the purpose, say poultry specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture.

When possible the nest should be in some out-of-the-way place, where the hen will not be disturbed. Night is the best time for moving the hen from the regular laying nest to the one she is to sit on. She should be handled carefully. A china egg or two should be placed in the nest, and a board or a covering may be placed over the nest so that the hen will not get off. Toward the end of the second day go quietly to the nest, leave some feed and water, and remove the covering from the top or front of the nest, so that she can come out when ready. The best feed for the sitting hen is whole corn or wheat, or both. Should she return to the nest after feeding, replace the china egg with those to be incubated. The nest should be slightly darkened, as the hen is then not so likely to become restless.

In cool weather it is best not to



Dusting the Sitting Hen With Insect Powder.

put more than 10 eggs under a hen. Later in the spring, however, from 12 to 15 eggs can be set, according to the size of the hen.

When several hens are sitting in the same room they should be separated by partitions and should be kept on the nests and allowed to come off only once each day to receive feed and water. A hen that does not voluntarily come off the nest should be taken off. As a rule hens will return to their nests before there is any danger of the eggs chilling, but if they do not go back in half an hour they should be put back.

Examine and clean the nest carefully, removing any broken eggs and washing those that are soiled. Nesting material soiled by broken eggs should be replaced with clean straw, hay, or chaff. Nests containing broken eggs soon become infested with mites and lice, which will cause the hens to become uneasy and leave the nest. This is likely to be the cause of the loss of valuable sittings of eggs. When a nest is infested with mites, the hen, if fastened in, will often be found standing over rather than sitting on the eggs.

Eggs laid late in winter or early in spring are frequently infertile, and for that reason it is advisable to set several hens at the same time. After from five to seven days' incubation, the time depending somewhat on the color and thickness of the shells, the eggs should be tested. The infertile and dead-germ eggs removed and the fertile ones returned to the hens. Thus in many instances all the eggs remaining under several hens may be placed under one or two, and the hens from which the eggs were taken may be reset. For instance, 30 eggs are set under 3 hens at the same time, that is, 10 under each hen. At the end of 7 days, at which time the eggs should be tested, it may be found that 10 are infertile or have dead germs, leaving only 20 fertile eggs. These 20 eggs can then be put under the two hens, and a new sitting placed under the third hen.

FARM LIVE STOCK

MUCH LOSS IN BEEF CATTLE

Average Price Per Head Dropped From \$44.22 in 1919 to \$31.41 in 1921—Hogs Also Drop.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Beef cattle on farms lost in average value per head from January 1, 1919, to January 1, 1921, all that they gained during the participation of the United States in the World War and more than half as much again, according to the bureau of crop estimates, United States Department of Agriculture. The loss occurred mostly in 1920. This has been established beyond doubt by the recent annual investigation of prices of farm animals per head made by the bureau. The average price per head, all ages, of cattle other than milk cows was \$35.92 in 1917, \$44.22 in 1919, and \$31.41 in 1921. On January 1, last year, the farm price was \$4.51 below that of 1917, some months before this country declared war.

In the case of swine on farms, the average price per head, all ages, declined in the two years 1919 and 1920, 88 per cent of the gain in 1917 and 1918, and two-thirds of the decline was in 1920.

From 1916 to 1919, the average farm value of the product of corn per acre increased from \$21.67 to \$38.54. The corn crop of 1920, taking the average value of the product of one acre, fell to \$20.83, and this drop not only wiped out the gain of the preceding three years but perceptibly exceeded it. The



Cattle on a Southern Range.

commonly used percentage of decline since the break in price began, fails to discover this fact, because a percentage of decline from a higher number is not comparable with a percentage of gain during the preceding years, which is based on a comparatively low number.

TREES THRIVE IN ODD LAND

Hillsides, Corners and Waste Strips Can Be Made Quite Useful in Growing Timber.

By planting hillsides, odd corners on the farm where a road or railroad has cut it off and places where erosion has been had, a good return on such an investment can be gotten. If land is subject to overflow cottonwood will grow and it will in a short time furnish desirable rough lumber. Soft woods make excellent fence posts when treated with creosote and have been found to last over ten years which makes them desirable from the standpoint of cost.

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