

THE BEND BULLETIN

"For every man a square deal, no less and no more."

CHARLES D. ROWE, EDITOR

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
One year, \$1.50
Six months, .80
Three months, .40
(variably in advance.)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 1908.

BEND'S FERTILE SOIL.

An article elsewhere in this issue gives some figures regarding the yield of grain last season in the Bend country. The figures speak for themselves. A region that can produce 83 1/2 bushels of oats to the acre, and which on a general average will produce 50 bushels of small grain per acre, has much of which to boast and be proud. And it should always be remembered that each succeeding year will bring better crops in this region. As the vegetation rots and more humus is worked into the soil, the yield will increase. First-year land here never produces as well as it does in succeeding years for the reason that, because of the arid character of the climate, the growth of grasses has been scant and there is practically no rotten vegetation in the soil in its natural condition. But that is rapidly improved as stubble, green crops and manure are plowed under.

Mr. Foster, who furnished The Bulletin its figures, has lived in the Valley 30 years. He says that the average yield of oats there is about 50 bushels per acre. When that is compared with what the raw land yields here, it is clearly demonstrated what a fertile soil the farmer of the Bend country has to work with.

It has been said that the Bend country possessed all of the features that make a great and prosperous region with one exception, and that exception was the lack of mining. It possesses timber in abundance, it has a rich and productive soil, it has waterpower sufficient to develop hundreds of thousands of horsepower for manufacturing and transportation purposes, and it has a climate that cannot be surpassed anywhere. In the case of the Bend country there was only "One thing thou lackest." Happily there is now promise that that one thing will not be lacking much longer. If the gold-bearing rock discovered on Powell Butte proves to be as rich in the precious metal as it promises to be, there is every reason to believe that a profitable and quite extensive mining industry will be developed only a few miles east of Bend. Here's success to the new industry.

CHURCH NOTES.

(SHORTLY LISTED.)

A full house greeted the speakers Sunday evening and the subject was, "Hereditry." Mr. Wiest spoke from the thought, "Ye must be born again," and showed how with corn, with apples, with potatoes, with all fruits, perfection only comes by the new birth into conditions far higher and nobler. His remarks were listened to with much interest. Lawyer Benson conceded the general principle of hereditry, but gave it as his opinion that genius is not hereditary, citing the example of Napoleon and other prominent men, and recalling the fact that their children had little of the father's genius.

Dr. Turley spoke of the broad, generally accepted truth of hereditry and showed clearly how its action began far in the past.

Two of the speakers were absent and Rev. Mitchell spoke somewhat in their stead as to hereditry in the animal and in human life, and insisted that we could make the truth useful to ourselves by studying ourselves, and coming to know ourselves, and then encouraging the development of traits that are commendable; and fighting down, and living down hereditary traits that pull down.

Mention should be made of the

excellent music rendered by Miss Marion Wiest and Miss Iva West. Miss West's violin always discourses to pleasure and profit, and Miss Marion Wiest sang "Face to Face" with unusual pathos.

On Sabbath evening, Jan. 10, Dr. Coe promises to render his part on hereditry, after which the subject will be, "Socialism," which will be presented from three standpoints. As always, all are invited to be present.

Rev. Geo. R. Short will preach in the church morning and evening next Sunday. At the close of the morning service the sacrament of the Lord's supper will be administered. The subject of the morning service will be, "The Living Bread." In the evening the theme will be, "Redemption."

Importance of Pruning Young Trees.

Young trees are often more neglected and misused than older ones in the matter of pruning. The framework of the future orchard tree should be entirely formed when the third year's pruning has been given. Two often no attention is given to this important part of tree training and in other cases the tree is given the proper shape when planted, but here the work is allowed to stop. If we are to have the character of the tree top determined at the third spring, close study and attention as well as work must be given the young trees each season.

For those who are unfamiliar with the growing of trees and plants the basic principle can not be too often insisted upon—that most trees and plants must be cut back when planted.

Yearling whips of all sorts of orchard trees are the best to plant. Such trees usually have no branches. Cut them back to a point 13 to 24 inches above where the first branch is wanted. The mere cutting back will induce most of the buds to form branches. If not cut back, usually but a few comparatively weak branches will push out and these near the top. Many trees die outright where this important feature is neglected. The second year, from three to five branches are selected to form the framework of the tree. All the rest are removed. The selected branches should be properly spaced around the stem so as to form a symmetrical, well-balanced top.

One should constantly have in mind the way the tree will appear when it is full grown. Many may think at first that the distance between the first and last limbs as given above is far too great, but when the branches grow to be six and eight inches in diameter the proportion will not appear out of place. In fact, we believe that even a greater distance, say 30 inches, will result in a stronger tree. These framework branches should be pruned back to about 14 inches. Many side branches will develop on each of these limbs during the second year's growth. The second pruning will consist in selecting two branches on each of the last year's limbs, one near the center of the top and the other at about 14 inches distance. The main branch is cut off just above the last one selected. The rest of the branches are removed as before. The selected branches are cut back to about 14 inches. The third pruning is mere repetition, selecting two branches on each one of last year's growth properly spaced and heading them in. If we have started the tree with three limbs, we should now have, after the third pruning 24 scaffold limbs, or, if the start was made with five, there will be 40 limbs. This will be enough to satisfy any one and meets the objection sometimes raised that this system does not provide a sufficient

amount of top. In practice it is doubtful if 40 limbs will ever be left, but judgment must be used in this respect.

Some have found that such pruning during the early life of a tree retards its time of coming into bearing. This need not be so, however. In fact fruit may be had just as soon, and fruit spurs may be had more nearly where they are wanted. When a young limb is headed back, most of the buds will start into vigorous growth. If now these side growths are cut back to a single bud, particularly in the summer time, many of them will form fruit buds.

Apple trees have been particularly in mind in the above discussion, but the principles will apply to all fruit trees. Opened centered trees have also been discussed for the reason that they are considered best. If one prefers a tree with a central leader, the training is much the same, except that at the first pruning the uppermost branch is left longer, upon which is developed what amounts to a second top.—W. Paddock, of the Colorado Agricultural College.

Foul Play Feared.

Julius Wallington, a "desert" homesteader and an intimate friend of Chris Newman, mysteriously disappeared a few days ago and no trace of him has since been found. He had been doing carpenter work in Silver Lake and is known to have had \$100 on his person when he disappeared, leaving his trunk full of clothing behind. His friend, Mr. Newman, is anxious as to his whereabouts, and thinks it possible that Wallington might have met with foul play.—Silver Lake Oregonian.

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Oregon Much Advertised.

Never in the history of Oregon has the state received such an enormous amount of advertising as at the present time. The writers who are contesting for the 80 prizes (\$5,000) offered by the Portland Commercial Club, have seemingly been busy in every state in the Union. Some of the contestants have written a series of articles covering several editions of the same newspaper, thoroughly discussing the attractions and resources of the state. Governor Chamberlain will be requested to name his three judges and they will begin their work Feb. 1.



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