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**SO BRADLEY SAID ON
MONDAY**

O. A. C. Statement, Prepared by
Scudder, is Dependable—Corvallis
Man Discusses Potato Starch
Question—Factory is Needed.

When in town on Monday, George W. Bradley, engaged in promoting the starch factory, took exception to the potato starch facts and figures sent out from the University of Oregon and recently published in The Bulletin. According to Mr. Bradley this statement was made by a man who knew nothing about the subject. Professor Scudder of the Oregon Agricultural College, on the contrary is competent to speak of potato starch manufacture, Mr. Bradley said, and has given out the following interview relating to it.

"For several years past the Department of Agronomy of the Oregon Agricultural College has been giving considerable attention to developing new markets for the Oregon potato. The possibilities for the successful manufacture of potatoes, it has been learned, are so good that through the efforts of the College capital has become interested and is now looking over the situation in the state for the purpose of establishing a potato starch factory.

"While prior to 1912 the market for Oregon potatoes was excellent, since that time, due largely to an excess in production, prices have fallen off and the market became very uncertain. This has been so discouraging to growers that there is danger of this important agricultural industry suffering a serious relapse. For several years, therefore, the college has been making a study of the possibilities for developing new markets. Potatoes are one of the most valuable cash crops the state produces, as conditions throughout Oregon, except at extreme elevations are very favorable for their profitable production, and the crop is adapted to a very wide variety of farm conditions, and hence is of interest to every farmer. Aside from their importance as a cash crop, potatoes are of great value indirectly in rotations for maintaining fertility, destroying weeds, and improving tilth. A steady market, however, is imperative, if the crop is to continue to be profitably grown.

"Through the use of the best cultural methods, a proper rotation, and the selection of pure, disease-free, high-yielding seed, the Oregon farmer can compete with potato growers anywhere in the matter of yields, quality, and cost of production. The only requirement, then, for the success of the industry is some method of regulating the supply to the demand, and thus maintain a steady market at good prices. If, whenever there is an excess in production this excess can be kept off the market and only table potatoes of uniformly high quality supplied to meet the demand, there will be little danger in future of demoralizing the market such as we had in 1912 and have had since.

"The question then is whether the excess supply can be taken care of in some profitable way. After having given considerable study to this question, I am satisfied that the manufacture of potatoes offers the solution. In 1913 I presented this question before the Portland Chamber of Commerce and later also the Oregon Manufacturers' Association. Since that time, capital has become interested and the establishment of a potato starch factory is now definitely planned.

"Such a factory, having a capacity for 100 tons of potatoes per day, will cost from \$20,000 to \$40,000 to establish and put into operation. During a run of six months, which is possible under Oregon conditions, this factory will consume the cull crop from 10,000 acres or more of potatoes. At a price from 20 to 30 cents per hundred, the farmer will receive a very profitable return from his culls, which are now a dead loss. In years when the market for table potatoes is low, due to over supply, the crop could be very much more closely graded, only the highest quality being turned on to the market for table use and all of the excess shipped to the starch factory. Thus, the table market price may be maintained for the starch factory offers a profitable return to the farmer for all of his excess crop. With the successful establishment of one factory, others will follow, so that the entire potato acreage of Oregon may be fully taken care of.

"When the Oregon table crop can thus be closely graded, its high quality will command a premium on the great California market. The favorable soil and climatic conditions of Oregon, together with the use of better seed and production methods, will give the Oregon farmer the advantage in competition over the growers of any other region.

land, Seattle and Spokane, some 2,000 tons of starch are consumed annually. This starch is now made from corn, which is inferior both for manufacturing and food purposes to the potato starch, and on which in addition the Northwest must pay the freight from the central states and send the money back to the farmers and manufacturers of that region. While the Northwest could readily consume the entire production from the new factory proposed, yet potato starch produced in this region will be able to compete with that imported from Germany, which is now used in the eastern states, for the new rates via the Canal in addition to the tariff on potato starch will permit the Northwest manufacturer to use the eastern market profitably.

"A starch factory consuming 100 tons of potatoes per day will in the season's run produce 3,000 tons of starch. This will require 600,000 bushels of potatoes or the cull crop from approximately 15,000 acres yielding 160 bushels per acre—25 per cent of which are culls. The factory successfully uses potatoes in practically any condition—those that are too large, too small, too green, diseased, frozen or even rotten. Eventually, with the successful manufacture of starch, the manufacture of potato glucose, potato flour, and potato flakes may be profitably undertaken. Points too distant from the factory to ship potatoes may at low cost install green starch plants locally and ship the green starch to the central factory at a reduction of approximately two-thirds of the weight. With only one or two central factories, the use of subsidiary green starch plants would permit every section of the state to enjoy the advantage of this new market outlet for potatoes. I believe that in regions like the rich tidelands of Clatsop, Tillamook and Coos counties, where very large yields of potatoes are possible, at low cost per bushel, the entire crop can be raised profitably for starch manufacture alone, thus giving these localities a new industry.

"The greatest advantage of the factory, however, will be in that it will offer the farmer a profitable outlet for the culls and the excess crop, so that at all times only the highest grade of table potatoes will be turned on to the market, and thus the table market price will be maintained at a fairly steady level. In Germany, where some 150,000,000 bushels of potatoes are annually manufactured, the effect has been to practically eliminate variation in the price of the table crop from year to year. I am confident we can reach the same result here in Oregon.

"Every encouragement, therefore, should be offered the men who are endeavoring to start this new industry. It will prove profitable to both the grower and the manufacturer if they co-operate with each other in launching the project.

"Potato growers will be interested to know that the college for more than a year has had a manuscript ready on the potato markets and potato starch industry and that, now the factory is about to be established, this manuscript will go to press and be available at an early date. Requests for this publication may be addressed to the College."

COUNTY SCHOOL NOTES

Two Club Projects to Be Open to Crook County Pupils This Year.
County School Superintendent Myers has recently sent out to the teachers of the county a number of circulars relating to their work. Among the subjects discussed are the following:
Two club projects are to be open to the pupils of the county this year, the Potato Club project and the Gardening Club project. In either it will be necessary to plant and cultivate one-tenth acre of land. Aside from local and county prizes in these contests two pupils will be given free trips to the state fair.
Medals in the form of the Liberty Bell have been given by the heirs of Morris Selz, late of Chicago, to be awarded to the most deserving pupils in grades one to four and five to

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eight in each of the county schools. Schools may obtain free traveling state libraries by application to Miss Cornelia Marvin, state librarian, Salem.
The A. N. Palmer Company has offered a free correspondence course in its writing methods to each state teacher who did not take the course last year. Under the law the Palmer method must be taught in the schools.
It is requested that Sloan Phonetic Charts be posted in the class room.
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