

GOOD REASONS FOR BUILDING SILOS ARE TOLD TO FARMERS

By R. A. Ward
Central Oregon farmers are at present taking considerable interest in silos, and it is high time that this desirable condition came to pass in Deschutes county. Although silos could be found on American farms nearly four decades ago, their use in Central Oregon dates back only a few years. Now that sunflower silage has given such excellent results in Montana and even in our own district, the problem of a desirable crop to put in the silo seems fairly well solved.

While the advantages of a silo are fairly well known to all stock men, it might not be amiss to enumerate a few of them herewith.

1. It is a well known fact that field curing is a wasteful method of preparing the forage crops for livestock feeding. Experiments show that at the best only about 50 per cent. of the crop is ultimately saved. Through the silo 90 per cent. can be saved, the waste occurring in the surface spoilage and fermentation processes which take place in silage formation. With most of our farmers it is of vital importance to save all the forage possible, as it is not too plentiful.

2. In ensilage the plant remains in a form which is not only nutritious, but also succulent and therefore palatable. Most of our farm animals do best on good green pasture, and so the more nearly we can imitate that condition the better should be the results. Silage is also eaten without waste.

3. The crop is stored in a convenient and compact form. About four times as much dry matter in forage crops can be stored in a given space in the silo than by field curing and storing in the stack or mow. The silo can be so located as to make it very convenient for feeding silage to stock. Then, regardless of weather conditions, the feed is at hand, leaving the fields clear for other farm operations.

4. Putting corn, sunflowers, field peas, rye, barley or sweet clover into the silo is the most economical method of harvesting the crop, unless it be harvested with livestock.

5. The silo makes it possible to save the abundance of favorable years to be utilized during the years of scarcity. This advantage alone justifies the building of silos, as every country is bound to have good and bad years. Silage can be kept in properly constructed silos for several years at least—how long has never yet been demonstrated.

6. Silage is the best supplement for pastures, which in many cases are entirely inadequate, especially for the dairy cow. Even in an irri-

gated section pastures get short at certain seasons of the year.

7. The cost of feeding livestock is materially reduced by feeding ensilage with all classes of livestock. Considering the cost of the silage, its nutrient content and its beneficial effect upon the utilization of the balance of the ration, cheap gains are made with beef cattle. With the dairy cow silage has long been recognized as practically a necessity for profitable winter dairying. Lamb and sheep feeders are finding silage a cheaper roughage for fattening lambs, for ewes during lambing time, and for wintering stock sheep. The writer visited a ranch in Union county in February, where 5000 ewes were just commencing to lamb, and where the lambing ration consisted of silage fed from two huge 225-ton silos and alfalfa hay. On the same ranch last year, this band of ewes lambed over 100 per cent. A visit was made to several ranches where steers were being fattened on alfalfa hay and silage. Gains of two pounds and over per day were being made. W. J. Townley, Shorthorn breeder at La Grande, who topped the Portland market last spring with his silage fed Shorthorn steers, made the statement to the writer that he and the stockmen of his county, by feeding silage, could profitably feed and finish their own steers instead of selling them in the market as feeders. There is no reason why this cannot be done in the Deschutes valley.

8. The silo will make it possible to put Central Oregon agriculture on a sounder financial basis. It will help to solve the feed problem and increase the livestock carrying capacity of our farms. What we need is more livestock on the farms, and the silo will make this condition possible.

(Next week: "Essentials of Silo Construction.")



Gardens Swat Food Bills.
The people of both country and city were advised last year to plant and tend home vegetable gardens as one means of increasing the essential to victory—food. The war has been fought and peace seems near, but the problem of feeding millions of destitute people confronts the world. The wolf has been driven from our doors only temporarily, and his whines of hunger may be heard in many homes

before the gathering of the crops of 1919.

Home vegetable gardens on farms, in city back yards, on vacant lots and on idle lands about industrial centers are just as necessary this year as they were last year. The safe assumption is that it will be many a day before the cost of living reaches the level of a few years ago, and the best way to meet a part of the high cost of living is by producing a part of the living right at home.

Don't Tempt Your Parsnips.
Do you want long, straight carrots and parsnips, or crooked, forked ones? Ask your wife; she has to peel them.

These roots have good intentions; they want to keep straight, but they cannot stand adversity nor withstand temptation. If they strike rocks or clods on the way down, they become forked or twisted, and if lumps of stable manure are in the soil, they bend toward these or send out branches in that direction. Dig extra deep, making the soil fine and mellow where these crops are to grow, and see that all manure is finely pulverized and all fertilizer thoroughly mixed with the soil.

LITTLE JOURNEYS IN THE GARDEN

Garden dirt is the best pay dirt. Don't be a quitter, but plant a garden again this year.

Why not shade your back porch with a screen of Lima beans? The crop may surprise you.

If you think the home garden doesn't pay, just try going to market with less than \$5 in your pocket.

There are plenty of garden seeds, but the supply of extra good ones is always small. Order early and get the best.

Every member of the family will require nearly eleven hundred meals this year. How many of these are coming from the home garden?

Agriculture has made great advances in modern times, but the advice of Pliny the Elder, who lived nearly 20 centuries ago, is still good for gardeners: "Dig deep, manure well, work often."

The bean family is an old friend of man. The ancient Roman family name Fabius is derived from a word meaning bean. Adopt a Fabian policy and plant beans. No other vegetable is more sure to give returns.

Two cabbage heads are better than one, and 20 are still better. A warm, rich soil is needed for early cabbages. They mature in time to leave the ground free for warm-weather crops like beans, tomatoes and so on.

Less than \$2 worth of seeds are required to plant a small back yard or vacant lot garden. Several of the seed houses are offering special collections of seeds that are adapted for planting in their trade territory.

Put it in "THE BULLETIN."

GARDENS WILL SUPPLY TABLES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OFFERS GOVERNMENT ADVICE TO ALL "BACK YARD FARMERS."

The eagerness with which German soldiers dropped their rifles, cried "Kamerad!" and called for soup; the walls of hunger from the former empire of the ex-kaiser; walls of the same sort from Russia and elsewhere—these and other instances indicate the part that food had in forcing an end to the fighting and victory for the allies and the United States.

American farmers have won unstinted praise for the way in which they increased their production; home gardeners in city and country now are coming in for compliments of the same character. The farmers were the heavy artillery of America's food army, but the home gardeners were the auxiliary troops—delivering lighter individual blows, perhaps, but in total a huge assault—and to the home gardeners is given credit for a definite part in throwing the food balance in favor of the forces of freedom.

The home garden specialists of the United States department of agriculture would be far from claiming that the home gardens of America, numerous and productive as they were, "won the war." But they do believe that the home gardens supplied vegetables that decreased the demands on meat and wheat and other staples, produced food at home without calling on the railroads to carry it, saved many a dollar that went into Thrift stamps and Liberty bonds, and in such ways contributed beyond doubt to the strength of America mobilized.

This Year's Need Just as Great.

In 1919 the need for food is changed from that of last year, but it is just as great. There will be fewer American soldiers overseas to supply with food, but there will be more hungry civilians of other nations. The railroads will still be overburdened and will have no more space than necessary for transporting food. The state, the county or the town that feeds itself will be contributing to the essentials for reconstruction "over there" and readjustment at home. The home that feeds itself, at least partially, will be helping the nation as well as itself.

Every American home with a suitable plot of ground will find it advantageous to help feed itself by a garden. The garden will reduce food bills, insure the freshness and quality of the family's vegetable supply, furnish healthful exercise and give an insight into the workings of nature. It will be converting unused land and spare time into food.

Government Prepared to Help.

The department of agriculture has made ready to give help to home gardeners and carry out the same slogan as last year, "A productive home garden on every farm and a backyard garden for every village, town and city home." It will work in direct co-operation with the ex-

AN ANNOUNCEMENT

BERT SHUEY Has Returned!

I wish to announce to all my former patrons and friends, and all others, that I have returned to Bend, and have opened a completely New Grocery Stock in the rooms formerly occupied by the Palace Market, at the corner of Bond Street and Greenwood Avenue. I can assure you all of the right prices on all merchandise and the service on deliveries about which many of you know.

My Phone Number will be
RED 261

Call on us on and after Monday, March 17th.

BERT SHUEY

tension forces of the state agricultural colleges, one of the most extensive organizations of this character ever formed in the world. The horticulturists of the department have the campaign in charge, acting for both the bureau of plant industry and the states relations service. In most states are home garden specialists representing the extension service of the state colleges and the department, and in addition the 2500 county agricultural agents and the 1700 home demonstration agents in the United States will give active aid as a part of their duties in encouraging food production and conservation. State and local organizations will receive the active aid of the federal agency, and boys' and girls' agricultural clubs in all states will enlist a huge army for productive work.

The gardening information to be supplied the public by the department of agriculture and the co-operating organization represents the best thought resulting from years of careful investigations by the horticultural specialists employed by the government for this purpose, and who are responsible to the government for the reliability of their conclusions. The department of agriculture, the state agricultural colleges and the bureau of education (which is enlisting the interest of teachers and school children in gardening) are the only official sources of information on this subject. The department is supplying in-

formation to newspapers for publication. It also has ready for distribution three important bulletins. They will be sent free of charge to all Americans who ask for them. They are:

Farmers' Bulletin 934, "Home Gardening in the South"; Farmers' Bulletin 936, "The City and Suburban Vegetable Garden"; Farmers' Bulletin 937, "The Farm Garden in the North."

ALFALFA INTERESTS MAN IN HONOLULU

Letter Asking Information Received by Agricultural Expert—Large Increase in Acreage Expected.

(From Monday's Daily.)
Calls for information on alfalfa are being received from far-off Honolulu, according to R. A. Ward, agricultural expert for the First National bank. Such a keen interest is being taken in Central Oregon that already 20,800 pounds of seed have been ordered by ranchers in this section, and Mr. Ward believes that more than 3000 acres of land will be added to the alfalfa producing tracts near here as a result of the campaign recently started to show the advantage of raising the great forage crop.

Four chairs at your service at the Metropolitan. No waiting—Adv.

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Grand Ball

IN THE

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Friday Eve'g, Mar. 28

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