

DRY FARMING THE SUBJECT

COLONEL JUDSON TO INTRODUCE A NEW SYSTEM

By Means of Summer Following Alfalfa can Be Grown on Dry Land—Experiments Being Made in Eastern Oregon.

Colonel R. C. Judson, industrial agent of the O. R. & N., has returned from a trip into Eastern Washington, where he has introduced a system of "dry farming," such as is successfully carried on in Kansas and Nebraska, says the Telegram. He finds that by summer following the dry unwatered soil at certain seasons, the slight rainfall of the district is conserved and held in the ground until needed by the growing crops. Alfalfa is said to thrive on this treatment, and certain farmers of the Inland Empire will try this system as an experiment. It is believed it will be highly successful in this semi-arid section of the Northwest.

Colonel Judson said:

The more I examine into dry-land farming as it is conducted in Nebraska and Kansas, under what is called the Campbell system, the more I am impressed with the need of such tilling of the soil in Eastern Oregon and Washington. Dry-land farming as is conducted on farms that I have visited is the raising of crops where the precipitation is light, ranging from 10 to 13 inches, and that during the winter and up to May. The virgin soil or bench soil, as it is usually termed, is volcanic ash, with some silt or washing from the mountains. It has good retentive powers, and it being rich in mineral plant food makes it ideal land, needing only moisture to produce the finest of crops. But water is needed, and the source of supply, whether used as nature brings it, or it is applied artificially. When rain falls upon the land, whether hard or compact, some of it may penetrate the soil and some of it may run off. The proportion in either case depends upon the heaviness of the shower, the heaviness of the land and the slope. From what I have observed and from examinations of the soil, I find that when the soil is hard and compact, the moisture evaporates very rapidly from the surface into the air. On the other hand, if the land is plowed to the depth of eight or ten inches the rain percolates down deep into the soil, to be again brought to the surface by capillary attraction.

Last week I went to Frank county Washington, to examine the crop condition in the vicinity of Wash-tona to note their methods of farming and examine the seven different farms upon which R. B. Miller, general freight agent, is testing the raising of dry-land alfalfa and also the growing of corn on summer-fallow. I found the acreage of wheat less this year in the county, owing to the fact of the land being summer-fallow but the crops of grain are fully up to last year as far as one can judge from the yield. The grain is out of danger and free from weeds. Harvesting has just begun. Now as regards the dry-land alfalfa, I will say that I never saw finer. May-sown alfalfa, on soil where they had to go 150 feet to water, that was 15 inches tall, dark and of very rank growth; roots 13 to 14 inches in length, and ready for the first cutting, being partially in blossom.

On Mr. Cooper's farm 54 miles from Wash-tona, I found he had sown an acre on regular hardpan soil, and it was looking fine and the soil was dried out so that it was hard to even get a sharp stick into it. It was new land, just plowed for the first time. Another piece was in soil that was simply ash, one sinking in to the depth of two to three inches at every step.

Mr. Cooper, who is one of the largest and best farmers in that county is more than pleased and will put in a large tract next year and commence to diversify, raising hogs, cattle and horses on alfalfa. His corn was extra fine, standing 4 1/2 feet in height. This had been cultivated four times, while at other farms only one cultivation had been given, and that standing three feet in height.

To sum up: The experiments in dry-land alfalfa and corn on summer fallow in that county are very gratifying, and set at rest the fact that the dry-land alfalfa will grow to perfection there, also that fine corn can be grown on the summer-fallow.

I succeeded in securing promises from some of the leading farmers to

commence to summer-fallow their land as soon as the first rain comes in the fall, instead of in the spring and that way conserve the moisture the farmers agreeing to plow the land eight inches deep instead of four inches. Further experiments will be made next season on the summer-fallow, as Mr. Miller is desirous of having something grown where at present nothing is grown on the summer-fallow.

A WONDERFUL INVENTION.

It is interesting to note that fortunes are frequently made by the invention of articles of minor importance. Many of the more popular devices are those designed to benefit people and meet popular conditions, and one of the most interesting of these that has ever been invented is the Dr. White Electric Comb, patented Jan. 1, '99. These wonderful Combs positively cure dandruff, hair falling out, sick and nervous headaches, and when used with Dr. White's Electric Hair Brush are positively guaranteed to make straight hair curly in 25 days time. Thousands of these electric combs have been sold in the various cities of the Union, and the demand is constantly increasing. Our agents are rapidly becoming rich selling these combs. They positively sell on sight. Send for sample. Men's size 35c, ladies' 50c — (half price while we are introducing them.) The Dr. White The Dr. White Electric Comb Co., Decatur, Ill.

Best Her Double.

"I knew no one, for four weeks, when I was sick with typhoid and kidney trouble," writes Mrs Annie Hunter, of Pittsburg, Pa., "and when I got better, although I had one of the best doctors I could get, I was bent double, and had to rest my hands on my knees when I walked. From this terrible affliction I was rescued by Electric Bitters, which restored my health and strength, and now I can walk as straight as ever. They are simply wonderful." Guaranteed to cure stomach, liver and kidney disorders; at City Drug Store, price 50c.

"Strange," said the man with the strong cigar about him, "What's strange?" asked the man with the meerschaum. "I was thinking of a friend of mine who claims to have found an absolutely perfect fountain pen." "Always writes, never drips ink and never gets out of order!" "That's what he says." The man with the meerschaum pipe shook his head. "What do you think of it?" he asked. "I hardly know what to think of it. He's joined no liars' club that I know of, and yet everything indicates that he is working for a record." — Chicago Post.

Pretty Car Girl.
A summer resident in a New Hampshire village, a lady who, in Horace Walpole's phrase, "sits at the top of the world," was making her first friendly call of the season upon the family of an old widower. Only the father was at home, one of the girls being absent on a visit to the other sister, who had been married during the past winter. Naturally the "ilk turned on the daughters." "Yes," said the father, "Mary made me feel real well. But I don't know if I ever work Elizabeth off. There's a young man been comin' here steady now for two year, an he's no further on yet, ma'am, than me an you." — Youth's Companion.



MRS. CECILIA STOWE, Author, Eastern News Club.

176 Warren Avenue, CHICAGO, ILL., Oct. 22, 1902.
For nearly four years I suffered from ovarian troubles. The doctor insisted on an operation as the only way to get well. I, however, strongly objected to an operation. My husband felt disheartened as well as I, for home with a sick woman is a disconsolate place at best. A friendly druggist advised him to get a bottle of Wine of Cardui for me to try, and he did so. I began to improve in a few days and my recovery was very rapid. Within eighteen weeks I was another being.

Cecelia Stowe

Mrs. Stowe's letter shows every woman how a lesson is added to female weakness and how completely Wine of Cardui cures that sickness and brings health and happiness again. Do not go on suffering. Go to your druggist today and secure a \$1.00 bottle of Wine of Cardui.

WINE OF CARDUI

EDIBLE NESTS IN BORNEO.

Writer Tells of Experience in Robbing Feathered Creatures of Their Homes.

Edible birds' nests are found in the clefts of rocks or in underground caves which are frequently of great extent. John MacGregor, in writing of a bird nesting experience he had in Borneo, says: "Of we went with about a dozen Dyaks, as the little bronze aborigines of this part of Borneo are called, for guides. The entrance to the cave was so small and so elevated that I had some difficulty in reaching it. After we had traveled for some little distance we came across the inevitable stream. The ground, which was to a great extent composed of the bed of the stream, was rough and irregular. We were lighted on our way by torches carried by our Dyak guides. At last we came to a passage that seemed a veritable eye of a needle, so hard it was to enter, for it looked so narrow and confined that I despaired of ever getting through it. When I fairly got squeezed into the breach I could force myself neither upward nor downward—for that was the direction of the passage—and there I was, suspended like Moham-med's coffin or a trussed fowl. By dint of wriggling, however, I at last found myself at the top of the passage, minus a certain amount of skin and some buttons from my tight-fitting khaki coat.

"Still on we jogged for the best part of a mile, when, lo and behold! the caves in which the birds were breeding, and which were to be the limits of our underground wanderings. A faint glimmer of light could be seen through a rift in the rocks far above us, and it was through this small rift, which was a scaled passage even to the Dyaks themselves, that the birds passed in their journeys to and from their nesting grounds. Our arrival, of course, disturbed what ever birds were there, and they disappeared as best they could. And there, for a time, we watched the Dyaks going through their gymnastics of robbing the birds' nests, with their ropes and long poles creeping along the high ridges and ledges, in the lurid light of the torches, like unearthly specters.

"These peculiar nests are built by a species of swallow. The nests consist of shallow, cup-shaped cavities, truncated at one side, where they are attached to the rocks like brackets to a wall and forming something like a two-thirds segment of a circle. It is not always easy to get at them, as they are sometimes glued to the perpendicular sides of the solid rocks high overhead, so that the nest hunters have to scale these cracks with ropes and poles to get at them. In substance they consist of an elastic, semitransparent mucilaginous material, which is said to be a secretion, or macerated food, from the crops of the birds themselves.

"As robbing these nests for commercial purposes forms a part of the Dyaks' means of livelihood, the birds have frequently to build twice or even three times during the season before they are able to hatch their offspring, and it is noted that each successive crop of nests deteriorates in both construction and composition. The nests built at the beginning of the season are bright and transparent, and are consequently known on the market as 'white nests.' But when they are robbed the next crop is not nearly so pure in substance."

The Carter House Barber Shop at Ontario, Lee Caldwell proprietor, is one of the most elegant tonsorial parlors in all Eastern Oregon. Hot and cold baths with a spray bath connected. Lee's old time friends are invited to call on him while at Ontario.

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