

More Good Dry Farm Talks

Prof. Scudder Visits the Drewsey and Harney Sections and Addresses The Farmers on Agriculture

C. F. McKinney and wife, Wm. Farre, Sam Mothershead, Wm. Hanley, J. J. Donegan, C. H. Leonard and The Times-Herald man were the Burns dry farm boosters who accompanied Prof. Scudder to Drewsey Monday. Mr. Hanley's car was disabled from tire trouble on the road over making the time for the lecture later than had been scheduled but there were a large number of farmers there to hear Prof. Scudder talk on his arrival. It was a very beneficial meeting of farmers and one that will result in good.

The people of that favored section are doing considerable farm work and the improved methods suggested by Prof. Scudder will bring better yields. Those present took a deep interest in the talk, which was practical and along the line of conserving the moisture for use at the time it is most needed.

Prof. Scudder spoke of the vast section of country that is capable of production and when properly tilled it will more than double the wheat producing area of the state. It is the largest undeveloped agricultural territory in the world and we receive more than enough precipitation to produce what climatic and soil conditions warrant.

The real start toward the development of Central Oregon was begun on Prof. Scudder's trip this time. He remarked on the way home from Drewsey that he believed he had accomplished more in the ten days he had spent in this territory than he ever had in the same length of time before.

The meeting at Harney Monday evening was another good one though not so largely attended. The professor made a good talk and the farmers present plied him with questions which he answered. It proved worth while as he gave those present much information.

At both Harney and Drewsey Mr. Hanley made short talks telling the people what the experiment farm and the assistance of the agricultural college meant toward the development of this big country. That all this information and the demonstrations on the farm were for the farmer and he should take advantage of it.

Prof. Scudder left for Corvallis Tuesday morning accompanied by Supt. Breithaupt of the experiment farm. The latter has seeded such portion of the farm as he intends to experiment with this season and is out for a short visit from which he will return the latter part of this month.

Prof. Scudder expects to return here next month and hopes then to meet more farmers and consult with them.

The Drewsey people were invited to participate in the experiment work and several will devote small tracts on their farms to such seeds and methods as are recommended. These plots will be worked under the direction of the superintendent at the experiment station who will visit them from time to time and give instructions.

The talks given during the past two weeks are the real awakening of the farmer to what can be done in Harney county in agriculture. Prof. Scudder has put new life in that work and given the farmers encouragement—in fact made them see the great advantages of this section over many others where farming is successful.

THREE THOUSAND ACRES ARE TO BE RECLAIMED

Fine Tract Situated Near West Line of Harney County to be Placed Under System of Irrigation Soon

W. T. Lester and R. D. Cooper have just returned from surveying and locating an irrigation project just over the line in Crook county which has promising features and will bring some 3000 acres of fine land under water at a very reasonable cost. A reservoir site has been located and the necessary filings made to impound the waters of Swamp creek and Bulger creek which will hold sufficient water to irrigate the large tract of agricultural land lying immediately below.

This particular project was once a Carey act segregation, but the parties let it go and Mr. Lester, with others took the matter up and Mr. Cooper, of the engineering firm of Cooper & Dodge, was employed to work out the engineering features. This has been completed and a very feasible project of reasonable cost has been developed.

Some ditch work is now being done and it is expected to have the project completed in about three years. Mr. Lester has not stated the price per acre the water will cost but we are given to understand it will be reasonable.

There are a large number of these smaller irrigation projects throughout the Harney country that will be taken up from time to time as people realize the great advantage of impounding the flood waters for use at the proper time, especially as it seriously interferes at the earlier season in flooding otherwise good agricultural lands and prevents cultivation and seeding at the proper time.

County Fair Potent Factor

Form the Pivot in Development of Country Agriculturally, Says L. W. Hill of Great Northern

"Do not overlook the county fairs. They form the pivot in the development of the Northwest states agriculturally. They are the great clearing houses for the big land products and livestock shows as well as all state fairs."

This is the keynote which Louis W. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway has sounded and which will be taken up with a vim when the Northwest Development League meets in Seattle in June. Among the benefits to be derived from the county fairs of the seven Northwest states, Mr. Hill sums up epigrammatically, as follows:

- (1) They start many persons exhibiting who would never think of making exhibits at the state fair.
- (2) They bring the fair sufficiently near so that all may attend.
- (3) They educate the farmers in attendance along the lines of their own greatest needs.
- (4) They stimulate efforts in the direction of highest excellence.
- (5) They tend greatly to the building up of the State Fair, both in regard to attendance and exhibits. Because of these benefits the small fair is well worthy of the state and of all actively engaged in business in the communities in which they are held.

Mr. Hill further says:

"One reason why many farmers do not exhibit at a state or other large fair is the apparent hopelessness of ever winning a prize, because of the extent of the competition, coming as it does from so wide an area, but when the area is limited as it would be in the case of a county fair or even of a fair more local than a county fair, the farmer feels that he is competing against one of his own class, and, therefore, when he is the possessor of a product that he believes to be superior, he is encouraged to exhibit the same. This he can do with little or no expense in placing the article on exhibition, hence if he does not win he does not feel the pinch of financial loss as he would had he exhibited at the State Fair. In this way hundreds and thousands would be led to exhibit who never would have done so but for the opportunity to exhibit at the small fair."

"The location of the smaller fair makes it easily possible for many a farmer to attend, who may not be able in the meantime, to afford the expense incurred in journeying to the State Fair and of maintenance while there. Such men are content in the absence of the smaller fair, to stay at home and therefore they miss the benefits in educational lines that fairs furnish so effectively by way of ocular demonstration. He is encouraged to go to the smaller fair because he knows many of his acquaintances will be there whom he can meet and he has friends in the town who are glad to care for him, it may be, during his stay at the fair."

"Such fairs are highly educational, as indeed all fairs are. The farmer may have concluded that a certain product which he grows is about as good as can be produced with that line. As long as he stays at home he becomes no wiser with reference to shortcomings in his work. When he goes to the fair and puts that

SUITS INVOLVING WATER RIGHTS ON SILVIES

William Hanley Co. Starts Contempt Proceedings Against P. L. S. Co. —Latter Sues Flour Mill Co.

The William Hanley Co., has filed contempt proceedings in the U. S. district court against the Pacific Live Stock Co. to compel the latter to show why they should not be held in contempt for enlarging the headgate at a certain point in the east fork of Silvies river and using the water for irrigation purposes. The land covered by this formerly belonged to P. G. Smith, Peter Clemens and others and the P. L. S. Co. instituted suit against them in 1910, asking that they be restrained from the use of the water for irrigation as it had been agreed they were to have water for stock purposes only. Later the men sold the land to the P. L. S. Co. and now the Hanley Company allege the water is being unlawfully diverted.

The Pacific Live Stock Co. started an injunction suit against the Flour Mill Co. which involves the power at the mill. The suit is to remove its present dam up to a point above the Foley slough and bring it to the mill by means of a ditch. The P. L. S. Co. claims the dam backs the water up and forces a large flow out thru the slough that would otherwise flow down the channel of the river. The mill dam has been in use for several years and there has not been any complaint made before.

Both these suits involve rights to the water of Silvies River that affect a number of people. The suits instituted will complicate matters to some extent and also brings to mind the importance of adjudicating the water rights of the river as now undertaken by the state. The users of the water should know their rights and the sooner it is settled the better for the whole country.

Improvement Quite General

Trip Across Valley to Drewsey Show Wonderful Advancement Along Line of Farm Development

One is impressed with the wonderful advancement of the country by a trip across the northern portions of Harney Valley and over to Drewsey. Much improvement has been done all along the road and much of the wild land has been subdued. A vast amount of clearing and cultivation is seen from the road and the crops are looking exceptionally good.

The road needs some attention on the mountain between Buchanan's and the top "Nigger Flat" is a fright and a portion of the road between Cow Creek and Buchanan is very rough. From the top of the mountain to Drewsey the road is in the very best condition.

Some of the best farming land in Harney county is also found along the Malheur River adjacent to Drewsey. Climatic conditions are favorable and some of the tender vegetables such as melons, cucumbers and tomatoes do exceptionally well. Fine grain, alfalfa and fruit farms are in that locality.

The little city of Drewsey is the center of a very prosperous territory and does a great volume of business. The citizens are progressive and public spirited.

An irrigation project to cover 2400 acres of land adjoining that town is to be constructed at once by I. M. Davis, S. S. Williams and the P. L. S. Co. There will be about 18 miles of canal and contracts are to be let at once. It is hoped to have the work completed within a few months. We understand this irrigation project covers only deeded lands of the parties interested, but the canal will pass thru the town.

W. D. Baker has recently purchased a job press and some type and will issue a weekly newspaper. The publication will be known as the "Drewsey News" and will be four columns, four pages. Mr. Baker will turn the paper over to his son, who is now in high school in this city and the young man will have charge of it. The first issue will be printed about the 1st of June as it was necessary to get more material that has not arrived.

The delegation of Burns people who accompanied Prof. Scudder over there last Monday was most warmly received and royally treated. The freedom of the city was at their service and the business men showed an appreciation of the interest taken by Burns boosters to carry forward the important work of better conditions thruout the county.

Drewsey has a live bunch of people and this is not confined to those of the town but also the surrounding country.

The Columbia River fruit districts will score heavily this season. Cherry orchards around The Dalles will yield 1,400,000 pounds of fruit, which California canneries are anxious to get at 4 cents per pound, meaning \$56,000 for the growers of that section. Hood River expects an apple crop well over 1,000,000 boxes that will be marketed throughout the world wherever prize fruit is in demand. Other districts report equally fine crop prospects.

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A Farmer's Suggestion

To take advantage of new inventions in farm machinery, I wish to submit to the people and especially to the farmers a plan, namely: To bring before the county court of Harney county, a bill—to purchase for use of the experiment station and farmers, a forty horse power gasoline plow. Most of us farmers don't know enough and are not in a position to acquire and manage such an epoch making machine, likely equals our automobile in usefulness. Acreage has to be increased to make up with other places nearer the railroads. The seasons for plowing are shorter here than in the Columbia river basin. To change the Valley from a stock growing country to a farm producing community, this sort of plow will be an absolute necessity. For machine work, there is no country better adapted than this, on account of its solid underground and which dries quickly on the surface after a heavy rain.

The factory claims it will plow 40 acres a day at a cost of 40 to 50 cents an acre. On account of higher cost of fuel here, let us say about a dollar an acre. The plowing here, usually with horse power, generally averages from \$3 to \$4 an acre, too high for settlers on new ground to make it pay. From three to five months of actual plowing would pay for the machine and the second year the plow would be free from cost and the money repaid to the county.

The financial condition of Harney County is favorable to the cause. As to the constitutionality of the plan, I am not quite sure, yet take it for granted, when the county can put \$3,000 into drilling an artesian well for water, we can afford to buy a plow for \$4,000 for use of both farmer and county.

To summarize what this plow would do for all, many points could be considered. Many land holders would have a chance to farm, instead of keeping his land for speculation. Deeper plowing can be done, and what counts far better, yields would be increased, as the roots can penetrate deeper in more moist soil. I believe many farmers would

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BORNE TO THE TOMB.

The last sad rites over all that was mortal of the late Mrs. Della Goodman, wife of West Goodman, who died suddenly at Portland Friday of last week from an acute attack of heart trouble, were held at the Congregational church in this city Tuesday, the Rev. J. J. Davy officiating. The funeral was one of the most largely attended ever held in the city, all business houses closing during the services.

Mrs. Goodman was aged 33 years, 4 months and 28 days and was born in Alturas, Cal. She grew to womanhood in this city, where she was married about twelve years ago. The family home was at the Lookout mountain ranch, where Mr. Goodman was when the unexpected summons came. —Huntington News.

Mrs. Goodman was formerly Della Ginini who spent several years of her girlhood in this city where she had many friends. The family moved to Huntington from Burns several years ago. Her husband, one son and her mother survive her. She was a member of the Rebekah lodge also of the W. of W.

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