

EXTENSION WORK CON- NECTED WITH STATION

Supt. Breithaupt of the Experiment Station Assumes Additional Duties at Request of the College Authorities. Results of Tests on Winter Grains Not Heretofore Published, Given

By L. R. BREITHAUPT.

The irregularity with which these articles appear is largely due to the work which has been in progress the past three months among the settlers in the outlying districts of the county; that of visiting those who are attempting to farm the dry lands for the purpose of talking over the difficulties of each on his own land and to arrange for co-operative work that will demonstrate dry land crops and systems of farming in each neighborhood during the coming summer. This work, as well as the existing sub-stations, is being done from the funds recently made available by the State and County, it being thought best by the College authorities in charge that the Experiment Station work and the extensive work in Harney county be co-ordinated and that both would be strengthened thereby. Most of the county has been covered in a preliminary way this fall, but there is yet a considerable area to cover.

The minimum thermometer at the Station has been caught at zero and below, several nights, of late, six below being the coldest to date. The maximum very seldom goes far above the freezing point. The snow fall from Dec. 22 to Dec. 30 has amounted to .66 of an inch of water.

Following are a few results taken from tests on other winter grains than wheat. As previously reported, the best yield of winter wheat from the dry land was with Turkey Red, yielding 33.5 bu. per acre.

Yields of winter barleys:-
Winter 647 bu. per A. 12.5
Tennessee Winter bu. per A. 12.9
Utah Winter bu. per A. 16.25
O. A. C. Winter bu. per A. 13.15
Gamati Winter bu. per A. 5.85
Hannehen Winter bu. per A. 5.05

From this it will be noted that no good yields were obtained from any of the winter barleys. This is due to the fact that the stand was nearly all lost by winter killing. The plants made a fine start in the fall and were

looking nice until the hard freezes began. The Utah Winter barley is probably the best, as it appears from the results, but it is hardly advisable for any one to plant winter barley except in an experimental way until it has proven to be able to winter over. There is a possibility that it would be of value when planted very early in the spring, in February or early March, when it would miss the severe freezing weather and also come on late enough to miss the late spring frosts.

Yields of Winter Emmer:-
Black Wigner 2488 bu. per A. 24.70
Black Winter 2337 bu. per A. 18.75

The winter emmer suffered from winter killing the same as the barley. It was also very late in maturing. Certainly not a good crop here.

Yield of Winter rye bu. per A. 8.08

The greatest moral in this is the fact that this rye had every chance to distinguish itself as did the wheat which outyielded it more than four times over. The poor yield was partly due to the fact that a certain frost on the night of June 19th caught a considerable per cent of the young heads at the stage where they are easily killed. Another cause is the poor kind of a crop that rye is to be given with, for it never yields heavily of hay or grain as compared with other crops when given a chance. Of course it is good enough for rabbit pasture and for the man who thinks that a few inches of moist soil is sufficient to bring a crop. Farmers who summer fallow, plant real crops and fence the rabbits out of their fields and hay stacks are the ones who will eventually populate the dry lands of Harney county.

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Tonawama tonight.

LATEST DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE NOTES

(From Our Portland Correspondent)

The problem of furnishing work for idle men in Eastern Oregon, which is an important question at the present time, is to be solved within a very short time by the commencement of actual construction work on the first 10,000 acre unit of the West Umatilla extension irrigation project. Orders have been received by the local engineers to begin work, supplies are being purchased, camps established and everything put in readiness for a start immediately after January 1. With the federal appropriation of \$700,000 now available, the work will be pushed straight through to completion and it is expected that the project will be finished within a year. Under present plans the Government will expend about \$90,000 per month.

The entire West Umatilla project calls for the irrigation of 30,000 acres in Umatilla and Morrow counties. The Government will hire men with teams to do the work under its own direction. Later, a large part of the work will be divided for small contractors and the contracts offered to settlers as a means of furnishing them employment during the time there is nothing to be done on their claims.

A co-operative enterprise is now under way in one farming community in Wisconsin which might profitably be copied in many parts of Oregon in which, for various reasons, difficulty in marketing farm products has been experienced in the past. In that particular community they are building a packing plant for the purpose of disposing of their surplus livestock in the same way the big packers in Chicago handle stock. Careful investigation of marketing conditions has been undertaken and the promoters are assured of an outlet for all products and a much higher return to stockmen than can be secured under present conditions. This fact of co-operation in Wisconsin is remarkable only as regards the character of the business undertaken. In Oregon there is abundant opportunity for the establishment of co-operative creameries, canneries and even for a number of starch factories. The raw products for maintaining such industries can readily be produced in enormous quantities, and apparently all that is lacking is the initiative and the community spirit which should be as highly developed in Oregon as in any other state. We have some co-operation in marketing, the results of which have been fairly satisfactory, but there is profit for the farmer and benefit to the community in the extension of the policy to a point where it will unite the interests of producers over a considerable territory and which will, to a great extent, do away with the unsatisfactory marketing conditions which now exist.

SECRETARY SAYS WEST ASKS PRACTICAL LAWS

New Policy of Department of the Interior Regarding National Resources Meet Approval, Says Franklin Lane. Cordial Cooperation Between Government and States in The West

In his annual report to the president, Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane gives prominence to the fuller and freer use of national resources and outlines a constructive program that will with the least burden place, in his opinion, the government resources at the service of the people.

Referring to the feeling in the west that its affairs and needs have not been given that consideration at the hands of the of the National government which they merit, Secretary Lane says: "This feeling is not confined to speculators or exploiters. It is the sentiment of many who are without selfish motive and regard the matter wholly from the standpoint of national growth. They point to the conditions which obtain in Alaska as unparalleled among people of our aggressive and nation-building stock. So, too, they are unable to understand why ways have not been found by which the great bodies of coal and oil lands, or phosphate and potash lands, may be developed, and the waters of the mountains made available for the generation of power and the redemption of the desert.

"There is one very simple explanation for the existence of this feeling. We have adventured upon a new policy of administering our affairs and have not developed adequate machinery. We have called a halt on methods of spoliation which existed, to the great benefit of many, but we have failed to substitute methods, sane, healthful, and progressive, by which the normal enterprise of an ambitious people can make full use of their own resources. We abruptly closed opportunities to the monopolist, but did not open them to the developer.

"The old philosophy that land is land was evidently unfitted to a country where land is sometimes timber and sometimes coal; indeed, where land may mean water—water for tens of thousands of needy neighboring acres. For the lands of the west differ as men do, in character and condition and degree of usefulness. We had not recognized this fact when we said 'land is land.' Lands fitted for dry farming and lands that must forever lie unused without irrigation; lands that are worthless save for their timber; lands that are rich in grasses and lands that are poor in grasses; lands underlain with the nonprecious minerals essential to industry or agriculture; lands that are invaluable for reservoir or dam sites—these varieties may be multiplied, and each new variety emphasizes the fact that each kind of land has its own future and affords its own opportunity for contributing to the nation's wealth.

"So there has slowly evolved in the public mind the conception of a new policy—that land should be used for that purpose to which it is best fitted, and it should be disposed of by the government with respect to its use. To this policy I believe the west is now reconciled. The west no longer urges a return to the hazards of the 'land is land' policy. But it does ask action. It is reconciled to the government making all proper safeguards against monopoly and against the subversion of the spirit of all our land laws, which is in essence that all suitable lands shall go into homes, and all other lands shall be developed for that purpose which shall make them of greatest service. But it asks that the machinery be promptly established in the law by which the lands may be used. And this demand is reasonable. Already the congress has recognized in many

ways the appositeness of this policy, but it is for yourself and congress to further extend this through into our legislation.

"Surely this is not a task that may be adventured upon with recklessness or without respect for the suggestions which shall be made by me as so made in the hope that they will form a basis upon which the constructive mind may work and bring forth a more perfect, a more efficient working plan."

On the subject of timber lands Secretary Lane says:

"I am not satisfied with the operation of the homestead law as to the timber lands of the far western lands. As the law now is, a man may enter upon 160 acres of these lands and by living a total of 21 months on the land during three years and cultivating at a maximum 20 acres of the land, it becomes his. He promptly proceeds, if he is wise, to sell it to some lumber company for from \$10,000 to \$20,000. The land is allowed to lie for an indefinite period as a part of the company's forest reserve or is logged off, leaving the stumps in the land, and eventually sold for agricultural purposes, if so adapted.

"Experience justifies the statement that a few men take up these heavily timbered lands under a bona fide attempt to meet the purpose of the law, which, as its name implies, is to convert the public land into homes. By the investment of a few months' time and a few hundred dollars the homesteader gains a property worth many thousands of dollars. Yet all the conditions of the law are complied with and patent must issue. The government loses the timber and the land does not gain a real home maker. Such homesteaders add nothing to the wealth of the nation. The law should punish them, in fact, as frauds. Whether with the connivance of the lumber companies or not, they are the agencies by which the law is defeated and the lands conveyed where it is not intended that they should go.

"There is a remedy for this condition of things, and it lies in the selling of the land and the timber separately. I am beginning to doubt the wisdom of applying the homestead law to any land which has not first been declared fitted for agricultural. It is now a blanket law which is used to cover a multitude of frauds. Such legislation would also cure the abuses resulting from the use of certain classes of scrip."

Taking up the question of arid lands Secretary Lane says: "The successful Carey Act projects are a distinguished few. Great wrongs to trustful or none too wise farmers were done in its name and the suffering which it caused has made it difficult to make it serviceable even under the more careful scrutiny of later and more cautious officers."

Much of the feeling against the service can be mended, says Mr. Lane, by a greater frankness and fuller appreciation of the work.

"But there is one matter of great moment to these people which should be corrected by law as soon as possible," adds the secretary. "We mistake the ability of the farmer to pay for his water rights. Ten years was the time given. His optimism and our own was too great. That time should be doubled. This should be done not alone because of the inability of many to meet their obligations to the government, but because it will prove wise policy to give a free period within which the farmers may more fully use their farms. They can put their lands to a more

A NEW DEFERRED RESI- DENCE HOMESTEAD BILL

Congressman Sinnott Introduces a Bill Intended to Help the Homesteader. Salient Features Given and He asks Suggestions From Actual Settlers Who Have Undergone Experience

The Times-Herald is in receipt of a copy of the "deferred residence homestead bill" recently introduced by Representative Sinnott. It is too long to publish in this issue but the salient features of the bill, according to his letter, are:

First: Three years after filing in which to establish residence. Present homestead law requires establishment in six months.

Second: Cultivation by second year of 1-32nd of area; 2-32nds by third year; 3-32nds fourth year; 4-32nds fifth year. The present law requires cultivation of 1-16th of land second year, 1-8th by third year.

Third: Requirements of residence after establishing same and privilege of absence are same as in the present law.

Fourth: In order to meet the charge that the deferred residence might invite collusion between entryman and speculator the bill denies the right to anyone to file on an entry who has purchased the relinquishment or secured the cancellation of the entry in a collusive contest.

Fifth: This bill only supplements but does not abolish any of the present homestead laws.

The object sought by this bill is to make it possible for the settler to make his homestead a fit place for himself and family to live in before he is obliged to take up actual residence thereon. It gives him the opportunity to earn the money to improve his land at the same time that he is making it habitable. So many eastern members of congress are opposed to abolishing the residence requirement on homesteads because of their fear that lands would fall into hands of speculators instead of bona fide settlers that it is practically impossible to get such a measure through. This bill, while not abolishing the residence requirement, helps the settler to get over the obsta-

cles which now trouble him most. Congressman Sinnott asks his constituents to write him and offer any suggestions or changes which might improve the bill. The personal experience and hardships of homesteaders on account of the present requirement that they take up residence in six months after filing, even going further in sending photos showing the difficulties of taking up a homestead, would assist him in presenting the matter more effectively to the public lands committee.

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**Road Wanted From
Catlow to Plush**

Austin Deboy, a well known stockman of the Warner Valley, was a business visitor in the county seat last week, he having come over to consult with County Judge Daly the matter of getting a road established between Plush and Catlow Valley.

The proposed highway would lead from Plush by way of the Old Stone Bridge, a total distance of approximately 25 miles. A portion of the road would be in Harney County, while the major portion would be in Lake. Mr. Deboy estimates that the cost of the road would be about \$3000 to this county and about one third of that amount to Harney. With this amount he states that an excellent thoroughfare could be constructed, and one that would be suitable for auto as well as wagon travel. While the road would pass over the Warner mountain, he says that with the already stated distance, a pass can be found that would not mean over a 15 per cent grade at any place.

Catlow Valley is settling up quite rapidly, there being about 400 people there now. Mr. Deboy says the settlers are experiencing great difficulty at present in hauling in their supplies and believes that a very valuable trade would be diverted to this county by constructing the wagon road to Plush.—Lakeview Examiner

Market Report.

Receipts for the week have been Cattle-1117; Calves-6; Hogs-3477; Sheep-4028.

Christmas week with its round of gaiety played havoc with the general run of stock so that while the run was very short, the quality of stuff was to some extent good, the feature of the cattle market being a lot of good steers which sold at \$8.10, the highest price for some time, range being from \$6.25 to \$8.10; bulk around \$7.50.

A short run of hogs and an off market were the main factors in the week's business. Beginning with Monday the tops were \$7.75, closing at \$7.65, quality not good. The market may be expected to take a better turn beginning with the new year's activity.

Lambs selling at \$6.50 beginning of the week and still in good strong demand at this quotation. For good strong stuff ewes and wethers are quoted proportionally for the same quality.

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