

Weekly Rogue River Courier
COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER.

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FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1912.

HOW TO DESTROY MOLES AND GOPHERS.

There is much complaint around Grants Pass and in fact all over Josephine county regarding gophers and ground moles this season. The ground mole is possibly the more destructive of the two burrowing animals. He is larger than the gopher, has beautiful fur and can dig a hole any distance under the surface in a very short space of time. The question now is how to get rid of these animals who are doing the kitchen garden, flower garden and farm crops generally great injury. The best thing we have seen on this subject is by D. E. Lontz in the Field and Farm. He recommends finding the runways and distributing poison in them. He says:

"Cut potatoes or other food into pieces not more than three-fourths of an inch in diameter. Cut a slit in each piece and with a point of the knife blade, insert a little sulphate of strychnine, as much as half the bulk of a grain of wheat will answer the purpose. The moisture from the potato will cause the poison to adhere to the blade. Having prepared the bait in sufficient quantity, go to the field armed with a round, sharp-pointed implement an inch or an inch and a half in diameter and of sufficient length. We use a spade handle shod with an iron point. A bar is attached about fifteen inches from the point to enable the operator to use his foot in pressing it into the soil. This tool has proved quite serviceable. With it it is only necessary to find the runway of the gopher. The handle is sufficiently thick to make a hole large enough to permit one to drop the poisoned potato directly into the burrow. The operator then passes to another place, leaving the hole open. No digging with a spade or other hard labor is necessary.

"An experienced person can distribute poison to many acres of alfalfa in a day and if proper care is taken to rightly distribute the bait it will not be necessary to go over the ground a second time. Some experience is required to enable one to find the burrows quickly. It is best to insert the food as near as possible to the freshest mounds of earth thrown up by the animals. Two or three pieces of potato at that place are worth many scattered in other parts of the runway. The operator should avoid the larger mounds and those that are not freshly made. In various experiments with strychnine poison for pocket-gophers no difference has been found in the results when different foods were used. Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, raisins and prunes have all been successful baits. In no case is it necessary to go over the ground a second time."

IMPORTANCE OF PROPER TILLAGE.

A few words about tilling the soil will certainly not be out of place at this season of the year. Successful agriculture depends on knowing how to care for the growing crops. It should be remembered that the one and only object in tilling is to expose fresh portions of the soil, which during the growth of the previous crop, have been somewhat deprived of air and have in consequence become sour, to regain some sweetness and to allow the elements of the air, which are more powerful in the winter months than in other seasons, to do their part, to soften any particularly hard substance which after

digging, would lie on the surface. The plants should continually receive nourishment from the substances in the soil, and these, though present, are useless unless they can be dissolved in water and absorbed by the root bulbs.

Ground left to take care of itself would be inclined to become so solid that water would find its way through from the surface with considerable difficulty. Should it remain on the surface for a long time the soil below would naturally become cold, so that growth would be impeded.

Again, the substances in the soil necessary for plant life require not only water to make them soluble, but oxygen to form compounds to enable them to become useful, and as the air is to a certain extent, roughly about one-fifth, composed of oxygen gas, the free admission of air to the soil is absolutely necessary.

It is better, on a heavy soil, to put the ground into ridges for the winter than to leave it on the flat after digging. The rougher the soil is left the better will be the exposure to the air.

The spring rains will readily flow through a ridged-up soil, and without much further labor, it will be ready for planting. The use of a rake will be sufficient to prove that the weathering agents of the air have materially assisted in making a capital tilth.

When, in the fall, the lumps are hard they can now be crumbled quite easily by the touch of a fork. But on light land ridging is unnecessary. A light trenching or simple digging out is resorted to. Light trenching, however, would not be sufficient year after year for good returns.

An experienced farmer has this to say in regard to ground that is broken up and used for farming or garden purposes for the first time. He says that the process must be gradual as the soil properly so-called may not extend in depth more than a few feet, and then something of a totally different nature might appear. This might poison a crop. It is better to expose it to the atmosphere for at least four or five months, to be thoroughly sweetened as well as broken up. But an intelligent person will readily see that full trenching must pay in the long run, if the soil is not to be sick or barren.

The above in most particulars applies to the soils in this section and it must not be forgotten that proper cultivation is demanded if we would be successful in raising crops of almost any kind.

THE PROPOSED FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION.

The editorial in Sunday's Courier regarding the Fourth of July celebration in Grants Pass this year seemed to touch a local chord in the breast of every citizen. It certainly looks as if everybody favors observing the day in all its old time patriotic splendor. They desire to have a big time and to invite everybody to its making the invitation of such a hearty nature as to insure the acceptance on the part of every man and woman within the confines of Josephine county. This paper would like to hear from our citizens generally on this important subject, but it must be borne in mind that to make a Fourth of July celebration a success, the work should be taken in hand without delay.

AMERICAN INTERVENTION IN CUBA.

Immediate American intervention in Cuba must result, in fact the United States has already landed troops on the soil of the unfortunate island so as to protect Americans who are trying to develop important industries, which were so long neglected by the Spaniards when they had possession of the country.

The Cubans have made a strong effort to govern themselves, but the mixture of races which make up the population of the country is hard to

deal with and it will require at least half a century to make them capable and loyal citizens of a republic. They need the strong arm of the American government to teach them correct principles in matters relating to their welfare. It may be said that the future is pregnant with events which concern Cuba and its people.

Mrs. Horace Felton and Mrs. M. R. Rice of Gold Hill attended the banquet and meeting of the Eastern Star Wednesday night, Mrs. Rice returning home the same night and Mrs. Felton remaining over to visit Mrs. M. J. Leach.

HAPPY WOMEN.

Plenty of Them in Grants Pass, and Good Reason for It.

Wouldn't any woman be happy, after years of backache suffering, Days of misery, nights of unrest, The distress of urinary troubles, When she finds freedom.

Many readers will profit by the following: Mrs. J. Waterman, Phoenix, Oregon, says: "I have no hesitation in recommending Doan's Kidney Pills as I have had ample proof of their merit. Over-exertion or being on my feet for any length of time caused my back to ache and sent sharp pains through my loins. Frequent headaches and spells of dizziness also bothered me. I knew that my kidneys were at fault and hearing Doan's Kidney Pills highly recommended, I procured a supply. I began their use and they relieved the difficulties which had so long distressed me." For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-McBarn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—\$9-year lease on lot on county road in front of Applegate-Williams creamery. Inquire of H. F. Bailey, Provolet, Oregon. 5-31-12

ANGORA GOATS for sale by M. D. Bousman, Wilderville, Oregon.

ALL DENTISTS' OFFICES in Grants Pass will be closed on Thursday afternoons throughout the summer. 5-10-12

SOME One Barred Rock cockerels for sale; also eggs for hatching. Cockerels two and three dollars each. Eggs \$1.50 per setting. John Summers. 2-9-12

MISCELLANEOUS

RANNIE, the plumber, is ready in any minute to repair your plumbing. 809 H street. Telephone 149-R. 4-2-12

EARL V. INGLES, B. Sc.—General assay and analytical work. Cement and asphalt testing. Best equipped assay office and testing laboratory in Oregon. All work guaranteed. Calvert-Paddock block.

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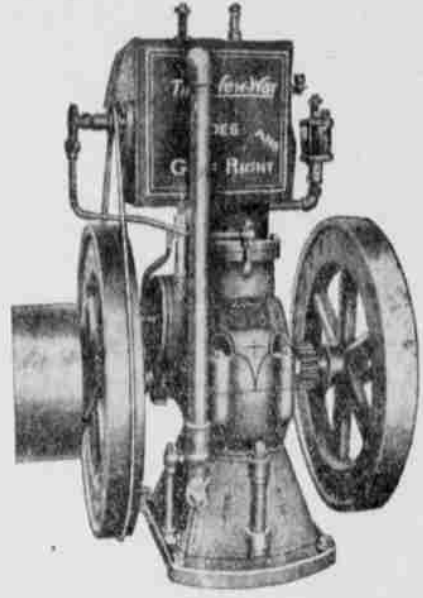
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4. All valves are in cage, making them easy to get at and adjust.
5. With the "NEW WAY" there are no battery troubles and no battery expense. With the Bosch magnet, simply crank the machine and "it goes and goes right."
6. This engine has a large cast iron base for gasoline supply, easy to get at and absolutely air tight—no evaporated gasoline and expense.
7. One single oil cup oils every part of the engine, a great feature in itself.
8. Being air cooled, there is no danger of forgetting to drain the tank and engine and therefore no cost from frozen and cracked cylinders.
9. With the "NEW WAY" there is no lime to chisel out of the water jacket, and there being no water condensation, it starts on a cold morning the instant the crank is turned.
10. The "NEW WAY" is more compact and weighs less than a water cooled engine WITHOUT THE TANK, and will operate in any position.
11. Come in and let us prove to you every assertion we make. Seeing is believing. No matter what gas engine you may fancy, see this one. If we can't show you to your satisfaction that this is the best engine you ever saw we don't want your money.

GUARANTEE:

Each "NEW WAY" air cooled engine is warranted to be first class in construction, workmanship and material, and when properly operated, to deliver its full rated power in summer or winter, for any length of time without heating.

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