

Illinois Valley In Infancy Of Agricultural Development

Dreamers Dream Of Local Garden Spot Of Universe

Cattle, Dairying Now Net Largest Income for Local Farmer

Those who live in the world of tomorrow—those visionary individuals who see distinctly the horizons of the world of those third and fourth generations yet to come—firmly contend that the Illinois Valley, now in its infancy agriculturally speaking, will one day be one of the Garden Spots of the World.

For here lies, they will tell you, the potentialities of a breadbasket for thousands of families; acres of fertile bottom land idly await the clearing axe, the irrigation canal, the plowshare, and the industrious hands of the husbandman. Nor is the time far removed, with present population trends in the United States, when the bounteous supply of the Illinois Valley water shed will be harnessed to provide power and irrigation for this area, they envision.

In Realm of Reality

But in the realm of reality, and cold facts, the Illinois Valley of today is making progressive steps in its small way with a variety of farm products. The progress of agriculture here compares favorably with the trend throughout the state, which is currently making great strides with new crops and increased yields.

The moderate climate of the Illinois Valley is conducive to the raising of every type of crop to be found in the north temperate climate. Local farmers raise such diversified crops as grain, hay, fruit, vegetables, cattle, horses, hogs, sheep and poultry.

Cattle Most Profitable

Under the present conditions cattle perhaps, yield the greatest monetary return. Thousands of head roam the mountainous upland meadows of the Siskiyou. In recent years there has been a concerted effort to introduce blooded stock and many fine herds of pedigreed cattle are forming a nu-

cleous for future development in this field.

Dairying has taken on a new significance in the Illinois Valley in recent months and cream and milk check returns net local farmers between \$2000 and \$2500 monthly, besides providing the home tables with butter, cream, milk and cheese.

Local packing concerns are amply supplied by Valley farmers with high quality veal, beef, pork, mutton and fowl.

Poultry raising is coming to the fore and rabbit hutches are dotting the landscape to supply local eating house demands during tourist season, which more and more is becoming a year-round business here.

Grains are raised primarily for home consumption while some hay crops are placed on competitive local markets primarily for use within the confines of the county.

Fruit and vegetable enterprises are aimed basically at providing for family needs although there has been a tendency in very recent years to branch out to take advantage of financial returns gained by marketing with local grocers.

Extension Service Active

Active, too, is the Josephine County Agent, O. K. Beals, who works in conjunction with the State Agriculture Extension Service at Oregon State college to assist local farmers intelligent use of their lands and the to improve their economic status by scientific planting of profitable crops.

Miss Ruth Crawford, new Josephine County Home Demonstration Agent, will continue to carry out the policy of the former agent, Nola Welch Thompson, by making periodic visits to the Illinois Valley to assist farm women in a variety of projects designed to make home life of the agrarian more comfortable. The program, appreciatively beneficial, has the cooperation of a majority of local farm women who have formed home extension units to facilitate the work.

The Soil Conservation program of the federal government has had the active support of Illinois Valley farmers and tends to support the dreams of the visionaries for the federal government is apparently interested in conserving local fields and holding down erosion.

A PROMISING DAIRY HERD FEEDING IN FERTILE FIELDS



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CAVE JUNCTION, OREGON

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Granges Flourish

Two granges are active here and have proven highly constructive in the community and business lives of the local rural folk, for not only have they dealt with current farm problems but they have provided the nucleus of the social and entertainment factors of their constituents.

Fully a half thousand families in the valley live primarily from the land and sit down daily to bounteous tables supplied from local orchard and truck garden plots. Thousands of cans of fruits and vegetables are processed every year by local housewives.

Oats, Peas, Beans, Barley Grow

Peaches, pears, apples, cherries, prunes, strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, youngberries, loganberries, boysenberries, walnuts, peas, beans, carrots,—a scad of vegetables alfalfa, clover, alsike seed, brome, wheat, oats, corn—all these and a score more flourish under a benevolent sun in the rich soil of the Illinois Valley.

RITZ TAVERN BUILDS LARGE FIREPLACE

One of the novel improvements in the Ritz Tavern recently, is a large fireplace in the center of the large room on the ground floor of the Tavern. The fireplace is a two-way affair, with a place for a large fire on both sides of the chimney, and one fireplace is constructed for broiling foodstuffs or toasting marshmallows or what have you.

Next winter the Ritz Tavern will be a very popular place if "Shorty" and the Missus keeps the home fires burning.

JUNE IS NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH

The National Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation announces that June has again been designated as National Dairy Month. As in the past, intensive effort will be given to stimulating interest in milk and milk products.

That is of great importance to all states. It provides a part of the income for millions of farm families, and all of the income for hundreds of thousands. From the consumers' point of view, milk is among the most healthful of foods, and dietary authorities point out that consumption in this country is substantially below what it should be.

Marketing cooperatives will be among the leaders in forwarding National Dairy Month. These cooperatives have achieved some of their most notable successes in the dairy field, and they have proven themselves invaluable to profitable dairy farming.

Cultured Milk Is Now Put Up in Tin Cans

Acidophilus milk, used to control certain types of diarrhea in young calves, now available in sealed pound cans from the dairy department at Oregon State college. The cans are lacquered and sealed under vacuum. Experiments are being conducted to determine exactly how long this milk will remain in good condition in such cans.

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