

RURAL ENTERPRISE

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It is probable as the Eugene Register remarks, that the framers of the child labor amendment made a mistake in putting its age limit as high as 18 years, but it is not probable, as propagandists claim, that congress would ever prohibit children from working on farms at home. State legislatures, have not done so, and they and congresses are made of similar timber.

In Kentucky, famed for whisky from Bourbon county, the Masonic grand lodge has not only declared against the violation of the prohibition laws of the nation by members but declared that any subordinate lodge admitting such violators will forfeit its charter. And there are people who claim that prohibition is unpopular and will be repealed in the United States.

A move in the legislature to add 2 cents a gallon to the gasoline tax for the benefit of the ever hungry state highway fund suggested that consumers might stand so much more and the oil combine promptly raised the price 2 cents. Trust the trust to grab all that comes within sight.

The evidence that Dr. Cook visited the north pole is as good as that in favor of Lieutenant Peary, though the geographical society of which Peary was a member gave him the credit. Cook is in jail and Peary is far from the pole and its climate.

The bones of Hernando Cortez, which were discovered and preserved in a hospital in the city of Mexico, have been thrown into a rubbish pile with other bones and lost. Cortez will not care.

Claim Commission Acted Hastily

Washington, D. C.—Flarebacks on some of the recommendations of the president's agricultural commission emanated from the heads of two main branches of the government in letters forwarded to President Coolidge. Secretary Mellon, advising the president that Commissioner Cooper, executive officer of the farm loan board, was leaving Washington immediately to obtain first-hand information as to the credit needs of live stock and other farm producers, said he was not entirely clear as to what the commission meant by recommending that the board "should take some aggressive steps" to open up credit channels to agriculture.

Chairman Atchison of the interstate commerce commission, thanking the president for forwarding him the agricultural commission's recent criticism of its operations, said "we feel that some of the seeming misapprehension" of the commission's members "could have been cleared away by inquiry from us thereon, or by reference to our annual reports." Both the letters of Secretary Mellon and Commissioner Atchison set out in detail the commission's criticisms and denied their justification.

BRIEF GENERAL NEWS

Julius Fieschmann, millionaire yeast manufacturer and sportsman, dropped dead while playing polo. The allies, through representatives at Athens, intervened actively to prevent hostilities between Greece and Turkey. The senate seated Senator Mayfield, democrat, of Texas, dismissing the contest brought by George E. B. Peddy defeated candidate in the 1922 election. Sentences of two years in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan., and \$10,000 fines each, were imposed on Charles R. Forbes, former head of the veterans' bureau, and John W. Thompson, St. Louis contractor, for conspiring to defraud the government in connection with bureau hospitalization contracts.

While no material damage to fall wheat will occur in Baker county on account of the recent severe winter weather, it is reported that deep freezing before snow fell will result in considerable damage to the alfalfa hay crop this year. In many instances growers will plow their alfalfa fields and reseed.

The Great Outdoors

Where Bread, Meat, Clothing, Health and Vigorous Humanity are Produced

Those Intervening Market Crafters

The Farmer Carries Them and They Are His Heaviest Load

Portland, Jan. 29. "It takes a plow to sell a plow" has become a common saying among farmers. During the past three or four years the manufacturers of farm implements have been hard hit by being unable to sell and some of the oldest establishments have failed. Now the manufacturers are considering plans for direct sales to farmers, cutting out all the middle-profit agencies.

There is no good reason for implements being sold through wholesalers and an army of traveling men and commissionmen. Half the price a farmer pays for the smaller pieces of farm equipment is added to the factory price by these middle factors, and in thrashers, binders, and in threshing machines, binders, tractors, and like expensive machines the overhead expenses added make the cost so high that their sale is so limited that the factories are hard hit.

The move to make is for manufacturers and organized farmers to deal directly and cut out the whole middle works. There is no justification for the present huge middle expenses.

The American Co-Operative commission in a statement showing the wonderful strides of co-operation asks this question, "Does so-called private business do anything that cannot be done better by the producers and consumers themselves through co-operative societies?" Whenever there is discussion to eliminate middle costs and profits there bobs up this argument that American business is based on the middlemen and that there does not seem to be any way to remove them. Organized farmers are advised to be their own middle agencies and retain the profits now taken by the thousands of wholesalers, brokers, dealers, commission men. If the present middle profits could be divided between the producers and consumers there would be far greater consumption and demand with higher prices to the growers and lower prices to the eaters.

Farm organizations in the middle west are warning retailers that it will be to their interests to get their supplies directly from the producers' organizations. The latter will be compelled to establish their own retail stores and sell their own goods.

C. E. Spence, State Market Agent.

The United States senate has directed the trade commission to investigate alleged monopolies in the electrical power and tobacco industries and the national propaganda to discourage public ownership of utilities.

The monopolies and the propaganda are vigorously alive. The commission, as in passed instances, will probably cover itself with glory by reporting these self-evident facts and the attorney general acquire a halo by suing and then dismissing or by getting judgments and allowing them to be enforced in a way to do the defendants no harm and nobody else any good.

A chance for some of the farmers who are in the hog business to replace former losses with profits is seen by Fred Bennion, Umatilla county agent, following receipt of the government's report of a shortage of hogs amounting to 12,000,000 in January, 1925, as compared with 1924. Low prices for hogs and high price of feeds have caused hog production in Umatilla county to be greatly curtailed during the last two years.

VEAL POULTRY EGGS CAPONS HOGS

We want your produce and guarantee the highest market prices. Our business established 44 years ago. Reference, Bank of California PAGE & SON Portland, Or.

Hardy Western Ewes Best for Beginners

Are Freer From Parasites Than Native Animals.

Because western ewes are hardier and freer from parasites than native ewes, they are recommended as foundation stock for the beginner in sheep husbandry by Phil A. Anderson of the division of animal husbandry, University farm at St. Paul, Minn.

Mr. Anderson explains that sheep that come to the market may be divided into two general classes—natives, or sheep of medium or long wool breeding, raised on small farms, and westerns, or sheep of fine wool or Merino breeding, raised under western range conditions.

Usually the natives come to the market in small lots. Buyers of large numbers, therefore, are likely to get sheep of different breeding. Often native ewes show poor breeding because poor sires were used on many farm flocks. Western ewes, on the other hand, come to the market in larger consignments. They are smaller in size than natives, but they have the advantage of hardiness and greater freedom from disease and, if mated with good rams of the medium-wooled or long-wooled breeds, they will produce very acceptable lambs.

If the beginner is in position to make a finer selection, Mr. Anderson advises him to pick ewes having broad firm backs, wide loins, full and plump legs of mutton, smooth shoulders and short necks. By saving the best ewe lambs each year, the farmer can cull the poorer stock and build up a flock worth while.

Handbook Prepared for Benefit of Cow Tester

A handbook for cow testers has been prepared and published by the United States Department of Agriculture which will be of considerable value and help to the men engaged in the work of testing cows for production in cow testing associations. Many testers are not especially trained for their particular work, but by following the suggestions of the handbook and the standard methods advised, they will make their records much more valuable to the dairymen, and also more useful in the various studies by the department based on such records. Every tester should have one of these handbooks; they are printed in a convenient size for carrying in the pocket.

The handbook not only informs the tester just how to do his work in the most valuable way, but also informs the owner of the herd just what he can expect of the tester. A thorough knowledge of the duties of the tester by both the tester and the owner of the herd should aid materially in promoting harmony and better co-operation in cow testing work.

A copy of the handbook, which is called Miscellaneous Circular No. 23, may be secured upon request, as long as the supply lasts, from the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Soy Beans Recommended as Emergency Hay Crop

The Pennsylvania agricultural experiment station has completed some feeding experiments comparing soy bean hay and clover hay with alfalfa when fed to dairy cows.

During the winter of 1923-24 ten Holstein cows were used in a nine-weeks' duration trial. The soy bean and alfalfa hay used was of good quality. The cows were all in a high state of lactation.

The cows receiving soy bean hay produced 8.8 per cent less milk than those receiving alfalfa hay. As an emergency hay crop for dairy farms soy beans are highly recommended.

A feeding trial of six weeks' duration was conducted comparing red clover hay with alfalfa hay for milk production.

The cows receiving the clover hay produced 6.5 per cent less milk than those receiving alfalfa. Pennsylvania Experiment Station Bulletin No. 188.

Plans for the annual strawberry carnival to be held in Roseburg during May this year have already been started by the Umpqua Chiefs, who staged a very successful festival last spring.

Damage to winter wheat in eastern Oregon last month was considerably greater than at first estimated, reports indicate. Between 90 and 95 per cent of the wheat crop in Morrow county will have to be reseeded, according to advices from R. W. Morse, Morrow county agent. New observations in Sherman, Gilliam and Wasco counties show early estimates far below actual figures. In Sherman county, 80 per cent of the grain is dead, according to D. E. Stephens, superintendent of the Moro experiment station. Between 30,000 and 24,000 acres will have to be reseeded in Wasco county, County Agent Daigh estimates.

Cabbage and Tubers Affect Milk Flavor

Fed Immediately After the Milking Not Harmful.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.) Cabbage and potatoes, though not grown generally for dairy feeds, are often fed to dairy cows to supply succulence in the ration and to dispose more economically of these products during periods of low prices. Like other succulent feeds they tend to affect the milk with undesirable flavors and odors when fed under certain conditions of quantity and time.

In order to determine the amounts of these feeds that may be fed, as well as the time of feeding, without affecting the flavor of the milk, the United States Department of Agriculture conducted a number of tests; the results of which have just been published in Department Bulletin 1297.

From these tests it is concluded that dairy cows may be fed as much as 24 pounds of cabbage immediately after milking without imparting any objectionable flavors or odors to the milk. On the average, however, the feeding of 14.3 pounds of cabbage within one hour before milking will cause objectionable flavors in the milk, and an increase in the amount of cabbage fed will intensify the flavors produced. Proper aeration, however, will reduce strong abnormal flavors to some extent, and some of the slightly abnormal flavors may be eliminated.

When dairy cows consume an average of 14.8 pounds of potatoes one hour before milking, slightly abnormal flavors and odors may be produced in the milk. They are slight, however, and would seldom be perceived by the average consumer. Increasing this amount to as high as 28.7 pounds does not increase the abnormal flavors. That amount may be fed immediately after milking with no effect whatever on the flavor of the milk.

A copy of this bulletin may be secured free of charge, while the supply lasts, from the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Thorough Study of Oil Emulsion as Insecticide

A thorough study of oil emulsions for use as insecticides has been begun by the bureau of entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture during the past year, and important progress has been made, especially toward increasing the stability of emulsions in hard water and lime-sulphur solutions. The investigation of miscellaneous insecticides has been continued at the laboratory in Washington and at the nearby field station at Silver Spring, Md., and co-operative tests on a commercial scale are made by the Washington laboratories and various field stations on new or improved preparations. What appears to be a new contact insecticide which will in many instances be a suitable substitute for nicotine at a lower cost has been developed by two offices of the bureau co-operatively. This insecticide mixes well with oil emulsions and, it is believed, will make an excellent spray for the delayed dormant treatment for the simultaneous control of the San Jose scale and apple aphids.

Fruit trees in Lane county as a rule were not damaged as much by the recent freezing weather as during the zero weather in 1919, according to C. E. Stewart, county fruit inspector.

Hay shortage resulted in a comparatively heavy loss of cattle in central Oregon this winter, reports reaching Bend indicate. It was estimated that 13 per cent of the cattle in the vicinity of Sisters had died. Heavy losses were reported from Fort Rock.

The public service commission has authorized short time publication of special intrastate carload rates on seed wheat for reseeding purposes which has been made necessary as a result of the recent cold weather. The rates apply to those counties east of Hood River and south to Snake river.

1-Ton Pig Litters at Six Months Old

The Younger an Animal is, the Less a Pound of Growth Costs

After an animal is half grown it takes more feed to put on a pound of flesh in any month than it did the month before. The meat that grows the fastest grows the most cheaply. "Baby beef" actually costs less to produce than any other, and it is worth more on the market. The loss from failure to push the growth of food animals every day from birth in this country is enough to make the difference between a good profit and positive loss in stock growing. The ranges where medium animals could be grown at such small cost that there was profit in them are mostly things of the past. The day of runts and of two-year-old and three-year-old steer beef will soon be a memory for the producers of that kind of stuff will have been starved out.

The same facts hold good all along the line. Cattle, pigs, poultry, lambs, all animal life responds more profitably to comfort and proper feed the younger it receives them.

In Minnesota last year they had a ton-litter pig contest and 43 farmers who participated had sows whose litters made a ton or more in weight in six months. There's profit in that kind of pork, and it is to such application of brains as those farmers made, more than to congress or the legislature that the farmers of America must look for financial salvation.

The breed and the feed are what does the trick. H. G. Zavoral, Minnesota livestock specialist, writes:

"The contest showed the value of well-bred pigs for pork production. It showed that purebred hogs are more highly developed machines to convert farm feeds into pork."

Mr. Zavoral pointed out the earlier maturity of well-bred stock. Most of the pigs in the litters that made the ton were ready for the market in from 5 to 5½ months. The shorter time lessens the risk from disease.

It results in the tenderest, juiciest, most popular meat in the market, which brings several cents a pound more than that grown more slowly, and more expensively.

More than that, pigs crowded for the early market bring a higher price, on the average, than those marketed late when the markets are flooded.

The weights of the successful litters ranged from 2,008 to 3,102 pounds, with an average of 2,335.4 pounds. The average number of pigs in the litters "making the ton" was 10.8 and their average weight was 215.9 pounds.

Linn Jersey Cattlemen

Saturday's meeting of the Linn county Jersey Cattle club at Albany was addressed by Ivan H. Loughary, field representative for the American Jersey Cattle club; L. H. Allen of Corvallis, state club leader; Prof. P. M. Brandt, dairy expert from O. A. C. and E. A. Rhoten, Ed Shoel is president, Leslie Cate vice-president, Mrs. S. B. Holt secretary-treasurer and W. H. McConnell and D. O. Woodworth directors.

With Ochoco creek, a tributary to Crooked river, at flood stage, the Ochoco reservoir is rapidly filling with water, giving assurance to Prineville farmers of a season of plentiful crops.

Epidemic Feared as Flood Result

Vale, Or.—Danger of an epidemic of diphtheria and smallpox was foreseen here by city officials and others as a result of the flooding of Vale and surrounding territory through the bursting of the brigation dam on Bully creek last Thursday.

With from 2000 to 4000 head of cattle and sheep lying dead in the lowlands west of Vale toward Bully creek, where they were caught by the rushing waters and drowned, and with every basement and lower floor of Vale's residences and business houses filled with mud and debris, the situation from a health standpoint was viewed with apprehension.

The loss to property here and in adjacent territory swept by the flood now is placed close to \$500,000 instead of \$250,000, as at first estimated.

SEED WHEAT BILL VETOED

Gov. Hartley Regards Legislation as Wrong in Principle.

Olympia, Wash.—Governor Hartley vetoed the \$400,000 appropriation from the reclamation revolving fund for seed wheat for the farmers of the drought stricken region.

He gives as his reason that this bill asks him to put the finances of the state into a proposition which is considered unsafe and unsound for private capital.

He also takes occasion to say that he regards this kind of legislation wrong in principle, and not a proper function of government, "certain to lead the government into the by-paths of group or class legislation, and into the pitfalls of paternalism, a policy to which I cannot subscribe."

Moses Lake Dam Goes Out

Spokane, Wash. — Several houses were wiped out and winter-sown crops were ruined when Moses lake dam, 20 miles north of Othello, in Grant county, burst shortly before noon Saturday.

Child Labor Bill Refused by Idaho

Boise, Idaho.—Idaho was added to the states refusing to ratify the federal child labor amendment when the house defeated the resolution for ratification by a vote of 18 to 38.

THE MARKETS

Table with market prices for various goods in Portland, Seattle, and Spokane. Includes items like Wheat, Alfalfa, Butterfat, Eggs, Cheese, Hogs, and Sheep.

TRAFFIC TO EAST IS HEAVY

Empty Freight Cars Brought West, Go Back Loaded.

Olympia, Wash.—More than half of all the railroad cars entering the Pacific northwest through the four gateways of Troy and Paradise, Mont.; Avery, Idaho, and Huntington, Or., during the year 1924 came through empty, the total number of westbound loads being 126,747 and the empties numbering 149,284, as shown by figures compiled by O. O. Calderhead, traffic expert of the department of public works.

The total westward movement was 276,031 cars, with the empties 22,587 in excess of the loaded cars.

This great quantity of empties moved westward was necessary to take care of the heavy shipments of the Pacific northwest, particularly in fruit and lumber products.

U. S. Parliamentary Senate Clerk Dies Washington, D. C.—Henry H. Giffey, parliamentary clerk of the senate for 42 years, died at his home here, aged 81 years. He was an ex-resident of Oregon.

Advertisement for Land Plaster by O. W. FRUM. Text: "A car of Land Plaster will arrive in February. Place your order now for delivery right off the car at a great saving in price. O. W. FRUM"