

RURAL ENTERPRISE

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THE UN-CUT MELON

Oregon just now is the bone of contention in a struggle before the interstate commerce commission's representative, sitting in Portland. The railroad people, in view of the undeveloped resources of this state, call it "the uncut melon" among the states. If the commission decides wisely the work of unlocking the sweetness of this delicious cucurbitaceous fruit will be hastened.

Western Oregon—Contains more and better standing timber than any other state; Contains more federal forest reserve (untaxable) than any other state; there is a rather high tax rate on other property.

Produces more hops than any other state; Produces more peppermint oil to an acre, and of higher quality, than any other state and bids fair soon to produce more in quantity, her estimated crop for next year being 5000 acres;

Produces more and better flax fiber than all the rest of the country and will probably become the location of the greatest linen manufacturing industry in the world;

Produces the most famous and best-selling cheese in America; Produced (here in Linn county) the prize-winning butter in the recent national dairy show;

Is a center of pure-bred stock-raising, especially Jersey cattle (in which Linn county leads), to the extent that experts from the east who attended our state fair this year expressed astonishment that one state could make such a showing of pure-bred Jerseys.

Saturday's Oregonian said that "Portland territory produced mineral products valued at \$132,677,979 in 1923 which combined with forest and agricultural products to make a total exceeding \$500,800,000.

One of the evils of prohibitory legislation as seen by bootleggers is the confiscation and sale at auction of over 800 automobiles in Oregon in which liquor had been transported. This is hard on the booze vendors' shoe leather.

Exchanges are commenting on the fact that half the auto tourists are without funds. What's strange about that? You can't pay your money for a car and still have it to spend.

Hall's Catarrh Medicine will do what we claim for it—rid your system of Catarrh or Deafness caused by Catarrh. Sold by druggists for over 40 years. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio

A Modern Barber Shop Laundry sent Tuesdays Agency Hub Cleaning Works ABE'S PLACE

9x12 PABCOLIN and GOLD SEAL Congoleum Printed Rugs \$16 cash Armstrong Linoleum Rugs, \$18 cash We have some attractive patterns in Linoleum and felt-base yard goods HILL & Co. HALSEY

CONFISCATING THE LAND

Governor Pierce declares that a well-known banker tells him that within a short time there will be practically no value left in city or town property unless there is a more equitable distribution of taxes. The present system of collecting principally from land all the money necessary for maintenance of schools and government is the confiscation of all value therein.

And yet we allowed Portland to bamboozle us into abolishing the income tax on the plea that we want to attract more tax dodgers here instead of letting them go to Florida, where people are digging a pit into which they will some day fall.

When enough of them have come, and derived enough untaxed profit from our industry, they may buy the farms at tax sales, switch the tax system back into more equitable lines and make money farming, for Oregon farms are mostly good farms. Who knows?

The net result of Secretary Jardine's protest and threat against Chicago grain gambling is that the board of trade of that city has adopted a rule which promises to give the producer the best possible value. Is that promise stronger than pie crust?

Mr. Coolidge found Haney a stumbling block and the shipping commission a stone wall. It is reported that he will take these troubles to congress. If he does the fireworks will be lurid. Mr. Coolidge is not fond of fireworks.

Two sheriffs were killed in different parts of Ohio in one day last week by men they were trying to arrest on warrants. Far from often enough do we turn the tables and execute a murderer.

The most sensible remark on military affairs in recent times is that attributed to Mr. Coolidge that defensive measures are useless waste, that "no force can prevent attack" and that peace depends on right thinking and tolerance.

A grange has been found that champions a return to the convention plan of nominating candidates in place of the primary. With propriety its location is named Fossil.

Oregon cold storage eggs are being shipped to England. All right; we don't want 'em here.

The Merriams are living where the English family did.

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Need Uniformity in States' Rules

Poultry Industry Retarded by Great Difference in Regulations.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The poultry-breeding industry of the United States is making a determined effort to bring harmony out of the confusion that now exists because of the differences in the rules and regulations applied to certification and accreditation of flocks in the various states. Under present conditions when a prospective purchaser of hatching eggs, baby chicks, or breeding stock comes across the word "accredited" or "certified" in connection with the advertised flocks he does not know just what factors were taken into consideration to certify or accredit these flocks, unless he is familiar with the regulations governing such work in each state. The great difference in methods, plans, and rules governing the accreditation and certification of poultry in the different states is serving to retard the progressive development of the industry and is unfairly shielding some breeders whose flocks are certified under less stringent rules than others.

Difference in Regulations.

At present there are 22 states which have adopted regulations for certification and accreditation of flocks. The difference that exists between the regulations in these states is seen in the case of baby chicks. In one state chicks are sold by grade based on the production of the parents; in another case two grades of chicks are offered, one grade being from accredited flocks that are not tested for bacillary white diarrhea, and the other grade "from flocks that have been tested and are found free from the disease. In another state chicks are sold on a basis of four grades according to the grading of the adult birds, and the grading of the adult birds is based on their general qualities. Still another sells certified as well as two other grades of chicks, the certified chick being produced from certified males mated to certified females, while of the other two grades the first are chicks produced from old hens mated to certified cockerels, and the second grade are chicks produced from certified pullets mated to certified cockerels.

Committee Makes a Survey.

The general committee appointed to co-operate with the poultry office of the United States Department of Agriculture has made a survey in which this same degree of difference in state rules and regulations was found to exist in regard to hatching eggs and breeding stock as well as baby chicks. The committee is of the opinion that if the states can get together to discuss these differences much can be done to stabilize the poultry-breeding industry. Also, from the standpoint of interstate commerce in hatching eggs, baby chicks, and breeding stock, the committee feels that uniformity in the state rules and regulations concerning the accreditation-certification work is necessary if poultrymen are to retain this business.

Starting Sweet Clover With Corn in the Fall

Starting sweet clover in corn at time of last cultivation is a good practice provided it can be done. There is rarely a season, however, when sweet clover or any other of the clovers give a good stand when sown in corn at this time. If the season is very favorable, with considerable rainy weather, a stand is sometimes secured. As a rule, not much of this clover is alive the following spring, though sometimes it gets through the winter.

On some land it is much easier to get sweet clover started with corn than on other types of land. A soil may be poor for corn but rich for sweet clover, and on such land it is comparatively easy to get the clover started with corn; but on good corn land that will grow 50 bushels or more of corn, it does not pay to depend on getting sweet clover started in the cornfield.

Sheep Business Subject to Market Fluctuations

The sheep business, like all other industries, is subject to market fluctuations, periods of low prices being followed by higher prices and lucrative returns. Since the last depression in 1922 sheep have been one of the most profitable classes of farm live stock. Many express the opinion, therefore, that after this year we will see lower prices. No doubt there will be considerable fluctuation in the market and dry weather may cause a sufficient liquidation to temporarily demoralize the market this fall. This should, if it develops, provide an excellent opportunity to lay the foundation for a farm flock and at the same time should be an incentive to every man who is in the business to retain his flock if at all possible to do so.

Criticism Unfair, Says this Banker

By FRANCIS H. SISSON Chairman, Public Relations Commission American Bankers Association

There has been some disposition to criticize the administration of the country's banking system for the sudden collapse of prices and curtailment of credits in 1920 and 1921, and the subsequent financial difficulties of the farmers. As a matter of fact, whatever blame may attach to bankers must be for the too generous financing, in many cases, of speculative investment in farm property during the period of inflation. If any just criticism could be directed at the manner in which the Federal Reserve System functioned in this situation in the opinion of many it would be that the Reserve banks delayed too long in raising the rediscount rates. An earlier effort might have stayed the earlier effort might have stayed the process of inflation.



Francis H. Sisson

The collapse of 1920 was by no means confined to agriculture, and was the inevitable sequel to the inflation period. All branches of business suffered in this period of reaction and perhaps none more than banking, against which this criticism has been leveled. The financial situation of the farmers was greatly aggravated by the fact that the high land values and high prices of agricultural products had led many farmers to incur obligations based on the inflated values. If the farmer was victimized at all, indeed, he was the victim of too much rather than too little consideration. The real progress which has been achieved in agricultural finance in recent years lies more in the intelligent distribution of farm credit than in volume.

With agencies now functioning for the provision of ample credits for the American farmer, his enduring success depends upon the wisdom and foresight with which he meets the problems of production and marketing. More than ever before, his activities must be regulated with reference to world conditions, and his profits, like those of the manufacturer or merchant, will reflect the measure of his success in adjusting his activities to these conditions.

Mineral Mixtures Help

There are on the market a number of commercial mineral mixtures which have recently been especially compounded for poultry feeding. It will probably be the easiest for the average poultryman to secure his minerals by purchasing them in this form. Be sure that you are getting a well-known mixture, and feed it strictly according to instructions. Most of these mineral mixtures contain, in addition to those mentioned above, other mineral elements, such as sulphur, which undoubtedly have a definite place.

Successful poultry breeding rests on records of ancestry performance on which to base breeding program.

Chickens and Cattle Tested at Same Time

Veterinarians Combine Tuberculin Inspection.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Veterinarians engaged in the tuberculin testing of cattle in Green Lake county, Wisconsin, have found it possible to inspect the poultry flocks on the farms visited without slowing up the regular cattle-testing work. This is significant, says the United States Department of Agriculture, when it is realized that there is no special federal appropriation for conducting a campaign against avian tuberculosis, and that the poultry flocks of the county must be cleaned up along with the herds of cattle if the eradication of the disease is to remain permanent.

Operating in the regular way, the veterinarians in Green Lake county inspected 1,032 flocks on the farms visited for cattle testing. They found 153 flocks infected, and the remainder apparently free from the disease. Two hundred and eighteen post-mortems, slightly more than one in each infected flock, were held. Altogether, it was estimated, more than 72,000 fowls were inspected.

An estimation of the extent of tuberculosis among the poultry flocks of the country shows the disease varying from 1 to 15 per cent.

A definite effort to inspect poultry was begun in February. In the various states during the first two months of the work 40,865 flocks were inspected, 2,595 of which were found to be infected. It is estimated that nearly 3,000,000 fowls were inspected during this period.

Young Alfalfa Plants Hurt by Nurse Crops

Many a good stand of spring-sown alfalfa is ruined by allowing the nurse crops of oats or barley to mature for grain.

"The young alfalfa plants are literally choked to death for want of water," says George W. Musgrave, agronomist at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment station. The ripening grain, he explains, draws an enormous amount of water from the soil, thus furnishing the feeble young alfalfa plants.

Though this moisture robbery is the chief objection to letting the nurse crop mature for grain, it is not the only one, according to Professor Musgrave. There is also the possibility of fatal injury to the alfalfa, through lodging of the ripening fruit. Successful alfalfa growers cut the grain for hay just as soon as it heads out. Not only may a satisfactory quality of grain be secured at this time, but the crowding effect on the alfalfa seedling is removed and the alfalfa is given the opportunity to develop properly.

The main object in planting the grain is to secure a successful alfalfa stand; one should take no chances on losing his investment in inoculation, seed and labor, through losing sight of this fact. It is a mighty poor economy to try to use the oats or barley as a grain crop as well as a nurse crop.

Paragraphs for Farmers

On page 7 is an article entitled "Burbank to Rest." Happily, we do not have to say "laid to rest," for though Luther is 76 he bids fair to do some more useful work for mankind. A careful and intelligent study of that article may be worth more to any ambitious young farmer than pages of ordinary agricultural reading. Go over it carefully and "read between the lines."

Several hundred more acres of strawberries are being planted at Lecomb.

A cross between a cow and a ram, with the body of a calf and the horns, tail and wool of a sheep, is reported from Prussia. Is this evolution, creation or just a plain lie?

A man at Grafton, Vt., has just planted 25,000 young maple trees, intending to grow a sugar orchard.

Forty acres of mint near Salem yielded oil that brought \$25,000 and the buyer predicts \$5000 acres next year in this valley and that in a few years the mint industry of the country will be centered here because the Willamette product is superior.

The Agricultural Committee of the Alabama Bankers Association has recommended that a scholarship fund be established for the education of worthy young men and women along agricultural and home economics lines. It is estimated that if each bank in the state were to contribute 25 cents per thousand capital, five to six thousand dollars per annum would be realized.

The Agricultural Committee of the Oklahoma Bankers Association, in its report, recommends that the bankers see that a competent agent is appointed in each county and that he has a degree from some agricultural college. They believe that the agricultural possibilities of the state should be better advertised and that each county bankers association should do some work along that line.

Searcy County Bankers Association, Arkansas, entertained as its guests recently some seventy-five farmers and business men. The result was the organization of the North Central Arkansas Agricultural Association. Its purpose will be to co-ordinate the efforts of the farmers and business men in promoting a better agriculture. Searcy County bankers are giving 100 settings of purebred eggs for distribution to the boys' and girls' clubs in the county.

H. S. Mowrer, chairman of the Agricultural Committee of the New Jersey Bankers Association, together with H. J. Baker, director of extension work in the College of Agriculture, made a complete tour of the state this spring, calling on the county agents and agricultural committees of the various county organizations to get a definite line-up on the work done and the plans for the coming year. Ways and means for furthering the program of the state committee were considered at these conferences.

THE MARKETS Portland: Wheat—Big Bend bluestem, \$1.40; hard white, soft white, western white, \$1.38; hard winter, northern spring, western red, \$1.29. Hay—Alfalfa, \$18@19 ton; valley timothy, \$18@20; eastern Oregon timothy, \$21@22. Butterfat—52c shippers' track. Eggs—Ranch, 37@41c. Cheese—Prices f. o. b. Tillamook; Triplets, 30c; loaf, 31c per lb. Cattle—Steers, medium, \$6.75@8.00. Hogs—Medium to choice, \$12.75@13.50. Sheep—Lambs, medium to choice, \$12.00@13.00. Seattle: Wheat—Soft white, \$1.38; western white, \$1.37; western red, \$1.30; northern spring, \$1.28; Big Bend bluestem, \$1.40. Hay—Alfalfa, \$23; D. C., \$25; timothy, \$26; mixed hay, \$24. Butter—Creamery, 49@55c. Eggs—Select ranch, 48@50c. Hogs—Prime, \$13.75@14.00. Cattle—Prime steers, \$8.25@8.50. Cheese—Oregon fancy, 30c; Oregon standards 26c; Washington triplets 25c. Spokane: Hogs—Prime, mixed, \$12.75@12.95. Cattle—Prime steers, \$7.50@8.00. One of the very best feeds for poultry is green bone. It can be cheaply secured at any meat market, and every farm poultry department ought to have its own bone cutter to use as needed.

For best results use An-Fo Sheep Dip In any amount, from one gallon to a barrel FISHER'S EGG PRODUCER Gives results O. W. FRUM

American Eagle Fire Insurance Co. Hay is worth just as much in storage as you might get for it in case of fire. The American Eagle Fire Insurance company will pay you 85% of the cash value in case of loss by fire. C. P. STAFFORD, Agent