

RURAL ENTERPRISE

An Independent—Not Neutral—news-paper, published every Wednesday, by Wm. H. WHEELER

\$1 a year in advance
 Advertising, 20c an inch; no discount for time of space; no charge for composition or changes.
 "Paid-for Paragraphs" to a line. No advertising disguised as news.

COST OF SCHOOLS

Few places can be found where schools cost as much per capita as in Oregon, and few are the places where the schools are as efficient as in this state. Whether the increase in service here is equal to the increase in cost is a controversial question.

Nebraska furnishes textbooks and all needed school supplies free, and the following figures are taken from the Eagle, published at North Bend, in that state.

Children of school age in county, 7613; enrolled in schools, 5826; average daily attendance, 4896; average cost per pupil, rural, \$68.17; town grades, \$77.25; high school, \$116.07.

Average cost of textbooks per pupil, rural, \$1.61; town grades, \$1.63; high school, \$3.24.

Average cost of other supplies per pupil, rural, \$2.79; town grades, \$2.07; high school, \$4.03.

Total operating expenses, \$395,634.11. New buildings and equipment, \$27,838.18.

Average teacher's salary, rural, men, \$720; women, \$638.61; town grades, men, \$1100; women, \$1257.21; high school, men, \$1690; women, \$1182.31.

A correspondent in Halsey writes: Some of the patrons of our schools were "shook down from \$3 to \$6 to start the pupils on the first day of school, to say nothing of pencils, paper, erasers, note books and what not.

"In the interest of tax conservation and general economy it strikes me that Oregon might well adopt the system that has been many years in vogue in Nebraska and no doubt in many other states."

Readers, tell us what you know about school costs and school service.

Tells What Enemy Airplanes May Do

Washington, D. C.—Colonel William Mitchell took the witness stand before the court-martial trying him for breach of discipline as a result of his public criticism of the administration of the army and navy air services.

For the third time within a few months, the air crusader repeated under oath his reasons for assailing those in charge of governmental aviation and for his advocacy of a larger and better trained and equipped air force.

Much of his testimony hinged upon the same points he had stressed last spring before the house aircraft committee and later before the president's special air board.

He then recited a long succession of recommendations regarding aviation made by him and rejected by the war department. He said he never had been able to have a study made of the precautions a city like New York should take to defend itself from an air attack.

"If an enemy came within 100 miles of New York," he said, "he could stand off in an albatross, after picking up an identifying point, and I believe every aerial torpedo he fired would fall within an area of the size of New York city."

Mosul Tangle Up to League.

The Hague.—The permanent court of international justice in its findings regarding the dispute between Great Britain and Turkey over the Mosul area of Mesopotamia declares the decision to be taken by the council of the League of Nations shall be binding upon the parties concerned and shall constitute definite determination of the frontier between Turkey and the British mandate state of Iraq (Mesopotamia), of which Mosul is a part. The league council's decision must be by unanimous vote.

Resorts of Gold Rush Days Burned

Nome, Alaska.—Some of Nome's historic resorts, made famous during the gold rush, were in ruins Monday swept by a \$100,000 fire which devoured sections of the city business district.

Promises of Candidates

J. J. Crossley, candidate for the republican nomination for senator, writes to this paper:

You have probably noted that I introduced the resolution which was adopted at the mass meeting at the public auditorium in this city on Saturday evening, Nov. 14, favoring permanent court of international justice, otherwise known as the world court and announcement of the same was made in the Sunday Journal and Oregonian of Nov. 15.

I have already made the following statement: "Will work zealously for development of Oregon and Oregon ports, for irrigation and reclamation and fulfillment of measures for real benefit of farmers as suggested by their organizations. Favor world court, reform senate rules, and will support necessary provisions of law enforcement."

I. N. Patterson, who would run on the republican ticket for governor, writes to the Enterprise: "One of the paramount questions before the people of Oregon at this time is the situation at the state penitentiary. Closely coupled with that, is the matter of too frequent granting of pardons, and when we learn that eight years constitutes the average imprisonment of criminals sentenced to life terms in this state, it brings us to the realization that some definite and workable plan must be adopted."

In a statement issued to the public Mr. Patterson says:

"When the boys' training school, now being constructed, near Woodburn, is finished and the old school at Salem vacated, the latter should be used for first time offenders sentenced to the penitentiary. Practically all of these will be young men committed for their first offense against the law.

"The penitentiary is now so crowded that the prisoners cannot be properly segregated and as a result these first offenders are in daily contact with hardened criminals; in fact, it might be called a school for vice and crime."

The following concise and truthful summary of the Mitchell court martial appears in the Aumsville Star: The public has sense enough to know that Mitchell has committed no crime against the civil law. It also has sense enough to know that he is being punished because he may have told the truth and by so doing rendered a patriotic duty to the people as well as to the army and navy. He is not being tried on the question of the truth or falsity of his statements, but on an alleged violation of an article of war designed by the department to enforce servility among employees through a court of its own creation. Mitchell has not denied, nor will he retract his criticisms, but he does deny that he has injured the navy. In this contention he will undoubtedly be supported by the American people who are weary of military autocracy whether it be in Germany, France, Russia, or the United States.

A gold-silver dollar with silver to take the most of the wear and enough gold to give intrinsic value without the objectionable silver dollar size and weight, is said to be under consideration by the treasury department.

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Paragraphs for Linn Farmers

Frank W. Groves of Lebanon is potato inspector for this county.

Most of the control of potato diseases, if it is to amount to much, must rest in the planting of uninfected seed.

At the Monroe potato show, outside the certified seed class, Irish Bend and Ingram island produced the highest prize winners.

Oregon certified seed potatoes are in demand in California, and as the certification reaches greater areas this state may recover its lost status as the home of good potatoes.

E. Russ brought in the last of this year's fresh red raspberries from his farm east of town the latter part of last week. He also had samples of some pretty fine chestnuts from his trees that made good eating.

Broccoli is supplanting the turkey crop in southern Oregon and turkeys are scarce and higher this year.

With the aid of a pedometer, registering every step taken, it was found that a woman at her household tasks walks more than 5000 miles a year without leaving the house, while the woman with electrical help does nearly 1000 miles a year.

Eleven hundred acres of full-grown apple trees have been grubbed out in Wasco county to make room for wheat next year. And what if the price of wheat should go down to where it was two years ago?

Wisconsin has a law which will go into effect January 1, which provides that commission houses and produce dealers shall be licensed under bond before they may hereafter do business, and State Market Agent Spence says he hopes a similar law will be passed in Oregon at the next legislature. "I have investigated many cases where it appeared the grower had been deliberately swindled out of his products," says the market agent, "by irresponsible concerns who simply pocketed the money and closed up."

Statistics of big crops and outputs mean little to general prosperity when producers get but one-third of the price consumers pay for the products. Henry Ford tells the farmer he must cut the cost of production to remedy this condition, while Herbert Hoover tells him he must produce less. Either of these men know that what the farmers really need for relief is a just system of taxation, based on income—ability to pay—and powerful selling agencies to cut down enormous middle-handling expenses and profits.—Market Agent Spence.

Western Washington county has gone into the narcissus business. Half a million bulbs, or two carloads, have been planted there this fall. William Martin, a Portland florist, has ten acres. Most of the other plantings run from 1000 to 5000 bulbs each. Because onions, alfalfa, clover and beans suffer from the ravages of the narcissus fly, the federal government has ordered the barring from entry of narcissus bulbs after Jan. 1. Importers of Holland bulbs are seeking a revocation of the ban. These Oregon growers propose to be ready to meet the local demand for bulbs if the order stands and there is a consequent shortage.

Mrs. Ringo is recovering from her illness and has dispensed with a nurse's services and joins in our page of thanksgiving.

The Great Outdoors

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

Killing the Farmer's Friend
 (Salem Manufacturer)

A rural mail carrier shot a hawk on the road the other day and when he went to pick it up, the supposed dead bird took a peck that put out his eye—for which no one can blame the hawk, says the Salem Capital Journal.

This federal employe broke several laws and regulations. It is against rules to carry a gun on duty, while delivering mail. It is a violation of the state law to shoot on a public highway. A hawk is one of the most beneficial of birds and one of the farmers' best friends, daily destroying its weight in vermin, and as it is useless as food, there is no justification in its slaughter.

As a result of similar wanton slaughter of eagles, hawks and owls, all birds that justify their existence, the balance of nature has been destroyed and a great increase in rabbits, diggers, gophers and mice is causing an economic loss to every farmer in the land. All of these birds should be protected by law to prevent their extermination, which is now threatened.

THE MARKETS

Portland
 Wheat—Big Bend bluestem, \$1.57; hard white, \$1.54; soft white, \$1.53; western white, \$1.53 1/4; hard winter; and northern spring, \$1.50; western red, \$1.49.
 Hay—Alfalfa, \$19@19.50 ton; valley timothy, \$18@19; eastern Oregon timothy, \$21@22.
 Butterfat—55c shippers' track.
 Eggs—Ranch, 45@47c.
 Cheese—Prices f. o. b. Tillamook; Triplets, 31c; loaf, 32c per lb.
 Cattle—Steers, good \$7.75@8.00.
 Hogs—Medium to choice, \$11.50@12.00.
 Sheep—Lamb, medium to choice \$12.00@13.00.

Seattle.
 Wheat—Soft white, \$1.52; western white, \$1.51; hard winter, \$1.49; western red, \$1.48; northern spring, \$1.49; Big Bend bluestem, \$1.55.
 Hay—Alfalfa, \$23; D. C. \$25; timothy, \$20; mixed hay, \$24.
 Butter—Creamery, 50@54c.
 Eggs—Ranch, 45@52c.
 Hogs—Prime, \$12.25@12.50.
 Cattle—Prime steers, \$7.75@8.00.
 Cheese—Oregon fancy, 25c; Oregon standards 25c; Washington triplets 25c.

Spokane.
 Hogs—Prime mixed, \$11.35@11.60.
 Cattle—Prime steers, \$7.50@8.00.

Size of Egg Not an Index to Sex

Poultry Breeder Must Rely on Nature, Says Government Authority.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

If you are one of the many who believe that the long, slim, heavy hen eggs are the ones which hatch out the male chicks, and that the smaller eggs are the ones which give birth to the future layers of the flock, you need to revise your opinion on the matter. You may as well leave your tape measure, scales, calipers and other units at home when you go forth to purchase a "setting of eggs" from your poultry breeder, and rely solely on Mother Nature to give you a 50-50 deal in the matter of sex.

Many inquiries. In answer to the continuous stream of inquiries pouring into the department office relative to determining the sex of the chick in the shell by the size, shape or weight of the egg—it just isn't being done. That is, not in a practical way, at least. The scientist is able to identify the sex of a chick in the shell after seven or eight days of incubation, however.

Because of the important bearing on the practical aspects of the poultry industry which the ability to select hatching eggs according to the sex desired would have, if such were possible, a number of investigators have made studies concerning the sex-ratio situation in the domestic fowl. Recently Dr. M. A. Jull, poultry husbandman of the United States Department of Agriculture, completed some observations in which he concludes that there is no correlation between the length, shape or weight of the egg and the sex of the chick hatched from it. He has also made studies to determine whether or not there is a correlation between the weight of the egg yolk and the sex of the chick, or between the yolk water-content and sex ratio, with the same negative result.

Safe to Count on Females. It has been determined, however, says Doctor Jull, that the greater the number of eggs which a hen lays before being put into the breeding pen, the larger will be the proportion of females and the smaller the proportion of males produced by her eggs. The practical poultryman may be able to take advantage of this fact to some extent by making his selection of eggs for hatching with reference to the hen's period of production.

Pure-Bred Meat Animals Bring Better Returns

In every important point of comparison, pure-bred meat animals show superiority over grades and especially over scrubs, according to reports from farmers received by the bureau of animal industry, United States Department of Agriculture.

In the experience of stock owners who are in a position to make comparisons, pure-bred animals produce better meat, develop more rapidly, are more uniform in quality and appear

ance, sell better on dell markets, cost but little more to raise, and bring better prices. The following typical comments illustrate the success which many breeders have had in disposing of pure-bred stock as meat animals: "I always find that pure breeds are ready for market in far less time than scrubs and grades." "Our bull veals at two weeks old are as large as scrub calves at six weeks." "I find I can get around 2 cents a pound more, live weight, for pure breeds, as they are more uniform." "With hogs, pure-bred litters are more uniform in size, develop more evenly, and put on fat more quickly."

White Diarrhea Is Not Due to Disease Germs

Much of the so-called white diarrhea among little chickens is not due to the germs of the disease, but to overheating, chilling, or overfeeding, according to G. L. Stevenson, professor of poultry husbandry at South Dakota State college. There is a tendency, he says, to call all bowel troubles white diarrhea, when, in fact, many of them are due to poor management and are preventable.

The prime factor in brooding chicks successfully is to keep them comfortably warm. They should be kept in light, well ventilated quarters that are sanitary and free from vermin. At first, a temperature around 95 to 100 degrees should be maintained in the brooder; but, as the chicks feather out and as the weather moderates, this may be gradually reduced though not entirely discontinued, as the chicks would then be apt to pile up on cool nights, and heavy losses result.

Wood Ashes Will Supply Potash and Phosphorus

Wood ashes furnish various percentages of potash and phosphorus, depending upon their source, and for that reason they make valuable fertilizing material where these elements are needed. Some plants will grow better on a slightly acid soil. One of these is potatoes, but practically all other garden plants prefer an alkaline soil and also require considerable amounts of potash and phosphorus. If ashes are applied in too large amounts they may be formed which is caustic and will injure the plants. Coal ashes have practically no fertilizing value but they are valuable for their power to lighten heavy soils and may be profitably applied for this purpose.

The Douglas county agricultural economic conference was held at Roseburg with a good attendance. The conference arranged by the Oregon Agricultural college will have a thorough survey of all of the various agricultural activities in the county, market conditions in the county, state and nation, and from the material so obtained will formulate a program for future agricultural development.

The salary of the Tillamook county dairy and food commissioner, now \$175 a month, was ordered by the county court to be reduced to \$1 a month beginning December 1.

Fifty carloads of canned fruits and vegetables were shipped by the Eugene Fruit Growers' association last month, according to J. O. Holt, manager.

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