

RURAL ENTERPRISE

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SCATTERGUN SHOTS

The air grows purer. In 1925 there were 1517 deaths attributed to poisonous liquor and alcoholism; and not one of the victims was a law-obeying citizen.

The wets complain bitterly of the loss to the government of license revenue due to prohibition, but they maintain an eloquent silence regarding the fines they pay the same government for violations of that law.

Don't try to run your motor car without a 1926 license or the temporary license the sheriff will give you if you apply for the regular license through him. It may be costly to run without the little ornament.

It is estimated that the people of California had to pay \$674.62 for every one of the 479 laws that the last legislature passed.—January Sunset.

It costs more to make laws than to break them, and many people follow the line of least resistance.

The 200th (or is it the 2000th?) war on a monopoly has been started by the federal government. This time it is the bread trust. The wars are helpful in yielding salaries and fees to various persons who need them and are harmless to others except taxpayers.

Chicago doctors have found a man without an appendix. Numerous people have found they had appendixes after having paid doctors for removing them, which perhaps helps even up the record. How much are these two facts worth to the cause of evolution?

Mrs. Gerlinger says the girl of a generation ago was not as attractive as the girl of today. Well, men don't marry any greater percentage of them now than then, though maybe they marry some of them oftener. More girls have independent occupations now and are not anxious to marry.

Last week we had a report of the Pacific northwest industry of preserving fruit for use with its fresh flavor the year around. This week we tell of a San Francisco's discovery which, without expensive machinery or sugar, works the same wonder. It is claimed that metal containers used cost about the same as wooden boxes, with the additional advantage that they can be repeatedly re-used. This ought to appeal to forest conservationists.

Table Etiquette

When dining out: Don't dig your ears with your fork handle.

Don't put your foot in the lap of the person on the opposite side of the table.

If the meat on your plate is very tough don't try to cut it with a spoon. Use your pocket knife. Don't tip your knife when raising food to your mouth on it; you might get gravy on your clothing.

When dining at home: Do just as you darn please, unless your beloved partner is more husky than you are. In that case use discretion.

Mother of Film Star is Killed.

Los Angeles. — Mrs. H. Prevost, mother of Marie Prevost, motion picture star, was killed and Al Christie, comedy producer, and Vera Steadman, actress, were injured seriously in an automobile accident 23 miles east of Lordsburg, N. M.

U. S. Not Planning Arms Conference. Washington, D. C. — The White House denied that President Coolidge was contemplating calling an international disarmament conference.

Burbank's God and Some Other Gods

A Parsee Makes Pointed Remarks About Our Religion

Astoria, Feb. 6.—Ed. Enterprise—On a former occasion you published my letter without making my identity known, so I am emboldened to write again. As I told you before, I lost one job in the east because I stated my honest belief and my employer thought it was his duty to give employment to Christians. Here I am able to feed my family and give my children the advantage of the splendid Oregon schools, and gladly pay my share of taxes, but dare not openly voice my belief, lest a zealous Christian employer turn them out to starve. Permission to say a few words in print affords me relief.

Luther Burbank ranks with Edison among the world's greatest present-day benefactors but has announced his infidelity towards popular alleged Christian dogmas. Christ would join him in this were he here.

The common conception of God here likens him to an oriental despot whose greatest desire is to induce people to shout: "Glory! Glory! Glory to the king!" He will reward them, if they do this, by permitting them to do it and nothing else through all eternity.

The dogmatic ignorance shown by some of the bishops and church pastors who have replied to Burbank is amusing.

One reverend gentleman simply says: "Nonsense." That is much easier for a dull brain than argument.

Another says Burbank is wrong in calling Christ an infidel. An infidel is one who disagrees with the popular belief. A Christian in Turkey is an infidel. A Mohammedan here is an infidel. Christ among the priests and pharisees (and saducees) was an infidel. His religious persecutors tried to dodge the issue and persuade Pilate that he was guilty of treason against Caesar, but Pilate, as the representative of Caesar, examined him and found no fault in him. The priests insisted, however, and he was crucified for infidelity—heresy—blasphemy.

People tell that the God whom they describe ("no man hath seen God") created heaven perfect but there arose the devil and his angels who had to be cast out; that he made man, with such poor results that he "repented him that he had made man upon the earth"; that as "hardened Pharaoh's heart" time after time, that the king might sin again so that the Lord might "get honor" by punishing him and the Egyptians, innocent and guilty together, some more.

That seems to me less probable than is the theory of the sun god. Christ said "God is a spirit." So says Burbank. No body can definitely describe him. I have no fear that a good God will punish me because the mental powers that have been given me, honestly used, lead me to reject a religious theory that Billy Sunday or anybody tells me I must accept or go to hell. A Parsee.

A half-breed fired by booze killed two men in the Blue mountains. He may hang for the crime, and he ought to, but justice would be better served if the fellow who sold the liquor walked to the scaffold.—Albany Democrat.

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ABE'S PLACE

New Fruit Keeper That Beats 'em All

"Purified, Yet so as By Fire," in Words of the Scripture

In 1908 Edward Melani, a San Francisco wholesaler, lost a carload of fresh fruit which spoiled while lying in a closed railroad car over Sunday. Then he started experiments, seeking a method for preserving fruits, and he persevered for 17 years. As a result he now for a year has been shipping fresh to various points.

Without ice or freezing, pears picked in California early in August were served fresh as if just picked from the tree at South Bend, Ind., at a Christmas dinner. Peaches and nectarines picked in July were fresh in September. Mr. Melani has tested his perfected preserving process in more than 100 shipments to distant points in the past year without a failure.

He made 887 experiments before the 888th proved a success. The fruit is packed in metal containers and covered with a sheet of perforated cardboard and on this is placed a stick of combustible material the composition of which is Mr. Melani's secret. The stick is lighted and the container sealed air tight. When all the oxygen in the confined air is consumed the fire dies out without burning the cardboard.

By removal of the oxygen the bacteria of decay is prevented from doing damage. An occasional spoiled fruit remains in its spoiled condition but does not contaminate the fresh fruit; no matter how closely packed.

The processed fruit in the containers is kept at 40 to 60 degrees temperature. It is packed and processed before it is quite ripe. That sent to South Bend was opened in San Francisco and carried in an open basket and had attained prime condition when it reached its destination.

Unlike our barreled fruit, described in last week's Enterprise, which may be too sweet for some palates, Mr. Melani's fruit may be eaten without sugar or may be sweetened to taste.

Experiments are now being made with fish, poultry and meat.

THE MARKETS

Portland

Wheat—Big Bend bluestem, hard white, \$1.61; soft white, western white, \$1.61 1/2; hard winter, northern spring, \$1.56; western red, \$1.55.
Hay—Alfalfa, \$20@20.50 ton; valley timothy, \$19@19.50; eastern Oregon timothy, \$22@22.50.
Butterfat—42c shippers' track.
Eggs—Ranch, 28@29c.
Cheese—Prices f. o. b. Tillamook; Triplets, 31c; loaf, 32c per lb.
Cattle—Steers, good \$8.8@8.50.
Hogs—Medium to choice, \$13@14.25.
Sheep—Lamb, medium to choice, \$12@14.

Seattle.

Wheat—Soft white, \$1.64; western white, \$1.62 1/2; hard winter, western red and northern spring, \$1.58; Big Bend bluestem, \$1.61.
Hay—Alfalfa, \$26; D. C., \$28; timothy, \$20; mixed hay, \$26.
Butter—Creamery, 43@46c.
Eggs—Ranch, 32@33c.
Hogs—Prime, \$14@14.50.
Cattle—Prime steers, \$8.50@9.00.
Cheese—Oregon fancy, 28c; Oregon standards 25c; Washington triplets 28c.

Spokane.

Hogs—Prime mixed, \$13.75@13.55.
Cattle—\$7.75@8.25.

QUAIL TO AID FARMERS

Kansas Imports 5000 Mexican Birds to War on Insects.

Topeka, Kan.—Kansas has found a way to import farm labor without running afoul of the immigration authorities.

The state has just imported 5000 quail from Mexico to help out the Kansas farmers. They are expected to eat up 125,000 insects during next summer, and, with their brood of young "bobby whites" to destroy at least a quarter of a billion weed seeds by autumn.

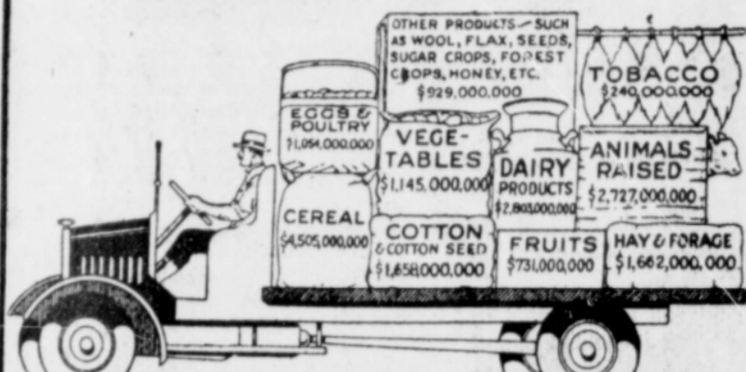
The Mexican quail is slightly smaller than the native bob white of Kansas, but the state game warden is assured that the two will interbreed. He estimates conservatively that the

The Great Outdoors

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

Show 1925 Best in Five Years for Prices to the Farmer

WHAT THE FARMER PRODUCED IN 1925



TOTAL VALUE OF FARM PRODUCTS BY YEARS

1916	\$15,167,000,000	1921	13,369,000,000
1917	20,816,000,000	1922	15,042,000,000
1918	22,896,000,000	1923	16,634,000,000
1919	24,854,000,000	1924	17,355,000,000
ESTIMATED 1920	19,110,000,000	1925	17,454,000,000*

THE farmer produced just about as much stuff in 1925 as in 1924, and it was worth a hundred million dollars more, according to the annual year-end survey of the Sears-Roebuck Agricultural Foundation. The average of all farm prices is now 154 per cent of the pre-war average, as compared with 149 per cent last year at this time. The real significance of this is indicated more clearly by the relation of returns from the sale of farm products to wholesale prices of commodities which the farmer buys and consumes. This means, states the Foundation, that the purchasing power of the farmer's dollar has risen from 66, the lowest point following the war, to 90 for 1925 and indicates that agriculture is recovering.

purchase of 5000 birds will bring Kansas 25,000 young quail next summer.

Kenneth Luper, state engineer, announced the completion of the adjudication of water rights on Burnt river and its tributaries in Baker county, involving 245 water users and covering 27,425 acres.

W. H. Drethaupt, secretary of the world supply and demand committee of the coming eastern Oregon wheat conference, and newly appointed specialist in marketing and economics for the Oregon Agricultural college extension service, has just completed a three weeks' study in Washington, D. C., where he gathered marketing and agricultural data to be used at the conference at Moro, February 12 to 14. The Moro conference will include 16 counties of the state and is the first of its kind in Oregon and perhaps in the United States.

Organization of poultry men of Deschutes county will come up for consideration at a farm marketing conference to be held in Bend Thursday. A proposed amendment to the agriculture appropriation bill to allow \$30,000 for drilling wells for stock in the Modoc national forest was introduced by Senator McNary.

Corvallis was chosen as the 1927 meeting place of the Willamette valley district farm loan associations at the conclusion of the convention at Albany. E. T. Reed of Corvallis was named president for the ensuing year and H. G. Rumbaugh of Benton county was re-elected secretary.

Speaking before the Marion-Polk Realtors' association at Salem, Frank Durbin, Marion county dairyman and hop buyer, urged a reduction in taxes for the support of higher learning and advocated additional state aid in the education of farmers.

Attractive prices are given on half-ton lots or more of
KERR'S OR FISHER'S EGG PRODUCER
Molasses in barrel lots.
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

Prison Flax Plant Will Be Enlarged

State Preparing to Cater to the New Oregon Linnen Mills

State Market Agent Spence is of the opinion that flax industries will continue to locate in the valley and eventually they will be big industries for the state, both in the way of factories and for agriculture.

Mr. Spence says: Farmers of the valley who have been growing flax will be glad to know that the flax plant at the state penitentiary will be greatly enlarged this spring in the way of building new, large concrete retting tanks that will practically double the present capacity. This is to meet the requirements of the two new linnen mills at Salem and for other industries that will no doubt follow.

With the completion of the new tanks the plant will be able to ret 200 tons at one time, from 600 to 700 tons a month—a large increase over the present capacity.

The prison has been experimenting with an artificial drying process for retted flax and Governor Pierce has sent Superintendent Quinlan to Stillwater prison in Minnesota to get first-hand information regarding winter retting and artificial drying methods there, and also to learn of the industries that have made that prison famous throughout the world. Mr. Quinlan will visit Canadian prisons and the Ford factory at Detroit, where a large flax industry is established.

There are about 200 men employed at the flax plant in the penitentiary; about 600 pounds of long-fiber flax are produced daily, as well as about 100 bushels of flax seed, a quantity of spinning tow and other by-products.

The prison will supply farmers with first-class seed for planting and will pull their flax for them with the several flax-pulling machines the state owns. The cost of machine pulling is about half that of hand labor and the work is done much quicker.

Oregon shipped 14,929 tons of prunes in 1925.

Umatilla county's 1925 crops are reckoned at \$11,755,000.

In 1925 Portland shipped 40,984 tons of canned goods.

Contracts are being made for 1926 hops at 18 to 21 cents.

Beans as an alternative crop with sugar beets benefit the land.

Douglas county ships 1200 carloads of broccoli from 4000 acres.

Washington owners have set out 280 acres of pears near Grants Pass.

The Gresham Berry Growers' association sold \$400,000 worth of fruit in 1925.

One Astoria packing company wants a million pounds of strawberries this year.

Capital for a flax retting and scutching plant at Stayton has about all been subscribed.

The Clatskanie cannery expects to put up the berries from 500 acres this year; also peas and beans.

Bert Edwards, at Lewiston, in northern Illinois, harvested 65 bushels per acre from 135 acres of rice and says it is a promising crop as far north as that. Try some here.

Red Cedar Posts

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J. W. STEPHENSON.

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