

VALLEY FARMERS.

Livestock and Dairy Industries Offer
Themselves Great Opportunities.

State Food and Dairy Commissioner Bailey, after having made a full and careful inspection of the dairy and stock industries of the Willamette valley, is convinced that no other branches of agriculture offer better opportunities for the farmer to realize, with proper effort, handsome profit, from his labor as do these. Willamette valley farmers, Mr. Bailey says possess advantages for the raising of thoroughbred stock, not equaled anywhere in this region. Not only are all the conditions for growing this stock ideal, but a market on the ranges of Eastern Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana, stands ready to take all that is offered, and at prices that leave no doubt as to the profits.

"Within the past week," says Mr. Bailey, "there have been buyers in Portland for breeding stock who came prepared to buy an unlimited number. From \$10 to \$15 each was paid for spring lambs and at these figures less than 100 could be had and the parties will now be obliged to go East for the balance of their stock."

"To show how much it costs to raise these lambs, I have only to tell you that on a recent visit to one of the valley farmers, I was shown a band of 100 Cotswold lambs that will average in weight 140 pounds each. These lambs were raised on grass on summer fallow land which probably cost 30 cents an acre to sow. And as each and everyone of these lambs is good for a \$10 bill it will not take much of a mathematician to figure out the profits."

"The same proposition holds good in regard to Angora goats. I have on my list many inquiries for goats and while five cents per pound is freely offered, there are none to be had."

"I want to tell you right now," continued Mr. Bailey, "that this valley is destined to be the molar center of the world, for nowhere does the Angora goat thrive and put on that lustre of mohair as in the hills of the Willamette valley, and I am pleased to note that increased interest is being taken in these industrious animals. Within the past 10 days a carload of pure bred goats have been received in the valley. These goats originated in the district of Angora and are bred in the purple. The value of this shipment to the goat breeders of the Northwest cannot at this time be estimated."

"If the farmers will only quit this vicious habit of summer fallow and instead raise clover, rape and vetches upon which to pasture sheep, goats and hogs, it will be the means of raising every mortgage on the farms within our borders."

"The question of dairying is a serious one. The dairymen were anxious to have a law passed protecting their interests, but are making no special effort to supply the demand for butter and cheese that is sure to come this winter. Already there is a shortage of good dairy products, while within 35 miles of Portland, located on the line of a railroad are to be seen two creameries with the notice 'for sale or rent' on each of them. These creameries are situated where there is every possible advantage for dairying, and upon investigation I find that they were not closed because the patrons did not do well, but because one fellow thought some other fellow was doing better or making more than he should out of the concern."

"Yes, there is as yet much to learn but the farmers have learned one lesson and that is that there is no money in raising 15 bushels of wheat to the acre and for which 45 to 50 cents is all that can be had, and they are now giving more thought and study along other lines."

Sugar Factory Will Start.
Joseph Barton, manager of the Oregon Sugar Company, is making preliminary arrangements for starting a factory for the season's run. The factory will start about the 15th of September. About 100 men will be employed at the factory, as the factory will have a much larger run this season than last, in fact there is a certainty of having more than twice the amount of beets to work. A great deal of labor will be required in harvesting the beet crop, which will commence within a very short time. There will consequently be a strong demand for labor in that vicinity during all the fall season.

Successful Bidders.
Roberts Bros., capitalists of Spokane, were successful bidders for the Davenport water works bonds, the firm offering a premium of \$1,000 for the issue of \$14,450. There were several other bidders represented at the council meeting when the bids were opened. The first offers were all rejected as being too low. New bids were called for and Roberts Bros. secured the bonds.

Call for Bond Bids.
The treasurer of Baker county has issued a call for bids for the \$15,000 bond issue to build a schoolhouse. These bonds are to draw interest at the rate of five per cent per annum, interest payable semi-annually, and the bonds will be issued in denominations of \$1,000 each. They are payable in 20 years, or payable at pleasure of district in 10 years. All the bonds will be sold together.

Debris Will Be Paid.
The troubles of the Montana Power Company of Butte are to be adjusted at once and the work of installing the machinery at the big dam on the Big Hole river will be pushed to completion at an early date. A capitalist of Butte has assumed the indebtedness of the concern, which amounted to \$210,000. Of this amount \$135,000 represented liens on the property and machinery, and \$75,000 of receiver's certificates for repairs to the dam last spring and fall.

Hops Not Damaged.
The hops in yards adjacent to Salem were in no manner damaged by the recent copious rain fall. All the growers agree that the rain has proved of great benefit to the hops, coming at quite the proper time. The success of the year's crop is of great concern financially to those engaged in the culture thereof.

The first carload of Idaho green fruit to be shipped this season left Boise Saturday for Chicago. Other cars will follow in a few days and the great season for Southern Idaho will begin.

Heavy Reports of Wheat—Fewer Business Failures Reported.

Bradstreet's says: The trade gains strength as summer wanes. Reports of expanding fall demand arrive, accompanied by very cheerful advices as to the outlook in most parts of the country. In manufacturing lines production appears to be at a minimum, and the price situation retains most of its old strength. Notable in the matter of added strength are most of the cereals and iron and steel in many forms. The impetus given to wheat prices by the government report last week has been further reinforced by less favorable crop advices from other countries, notably India, and export business is reported as somewhat improved.

Wheat (including flour) shipments for the week aggregate 4,040,000 bushels, against 3,616,154 bushels last week, 3,988,348 bushels in the corresponding week of 1898, 5,316,503 bushels in 1897, 2,991,693 bushels in 1896, and 2,389,140 bushels in 1895.

Since July 1 this season, the exports of wheat aggregate 26,165,065 bushels against 22,346,076 bushels last year, and 21,433,344 bushels in 1897-98.

Business failures for the week number 173, as compared with 156 last week, 195 in this week a year ago, 231 in 1897, 264 in 1896, and 193 in 1895.

Bonding at a Low Rate of Interest.
Some of the counties of Montana are reducing expenses by bonding their indebtedness at a low rate of interest. Beaverhead is about to issue 4 per cent bonds to the amount of \$40,000, and Gallatin county offers \$137,000 in bonds bearing interest at the rate of 4 1/2 per cent.

PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

Portland Market.
Wheat—Walla Walla, 57 1/2@58; Valley, 59@59 1/2; Bluestem, 60@61 per bushel.

Flour—Best grades, \$3.35; Graham, \$2.65; superfine, \$3.15 per barrel.

Oats—Choice white, 40@45; choice gray, 38@42 per bushel.

Barley—Feed barley, \$1.7; brewing, \$1.8@2.00 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$1.7 per ton; middlings, \$2.2; shorts, \$1.8; chop, \$1.60 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, \$8@9; clover, \$7@8; Oregon wild hay, \$6 per ton.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 45@50; seconds, 35@40; dairy, 30@35; store, 22 1/2@27 1/2.

Eggs—18@18 1/2 per dozen.

Cheese—Oregon full cream, 120; Young America, 130; new cheese, 100 per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$4.50@5 per dozen; hens, \$5.00@5.50; springs, \$3@3.25; geese, \$4.00@5.00; old, \$4.50@5.50; for young; ducks, \$5.00@5.50 per dozen; turkeys, live, 12 1/2@13 1/2 per pound.

Potatoes—75@81 per sack; sweets, 2 1/2@3 per pound.

Vegetables—Beets, \$1; turnips, 90c per sack; garlic, 70c per pound; cauliflower, 1 1/2@2 per pound; cauliflower, 75c per dozen; parsnips, 1 1/2@2 per pound; celery, 70@75c per dozen; cucumbers, 50c per box; peas, 3@4c per pound; tomatoes, 75c per box; green corn, 12 1/2@15c per dozen.

Hops—11@15c; 1897 crop, 4@6c.

Wool—Valley, 12@13c per pound; Oregon, 8@13c; mohair, 27@30c per pound.

Mutton—Green, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 8 1/2c; dressed mutton, 6 1/2@7c; lambs, 3 1/2@4c per lb.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$5.00; light and feeders, \$4.50; dressed, \$6.00@6.50 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, 3.50@4.00; cows, \$3.00@3.50; dressed beef, 6@7 1/2c per pound.

Veal—Large, 6 1/2@7 1/2c; small, 8@8 1/2c per pound.

Seattle Market.
Onions, new, \$1.25@1.50 per sack.
Potatoes, new, 1@1 1/2c per lb.
Beets, per sack, \$1.10.
Turnips, per sack, 50@55c.
Carrots, per sack, 90c.
Parsnips, per sack, \$1.15.
Cauliflower, 40@50c per doz.
Cabbage, native and California, \$1.15 per 100 pounds.
Cherries, 75@81c.
Peaches, 75@90c.
Apples, \$1.25@1.75 per box.
Pears, \$1.75 per box.
Prunes, \$1 per box.
Watermelons, \$2@3.
Cantaloupes, \$2@2.50.
Blackberries, \$1.50@2.
Butter—Creamery, 25c per pound; dairy 17@20c ranch, 12 1/2@17c per lb.
Eggs, 24c.
Cheese—Native, 10@12c.
Poultry—13@14c; dressed, 16 1/2c.
Hay—Puget Sound timothy, \$7@9; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$14.00.
Corn—Whole, \$28.50; cracked, \$23; feed meal, \$23.00.
Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$31; whole, \$32.
Flour—Patent, per barrel, \$3.50; blended straight, \$3.25; California \$3.25; buckwheat flour, \$3.50; Graham, per barrel, \$3.60; whole wheat flour, \$3; rye flour, \$4.50.
Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$15; shorts, per ton, \$16.
Feed—Chopped feed, \$20.50 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$23; oil cake meal, per ton, \$35.

San Francisco Market.
Wool—Spring—Nevada, 12@14c per pound; Oregon, Eastern, 10@14c; Valley, 17@19c; Northern, 8@10c.
Onions—Silverskin, 85c@91c per sack.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 24c; do seconds, 22@23 1/2c; fancy dairy, 20@21 1/2c do seconds, 16@19c per pound.
Eggs—Store, 17@20c; fancy ranch, 22@26c.
Hops—1898 crop, 17 1/2@19c.
Citrus Fruit—Oranges, Valencia, \$3.75@4.25; Mexican limes, \$4@4.50; California lemons, 75c@1.50; do, \$1.75@2.00 per box.
Hay—Wheat, \$7.00; wheat and oat, \$7@8; oat, \$5@6; best barley, \$4.50@7; alfalfa, \$5.50@7 per ton; straw, 25@37 1/2c per bale.
Potatoes—Early Rose, 75@90c; Oregon Burbank, \$1.55@1.85; river Burbank, 75@90c; Salinas Burbank, \$1.35@1.40 per sack.
Tropical fruits—Bananas, \$1.50@2.50 per bunch; pineapples, \$2@4.00; Persian dates, 6@6 1/2c per pound.

How a Mexican Alcalde Learned Some of the Difficulties of Railroad.

The old southwestern engineer was telling tales of by-gone days down in Mexico and dwelling upon the Mexican's ignorance of railroad. "Once, near Victoria," said he, "we were loaded heavily with iron, and we hit the usual drunken Mexican asleep on the track. Then folks used to think a roadbed better'd a wool mattress. It was down grade and around a curve, and we were going at a fair clip, and though we had air brakes, we couldn't hold up in time. We ground him up, and at Victoria, ten miles further on, we didn't have any better sense than to report it. Of course, the train was sidetracked and we were put in jail. Next day we were hauled up before the alcalde. He was a little, dried up man, with mahogany skin and snow-white mustache. He twinkled dercefully, but I noticed that his eye bristled a good deal and I sorter cottoned to him right away. We told him that we couldn't stop the train in the time allowed us, and it was the truth. He said, through an interpreter, of course: "I've heard all this before. Five of my people have been killed by trains in six months and I have let the train crews go. They said they couldn't stop. I'm going to see about this. Your train is on the sidetrack, coupled and loaded. We'll fire up and go back to the place where you killed Vicente. We'll run down at the same speed. When you come near to the curve you must try hard to stop. I will go in the cab with you."

"Well, we fired up and went back three miles beyond the death spot. Then we started forward again. Of course it was not my business to run too slowly. I wanted to show the alcalde that stopping in the space described was an impossibility. Old 93 was a quick engine, and inside of two miles, it being a down grade, we were doing a two-minute clip. We struck the curve at forty miles an hour. The alcalde had never in his life been on a train, and he was leaning out of the cab window, waving his big straw hat and shouting 'Viva! Viva!' As we sighted the spot where Vicente had been pulverized the airbrakes went on like the clump of death. I was thrown to the floor of the cab myself. As for the alcalde, he shot through the window like a rocket, turned six somersaults and lit on his back in the sand thirty feet away. The train ground to a standstill, yards beyond the blood-stained ties. He came limping up, brushing the sand out of his white hair. I remember that his mustache was all bent down on one side. He looked up at me and said simply, 'Valga me Dios' which is about equivalent to 'Dern my buttons.' We went back to town; he discharged us all and invited us to dinner with him. We stayed and pulled out that evening. Everybody ran pretty much on his own schedule in them times."

Whence Gutta Percha Comes.
The tree from which gutta percha is obtained grows in Borneo, and in other islands of the Indian Archipelago, says the Philadelphia Times. It is very large, but the wood is spongy, and of little use as timber. The leaves grow on long stalks, and are green above and of a bright yellow beneath. The flowers are small and grow in pretty tufts in the axils of the leaves, each on a separate stalk or stem.

To obtain the gutta percha of commerce, the finest trees are cut down, and incisions are made in the bark; a milky juice exudes from the incisions, and is reserved by little troughs made for that purpose. When the juice has hardened to a certain extent it is kneaded into cakes and exported. The cakes are of a reddish brown color and are full of irregular pores. Before, however, the cakes are ready for use they have to undergo some preparation. They are first sliced into very thin shavings and then placed in a "tearing" machine, which revolves in a trough of hot water. The machines tears the shavings into small pieces, and the hot water washes them thoroughly. These pieces are then made into cakes and the cakes are rolled several times between heated cylinders to free them from any air or water that they may contain, and to make them uniform in texture. Again they are rolled between heated rollers and thus made into sheets of various thicknesses for use, or formed into rods, water pipes or any other shapes which may be desired.

Whale in Shrimp Net.
A small bottle-necked whale 11 feet long and 6 feet in circumference has been captured off the Essex coast, and is now to be seen on the beach at Southend. It was surprised near the shore by some local fishermen, who managed to take it by tangling it up in an old shrimp net. Its vitality was so great that it lived for fifty hours after capture. The idea of tackling a ton of lively whale with a shrimp net does not in the least impress its captors, who, says our correspondent, "would go for a sea serpent with a half inch rope."

Fireworks Every Sunday.
In the old Brazilian town of Bahia fireworks form a part of the regular Sunday ceremonies. The town has a number of churches, and they fiercely compete for patronage. First the great deep-toned bells remind the townspeople that Sunday is come. Then the crash of fireworks reminds them that their attendance at service is earnestly desired. So every Sunday morning and evening witnesses a small Fourth of July celebration—from an American standpoint—in the queer old town of Bahia.

Crowded London.
At this time in London there are living 400,000 people in one-roomed homes. Of that number 3,000 are living eight or more in one room, 9,000 are living seven or more in one room, and 20,000 six or more in one room. In Scotland one-third of the entire population live in one-roomed homes. Seventy nabobs own one-half of the whole land of Scotland and obtained it by fraud. "No Room to Live" is the title of a book on the subject.

World's Coal Fields.
The total area of the coal fields in the world is estimated at 471,800 square miles.

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The twelfth annual census will be taken next year, and it is estimated that it will show a population of over 77,000,000 in the United States.

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