

OREGON STATE ITEMS OF INTEREST

MILKING MACHINE TESTS.

Demonstration of Their Value To Be Given at State Fair.

Salem—Milking machines in operation will be one of the principal features of the dairy department at the State fair, which opens here September 10. Farmers and dairymen have always been interested in the subject of milking machines and their interest has become particularly strong in the last few years when dairying in this state has been hampered by the difficulty in securing milkers. Men do not like to milk and will not take work of that kind if they can get anything else at the same wages. But milking machinery has not generally been found to be successful and dairymen have been compelled to depend upon such labor as they could get.

There are some manufacturers of milking machines who think they have contrived apparatus that will extract the lactical fluid from the patient or impatient cow, whether she be a hard milker or an easy one. Machines so simple that a boy can run them, are alleged to be ready for the farmer who doesn't like to milk and cannot hire somebody else to do it for him. Machines adjustable for tall cows or short ones, kickers and nonkickers, Jerseys, Holsteins or scrubs, await the doubting owner of the dairy herd. It's all a question of proof and the state board of agriculture proposes to give the manufacturers of milking machines the opportunity to prove by actual demonstration.

There will be plenty of cows at the fair and the owners of machines will be called upon twice a day to do the milking. If the machines work to the satisfaction of the farmers, there will be some business in milking machines. If they don't work, the cows and their owners will give the machine manufacturers the laugh.

But whether the machines work or don't work, the state board of agriculture will give the farmers a chance to see them tried, and beyond doubt there will be ranchers around the stock pens twice a day to see the demonstration, and the fun, if any of the cows object to the unaccustomed treatment.

New Hospital at Chemawa.

Chemawa—Plans and specifications have been received at the Indian school here for a new brick \$15,000 hospital, for which bids will be received and the contract awarded September 13. The building is to be supplied with the latest improved methods of heating and ventilation, and will be equipped with the best sanitary appliances. It will be steam heated and electric lighted. The main building will be two stories, 30x33, and will have two wings, 31x24. In connection with the new hospital the school management will continue and extend the open air sanitarium which it has been running since spring with excellent results.

Oregon Flax Good.

Salem—George Verbeke, son of one of the wealthiest linen manufacturers of Ghent, Belgium, and a member of the firm of Morel & Verbeke, is in Salem to make a scientific investigation into the possibilities for the development of the flax and linen industries of Oregon. He said: "I have been able to arrive at only one conclusion as a result of the limited investigations which I have made during my stay here, and that is that Oregon certainly produces a very high grade of flax, equal to any that I have ever seen, and, in my judgment, it is capable of being manufactured into the choicest of linen fabrics."

Burned Trees Have Value.

Albany—Experienced lumbermen state that activity on the part of mill men will save much of the timber in the burnt district up the North Santiam river. The fire as it rushes through the green timber burns those parts of the trees which are loaded with pitch, and leaves the wood but little charred. All the limbs and foliage are devoured, and the pitchy bark is burned through, but the part that is valuable for lumber is injured but little. This charred timber may be utilized for milling purposes at any time within four years after the fire as a rule.

Clackamas Farmers Are Pleased.

Oregon City—Gottfried Moshke, a farmer at Shubel, reports a yield of 74 bushels per acre from a five-acre field of oats. An exceptionally good yield of wheat and oats, both in quality and quantity, is reported by Clackamas county farmers as far as the harvest has progressed. A yield of 70 bushels of oats per acre is also reported from the farm of George Laselle near New Era.

Cuts Heavy Crop of Oats.

La Grande—James Halley harvested 10 acres of oats last week, which will average 80 bushels. The straw was so heavy and thick that the binder could cut only half a swath at a time, and it took two days to cut the grain. This should not be considered bad for a "half-crop" year.

VALLEY VALUES ARE RISING.

Land Purchased Last Year Increases About 28 Per Cent.

Salem—That the big profits in Oregon real estate are not made in Portland alone, or in city property alone, is indicated by an investment made less than a year ago by A. M. La Follette, a Mission bottom farmer. La Follette bought a 90 acre farm last fall at \$62.50 an acre, paying all that his neighbors thought the place worth. He bought it more for the investment than for use, for he already has all the farm land he needs. A few days ago he was offered \$80 an acre for the same farm, or an increase of \$17.50 an acre.

The total investment was \$5,625, and the amount offered a year later was \$7,300, or an increase of \$1,675, or about 28 per cent. Mr. La Follette thinks it will advance still further and yield him a much larger profit, so he refused the offer. He thinks the building of electric roads through the valley will raise farm land values in the next few years.

Physician to Indians.

Chemawa—Dr. F. E. Slater, of Salem, has been appointed physician for the Omaha and Winnebago Indians of Nebraska, and will leave for his post soon. Dr. Slater was the physician at the Chemawa Indian school for nearly a year. He became interested in the Indian work and requested a permanent appointment from the commissioner of Indian affairs. Dr. Slater gave excellent satisfaction at the Indian school here in treating the diseases incident to Indians.

Wheat Record at Weston.

Weston—Weston claims the largest crop threshed in Oregon, and perhaps in the Northwest, in proportion to the acreage seeded. J. M. Bannister had exactly 5,642 sacks from 208 acres, one mile west of town, an average of 63 bushels an acre, at 140 pounds to the sack. The wheat is Dale Glory, which has been grown to a considerable extent around Helix but has just been introduced in the Weston country.

Coquille Mills Are Busy.

Coquille—The sawmills in this vicinity are running overtime, which is practically the first time they have run even full time since the San Francisco earthquake. Many of them would run night and day if hands could be obtained. All kinds of laborers are scarce, especially carpenters.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Club, 67@68c; bluestem, 70@71c; valley, 71c; red, 64@66c. Oats—No. 1 white, 22@22.50; gray, 22@21. Barley—Feed, \$20 per ton; brewing, 22.50; rolled, 23@24. Rye—\$1.30 per cwt. Corn—Whole, 26c; cracked, 27 per ton.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$11@12.50 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$16; clover, \$7@7.50 cheat, \$6.50; grain hay, \$7; alfalfa, \$10; vetch hay, \$7@7.50.

Fruits—Apples, common, 50@75c per box; fancy, \$1.25@2; apricots, \$1.25@1.35; grapes, \$1@1.75 per crate; peaches, \$1@1.10; pears, \$1.75, plums, fancy, 60@75c per box; common 50@75c; blackberries, 5@6c per pound; crab apples, 75c per box.

Melons—Cantaloupes, \$1.75@2 per crate; watermelons, 1@1.50 per pound.

Vegetables—Beans, 5@7c; cabbage, 1 1/2@2c per pound; celery, 85c@1 per dozen; corn, 15@20c per dozen; cucumbers, 40@60c per box; egg plant, 10c per pound; lettuce, head, 25c per dozen; onions, 10@12 1/2c per dozen; peas, 4@5c; bell peppers, 12 1/2@15c; radishes, 10@15c per dozen; rhubarb, 2@2 1/2c per pound; spinach, 2@3c per pound; tomatoes, 60@90c per box; parsley, 25c; squash, \$1@1.25 per crate; turnips, 90c@1 per sack; carrots, \$1@1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.25@1.50 per sack.

Onions—New, 1 1/4@1 1/2c per pound. Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 70@75c; sweet potatoes, 4@4 1/2c per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 22 1/2@25c per pound.

Eggs—Oregon ranch, 21 1/2@22c per dozen.

Poultry—Average old hens, 13c per pound; mixed chickens, 12 1/4@13c; springs, 13 1/4@14c; old roosters, 9@10c; dressed chickens, 14@15c; turkeys, live, 16@22c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20@22 1/2c; geese, live, 8@10c; ducks, 11@13c.

Hops—1906 contracts, 18@20c; 1905, nominal; 1904, nominal.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 15@19c per pound, according to shrinkage; valley, 20@22c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 28@30c per pound.

Veal—Dressed, 5 1/4@8c per pound.

Beef—Dressed bulls, 3c per pound; cows, 4 1/4@5 1/2c; country steers, 5@6c.

Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 7@8c per pound; ordinary, 5@6c; lambs, fancy, 8@8 1/2c.

Pork—Dressed, 7@8 1/2c per pound.

HEAT SHRIVELS THE GRAIN.

Reports of Damage to Crops in the Central West.

Sioux City, Iowa, Aug. 21.—Hot winds the past two days, following a week of unusual torpidity, the maximum temperature being daily from 90 to 100, has created fear among grain men that widespread damage to the late grain and corn has been done. Today has been a scorcher, although there are indications tonight of a let-up.

From Western South Dakota, Western Nebraska and the northern central part of South Dakota and Southern Minnesota reports today are that late grains had been ripened so rapidly that the berries are badly shriveled. The greatest harm is expected in cornfields, which have not in ten years, according to reports a week ago, promised such abundant yields. Corn is in tender tassel, with kernel in the most sensitive stage of its life. Where moisture has been sufficient the damage will be light, but in the vast territory west and northwest from here it has been dry for two or three weeks and when the hot winds came the vegetation has been largely robbed of its power of resistance. Good authority places the depreciation in the corn crop as the result of the last week of fierce heat at from 5 to 10 per cent on the average, with much greater loss over various extensive regions.

PROPERTY LOSS IN MILLIONS.

Death Roll at Valparaiso May Reach Two Thousand.

Valparaiso, Chile, Aug. 21.—At 7:52 o'clock last Thursday evening Valparaiso experienced an earthquake of great severity, and during that night 82 shocks were felt. Most of the buildings of the city are either burned or damaged. The loss will be enormous, probably reaching \$250,000,000. Two thousand persons killed is considered to be a fair estimate of the casualties.

Vena del Mar, three miles from Valparaiso and having a population of over 10,000, Quiriba, 225 miles to the southward, with a population of 25,000; Santa Limache, 15 miles to the northwest, with a population of 6,500; Quillota, 25 miles to the northwest, with a population of 10,000, and villages all around were destroyed. Most of the damage was due to fire, which started immediately after the first shock.

The whole population is sleeping in the hills, the parks or the streets. Food is very scarce. Milk costs two Chilean dollars, and it is almost impossible to obtain meat, even at high prices. The railways are all destroyed.

Rain, which began to fall immediately after the first shock, stopped an hour afterward. The nights are very cold and windy; the people sleeping in the open are suffering greatly.

The captain of a steamship which arrived from San Francisco says the situation here is worse than that following the disaster at San Francisco.

VERY FEW PEOPLE KILLED.

Santiago Escapes With Immense Destruction of Property.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Cable advices were received at the Chilean legation today, dated at Santiago, Chile, August 18, stating that the earthquake in that city was very severe, but that there were few casualties. Up to the time of filing the dispatch, which the charge d'affaires believes was Saturday evening, no news had been received in Santiago from Valparaiso on account of the interruption to the railroad and the telegraph lines.

A dispatch to the State department from the consul at Iquique reports that Valparaiso is in ruins from an earthquake and is on fire. It is stated that at the time of filing the dispatch there was no communication with Santiago and no further details were obtainable. The date of this dispatch is in doubt.

Mr. Buchanan, the head of the American delegation to the Pan-American congress at Rio, cabled the State department today stating that no information had been received at Rio Janeiro regarding the earthquake, and asked for news. Secretary Adee cabled the information contained in the dispatches from Minister Hicks at Santiago.

Recommends Early Removal.

San Antonio, Tex., Aug. 21.—General W. E. McCaskey, commanding the department of Texas, has made a recommendation to the War department that the negro troops at Brownsville and elsewhere along the Rio Grande in Texas be immediately withdrawn. This information is obtained from an authentic source. The recommendation further suggests that the forts now garrisoned with negro soldiers of the Twenty-fifth infantry be left without garrison in the interim before their relief can be sent.

Many Towns Reported Destroyed.

Lima, Peru, Aug. 21.—According to news received here, the towns of Vina del Mar, Petorca, Hierro Viejo, Llal-lai, Santa Rosa de Los Andes, Nogales, Melon and Zoupallar, Chile, have been destroyed by the earthquake.

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