

## STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Winter wheat and oats stood the recent freezing weather in the Forest Grove locality fine, and the prospects are good for an excellent yield. Much of the grain was sown early and was well rooted when the freezing weather set in.

The first woman police officer to serve in Bend took her place as a member of the force last week when Mrs. Anna Curry was deputized by Chief of Police L. A. W. Nixon. Mrs. Curry has been employed as a truant officer for the Bend schools.

Condon promises to be the most important wool shipping point in Oregon this spring. There is enough wool promised now to bring the total to 1,250,000 pounds. Several large clips from the interior are coming to Condon this year, due to the efforts of local business men and to the improved condition of the road.

After a particularly stormy career in the senate, the soldiers' relief bill, providing for an appropriation of \$100,000 for emergency relief to returned soldiers, sailors and marines, finally was passed in both house and senate last week and became a law upon its approval shortly after by Governor Withycombe.

Ending a bitter fight, which has been waged in Bend the past month by candidates to succeed H. H. Dearmond as district attorney of Deschutes county, word was received from Salem of the appointment of A. J. Moore. Mr. Dearmond resigned late in December, and Mr. Moore was named as his successor within a few days.

Abolishment of the office of county surveyor is sought in a resolution asking for a constitutional amendment introduced by Senator Hurley, of Malheur. He also is author of a twin measure, in the form of a senate bill, providing for the office of county engineer, to be appointed by the county court or county commissioners.

Contending that restrictions on the free sale of fruit juices will kill the fruit juice industry, now becoming fairly well established in the northwest states, the Eugene chamber of commerce has protested to the congressional committee framing the 1918 tax bill against the proposed 10 per cent tax on the sale price of all fruit juices.

During the heavy wind on Monday evening more than four miles of the Sheridan Lumber company's flume extending to the upper mill was blown down and other damage done. The Sheridan mill will suspend operations after cutting a small amount of logs. The upper mill will continue to run this winter and the lumber will be trucked out in the summer.

Prospects that the stunted juniper tree, growing in immense numbers on the unwatered lands of central Oregon, may assume real importance as a substitute for cedar in the manufacture of pencils, were extended recently in a letter received by the Bend commercial club from the Dolken Lumber company. Practically unlimited quantities of the wood can be used for this purpose, it was stated.

L. F. Falkenstein, manager of Bay Park mill, and George Sheridan, manager of the Sunrise Milk condensary, of North Bend, who leased the Marshfield Cold Storage plant recently, for the purpose of engaging in the shipment of fish from Coos Bay, to the towns in the Willamette valley, and other interior points, have initiated a local campaign to have the ban on the shipment of crabs and shell fish from that county raised.

In spite of the certainty of prohibition in the United States, the price of hops has climbed to a high point and is likely to go higher. A deal has just been closed in Portland which old-time hopmen declare is the largest transaction in hop futures and the price the highest that ever occurred in the history of the American hop market. The deal, which involved 9900 bales of hops, mostly Oregon, represented a total value of \$500,000. The hops were bought by the London firm of George Bird & Co., and the seller was Ralph E. Williams, of Portland.

## EASTERN FARMERS PRACTICE EFFICIENT HUSBANDRY IN CONSERVING PLANT FOOD



Manure Spreader Causes Uniform Distribution of Fertilizer.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Farmers who are confronted with the problem of maintaining soil fertility—important in carrying out increased food production—will find it profitable, the United States department of agriculture suggests, to study the methods of handling barnyard manure practiced in parts of eastern Pennsylvania, where excellent results in adding to crop yields have been secured. These methods are described in Farmers' Bulletin 978, recently published by the department. For over a century it has been the custom in this region to store stable manure in a walled manure yard, partly or wholly covered, in which the stabled animals are allowed to exercise during the day. Manure thrown into such a yard and thoroughly tramped by stock, according to the department's bulletin, loses much less through heating and leaching than does manure piled in the open.

### Accumulates in Yards.

Nearly all manure produced on the farms in the region to which the bulletin refers accumulates in the manure yards. All cornstalks, straw and other roughage not used as bedding are added as needed to take up excess liquids. In this way the covered portion of the barnyard not only affords a dry and comfortable shelter for the live stock during the winter months, but it protects the manure so that no leaching occurs. In some instances the corn fodder is run through a cutter, which increases its power of absorption and makes the manure easier to handle. The tramping of the stock packs the manure, so that an even temperature is obtained, which seems to favor proper fermentation, as is evidenced partly by the strong odor of ammonia in the vicinity when the manure is being removed, and partly by absence of dry combustion, or "firefang," so common in manure piles exposed to the weather.

Occasionally a farmer is found who sprinkles land plaster on the manure at intervals, the amount ranging from one to two tons a year, applied at the rate of a bushel a week. Disintegrated felspar rock, common in the vicinity, has been used with good effect, but as a general thing the manure is not treated with chemical fertilizers.

### When Manure is Applied.

The manure is hauled to the fields twice a year on the majority of farms. Many farmers apply it during the winter when the ground is frozen and hauling is easier and when there is more time for this work, but this should not be done on hillside land or where there is danger of the manure being washed away when the snow melts and before the ground is sufficiently thawed to allow the soluble material to sink in. In general practice the sod is usually manured in the early spring at the rate of eight to ten tons an acre, and is immediately plowed and rolled. In the fall manure is applied to oats and corn stubble land. The barnyard is so arranged that the team and

spreader can be driven into any part of it, including the covered portion, where loading can be done directly.

The bulletin describes in detail the crop rotation plan and methods of handling manure on ten Chester county farms, on each of which the yield of corn is maintained at 75 bushels or more an acre, and where high yields are being made at no sacrifice of profit. These farms offer good examples of the way in which manure should be handled and utilized to secure the greatest possible returns.

## HOGS FAVOR SOY-BEAN MEAL

Found to Be 10 Per Cent Superior Than Wheat Middlings for Fattening Pigs.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

As a supplement to cornmeal for growing and fattening pigs, the Wisconsin station found that ground soy beans, proved about 10 per cent superior to wheat middlings, figuring the cost of the feeds as the same. The Indiana station compared rations of two parts of cornmeal and one part of soy-bean meal with cornmeal and wheat middlings in equal proportions and with five parts of cornmeal and one part of tankage for pork production. The soy-bean ration produced the largest daily gains, and this with the smallest quantity of feed consumed for each pound of gain.

The Missouri station in a comparative feeding trial of soy-bean meal with linseed meal and tankage showed that these feeds were equally effective in promoting the growth of young hogs.

## WAR CROPS HAVE INCREASED

County Agents Boost Hog Production and Sugar Beet Yields in State of Minnesota.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

A 7 per cent increase in hog production and a 25 per cent increase in sugar-beet production over the preceding year is the result of campaigns carried on this year by county agents in Minnesota. When the call came for more pork and more sugar as a war emergency, surveys were made in those sections of the state where hogs are raised and where sugar beets are grown profitably. The county agents advised farmers to raise one litter more of pigs and to house and feed them properly. In spite of the fact that there has been a shortage of corn for feeding and that a large number of brood sows and hogs were sold and shipped to neighboring states where corn was more plentiful, the increase in production was made. A larger acreage in sugar beets was also secured through the efforts of the agents.

### Feeding Turkeys.

Turkeys should be fed lightly at morning, noon and night, but as they get older they will not come home for their noody meal.

## POINTS ON HANDLING SWINE

Pork Production Should Be Maintained by Special Utilization of Labor Supply.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

At present, although the labor situation is serious in many instances, it need not materially affect pork production on many farms. The hog end of the business properly managed requires a comparatively small amount of labor except during certain seasons of the year. In addition to this, the labor which is required can in many instances be performed by persons who are not able to do the heaviest kind of farm work. Labor-saving devices should be used so far as possible. Automatic waterers properly constructed will keep a continuous supply of fresh water before the hogs at all times, with a minimum of labor and a maximum amount of food for the swine. Hogs normally are not given a sufficient amount of water.

Self-feeders for grain where proper choice of feed is supplied will produce

gains economically and fully as rapidly as can be secured by hand feeding. They eliminate a large amount of labor and insure a continuous supply of feed according to the appetite of the swine. The feeding of feeds in the dry form instead of mixing them in the form of a slop is also saving in labor and is fully as economical in the use of feed as where the materials are fed wet. The farms, so far as possible, should be entirely fenced hog tight in order to permit the hog to have access to all fields from which they may harvest the crops, such as corn, root crops and tubers, as well as securing portions of the regular crops which would otherwise be unutilized save for the addition of fertilizer to the soil for future crops.

There is no one thing which will insure economical pork production; there are many factors. Failure to properly master any one of these factors may be the cause for uneconomical production.

The dairy heifer should not be bred for her first calf until she has attained a fair development.

## POULTRY FACTS



### KEEP ONLY PROFITABLE HENS

Emergency Agents Waging Successful Campaign Against Unprofitable Fowls in Flocks.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Practically all the southern Mississippi valley and middle Western states have effected satisfactory increases in their production of poultry products. The emergency agents are now waging a successful campaign against the unprofitable hens by getting owners to cull such fowls from their flocks. Hens which produce less than 75 eggs a year are better dead than alive, while fowls which yield from 75 to 100 eggs annually are only fair producers. Good layers produce 125 eggs and upward every 12 months. In some flocks of 200 hens, 75 of the low-producing fowls have



Most Profitable Flock of White Leghorns.

been eliminated and still the normal production has been maintained. This results from more favorable conditions and surroundings for the hens left in the flock which are not so crowded and which consequently produce better.

## POULTRY AND EGGS SUPPLY

Badly Needed to Help Feed the World—Nothing Else Costs So Little to Raise on Farm.

(By P. G. HOLDEN.)

The high price of feed and the high price of poultry have combined in causing farmers to greatly reduce their flocks, and as a result we are facing a serious shortage in poultry and eggs at a time when they are badly needed to help feed the world.

We must not forget that while feed is high and while poultry brings good prices, nothing else costs so little to raise on a farm as chickens, and that eggs are bringing such high prices we cannot afford to shut off the source of their supply.

Large flocks of poultry are needed on every farm, and every farmer should keep his young pullets, which will soon be his best layers. Get rid of the roosters. Avoid wasteful methods in handling poultry and in marketing eggs.

## HINTS ON SELECTING LAYERS

Pullets With Alert Eyes and Comb, Face and Wattles of Fine Texture Are Best.

Judging poultry is said to be a finer art than the selection of other farm animals, but the man or woman who picks pullets with a fine head, alert eyes and comb, face and wattles of fine texture, has taken the first step toward increased egg production. Good pullets should stand square on their feet, with legs wide apart, with the front end of the body slightly higher than the posterior end, and with a long back and tail carried rather high. The body should be wedge-shaped, yielding ample room for the reproduction and digestive organs.

## RANGE FOR BREEDING FOWLS

Higher Fertility, Better Hatches and Stronger Chicks Can Reasonably Be Expected.

If possible, the breeding stock should have free range. It is better if this be provided during the entire fall and winter before the breeding season, but if this be not possible, free range just preceding and during the breeding season will be of great value. Birds on free range will give a higher fertility, better hatches and stronger chicks.

## BOY SCOUTS

(Conducted by National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.)

### SCOUTS DISPATCH BEARERS

George Creel, chairman of the committee on public information, has addressed the following letter to the Boy Scouts of America in appreciation of their services as dispatch bearers for the government:

"Dear Mr. West—I wish to take this opportunity to express to you my appreciation for the assistance the Boy Scouts of America have been to the committee in its work.

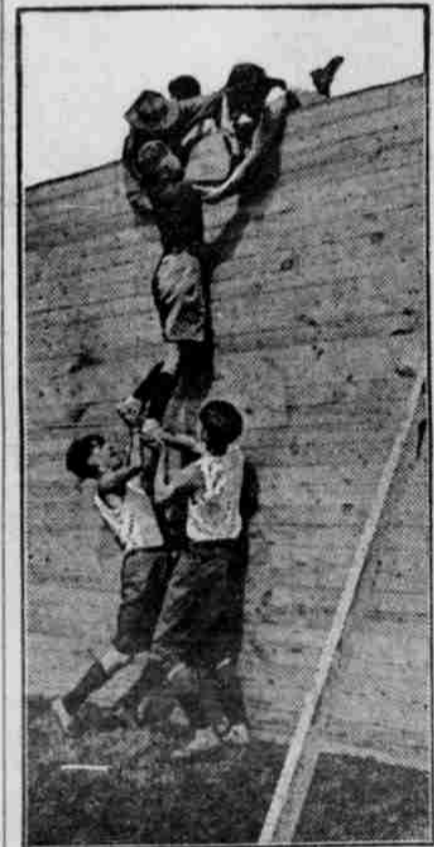
"Public opinion stands recognized as a vital part of national defense, a mighty force in national attack. The strength of our firing line is not in trench barricade alone, but has its source in the morale of the civilian population from which the fighting force is drawn.

"As dispatch bearers the boy scouts have carried the message of our president to more than five million homes, and as a result of the postcards enclosed, the committee has filled nearly two million requests for pamphlets on the vital questions of the war.

"The battle for public opinion has been won. There is no organized disloyalty. Individual disloyalty has been isolated and marked down. We have unity in the land today unexampled in the history of this or any other nation.

"The boy scouts have had their part in winning this battle and they can do much to help maintain the unity so essential to victory."

### SCOUT WALL-SCALING CONTEST.



One of the Many Athletic Pastimes the Youngsters Enjoy.

### SCOUTS IN TRANSPORT WORK.

That scouts can be relied upon for any patriotic duty is shown by this letter from the general superintendent of the United States army transport service. If there is any place where the order to "allow only Americans on guard tonight" should be repeated, it is on the docks from which our boys board the ships for France. Here is the letter to national headquarters from Lieut. Col. F. P. Jackson:

"In reference to telephone conversation regarding boy scouts, I have two employed in the supplies division, army transport service, as messengers. Their duties as messengers require them very often to carry official documents of a confidential nature from the various government offices, piers, etc. I believe boy scouts give more satisfactory services, due to their training, and can be relied upon to carry out strictly any instructions given them."

### MADE A TOWNFUL OF SCOUTS.

The far-reaching effect of a commonplace act of kindness has often astonished a scout, who as a matter of course does a good turn whenever he finds an opportunity.

The scout executive of Scranton, Pa., became interested in a boy in a neighboring town who was at a hospital for a serious bone operation.

He spent much time with the boy, and when he passed his twelfth birthday in the hospital, the scout executive gave him the tenderfoot test.

Returning to his home town, a scout, this boy organized a troop and now has the whole town enthusiastic about scouting. "So shines a good deed in a naughty world."