

LAND SETTLEMENT DEPT ITEMS

The warp and the woof of a land settlement fabric that takes in the entire state of Oregon is now almost woven and the four great sections of the state, namely Eastern, Central, Western and Southern Oregon, stand combined in a united effort for a greater 1926, so far as the development of idle and unoccupied lands are concerned.

Practically all of the western and southern counties of the state have been organized, and the eastern and central counties are in final process of development.

The Land Settlement Department of the Portland Chamber of Commerce Oregon State Chamber of Commerce, merce, actively affiliated with the has devoted the past six weeks in county organization work, in cooperation with the various local chambers.

W. G. Ide, manager of the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce, who is directing the activities of the Land Settlement work, has spoken before a number of county meetings, where splendid results were obtained, and Arthur Foster, Land Settlement Field Representative, has practically covered the whole state and will continue for the next ten or fifteen days, at which time it is hoped to have the entire organization of Oregon complete.

Those counties that have already completed their land settlement committees and have begun activities are Klamath, Jackson, Josephine, Linn, Benton, Polk, Clackamas, Yamhill, and Lane. All have appointed new committees with the exception of Lane, which will retain its old committee. Each organization is divided into three groups, the listing, appraisal and follow-up committees. The duty of the last named is to call upon the new settlers, make them feel at home, and through them get in touch with others who would like to come to Oregon to locate.

The counties that are now completing their organizations are Lincoln, Marion, Wasco, Hood River, Washington and Columbia. Mr. Foster will go to Central Oregon next week and speak before the Chambers of Commerce and Commercial Clubs of Deschutes, Crook and Jefferson counties. Baker, Union, Umatilla and the other counties in Eastern Oregon have taken their first steps for land settlement organization.

Mr. Ide states that the outlook for land settlement work for 1926 is very much brighter and better than it has ever been and that he expects this to be the banner year. Due to the close cooperation between the State Chamber and the various counties, it is believed that a great many more settlers will be brought to all sections of the state. The inquiries from people desiring to come to Oregon are increasing daily in the Land Settlement department. For the past two weeks they have been averaging fifty a day. Many of these people state that they expect to come here to make their homes.

The tourist season is about to open and the gateway offices will be established again at both Ashland on the southern, and Ontario on the eastern boundary of the state. Mr. Foster will have charge of the Ashland office and will be stationed there after the 22nd of March.

NATIONS STRENGTHENED BY HOME OWNERSHIP

The homes of the world are what the work of the world is done for. To build them and keep them is the first concern of a stable civilization. So essential to happiness are homes that many European countries have made their construction a public utility. There is no such need of paternalism here, where a liberty-loving people will provide its own homes without government subsidy.

A new spirit is born of owner-

ship. There is dignity in a permanent settlement. It was the hand on the plow that made America great. What was owned was worth fighting for. In an industrial age, with population massed in cities, that proprietorship which steadied the farmer must be transferred to ownership of homes.

Home ownership means better citizenship. The family that the landlord is apt to discriminate against is encouraged in the home. In good home districts there is a dearth of juvenile delinquency. Anything that enhances the dignity of man enhances his character.

The proper time to begin to think about buying your own home is right now.—San Francisco Chronicle.

FARM POINTERS

Oregon cherry growers are liable to have their crops rejected this year unless they spray their trees for cherry worm. Last year many cherries were refused because of cherry worm, says C. L. Long, extension specialist in horticulture at the college, and this year the canners and others will reject affected fruit. Spraying for cherry worm eliminates this condition.

Farmers find grubbing tall larkspur practicable in the more densely infested areas of Oregon. The saving from the prevention of cattle losses is one season often more than pays for the cost of digging out the larkspur. The roots are dug out 6 to 8 inches below the surface of the ground as soon as the plants have made enough growth to be readily recognized. The experiment station recommends that roots dug out be shaken free of soil and piled in the sun. After they are dry enough they are burned.

To prevent larkspur poisoning, farmers in western Oregon are keeping their cattle off areas badly infested with these plants. Sheep are turned in and allowed to eat down the larkspur. Then the cattle are pastured without danger of poisoning. Most larkspur poisoning occurs among cattle. Horses, although susceptible, are seldom poisoned under range conditions. Sheep are scarcely if at all susceptible, and may eat from two to five times as much as cattle without harmful results. In fact, the experiment station recommends that sheep be grazed upon larkspur areas in order that the pastures may become safe for cattle.

Whitewashing the inside of the dairy barn aids in the production of clean milk, says the Oregon Experiment station.

It is best to take the cows off pastures infested with onions, garlic and other strong weeds four hours before milking time, notes the Oregon experiment station.

Oregon cow testing association records show that the purebred bull is the better half of the dairy herd,

reports the college extension service.

Progressive sheep growers in Oregon are now using paper twine to tie the fleeces, as wool tied with paper twine sells more readily than similar wool tied with twine or jute, hemp, or similar fibers. Fragments of paper twine come out of the wool in the scouring process. Other twines leave bits of vegetable fibers, which are removed from the finished cloth only by expensive hand labor. If the use of paper twine were universal it would be a distinct advantage to owners of farm flocks, says the extension service.

NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT

The warning of a treeless future has been sounded for the last quarter of a century and conservationists have pointed out the consequences of waste and improvidence. A thoughtless public has regarded these consequences as affecting some remote time, and has been satisfied to wait for something to be done at the eleventh hour.

The eleventh hour has arrived. "In twenty years," according to George B. Rigg, of the University of Washington, "if the present rate of depletion is continued and the forests are not replaced, will come such a condition in many places that timber will be looked upon as a luxury." A vigorous policy of reforestation and an equally vigorous fight against forest fires will save the day. But the country must act now, act intelligently and over a wide area of its timberland.

Tax laws must be so adjusted that timberland owners may grow raw timber and not be taxed out of existence, while trees are reaching marketable size.

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