

On Oregon Farms

Use of Alfalfa in Dairy Rations Studied at O. S. C.

With the rapid increase of alfalfa acreage in western Oregon and the emphasis on this crop throughout the state under the new agricultural conservation act, increasing interest in best use of hay in the dairy ration has developed. In some places alfalfa hay has been used by itself as a dairy feed during the non-pasture months, and in other places it has been used with corn silage or other succulents or with grain or both.

Recent feeding tests conducted by the Oregon State College experiment station indicate that it is uneconomical to produce milk on alfalfa hay alone, even though it is the best dairy hay known. Neither is it economical to feed alfalfa hay with corn silage, without some grain supplement.

Another conclusion is that it is not economical to raise corn silage to feed with alfalfa hay if the cost of growing the corn silage is more than one third the cost of growing the alfalfa hay. In other words, says Dr. I. R. Jones, professor of a dairy husbandry, who supervised the tests, if alfalfa hay can be grown and put in the barn for \$9 a ton, corn silage in the silo should cost no more than \$3 a ton. If alfalfa hay costs \$12 a ton to grow, then it would seem entirely logical to raise corn for silage if it can be put up for \$3 a ton.

There appears to be very little difference whether succulent feed especially corn silage, is fed along with alfalfa hay or not, unless the cost of growing the crop is less than one-third that of the hay.

The feeding trial from which these conclusions were drawn was comparatively short and is being duplicated for further checking, but it is pointed out by Dr. Jones that the results obtained compared closely with those found in tests at the Kansas agricultural experiment station. Related tests on the feeding of alfalfa hay with other succulents and other dairy feed stuffs are being carried on at both the central experiment station at Corvallis and at the Umatilla field station at Hermiston.

Farm Act Kept Close To Best Scientific Methods

A farm program kept closely in line with local needs and in harmony with the best practices advocated by the state college experiment stations is the objective of the Agricultural Adjustment administration, declared Dr. D. C. Mumford of the western regional staff, on a recent visit to Corvallis to confer with staff members of the college who are active in inaugurating the new agricultural conservation program.

Dr. Mumford, who is assistant to George E. Farrell, regional director for the western states, arrived in Oregon from Washington, D. C., immediately following the announcement of the detailed rates of payment for soil building practices under the act. He conferred with the Oregon technical committee regarding those rates and discussed with the members suggested additions and minor modifications.

In general, it was agreed that the new rate schedule which includes a number of practices heretofore in doubt, will tend to raise the standard of farming in the state and further the objectives of the act, which are to conserve the soil for present and future generations and decrease the relative volume of soil depleting crops now troubled with non-exportable surpluses.

Chief among the new rulings of importance to Oregon are the inclusion of weed control as a soil building practice, classification of summer fallow as soil depleting acreage, and the re-classification of orchards of all ages as soil depleting if clean cultivated or interplanted to soil depleting crops. Renewed attempts are being made to include liming as an approved soil building practice.

Control of perennial noxious weeds according to methods approved by the state college specialists will qualify for payments of \$10 an acre, if chemical treatment is used, and \$5 an acre if clean cultivation is practiced. Weeds of most importance to Oregon included in the list are morning glory, white top, Canada thistle and Russian knapweed.

The change in classification of orchards is of importance in encouraging the practice of growing green manure crops for prevention of erosion and to maintain soil fertility. Rates of payment are \$2 an acre for green manure crops seeded on crop land between the fall of 1935 and July 31, 1936 and grown and turned under prior to October 31. October 31 is the closing date for most 1936 practices.

In regard to summer fallow, provision is also made for payments of from 50 cents to 75 cents an acre for various erosion preventing fallow practices, such as trashy, strip and contour strip fallowing. Fallow so treated can be counted in establishing a crop total unless it is seeded this fall to grass or legumes.

Detailed rates on all Oregon soil building practices are now in the hands of county agents and county committeemen.

The Fire Waste Contests

Beginning in 1923, a large number of Chambers of Commerce have participated in an annual fire waste contest. The object of the contest is to reduce fire loss, and each year awards of merit are presented to winning communities by the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

To say the contests have been successful is to understate the case. During the years since 1923, the participating cities have shown a steady improvement in their fire records, and each year their proportional fire loss has been under that of the country as a whole. It is reliably computed that the cities whose Chambers of Commerce have taken part in the fire waste contests have suffered \$380,000,000 less in fire losses than they would have had their loss been proportionately the same as for the entire nation.

It would be difficult to find a more worthy community endeavor than this. Every time a fire is prevented, everyone in the community is economically benefitted. By the same token, every time a fire occurs, everyone in the community must chip in to pay for the loss. One of the greatest tragedies of fire is that it is almost entirely preventable--a little knowledge, a little time, a little money, will eliminate practically any hazard. When Chambers of Commerce take the lead, local citizens are spurred on to do their part and a safer community is the result.

Awards for the calendar year of 1935 were presented to cities in six population brackets; Philadelphia; Atlanta; Hartford; Lakewood, Ohio; Parkersburg, West Virginia; and Geneva, New York. The grand award went to Atlanta, which was adjudged to have the finest record of all contestants, regardless of size.

These cities are to be congratulated--may they do as well in coming years. And may other American cities look upon these shining examples and seek to emulate them.

Farm Woodland Importance Studied

The importance of farm timber lands to the economic set up of Oregon and Washington is shown in a recent report by H. Johnson of the Pacific Northwest Forest experiment station, who states that if these lands are wisely handled they are capable of permanently returning to the owners as much income as at present without depleting the forest capital.

Farm woodlands in western Oregon and Washington, according to the report, comprise roughly 2,800,000 acres, representing 44 per cent of the farm area and averaging about 20 acres per farm in the region. It is conservatively estimated that this farm acreage contains some 20 billion board feet of merchantable timber valuable on account of its greater than average accessibility. Thousands of other acres carry heavy stands of pole and sapling size material.

Census Bureau reports for 1929 showed timber product sales from this farm woodland acreage valued at \$5,500,000, an amount nearly equal to the farm income from the berry crop in the same year. Timber products included fuel wood totaling 711,307 cords valued at \$3,208,432; 233,929,000 board feet of saw logs valued at \$1,454,318; 142,747 poles and piling at \$317,108; 45,281 cords of pulp wood \$274,083; 227,832 posts at \$134,863; and the ties at \$121,640. These totals do not include the large amount of fence posts and fuel wood used on the farm annually.

Douglas fir is the dominant farm species, according to the report, with hemlock, cedar, white fir, Sitka spruce, and hardwoods comprising lesser stands.

The report points out that during the depression years cutting from farm woodlands has increased because of the need of owners for ready money. Large inroads into the second-growth stands of these farms have been made, often precluding the chance for future cuttings.

"If wisely handled, it yields a constant income to the owner" but if abused as it is in many instances under present methods, forest capital will be depleted and private and public loss will result.

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SPORTS

Christy Upsets All Dope in Mondays Battle With Bob

By Harry Chipman

That contemptible, swarthy, conceited reprobate, and in this writer's opinion, Los Angeles disgrace to the wrestling profession, Ted Christy, licked our friend, Bob Kennaston at the Medford Armory



TED CHRISTY

last Monday night, but had to resort to "sucker" punches below the belt to keep himself from being laid out upon some hill-side with a white slab above his head.

As the bell sounded for the first fall, Christy charged from his corner as would the new Union Pacific streamlined train, but ran into something that wouldn't effect the train, when Kennaston blasted three terrific drop kicks along with several uppercuts and his Gold Hill crab, to take the initial spill in one-half minute.

Christy put a powerful hammerlock on Kennaston's arm which, along with some low punches, annexed the second fall for the southern terror.

Nine cranking uppercuts, two of which put Christy among the fans laps, began to take their toll, but as the ex-marine was about to put on another Gold Hill crab, Christy

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BOB KENNASTON
GOLD HILL MARINE

hit him low again and Kennaston was disabled for the night.

Dude Chick spun Cecil McGill, the cleverest kid ever seen hereabouts, eleven times to win in the third round.

Tiger Tsakoff, Bulgarian toughy, came within a hair of creating a riot when he tossed Danny Savich from the ring many times but a foul and a Serbian pump handle won for Savich.

SPORT SHORTS

By Bill Hulen

Unanimously, the boys up and down the main stem are hoping that its a "name" coach the Ashland school board will be appointing to fill the high school vacancy. Opinion is that an unknown stepping into the shoes of Don Faber will already have two strikes called on him; principally because he will bring no prestige to the local institution.

This department can think of other reasons why a man with a proved athletic record either in playing or coaching, or both, should be a better bet than one as yet untested. For instance; the business gentlemen of town would undoubtedly support a man they had heard about much more readily than they would someone whose name they had never seen in print before.

Also, the players themselves would be much more apt to take a "name" coaches word as gospel, than someone they had never heard of. In the average high school athlete's mind, stars from Oregon State or Oregon are absolute tops, while the players from other schools in the state are just players.

So far as efficiency goes, only time and the won and lost column would be the judge. However the "name" coach, bringing with him proven knowledge of football, basketball and baseball, should have the edge.

On the other hand, looking back through the years to 1920, Ashland high has had but one "name" coach, Jack Bliss from U. of O., and nobody can say that Ashland high hasn't had good coaching. Walt Hughes was what might have been termed an "unknown," when

he came here from Colorado College. Russell Cripe, coming from little Wabash College in Indiana, fell into the same category. And Faber himself, although an excellent athlete at Willamette, was fairly unknown.

Be all that as it may, we, with many others, sincerely hope that the school board appoints a man with a name, one who will bring prestige to Ashland high along with complete proven knowledge of football and basketball. Especially basketball.

After many years in the Coast league and several with the lowly Philadelphia Nationals, Curt Davis finally got a break that was coming to him and was sold to the Chicago Cubs. The tall pitcher's many local fans heaved a sigh of relief and freely predicted that the pride of Southern Oregon would burn up the league even more than he did with the Phils. However, in the first start in Cub uniform last Sunday against the St. Louis Cardinals, Curt was hampered from the mound in five innings. Which proves that even the best of them have their off days.

Why not a baseball game here the Fourth of July? Two good teams could be brought in for percentage of the gate and the attraction would interfere with none else the committee has as yet lined up.

Grants Pass, under the management of Ken Williams, would undoubtedly consent to play a game here, and a strong team from the Northern California league could probably be procured.

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