

Farmer, Stockman and Dairyman

S.H.S. "THE TATTLER" 1-9-1-8

State Lime Plant Completed—

The State limestone fertilizer plant at Gold Hill, which was proposed by the lime board late last fall to be in operation in early spring, is now completed. No effort will be made to operate the plant to its full capacity on the start, but as other required equipment is added, it will gradually reach an output of a large daily tonnage. It is estimated that, on a 24-hour daily run, its output should be 200 tons, but for the present it will probably operate only one shift of eight hours per day, requiring the service of 35 men. The plant is operated by electric power.

Nearly \$25,000 has been expended on the plant so far, and it is estimated that, to give it a 200-ton-per-day capacity it will be necessary to add a compressor and drill machinery at the quarry, erect the second rock-breaker and pulverizer, and storage. It will cost to add this equipment about \$10,000, and it is confidently believed by those most interested in the enterprise, that the next session of the legislature will provide this sum to complete the plant.

Willamette valley farmers and others interested in this State plant and its proposed output of soil stimulant and fertilizer have written to Superintendent C. W. Courtney, asking questions about the management of the enterprise and the conditions generally under which the business will be conducted, while many have placed order, accompanied by their checks, for immediate shipments after operation, which will be filled at once in the order of their filing.

The plant, which is one mile below Gold Hill on the Southern Pacific company's right of way, is supplied from quarry by an automatic loading and unloading aerial tramway, 5,400 feet in length, and is operated by the gravity system. The quarry lies on the hills at an elevation of 800 feet above the plant on the opposite side of Rogue river, which it spans. The quarry, an inexhaustible deposit of limestone, is 98 to 99 per cent pure limestone, being but a small per cent of foreign matter, and that is not deleterious, which means that it is practically pure lime. The State has leased the quarry on an 8-cent per ton royalty basis for a term of five years, with privilege of five years' renewal. Gold Hill is 312 miles from Portland, and I am informed that the railroad rate to this point is \$2.70 per ton. The probable cost of producing the fertilizer and maintaining a sinking fund by the State will be in the neighborhood of \$1 per ton, thus making the maximum cost of the fertilizer to the Willamette valley farmers \$3.70 per ton.

The whole structure, as far as the same has been provided for, is regarded as a model of perfection and erected at an extraordinarily low cost. The plans of construction and the buying of the equipment have been under the immediate charge of Captain Murphy of Salem, and Benton Bowers of Ashland, members of the board. The bulk of the work has been done by a force of honor men from the State penitentiary. These men have made good and their work well done, thereby conserving the cost of construction to the minimum.

Agricultural Lime Essential List—

At the request of the Secretary of Agriculture, the War Priorities Board has placed agricultural lime in preferred classification in the matter of fuel supply, as well as in the matter of transportation.

Secretary Houston acted upon the recommendation of the Agricultural Advisory Committee. The committee declared that production and distribution of pulverized limestone and burned lime for agricultural purposes should be declared essential, in the production of food and other war necessities, both indirectly to the clovers and directly to many staple crops such as wheat, corn and cotton.

How to Get Lime—

Many inquiries are being received by the office of the County Agricultural Agent at Eugene regarding the purchase of lime.

One of the most important questions is, how are the farmers to get lime in less than carload lots, as the lime from the State lime plant is sold only directly to farmers in carload lots.

This matter can be handled if farmers desiring lots of one ton or more will notify the office of the county agent so the orders can be pooled and a car load ordered for various parties desiring to purchase collectively.

A plan like this will give parties a chance to try out the agricultural lime on a small scale before making an extensive purchase.

"A good many parties interested in lime do not have a clear understanding of the value and use of lime," says N. S. Robb, County Agricultural Agent. It is a direct benefit to clovers, vetches, and alfalfa and causes

a ranker growth and larger yield by sweetening the soil. If manure or green manure crops are used on land and lime applied, the plant food in these substances will become more readily available for the growing crops. The results of lime on clovers and manures is the indirect way that lime benefits the grain crops.

If people expect to buy lime and apply it directly to a grain field and expect results they will get little increase in the way of yield, if any. The results will come in an indirect way through the benefits from its use on legumes with manures or green manures.

Adding Fertility to Orchards—

Now is the time to think about adding fertility to the orchards, says Professor C. I. Lewis of the Horticultural Department of the Oregon Agricultural College. This can be best accomplished through the use of cover or green manure crops, according to Mr. Lewis, who states further that the more mature orchards in the valley are in need of such fertility being added to the soil. A twenty-year old orchard uses more fertility from the soil than a field in wheat for twenty years. Besides the land in many of the orchards have been cultivated some years before being set out to trees. Consequently the fertility sometimes is low and needs to be built up.

The best way to do this, according to Professor Lewis is to plant a crop between the rows of trees in the fall and turn the following spring. The following crops and rates of seeding are satisfactory to use for this purpose:

Rye, 6 to 8 pecks; rye, 5 to 6 pecks and vetch 10-20 pounds. Rye 10-20 pounds and vetch 40 pounds makes an excellent cover crop, but the cost of vetch makes this crop less desirable to use although vetch is one of the best cover crops there is, and will add more fertility than many other crops. Rye has an advantage over other crops in that it is a very hardy crop and will make a better growth than other crops planted this late.

Ten Dozen Eggs a Year—

Ten dozen eggs a year is a hen's duty to the country in war time, according to J. G. Halpin, of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station. "A hen that is housed and fed, as poultry must be in town, should have a yearly output of 120 eggs," says Mr. Halpin. "That output won't enable her owner to make any money on her, but she won't owe the country anything. The farm hen that picks up her feed from sources that would otherwise not be utilized and which is housed less carefully, can be slacker enough to lay only eighty eggs and still not be a liability to her owner. "Not 50 per cent of the town hens reach the record they should have. It isn't always the fault of the hen, for it may be due to poor housing, lack of green feed, or too little animal feed. "It is especially necessary this winter, in view of the high prices of grain, that the owner of the flock determine whether his hens are paying their way. Unless he is sure that his flock has averaged better than ten dozen eggs last year, he should cull out the poor ones now to save winter feeding.

"Choose the hens that are first off the roost in the morning and the last on the roost at night; that are good feeders with full crops at night; that are active and looking for feed and always busy; that have bright eyes, full-sized, rather slippery red combs, and smooth, pliable, oily skins; that have large abdomens, wide pelvic arches, and good depth from keel to pelvis."

Start Slowly With Strange Foods—

All animals are very likely to refuse strange foods and must be taught to eat them. When starting with a new food, let the animals get rather hungry and, if possible, mix the strange substance with something the animal likes, thus working up an appetite gradually.

Horses can usually be induced to eat a new food by sprinkling it plentifully with salt. In getting the salt they will get a taste of the new substance and in a few days will form an appetite for it.

Horses often refuse to eat carrots. I have fed carrots to three horses and they at first refused to eat them. I cut up the carrots and put salt on them, but it took one horse three days to make up his mind that carrots were good to eat.

Last winter I had a similar experience feeding molasses. I mixed the molasses with oats, but at first to no avail, as the odor brought nothing but snorts of disgust. By reducing the mixture to a weak solution, they finally took a few experimental tastes. They formed an appetite for it and I gradually increased the proportion of molasses. In a month they would lap it up by the quart. I also found cows and sheep slow to try molasses.

There is much difference in the appetites of animals. They know what

they like and they are not indifferent to flavor. Hogs will choose dent corn in preference to flat, and will leave pumpkins for squashes.

Many claim that cattle will not eat sweet clover. Last year was my first experience with the plant and I began to think so, too; but after the cattle had run on it all summer, and along in the fall after all other grasses were dead, I took a bunch while the dew was on, sprinkled salt over it, and gave some to the cows. They ate it. After that they ate all they could get. A. W. A. H.

Dairy Problems Are Complex—

"Unless means are quickly found to remedy conditions existing in the dairy industry as well as in other classes of livestock, serious menace to both industries—which are allied—may be forecast."

This is the statement of Assistant Federal Food Administrator, W. K. Newell.

"With the dairymen selling their businesses as fast as they are able to find purchasers," said Mr. Newell, "with an increasing volume of sales of heavy calves, both male and female, and with already a world's shortage of beef, the outlook for future supplies is not as rosy as one might wish."

"It has been charged in some quarters that the price of milk and other products of the dairy have been elevated to such an extent at all Pacific northwest points that the dairy interests should be making a profit and well satisfied with their lot."

"Taking only the retail price as a basis—that which most vitally affects the consumer—the price of milk today in Portland is 15c per quart."

"Even with normal prices milk is generally sold retail at 10 cents a quart here, therefore the advance is not nearly as marked as in many other lines of foodstuffs."

"The dairyman today is paying more than double the wages of normal years for his hired help. He is paying more than double for his requirements of hay and a very considerable advance over the normal for his bran and shorts."

"The cost of milk cans and other dairy utensils is practically double the normal. The cost of bottles has soared to such heights as to make one dizzy to think of it. The cost of producing milk today is therefore more than double that of normal periods even without considering the fact that this has been a very abnormal season and the production of milk and cream per cow is far below the normal."

"Laws enacted during the last few years force the dairyman to add to his costs as a matter of cleanliness. The public is no longer willing to tolerate the quality of milk generally marketed a few years ago. All of this costs money and the dairyman has been paying it while the full charges have not been passed back to the consumer. "It has oftentimes been said that a man very seldom quits a business where liberal profits are available. The fact that so many dairymen are quitting that they are not making adequate profits—that they are not making adequate profits—if any at all."

"The killing of dairy calves during the present season has broken all records simply because the country producer could not afford to feed them to maturity. Suggestion has been made in some quarters that the killing of female calves be prohibited by law. This would indeed solve the problem providing some means were found to feed and keep the animals."

"Dairy experts have for years preached the gospel of 'getting rid of the star boarder'—the cow that does not pay her expense. That is the situation just now. Few are paying their board and there is no improvement of the situation in prospect."

"Similar conditions may be spoken of in regard to the future of the beef supply. Owing to the shortage and extreme price of feed more light-weight and unfinished cattle have been marketed in the stockyards of the country during the last two seasons than ever before known. The country cannot afford to feed its cattle even at the present price of beef and the journey to market is therefore a necessity. In fact the government has recently requested that the public purchase beef from light weight animals because the stock must be marketed. This means that many thousands of animals that are today coming to market weighing around 600 to 1,000 pounds, would have showed a weight of at least a third more if allowed to fatten properly. This means an enormous loss in the meat supply for the future—a loss that the country can ill afford to contemplate."

"Why not have milkmaids now a days?" someone asks. There is a cry that the labor conditions are in a bad way as far as the dairies are concerned. The men have gone to war or into other work and the cows are being killed off because there is no one to milk them. "What is going to become of the children of this country if that goes on?" is the question asked. Some of the girls who are not exactly fascinated by the thought of washing windows, running elevators and carrying mail are looking toward the dairies. They won't wear the costumes seen in light opera but they'll be quite sensible in heavy boots and coveralls and they'll save the day. Here's to the milkmaid of modern days.

The 1918 food reserve is the only safe insurance for 1919 food supplies.

"THE ORIGIN OF THE TATTLER"

The "Tattler" was the name of a penny paper that was published in London by Sir Richard Steele from April 12, 1709, to January 2, 1711. It was issued three times a week or 271 copies in all.

The paper contained not only the political news, but also the gossip of the clubs and coffeehouses, with some light essays on the manners of the stage. Steele published an essay in the first edition, saying that the general purpose of the "Tattler" was to expose the false arts of life, to pull off the disguises of cunning, vanity, and affectation, and to recommend a general simplicity in the dress, the discourse, and the behavior.

The success of this unheard of combination of news, gossip, and essay was instantaneous. Not a club or coffeehouse in London could afford to be without it. Steele at first wrote the entire paper, but later Addison became a regular contributor, and occasionally other writers added essays on the new social life of England.

It was a perplexing but interesting matter to decide upon a name for the high school section of the Springfield News, but after considering many suggested names the "Tattler" was found to be favored by the majority, for, as one student said, "There will be considerable tattling." It is the desire and effort of the high school to make the Tattler of 1918 as interesting as the Tattler of 1709.

Alumni.

Dear to the heart of all the 1918 class in old S. H. S. We are grateful for the corner given us in your paper. Thank you.

Not a one of us are sorry we finished high school, but we regret leaving those behind us. We miss the rousing high school song and our faithful friends so true, but most of all the shelter of the "White and Blue."

All the members have successfully planted themselves in future educational institutions, or are aiding in some way.

Most of the girls worked this summer. Industrious! Well, I guess yes. Those attending the University of Oregon are Edna Duryee, Dutee Fischer, Wanna McKinney, Avis Thompson, Bee Holbrook, Ann Gorrie and Nellie Copenhagen.

Miss McKinney resides at Hendricks' hall. Miss Duryee has also moved to Eugene.

Mrs. Norton Pengra, nee Iva Hill, is instructing the younger generation at Lowell. Mary Harding is a "schule marm" at upper Camp Creek. Lucile Smith of '17 is teaching at Linslaw. Fay Smith, also of '17, is "sole principal of Mount Vernon."

Bernice Cagley is a successful stenographer at San Francisco. Irva Barre assists in a millinery store at Portland.

In the land of Marshfield, foot by foot, Lena Brewer counts the government lumber. Ellen Lambert recently resigned her position at Eggmann's and is preparing to go to Portland to

attend business college.

Flora Lindley is teaching near the coast. Dorris Sikos, who resigned her position as bookkeeper at Cox's, is now enrolled at the Willamette University.

They are Ray Bally, Glen Woolley, Lester Hill and Albert Beare, now in France.

Bill Hill, for two years our student body president, is now at Camp Taylor, Kentucky.

Floyd Kester, Lynn Grandy and Lewis Grandy are members of the S. A. T. C. at Oregon Agricultural College.

Ernest Moe's address is Astoria, Oregon.

Lulu Hampton of the class of '13 was married in early September to Mr. Wilham Meiser of Connell, Wash., where she now resides.

Ella Boesen left October 10th for Portland to commence the nurses' training course.

Four of our male members have served Uncle Sam for over a year.

Recent Student Body Meeting.

At a student body meeting last Monday morning the issue was brought up by the president, Ray Alexander. "If we, as a high school, were in favor of taking the responsibility upon ourselves to gather school notes and have them put in our home paper." By a unanimous vote of the student body we decided to put a little "pop" into the school by an activity of this kind. We were all expected to begin securing news, so Mr. Alexander appointed David Bidwell editor, and Vernita Moore assistant editor. Later that evening they appointed the sub-editors, who are: Personal editor, Albert Parvin; joke editor, Candace Dillard; alumni editor, Hazel Dean; military editor, Ray Alexander.

Class reporters are: Senior, Fern Travis; Junior, Doris Holland; sophomore, Helen Roberts; freshmen, Sadie Berg.

Student Activities.

At the beginning of the term the treasury was in debt to the extent of \$1.50. To make up this deficit, a plan was made to begin a drive for funds. Everything is a drive now, but that didn't stop the plan. The idea was to coerce every student into "coughing" up seventy-five cents.

The faculty would have won the race but for an unfortunate inability to distinguish between payments and five prospects. Consequently the seniors went before them. The members of this distinguished class number twenty-one, all paid by noon of the third day. The faculty retrieved its arithmetic and followed soon after, leaving the juniors to come in third and last with all of their nine members in line.

Neither of the other two classes swung into place entirely—the freshmen only signing up 36 out of 38, which, on the whole, wasn't such a bad showing, and the sophomores 15 out of 17. The total amount taken in was \$65.50. Can our elders make a better showing in any of their drives?

Literary Attempt—Candace Dillard

IN 1607.

Old John Smith was a fighter, But he tried to be a writer— And he surely wrote some interesting things.

Of how American was better And you were nobody's debtor. And all about the Indians and their kings.

Increase Maiter was a preacher, A most horrible old creature Who preached and prayed for half a day or more.

He froze the people's noses Worse than his predecessor Moses; O, he was true religion to the core.

Annie Bradstreet was a poet, And she let the people know it, But her poems were so had we called them "punk."

Other writers we are listing, But if they're not more interesting, I wonder, could you blame us, if we'd "funk"?

Personals.

Wanna McKinney visited S. H. S. last week.

John Dimm is attending the S. A. T. C. at Corvallis.

Jean Fischer, a member of our class of '19, is attending Oregon Agricultural College.

Miss Hazel Hayden, a sophomore in high school, is quite ill at her home with pneumonia.

Ben Dav'raen, who attended Springfield high school last year, is now going to Eugene high.

Frank DePue is now attending the University of Oregon.

Mary Fountain, whose home is in Walthamville, is staying with Mrs. Stewart while attending S. H. S.

Gladys Edwards has been absent for several days from school owing to the illness of her sister.

Dell and Clarence Powell, also members of the class of '19, are now attending the Corvallis S. A. T. C.

Mary Harding, Anna Bidwell, Nellie Copenhagen, all who are last year graduates, visited school last week.

Audrey Perkins is greatly missed from our midst this year. She is now attending the Washington high school in Portland.

Miss Margaret Tomseth is working as bookkeeper in the Cox & Cox department store. Miss Tomseth attended high school last year.

Grace Bidwell registered at the beginning of the year, but was unable to secure the studies she desired, so she has discontinued school for the present.

Ernest Korn was absent from school a few days last week, having gone to Corvallis to investigate his entrance in the S. A. T. C. He found a jolly bunch of students, nearly 5,000 in all. Ernest has decided to stay in school and wait for the draft call.

LaVelle Barger and Ethelyn Nicholson come from Donna each morning to attend our high school. We are pleased to have them with us, and hope they will never have occasion to regret their decision in coming here.

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