

THE SPRINGFIELD NEWS

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THURSDAY JANUARY 19, 1928

CLUB WORK IS CHARACTER MOLDER

Probably the greatest influence outside of the school in the country boys' and girls' life in Lane county, is the extensive club work being carried on. This extension program has reached into every community and has interested hundreds of boys and girls—not about something miles away in the cities but about something right at home.

Boys and girls club work covers a multitude of subjects handled in the best known scientific manner. It not only teaches the youngsters how to do something useful and a little better than it is ordinarily done but it gives them pride in doing it. The right spirit is the essential characteristic for the coming generation to have and club work is doing a lot toward this end.

While Club Leader Collier's report shows a nice yearly profit that will please the practical minded as a justification for the work, to our mind the most benefits for the years work will be derived in years to come in better citizenship.

LAWS FOR REFORESTATION

During 1927 130 laws touching on tax legislation covering reforestation of logged off lands have been passed according to a report of the West Coast Lumber Trades Bureau. There should be tax legislation in Oregon covering reforestation. Any logged off land owner who will go to the expense of planting trees should be exempt from having the land taxed during the growing period. It's a short sighted policy to keep cutting timber and never planting to any great extent. But with taxation like it is now planting of trees and waiting for them to grow would show the owner little if any profit when the timber is finally cut.

The Lane county jail is much too small for the number of occupants that it has and now comes a report from the Oregon penitentiary that it is full up and the warden does not know where he is going to put any more prisoners. Similar conditions are reported throughout the United States. There sure is one industry that is not falling off and that is the criminal activity.

Travel undoubtedly broadens a man, but lots of people prefer to stay home and spread themselves.

A news dispatch says that "stingless mosquitoes are being propagated in France," and it leads one to wonder if they sting, too, over there.

It's the groundless rumor that covers the most ground.

Loafing men always look more comfortable than loafing women.

A fool and his money are soon in the divorce court.

Many a man is honest simply because his price is too high.

It is well to bear in mind also that all things come to those who go after them.

Where there is a will, there's always a lawyer to break it.

Most humorists take themselves too seriously.

SPEED—FASTER AUTOMOBILES—TRAFFIC LAWS

This is an age of speed. Every make of automobile now going on the market for 1928 is faster than before. It is faster for ordinary, every-day use, not just for test purposes. The automobile manufacturers have met the demand for swifter machines. But unless traffic regulations are strictly observed, 1928 is likely to see an unprecedented number of lives sacrificed on the altar to the god of speed.

The situation calls for a general tightening up on the part of those responsible for the enforcement of speed laws. Pedestrian and motorist alike must be forced to obey the laws or be punished. It is better that they suffer mildly than that they die.

If both motorists and pedestrians obey the rules, many lives will be saved and nobody will be really inconvenienced. And if everybody obeys the regulations, traffic will move faster, too. Don't take a chance, for you may make it your last one.

TO FARMER'S DOOR—ENGLISH RAILROADS WAR ON BUSES

Farmers in England are profiting by the war the English railroads are waging against encroachments on both their passenger and freight traffic by motorbuses and motortrucks, says the Daily Express of London. The railroads now provide trucks to haul produce to the trains. Thus, in effect, the railroads have come to the farmers' doors.

The new move on the part of the railroads is particularly beneficial to small farmers and traders, who are now able to market their produce without incurring the heavy expense caused when local transport is undertaken by the farmers themselves. To those farmers dealing in perishable produce, the services are invaluable. They no longer need to undergo the expense of sending a truck to the shipping point with only a hundred pounds or so of the perishable produce. Many large manufacturers have also taken advantage of the situation, it is reported.

Perhaps the railroads of the United States will have to make the same fight some day that the English railroads are now making. If that day ever comes, marketing problems will be simplified for many farmers, even though it will mean smaller profits for the railroads.

HOW TO HELP YOUR NORTHWEST

(Reprinted from Seattle Star of December 22.)

If you are thinking of building a home, or altering the one you already have, now is a good time to get the work started. In our pleasant climate, building operations go on all the year 'round, quite efficiently.

When you build or alter, use the good northwest lumber that forms the foundation for the northwest's prosperity. You will be helping to keep mill wheels turning and the loggers working in the timber.

Use lumber everywhere you can, and forget the cotton and corn stalk substitutes that the south and east are trying to sell you. Every time you buy a lumber substitute you create more work for someone a thousand miles away—and throw a nor'westerner out of a job.

"Drys Cart Away Helen's Night Club," says a headline in a New York newspaper, and in the old days they couldn't have done it without licking Hector or Achilles or some other champion.

A scientist has rigged up a device to expose the real thoughts of persons and it would be a good thing to try it out on the defendant's lawyer in almost any big criminal case.

It would be interesting to know what Mrs. Rudyard Kipling said when she read that line of her husband's that goes, "A young man married is a young man married."

Oklahoma is almost as peaceful as China these days.

Anyway, those New Year's resolutions didn't do any harm.

County Agent Fletcher's Farm Report Show Progress

(Continued from Last Week's Issue)

SOIL IMPROVEMENT

1. F. E. Price, extension engineer of the Oregon Agricultural College, ran levels and furnished plans for a community drainage system for Raymond Johnson and other farmers of the Irving district. Preliminary levels were run for another community ditch involving six farms in northern Lane and southern Benton counties near Monroe by Mr. Price, and he also ran levels and determined grades for five other Lane County farmers planning private drainage systems.

2. Mr. Price spent two days in the office of the county agent the first week in May to render assistance to farmers interested in installing irrigation systems. Three farmers were assisted in laying out and planning irrigation systems.

3. A tour to observe and study supplemental irrigation systems used in growing truck crops was conducted in cooperation with the county horticultural society.

4. Lane County farmers were assisted in pooling orders for nine carloads of lime. Eight carloads were ordered through the office of the county agent. Eighty-eight farmers living in twenty-nine different communities purchased 313½ tons of lime in the nine shipments.

5. Four demonstrations were started to show the influence of lime on sweet clover.

6. Two demonstrations conducted on the Diamond S. ranch at Junction City showed acid phosphate to be valuable as a fertilizer for corn.

7. Two demonstrations were conducted to show the influence of acid phosphate, a complete fertilizer, muriate of potash, and land plaster on the yield of alfalfa hay.

8. Demonstrations were conducted on two farms to show the influence of acid phosphate and other fertilizers on clover seed production.

9. The soils department of the Oregon Experiment Station was assisted in establishing a fertilizer experiment on Elmira soil on the farm of C. B. Forbes near Elmira.

10. One hundred twenty-three farm folk attended four joint soils-farm crops meetings held in western Lane County during March under the auspices of farm organizations. Soil improvement and forage crops production were discussed.

11. Sumich Brothers of Blachly were assisted in building a concrete manure pit to serve as a demonstration.

12. Fifty-two samples of soil submitted by twenty-five farmers were tested to determine if the soils needed lime and, if so, how much.

RURAL ENGINEERING

1. Nine carloads of pyrotol, with a total of 203,300 pounds, have been distributed during the past year. Four hundred five individuals made 508 purchases with a total of 133,300 pounds and the county court five purchases with a total of 70,000 pounds. The total savings to tax payers effected by the county agent and the county court is approximately \$16,456.

2. One hundred sixty farmers at-

tended five demonstrations of the use of pyrotol in land clearing and ditching work.

RODENT CONTROL

1. An intensive campaign against the gray digger ground squirrel was carried on throughout the county in cooperation with farm organizations and committees of interested farmers in communities having no farm organizations.

2. The county agent, assisted by representatives of the Bureau of Biological Survey, mixed 5,925 pounds of strychnine poisoned barley, and approximately 5,400 pounds of this was sold during the year. Forty-two dealers and committeemen assisted in distributing poison in all parts of the county.

3. Eighty-four committeemen to enforce the rodent control law were appointed by the county court on recommendation of the county agent. Sixty-six of these committeemen were nominated by eighteen farm organizations or by farmers at special squirrel control meetings.

4. Fourteen committeemen in as many communities poisoned squirrels on 10,618 acres of land in forty tracts that were neglected by the owners and expenses charged against the land by the county. Committeemen also poisoned squirrels on 2,720 acres additional land at the request of the owners that would have been neglected but for the organized campaign.

A representative of the Bureau of Biological Survey, assisted by farmers of the community, poisoned squirrels on 400 acres of forest reserve land near Oakridge and two committeemen in other parts of the county poisoned squirrels on 320 acres of government land. Squirrels were poisoned on a total of 14,058 acres of neglected land during 1927.

5. Rodent control work was discussed at five special meetings and in a talk over the Oregon Agricultural College radio broadcasting station by the county agent.

6. The county agent has assisted the government coyote hunter by helping him to establish contact with farmers needing his services and by promoting interest in the control of predatory animals.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Seventy-five farmers attended a farmers' institute held in Junction City under the auspices of the Junction City commercial club.

2. Officials and department heads of the Lane County fair were assisted in making the fair a success.

3. The committee in charge of the Lane County exhibit at the State Fair was assisted in assembling and displaying the exhibit.

4. The county agent judged farm crops and horticultural exhibits at the Washington and Deschutes County fairs, and farm crop exhibits at the Junction City harvest festival.

5. Data on production of various farm and orchard products were assembled for the Oregon State Public Service commission upon request of that commission.

6. Speakers and program helps have been furnished to various farm organizations.

7. Various civic and service organizations were addressed on invitation.

to acquaint these organizations with the work of the county agent.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

1. Received 2,915 office calls and 479 telephone calls in regard to farm problems.

2. Wrote 2,858 individual letters.

3. Mailed 11,856 copies of 75 circular letters.

4. Made 256 farm visits.

5. Devoted 180 days to field work and 120 days to work in the office.

6. Travelled 12,379 miles by automobile and 554 miles by train or stage.

7. Specialists from the Oregon Agricultural College cooperated a total of 109 days with the county agent.

8. Forty-four demonstration meetings were held, and the county agent or cooperating specialists spoke at 127 meetings with a total attendance of 4,319.

9. The number of days devoted to various projects was as follows: farm crops, 60; dairy husbandry and soil improvement, 32 each; miscellaneous, 31; rural engineering, 27; rodent control, 24; horticulture and organization, 20 each; general livestock, 15; agricultural economics and marketing, 14; community activities, 12; poultry, 10; nutrition and clothing, 1.5 each.

O. S. FLETCHER,
County Agricultural Agent.

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Little Glimpses of America — By Albert T. Reid

