

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

[Editor's Note—We are glad to give space to the people of our community on topics of the day, but ask them not to become personal or abusive. Each contributor must sign name, not for publication, but for our protection.]

Mr. Editor:

I beg to take issue with the columns of your valued paper, on your article on the Weed Control Bill in the Jan. 25 issue of the Tribune. From what I have been able to glean from your article you have not arrived at a full understanding of the nature and purpose of the bill. First you say, "The purpose of the bill is defeated if any one or more districts want to have the district exempt from weed control". If I understand the measure aright no district shall be declared a weed control district unless infected with noxious weeds that are a menace to the agricultural interests of that district. When that condition exists it shall be the duty of the county court to declare said district a weed control district. The purpose of the bill is to make it possible to prevent the further spread of the Canadian thistle which has become a real menace in some sections of Linn county.

It is true that the Linn County Farm Bureau had this measure drafted, not with the idea of putting something objectionable over on the farmers of Linn Co. as your article might intimate, but because of the ever increasing demand of farmers of the county that some steps be taken to control this pest.

Permit me to say, as a member of the executive board of the Linn County Farm Bureau, that during the past year no single question has been so continually agitated and kept constantly before the Executive Board, by representative farmers of the county, as the question of Canadian thistle control, demanding that some relief measures be undertaken for the control of this pest. The result was the drafting of the above mentioned bill by a committee consisting of district attorney, Lewelling, County Agent Heyman and S. G. Talia, a prominent farmer of near Albany.

You perhaps know that Oregon already has on its statute books a law on noxious weed control, a law that is so flexible and defective that it cannot be enforced, as our county court might testify. I believe it to have been the purpose of the committee who drafted the bill now before the Legislature, to embrace in it all the good features of the old ordinance and strengthen its weak points, thus making it a practical working law.

I assure you that it has not been the aim of the Farm Bureau to have this measure railroaded through the Legislature. On different occasions it has been brought up for discussion before representative bodies of farmers in the county, who have unanimously voiced their approval of it.

And now, Mr. Editor, in further discussing the merits or demerits of the bill, in taking up what you term "The really obnoxious part of the bill, making it a misdemeanor for a thrashing crew to go upon a farm, and thresh where there is matured obnoxious weeds (Canada thistle) within the grain." Simply awful! In fancy I can see the convulsive shudder that went over you when you read how the poor threshermen were being legislated against. Funny thing, but if I remember correctly, it was a thrasher man who requested that that clause be inserted, and now allow me to give a practical illustration of the workings of this clause. Farmer McAdoo has an 80 acre Santiam valley farm which he prides himself on having

in a high state of cultivation. By working overtime, evenings and Sundays, he has succeeded in keeping what few patches of Canadian thistles he has in bounds. Neighbor Gilkey on the west also has an 80. Naturally a shiftless cuss he don't worry much about that bugaboo the Canada thistle; if they want to grow he just naturally can't help it. He plants grain, and harvests grain and thistles. Thresherman Morrison moves in and threshes his crop, not profitable crop to thresh because the thistles have cut the yield, yet he does it because he has no reasonable excuse not to. Then he pulls across the fence to McAdoo's well kept farm and scatters enough thistle seed to keep Mac digging evenings and Sundays for the next 50 years. Wouldn't it make you mad? If it didn't, then we'll say that neighbor Jones on the north has more thistles than he can conveniently handle so he allows a few acres of pasture land to go to seed, and when those cool autumn breezes begin to blow that thistle seed starts south and as farmer McAdoo's soil is in fine tilt to receive them they locate. Wouldn't that jar you? I'll bet my last summer's panama against a dog collar, Mr. Editor, that you would be right up at the front of the procession demanding a legislative relief measure.

Now seriously, our Forks of the Santiam has not suffered as severely from the ravages of this pest as has some sections, yet every thoughtful farmer can read the handwriting on the wall, if control measures are not brought to bear. But, I can take you to sections of Linn county during thistle season and show you entire farms, consisting of some of the most fertile land in the valley that are practically covered with Canadian thistles. Don't you think we owe it to the sections not yet badly infected to provide relief measures?

And now in all sincerity and friendliness, Mr. Editor, I blame you for broadcasting among your readers the idea that a nefarious measure sponsored by the Farm Bureau is now before the legislature. It has perhaps caused a good many of your readers to write the Linn county Legislators their disapproval of the measure. Yet I trust every thoughtful farmer has given it personal consideration and acted according to his own convictions.

Yours for justice and equity to all.
Leonard Gilkey.

JORDAN ITEMS

Feb. 6

Mr. Schnider and J. Schwindt were Jordan visitors Tuesday.

Mrs. Wortman called on Mrs. Pruitt Tuesday afternoon.

Grandma Shelton had the misfortune to slip and fall, Saturday, which has caused her to keep her bed ever since.

Owing to bad roads our congenial milk and freight hauler, Gailen Phillips, was late Tuesday getting round.

Miss Pruitt has two pupils on the piano at present and will probably increase her class soon.

Mr. Joseph Fink who has been quite poorly is again able to make out.

The Geerheart children who have been very ill with grip are improving slowly. Mrs. Enders has been nursing them.

When we are about to believe spring has come, it turns round and snows, just to let us know we know nothing about it. Oregon Mist.

The County Basketball tournament will begin in Albany tomorrow, and the final will be played Saturday night. Scio will be there with bells ringing.

Lucy C. Minton says she was a happy girl Sunday, because the big dinner at the Federated church also celebrated her 16th birthday.

L. E. Fitchman, an experienced electrician, is in Scio on business with the water and light committee of the city council.

SANTIAM FARM NEWS

Feb. 6

Our Phone Company lines, 18, 24 and 12, met Tuesday morning, setting new poles from A. L. Powell's to Joe Wesely's corner, is now fine excepting they made a mistake at Joe's connecting line 18 to 24. Still it works fairly good after tightening all the lines.

Mrs. Rebecca Morris, of Scio, came out Tuesday to the Santiam farm for a three-days visit, returning home Friday morning as her home business was urging.

Theodore Gaines paid Lebanon a short visit over Wednesday night. Not being able to locate his old friends, he returned home Friday.

G. A. Griffin made a flying run to Lebanon Friday on important business.

Mrs. S. W. Gaines received a letter from Clarence Lovejoy, of Dallas, Friday saying that his wife is improving nicely from a severe attack of pneumonia.

Ed Kalina has a fine mare with blind staggers, caused from eating too much dry feed.

Geo. Griffin lost his fine Barney sheep dog because he went out foraging among Cecil Chrome's sheep and got a load of shot, so he is not as hungry as he was last Sunday. George is almost sick.

Ed Kalina sold 25 hundred lbs. of potatoes Thursday to our new neighbor on the Birch farm at 75¢ per hundred lbs. Ed also went to Crabtree for 140 rods of wire fence.

Mrs. Lulu Milligan and two daughters, also Mrs. May Lettenmaier and babe called in Friday evening to console the old people who are confined at home, the pie eater having a time with his heart and the Mrs. suffering with a painful back.

David Horsburgh sold his fine \$500 bull Friday to Mr. Shope, of Lebanon. He hauled him up in his truck.

David Horsburgh and Ed Kalina are building a partnership fence on the line between Horsburgh and S. W. Gaines.

Clifford Griffin has turned to be an Irish paddy as he is following the ditching business as a pleasure job, all same Irishman.

Newton Crabtree called in Sunday afternoon to form the acquaintance of his sister, Mrs. S. W. Gaines, whom he has not met the past month.

Geo. Griffin, on his way to church, called to visit his mother and get a square meal so he could pull through the services, as it is fashionable to pass an empty hat around.

It is quite fashionable on our new graveled road when meeting a car or truck, the one who gets out of the ruts to stand till some one comes along to pull him out.

Next Saturday is set for a special school meeting for the purpose of electing a clerk and one director as two have moved away.

The neighbors had quite a gathering at Mr. and Mrs. Lettenmaier's Friday night for a social game of cards which was highly enjoyed. Lunch, consisting of pie, cake lemonade and punch was served at midnight. All passed their compliments and promised to return some other night.

PIE EATER.

The 19th annual convention of the Retail Merchants association will be held in Eugene, beginning on Feb. 19 and ending on the 21st. It is expected one of the largest attendances ever had will be present. A splendid program is in the process of making.

The first issue of the Benton County Courier as a daily, came off the press Tuesday morning, and it is a dandy. It is now known as the "Morning Courier". Success to you, Bro. Frost.

The local basketball team went up against the real article on Jan. 31, when it played the Deaf School boys on the local floor. The visitors are veterans and of course outclassed our team.

Crabtree is now in the throes of a revival meeting which is being conducted by Rev. V. K. Allison, of Lebanon, and considerable interest is being manifest.

LAST CHANCE

to get proper lumber service, as we are about to operate our mill, and cannot attend to local trade only at our convenience.

Scio Logging & Lumber Co.

Oh, Boy, Listen! The Star Car

The creation of the Star car is the most important and brilliant accomplishment of any individual identified with the automobile industry since its inception.

Smartness in looks, thoroughness and modern design in a low priced car were unheard of until the Star was created by W. C. Durant, the pioneer builder of automobiles and identified with the introduction and success of the Cadillac, Buick, Oakland, Oldsmobile, Chevrolet and Durant cars.

The Star car marks the most advanced step since the introduction of the automobile, for it provides for the first time a quality automobile, standardized in construction and operation for a modest sum of money. But we could go on and tell you more and more about this splendid car, but seeing is believing, so come in and let us explain its virtues. Oh, yes, the price is

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Dairy Herds from Pure-bred Sires show an average increase of 48 per cent in financial returns over dairy herds produced from scrubs, according to U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Start the New Year with a pure-bred bull at the head of your dairy herd.

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Fresh and Cured Meat—
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Abstracts Obtained, Examined
SCIO - - - - - OREGON

C. C. BRYANT

Attorney at Law

Cusick Bank Bldg.

ALBANY - - - - - OREGON

The local mail carriers are going out on their routes these days loaded down with mail. Business here is good.