

# Oregon Agricultural College is the Friend of the Farmer

A Page of Bulletins and News Notes Concerning the Staff at Corvallis.

## ART INSTRUCTION SEEKS BETTER COMMON THINGS.

"IF THE ART teacher's ideal is no higher than to teach children to draw and paint, he would do a kindness by stepping aside," is the comment of Edna M. Florida, art instructor, who will conduct the teachers' public school art classes in the Oregon Agricultural College summer session. "We are not trying to make draughtsmen or artists of our boys and girls; we are educating them for bigger lives and higher ideals, making a better America for tomorrow than it is today. Children must be taught how to meet the needs of the people in the finest way.

"The Chinese and Japanese have come a little nearer than any other people to realizing the beauty in ordinary things. A comparison of our jugs and tea jars with theirs will show how crude and unpleasing ours are. Good proportion and pleasing lines are two qualities that lend themselves to almost any material, however coarse, but they are not found in household utensils of domestic manufacture.

"Let us visit a shop and ask to be shown a beautiful pitcher, adequate for ordinary use and at moderate price. After showing us the unsatisfactory white stone ware the shopkeeper takes us to a counter where roses and narcissus in gaudy splashes mingle with cows' heads and fantastic scrolls. He says these things meet the public demand. So our people quietly go abroad for treasures no more beautiful than might be made at home with proper support. The child in the public school should be taught the real needs of the people."

## AGRONOMY GRADUATE TO TEACH.

THE KLAMATH FALLS high school has secured the services of C. E. Chandler, O. A. C. graduate in agriculture, for teacher of agriculture. Mr. Chandler specialized in agronomy with specific training in dry farming, irrigation farming, cereal and forage crops, crop production, soil fertility and farm management, and has prepared himself particularly for the work in Klamath County. He was a student of high scholarship in his college work. During the summer he will act as field assistant to the county farm advisor of Klamath County.

## BEEF CATTLE NOT WORTH FEED ON SMALL FARM.

THAT BEEF cattle on the small farm will make but a small profit, if any at all, is the belief of Professor E. B. Pitts, extension livestock man at O. A. C. It is advisable to turn off the beef early, since beef is produced more cheaply during the first two years of the animal's life than at any time afterwards.

"There is no profit in feeding beef cattle for the additional flesh that they put on. The hay that a beef eats in a day is worth more than the beef it makes. The only advantage in feeding is to give a high finish that will command top prices.

"The beef animal is not so profitable as the dairy cow or as pigs and sheep. When beef is produced, the producers should breed along beef lines. The Durham and Hereford generally stand at the head of the beef breeds, but the Galloway and Angus are also good beef animals."

## DRY FARMING METHODS.

GROWING corn and field peas, to be hogged off, and growing alfalfa in rows for seed will be practiced at the Moro Dry Farming Station this year. The former is a new practice following the plan adopted by Professor Scudder, agronomist of the Oregon Agricultural College. All these crops have been grown successfully at the Moro station, and the highest yielding varieties of seed developed has been distributed to co-operative farmers throughout the state. The work is under the direction of D. E. Stephens, superintendent of the station, who consults with Professor Scudder regarding station work. He is enthusiastic over his work and a great believer in the possibilities of Oregon agriculture.

## FARMERS ASK AND GET HELP FROM THE COLLEGE.

FARMERS are fast coming to act on the fact that the Agricultural College is a source of help in their everyday problems of the farm. The flood of inquiries that reach the heads of the departments make it difficult to handle them with the usual facilities. The department of Agronomy receives from thirty to forty letters daily, each requiring a special answer. Other inquiries are of a more general nature, and the answers are printed in the bulletins to reach hundreds of farmers through the local newspapers to which they are sent.

Extension work in Agronomy is also very heavy at this season. On Saturdays nearly the entire department is abroad on field service in different parts of the state. Here is a typical busy day:

Professor Scudder, head of the department, went to Cow Creek Valley, Southern Oregon, to examine a large ranch for which a complete management plan is to be laid out. Professor Hyslop addressed a farmers' meeting at Junction City on corn growing and silage making. Professor Powers went to Hubbard to address a meeting on district drainage and tile laying. Professor Larson was at Molalla to speak to the farmers on corn growing and diversified farming, and D. McCool addressed two meetings in the vicinity of Medford on corn growing and soil fertility.

## AGRICULTURAL AGENTS.

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL agents have been provided for by appropriations in ten counties of the state and steps for maintaining this service have been taken by other progressive counties. Thus practically one-third of the Oregon counties have committed themselves to the county demonstration policy, which is a remarkable showing for the short time since the policy was inaugurated.

"The Counties of Harney, Wallowa, Union, Grant, Klamath, Coos, Tillamook, Lane and Marion, have made appropriations for maintaining county agricultural experts," said Professor H. T. French, state leader of county farm and field demonstration work. "The sum provided by each county will be duplicated by the state. The United States department of Agriculture will also co-operate with the counties and the extension division of the Agricultural College in carrying on the demonstration work."

A number of these counties have been supplied with field agents, and the others will be supplied as rapidly as Professor French can examine the credentials of applicants and make the appointments. The farmers of Wallowa County were saved from serious damage by smut through the work of their field agent, Floyd Rader. They were also enabled to effect a large saving by using modern pig houses, constructed after the model designed by Mr. Rader. Dairymen in Coos County are organizing the dairy industry under the supervision of County Agent Smith, cow-testing associations being generally formed. These incidents illustrate some of the benefits of the demonstration policy.

This policy is rapidly growing in favor and use. There are more than 200 county agents now employed in different states, some states supporting 20 agents. The kind of work done by these agents tends to increase the net income of the farm and exalt the ideals of country life.

## FACTORIES CONGRESS TO ESTABLISH MANUFACTORIES

A CONGRESS of Manufactures was held at Oregon City for the purpose of considering the question of locating many new factories in various parts of the state. Prominent manufacturers and numerous delegates from commercial clubs attended and discussed the problems of production, marketing, factories and transportation in Oregon. The first aim of the congress is to ascertain the actual conditions, after which it will utilize the knowledge thus gained in establishing

factories in the localities for successful manufacturing.

"It is fitting that this movement to promote the interests of Oregon manufacture should have its origin at this College," said Dean J. A. Bexell, of the School of Commerce under whose auspices the convention was held. "Every important industry in the state is represented here and we are not promoting the interests of Corvallis, of Benton county, or of the Willamette Valley, in particular, but the interests of the whole state.

"Neither is this a booster meeting. Our purpose is to secure real facts regarding the various industries of the state and the feasibility of locating factories near the centers of production of raw materials.

"The success of this movement to establish new factories depends upon our ability to show that they may be made profitable. We cannot arbitrarily locate industries in any particular locality—they must be caused to grow into it. It may take a long time to accomplish much and this is a small beginning. But if this beginning results in greater efficiency in handling our surplus products and in creating new pay rolls, it is well worth the effort."

The investigations of the congress revealed the fact that while Oregon was the first of the North Pacific states to be put on the map, it is the last in developing its resources. This condition is due, say the findings of the resolution committee, to the early exploitation of the state by agents for machinery and of watered stock. In consequence, many factories have been idle for years and much machinery has gone to decay. Production has suffered for lack of proper utilization.

The first step in the promotion of factories for Oregon is a thorough research in each part of the state, to determine which raw materials are produced, at what cost, and what market and factory conditions are already provided. And finally, the minor problems that enter into these larger ones must be determined and solved.

## POULTRY KEEPERS' DON'TS AS SEEN AT O. A. C. SHOW.

"DON'T use mongrel stock" is one of the first signs encountered on entering the Utility Poultry Show held by the Poultry Department of the Oregon Agricultural College. Professor James Dryden thus expressed his estimate of the value of mongrel fowls. He has resorted to a limited and scientific use of cross breeding in his work on developing a new variety, but only mongrels are different considerations.

"Don't use immature stock," is the next sign displayed at the show. Both size and variety are affected unfavorably by mating over young chickens. Vitality is an important factor in heavy egg-laying.

"Don't start too big," comes next. No amount of knowledge and enthusiasm can make up for lack of experience, and mistakes are sure to be made in the beginning. If the beginning is on a large scale, some of these mistakes will prove very serious. Therefore, they should be made with only a few fowls. When the business has grown the mistakes can be avoided.

"Don't's" will not conduct a profitable poultry business but the intelligent observation of these three will steer the beginner clear of some of the most disastrous, though alluring, mistakes.

## IDENTIFY THE INSECT, THEN APPLY SPRAY.

SPRAYS should not be applied to plants to rid them of insects until it is definitely known that the insects are harmful. The mere fact that they are present in considerable numbers is not sufficient warrant for spraying. They may be harmful, but again they may be either neutral or beneficial. If they are injurious, they should be combated, but if they are beneficial, they should be encouraged, since it is definitely known that the destruction of the natural enemies of harmful insects has done much to increase the numbers of harmful pests.

"Begin the work of control by carefully studying the insect," says Pro-

fessor H. F. Wilson, entomologist of the Oregon Agricultural College. "If you can identify the insect, and it is harmful, then apply the standard spray according to directions. If you cannot identify it, then note the effect it has on the plant. If the plant shows signs of insect feeding, the visitors that cause them are eating insects and can be controlled by arsenical sprays. If the plant shows curled leaves, wilted surface, creasing, uneven and discolored tissues but no nibbled areas, the visitors are sucking insects and can be controlled by contact insecticides. But if the plant shows no signs of damage the visitors are probably either neutral, or predacious insects in search of harmful insects that they feed upon. The plant often shelters the hunter as well as the game."

## PROFITABLE BEEF CATTLE.

SUCCESSFUL livestock growers as well as dealers in livestock and meats, must know the market demands and then grow animals that will meet them. This is the cardinal principle of the industry as announced by Mr. Forestel, expert buyer for the Union Meat Company, in his livestock demonstration before the Oregon Agricultural College Short Course Students. Farmers that raise livestock for beef and pork, often aim at the production of animals as big and as fat as they can be made. When those farmers take the stock to the markets they are disappointed and often angry because it brings less per pound than the smaller animals. Beef animals are sold with the highest margin of profit at from one to two years of age. A grower recently sold a yearling steer in the city market for \$95 at the same time that another grower sold a two-year old for \$117. There is no profit at all in carrying beef animals after they are two or three years old.

It was further pointed out that types should be developed that carry high percentages in the choice parts of the carcass. Everybody wants porterhouse steak and prime ribs, and these cuts must bear the loss of the chuck, which is about 42 per cent of the dressed beef. And then people wonder why beef is so high. But growers will profit by knowing the facts, if they choose their beef types accordingly.

## CROP PEST REPORT USED AS TEXT BOOK.

THAT insect and disease pests attack their crops and how to control them, are learned by the school children of Kennewick, Wash., from the Oregon Agricultural College Biennial Crop Pest Report, which is used as a text book. Requests for copies of the Report were made by students and teachers of the Kennewick school, who state that it contains the most complete, reliable and practical information of any publication that they have found.

The report was written by the departments of Plant Pathology and Entomology, from information collected by observation and experiments extending over several years. It contains a description of approximately all plant diseases of economic importance in the Northwest, together with the most reliable and economical methods of control. It also contains a record of the most important insect pests of this region and the most approved measures of control. The pests are identified by descriptions and illustration, and their habits and the nature of the injury they do are clearly indicated. With this report as a guide any intelligent grower of field, fruit or garden crops can identify the worst pests and apply effective control measures.

As the season for spraying approaches the report becomes of very great importance to growers throughout the Northwest. Its intelligent use will result in a great saving of time, labor, material and produce. Copies may be had free by sending requests for them to the secretary of the Experiment Station, O. A. C., Corvallis, Oregon.

Turning the knob ever so little rings a hidden bell in a new lock for residence doors.

Southern Italy will have a \$13,000,000 hydro-electric plant generating 150,000 horsepower.