

Oregon Agricultural College is the Friend of the Farmer

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



View of Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oregon, the Sole Aim of Which Is to Aid Agriculturists.

INDUSTRIAL CLUBS FOR EVERY SCHOOL DISTRICT.

A BOYS' and girls' clubs will be organized in every school district in Oregon, if the plans of the State department of Education and the Extension division of the Oregon Agricultural College are successfully carried out. According to the cooperative policy agreed upon by State Superintendent J. A. Churchill and Professor Hetel, director of the extension service, an organization plan has been prepared by Professor F. L. Griffin, who authorizes the following outline:

Ten lines of work, each named a project, are provided for club members. They are corn growing, canning, cooking and baking, poultry keeping, pig raising, sewing, gardening, dairy record keeping, and manual arts. This number of projects is provided to meet the industrial conditions of every community in Oregon, but not more than four are to be carried at the same time by any one district.

A series of contests are also provided, with a suitable list of prizes. The prizes consist largely of an educational nature, such as trips to county and state fairs, agricultural instruction by the Agricultural College, and ten trips to the Panama-Pacific Exposition with all expenses paid. The premiums will retain the better parts of the competitive features.

The unit of organization of the industrial club system is the local or district club. The teacher, or some competent person in the district to be appointed by the teacher, has charge of the organization and activities of the district club. The next higher organization is the county club, organized and supervised by the county school superintendent, or by the school supervisors appointed by him. The state leaders, working under the direction of the state superintendent and director of College extension, will supply these organizations with rules and instructions for carrying on the work and with blanks for keeping the necessary records.

Additional directions concerning the activities of clubs will be furnished by bulletins and circulars as need for them arises. These circulars and bulletins will direct the industries and sustain the interest of the members throughout the year.

It is expected that this system of juvenile clubs will result in a great educational awakening. It will develop a more intensive and profitable system of agriculture by encouraging the use of scientific principles in raising animals, growing plants and utilizing products. It will offer a medium through which inspiration, information and vocational training can be given to the boy or girl in the country. It will adapt boys and girls to their environment and develop self expression and initiative. It will create higher ideals of country life by showing that health, wealth and happiness are the heritages of every country boy or girl. It will assist the teacher to find an approach to the interests of community life, and the club will become a connecting link between the school and the home. Lastly, it will bring the people together socially and awaken both in adults and in young people a realization of their own powers and abilities.

PURE BRED SCRUBS.

IN THE present enormous demand for pure bred stock there is said to be a market for every animal, good, bad and indifferent, that can show a pedigree. There are evidently pure bred scrubs, and if one of them is placed at

the head of a dairy herd production will grow less rather than more. A herd cannot be graded up by an inferior sire, according to Professor Graves, head of the Agricultural College dairy department, no matter how imposing his pedigree. Pedigree and good conformation are to be sought, but not at the expense of bred-for-production qualities. A milk-productive ancestry is evidence that the sire will transmit these qualities to his daughters; a heavy milking progeny is proof that he will. Buyers may well look at the conformation, examine the pedigree, but they should study the milk records of his kin before purchasing a head of the herd.

SWAT HEN LOUSE.

IF HENS are not mighty busy rustling feed and laying eggs it would be well to see whether they are not bothered with common hen lice. This parasite is a pale straw color, which helps to distinguish it from the larger biting poultry louse. It is only about one-twentieth of an inch long, has an oval body with small thorax and large abdomen, and its legs are somewhat stubby. It annoys and injures the hen by its tickling movements over the skin and among the feathers. In small numbers it is merely disturbing, but in large numbers it is a serious pest. It is especially damaging to young chicks and sometimes causes their death. They seldom leave their hosts, feeding on barbs of feathers and laying their eggs. The eggs hatch in a day or two, and the young become fully grown in about a month. They may be controlled, says Dr. Ewing, O. A. C. parasite specialist, by applying kerosene or slaked lime and sulphur to the poultry. The following mixture is good: Crude carbolic acid 2 pint; gasoline 1½ pints; plaster paris, 5 pounds.

FARM ASSISTANT POLICY.

THAT fear of the farm assistant idea growing too fast is unwarranted is the belief of Prof. French, state leader of farm assistants for the college extension division. He calls attention to the recent statement that the growth is healthy and has only just begun, made by President Waters, of the Kansas Agricultural College, who continues as follows:

"Of six or seven hundred counties in the United States that have tried the farm assistant idea, not one has discontinued the plan. The farm assistant has not only proven himself indispensable, but he has shown the possibility of carrying the demonstration idea still further. I am confident that in the course of a few years the more progressive counties will have assistants for each of the more important branches of farming followed in those counties."

MANY FRUITS; FEW TREES.

ALL the fresh fruit you want during most of the year, grown on a few trees in small back lots and similar areas, is the latest offer of science toward a lower cost of living. According to plans worked out by Professor C. I. Lewis, O. A. C. horticulturist, two or more varieties of apples, pears, cherries and plums, may be grown on a single stock tree for each species. Mr. Lewis has worked out schemes of varieties that may be grafted onto the stock tree, so that they will pollinate and grow in perfect concord, each variety supplying a particular need at the proper season. The trees are trained to fit their surroundings and occupy the space allotted and not more. Shade-loving bush and vine fruits are planted under the trees, while

vegetables that flourish in shade are planted between the rows.

THE WINTER Short Course student body has expressed a desire to present a substantial token of appreciation to the Oregon Agricultural College, and are considering the advisability of founding an agricultural scholarship. A committee consisting of A. W. Peterson, Hood River; V. H. Smith, Wasco; S. Patterson, Medford, and C. J. Dittmars, Philomath, was appointed to canvass for funds by the student-body president, John Goldsbury, of Hood River.

"The faculties have told us how to increase agricultural profits by growing clover, alfalfa and corn and we have profited by these things," said Mr. Goldsbury. "Now, let us return the compliment by putting something of real value into the College." Another speaker said: "Your presence here proves that you are leading and successful farmers, else you could not afford the time and money to attend. It is our duty to carry the yeast of scientific agriculture into our home communities and give the people there what the college has given us." "We may extend the heaven still further by founding an agricultural scholarship, or by increasing the endowment of the Experiment Station," declared another speaker.

One of the most valuable gifts made by former Short Course students is a special agricultural library. Just what the token of this class shall be is to be determined by the canvassing committee, who will make the presentation through President W. J. Kerr.

A DAIRYMEN'S cow-testing association has been formed in the Lewis and Clark district of Clatsop County, and another will be organized immediately at Seapoose, according to Professor R. R. Graves, head of the Agricultural College department. The organization was preceded by a canvass of the district by College Extension workers, and by addresses on organization by Professor Graves. Timely and powerful help was also rendered by Judge Judd, of the Clatsop County Court, who took the organizers to Grange hall, where the meeting was held, boosted loyally for organization, and by his advice and personal work contributed largely to the success of the plan.

The dairymen present signed contracts to enter 400 cows, paying the sum of \$1.25 per cow annually for tester's salary and other expenses. Approximately 200 more cows have been promised. All cows signed will have their milk tested once a month, and owners will learn precisely which cows are profitable and which loafers. Meetings will be held at the homes of the different members in pleasant weather, at which basket lunches will be served, contests in judging the lost's stock conducted, and addresses made by noted dairymen.

"These associations are the best things that have been devised for the dairy industry in those sections," said Professor Graves. They will put dairymen on a business basis, eliminate unprofitable cows, foster co-operative buying in large lots at lower prices, lead to use of silos, and result in more and better butter, more economically produced.

RECORD breaking crowds are assured for the O. A. C. Commencement exercises. Officers and students in charge of Commencement exercises at the Oregon Agricultural College have received assurances that the crowd in attendance will be the largest

in the history of the college. Definite information was obtained by return postal cards mailed to members of the alumni, and many former students. Several hundred returns have been received pledging attendance, of graduates and former students, and this does not take into consideration the large number of both from large centers of membership, such as Portland and Corvallis.

The attendance will not only be from practically every county and most of the towns of Oregon, but will also be representative of a number of places outside the state. The Agricultural College is attended by many students from places outside of Oregon and many of them who have returned to their former homes have promised to attend these exercises and be here for Home-Coming day, June 8.

These members take no note of the general run of visitors including relatives and friends of the graduates and of the institution. Altogether it is expected that the railway and hotel accommodation will be taxed to their utmost in carrying the crowd and in caring for their physical comfort while here.

Commencement begins this year with preliminary exercises on May 28. Home-Coming day will be the day before graduation which will close the exercises for this year on June 9.

OREGON DAIRY RECORDS HIGH.

THE supremacy of Oregon as a dairy state, so often asserted by the Agricultural College Dairy department, is verified by tests and records made in various parts of the state. The number of cattle of any one breed in Oregon is very small in comparison with the number of that breed in the United States, yet the number of cows that have made noteworthy records in Oregon is a very large percentage of the entire number in the United States.

In the Jersey breed this condition is most noticeable. Of sixteen cows in the United States that have produced over 900 pounds of butter fat in a year 4 cows, 25 per cent, are in Oregon. Of 30 that have produced more than 800 pounds of butter, 6 cows, 20 per cent, are in Oregon. Of 105 cows that have produced more than 700 pounds of butter within a year 14, almost 14 per cent are in Oregon. There are but 5 cows in the whole country that have produced above 1000 pounds of butter per year, but there is one more that came within 7.1 ounces of reaching the mark, and that one is an Oregon cow.

The foregoing figures are from official records, which are kept by but few dairymen. There are more than 60 breeders of pure bred Jerseys in Oregon, and but twelve are doing advanced registry work. This is called a poor showing by Professor Graves, head of the College Dairy department, but it has accomplished enough to show Oregon's unexcelled dairy resources.

ERADICATING DANDELIONS.

THE USE of common salt for the eradication of dandelions, as recommended by the United States department of Agriculture is exactly in line with my experience," said Professor A. L. Peck, landscape garden specialist at the Oregon Agricultural College. "Salt is the safest, least expensive and most effective of the chemicals I have tried, and inflicts less damage on the lawn. I get best results by cutting off the dandelion stock about two inches below the surface with a table knife, and putting a teaspoonful of salt directly on the cut end of root. This treatment generally, but not always kills the plant for good. Stock salt, ground tolerably coarse, is a very satisfactory form in which to use the salt."