

Oregon Agricultural College is the Friend of the Farmer

Page of News Notes and Interesting Articles Specially Written by College Experts for This Newspaper.



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

"TODAY the young man seeking a higher education can pick out his life career and the college training to fit him for it," says Professor Edwin T. Reed in the beautiful Oregon Agricultural College booklet "The Life Career," which is just off the press.

The volume describes in detail the value of purposeful vocational training and tells how it is provided in large measure at the college. The booklet contains 96 pages, profusely illustrated and is chock full of illuminating facts on the relation of well directed college work to well directed life work. Anyone who is interested and will take the time to read the book through carefully and examine the illustrations will have an excellent idea of the quality and extent of work done in agricultural schools. Concerning the career of the young man Professor Reed proceeds as follows:

"He can choose, for instance, to work in the national forest, building trails and marking boundaries, providing firebreaks, planting seeds for propagating new or different species of trees and grasses, and projecting plans for the most permanently profitable method of handling the timber; and he can find the services in a School of Forestry.

"He may aim to enter business, or follow the exacting but polished duties of a private secretary, and he will find the specific training for the technical duties of these vocations, as well as much helpful instruction in the largest problems of the work, in the various courses of a school of commerce.

"He may aspire to be an expert machinist, handling intricate and precise tasks of a worker in iron and steel, a maker of massive instruments as delicate in operation as the poised magnetic needle, and he will find in mechanical engineering exactly the training he desires.

"He may want to be a horticultural expert, to aid in the development of some potential Eden; to protect the fruit-wealth of an abundant common-wealth from the inroads of disease and the ravages of insect pests; or to engage in the mysteries of propagating new and wondrous fruits, and he will find in the school of agriculture the extended horticultural training that he needs.

"He may choose to rear fine horses, sheep, or dairy cattle or learn the varied and responsible duties of farm management, and he will find in the courses animal husbandry, dairy husbandry, and agronomy such training as will give him both confidence and enthusiasm for such a life career.

"He may wish to be a veterinarian, practicing the arts of medicine and surgery that save the lives of thousands of the dumb friends of humanity, and he will find in the courses in veterinary science both the theory and the practice to fit him for this humane service.

"He may have had an insight into the clay industries, and desire such scientific instruction as will enable him to engage in pottery making or to conduct a tile factory, and in the ceramics courses of the school of mines he will be given the instruction he requires.

"And thus through a score or more of useful vocations, as they are presented in a progressive land-grant College."

Alfalfa Belt Extended By Liming Sour Soils.

THAT the field of growing alfalfa on an extensive scale would be extended by applying lime to the acid soils of the Willamette Valley

and the Coast country, is the conclusion reached by Professor H. D. Scudder, agronomist at the Oregon Agricultural College. The reason for this is that the plant thrives best only in association with alfalfa bacteria, which are especially sensitive to acid conditions and do not exist in sufficient numbers in soils that are acid. With an occasional application of limestone to properly drained soils alfalfa makes a very satisfactory growth on soils where it now either fails entirely or does not thrive.

"Clover and even vetch do not succeed well on soils in these divisions of the state when sown on virgin land," says Professor Scudder. "While vetch, alsike and red clover, field peas and beans grow fairly well on the older soils of regions that have become self inoculated, their yield would be greatly increased by making the soils less acid.

"The heavy rainfalls of these sections and the lack of freezing weather in winter are natural causes of this lime deficiency. Lime is readily soluble in water and easily leached out of the soil. Sufficient trials have been made to show the valuable effects of returning a supply of lime for that which was leached out and lost by natural causes. This liming of the soils will not only increase production of the legumes, but it will be of the greatest importance in general crop production, since there can be no permanent soil fertility without some of the legumes."

Boys For Camp School.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY has arranged to send two boys, who may win first prizes in industrial projects, to the school and camp conducted by the State Department and the State Agricultural College at the State Fair in Salem next fall. By the terms of membership the school will be made up of two boys from each county, and these Multnomah boys are the first reported for membership by Superintendent J. A. Churchill.

Cane or Beet Sugar.

BET SUGAR is just as valuable in putting up jells, jams and other fruit products as cane sugar, according to the agricultural chemists at the Oregon Station. "Their composition and action are identical," says Professor H. V. Tartar, "and we have found that the two sugars may be used interchangeably." If this information reaches farmers and fruitmen quite generally it will enable them to go ahead with their canning and preserving in those districts in which either the one or the other kind of sugar is not available or is quoted at a higher price.

Girls Take Agriculture.

IN this year's graduating class at the Oregon Agricultural College two women received degrees in agriculture. These, the first women to be graduated in agriculture in the history of the college, are Miss Kate Failing, of Portland, and Miss Clara Nixon, of Trumansburg, N. Y. Miss Failing received her degree in general agriculture, and Miss Nixon, who came here from Cornell University, completed her course in poultry husbandry. During her college work Miss Nixon wrote a poultry bulletin on "Feeding Young Chickens."

Control Measures for Black Spot of Roses.

CONSIDERABLE concern is felt among rose fanciers regarding some of the fungous pests that attack their favorite ornamental, ac-

ording to inquiries received by the Plant Pathology department of the Oregon Agricultural College. Chief among the diseases is that commonly called "black spot," a trouble affecting the foliage and well characterized by the name.

Recommendations for control are (1), to gather and burn all leaves that have the spot, whether dead or still on the bush. This should be done sometime between late fall and the time new growth starts in the spring. This alone is not sufficient so it will be necessary (2), to use some good fungicide as a spray, applications to be made at intervals of about ten days or so that new foliage is kept covered, commencing as soon as the disease can be detected on the older leaves. Where only a few plants are to be treated potassium permanganate made by dissolving crystals in cold water and diluting until a pale rose-red solution is secured, may be used. Since this is rather expensive to use on a commercial scale a copper spray may be substituted. Bordeaux mixture has the disadvantage of leaving a deposit; the following ammonical solution of copper carbonate is recommended:

Water, 15 gallons; carbonate of copper, 2 ounces; strong ammonia, 1 pint. Make a thin paste of the copper carbonate in a little water, then slowly add ammonia until a deep blue solution is obtained. This should not become clouded when diluted with the water.

Sections Represented in Graduating Class.

GRADUATES of this year's class at the Agricultural College represented 21 different counties in Oregon with a total of 127 students. Next to Benton County, which furnished the largest number, comes Multnomah with 20 representatives. Marion County is next with 11. Then come Clackamas, Linn and Umatilla with 6 each; Hood River, Union and Yamhill with four each; Douglas, Jackson and Washington with 3 each; Lake, Lane, Polk, Wallowa and Wasco with 2 each, and Clatsop, Harney and Lincoln with 1 each.

There were also represented 11 states other than Oregon with a total of 38 students. California led with 20, followed by Washington with 7. New York and Idaho were each represented by two students, and Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Mississippi and Texas had one representative each.

There were but two graduates who are residents of foreign countries, and these both came from our neighboring state, Canada.

Work of County Agents Brings Good Results.

GOOD results of the work of county demonstration agents are beginning to appear," said Professor H. T. French, state leader of farm demonstration at the Oregon Agricultural College. "While it is impossible to measure the value of their most valuable accomplishments in dollars and cents, reports of 156 agents in the states of the northern and western parts of the United States show the value to farmers to be more than one and one tenth millions of dollars. The work they did in organization, co-operation, maintaining soil fertility, improving livestock herds and educational work is an investment for future benefits the value of which time only will show.

"During the part of the year 1913 in which they carried on their work these agents visited 40,683 farmers on their own farms, co-operated in agricultural betterment with one half that

number, addressed 6014 meetings and organized 757 co-operative bodies. They prepared and published 376 emergency circulars, 1174 timely articles for the press, and wrote 67,933 personal letters to farmers on local problems. More than 300,000 acres of field crops were grown under their direction.

"The agents supervised the planting and culture of thousands of acres of orchards, and gave spraying directions for many kinds of trees. They organized almost 3,000 farms, and made working plans and crop rotation systems for almost as many more. They were directly responsible for the building of 1,804 silos and the improvement of many homes. They assisted in the purchase of 719 registered sires and tested 16,027 cows for production. They were instrumental in the vaccination of 105,806 hogs for cholera, in many cases making the vaccination themselves.

"The system is new in Oregon but already work of the greatest value to farmers has been accomplished by the agents now in the field."

INSECTARY AT HOOD RIVER.

AN INSECTARY for the study of local insect pests will be established at Hood River by V. L. Saffro, assistant professor of entomology at the Oregon Agricultural College, who is stationed at Hood River for the summer. The purpose of the insectary is to secure exact information on the life history of insects that are pests in that district so that orchardists may see and study them in their various stages, and to learn as nearly as possible the time at which the different stages in their development is reached so that control measures can be applied most efficiently. It is expected that the information developed in this research work will be of great use in identifying and controlling the local insect enemies.

SUMMER SCHOOL FOR YOU.

THE summer school session at the Oregon Agricultural College is designed to help the people of Oregon in preparing themselves to do better and more satisfactory work and to do it more economically. For this reason all students who believe that they can profit by the instruction offered will be admitted without examination or request for credentials. "It is presumed that all who apply for admission have a serious purpose and are of good moral character," says Professor E. D. Resler, director of the Summer School. "College credits will be granted when requested, to the extent to which the work accomplished is equivalent to the standards demanded in the regular school year. The regular college registration fee of \$5 is the only tuition charged. Those attending fewer than six weeks will be charged \$1 per week. This one fee admits students to as many courses as they can profitably attend during the entire session."

Edinburgh, Scotland, last year sent the United States \$19,418 worth of glue.

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