

United States Agricultural Year Book

THE yearbook of the United States Department of Agriculture for 1913 has just come from the presses and is now being distributed to congressmen and to correspondents of the department entitled to receive copies. The new volume differs in several respects from its predecessors. The articles that it contains are in general of a more popular and instructive character, and although the book itself contains a smaller number of pages, it is safe to say that it has as much valuable material in it as ever.

In addition to the secretary's report there are 14 special articles by department experts and an appendix containing statistics of the principal crops; a table of the animals imported into the United States for breeding purposes for which certificates of pure breeding have been issued, and lists of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations in the United States together with the names of the state officials in charge of agriculture.

The book is illustrated by 54 full-page plates, of which a large number are reproduced in colors, and by 21 tables, maps, and line drawings.

In the articles in the yearbook the cost of living plays a prominent part. Dr. Pennington, for example, points out that Americans neglect a valuable source of food by failing to take advantage of the immense supply of fish at their disposal. The protein content of fish is fully as high as that of meat and yet although meat prices rise steadily little or no effort is made to use the cheaper substitute. It is the foreign population of the United States which eats the greater part of the fish consumed in this country. Dr. Pennington points out that the ordinary American is completely ignorant of the great variety of fish at his disposal. The cheapness of this food is also scarcely realized. Dr. Pennington names 10 staple varieties some of which it is safe to say can always be purchased for less than 10 cents a pound, even when prices are highest, and can usually be obtained for less than 5 cents.

Another article by W. F. Ward shows how greatly the beef industry in the south has profited from the work of eradicating the cattle tick. One indication of the growing interest in beef industry in this section is the large number of farmers who for the first time are buying pure bred cattle.

The business side of farming is considered in two articles by W. J. Spillman and T. N. Carver: Factors of efficiency in farming, and the organization of rural interests. Prof. Spillman finds that in the last analysis the farmer himself is the determining factor in every successful agricultural enterprise. He is as quick to see the advantages of a new system of management as he is those in improved methods of tilling the soil or feeding his stock. Dr. Carver tells with the aid of graphic maps what has already been done in the way of organizing co-operative enterprises for the benefit of farmers. Mutual insurance companies, co-operative creameries, cheese factories and elevators are among some of these widespread enterprises.

Other articles deal with various branches of the work of the department ranging in subject from a discussion by C. F. Langworthy of what the department does for the housekeeper to an article on the practical value of entomology by F. M. Webster. Prof. F. E. L. Beal has gathered material for an article on American Thrushes which shows that they are not to be prized for their song alone but are in other ways of real assistance to the farmer, and J. E. Collins tells of practical tree surgery. More strictly agricultural papers are those of C. R. Ball on the grain sorghums, L. H. Dewey on hemp, R. O. E. Davis on economic waste from soil erosion and W. A. Taylor and H. P. Gould on promising new fruits. The present health laws and their relation to the department are explained by F. G. Caffey, and, finally, A. D. Melvin contributes an article on the South American meat industry.

A city of New York State has been sued for \$2,000 damages for the loss of a boy's finger in a public school. The boy was directed by the teacher to shut the door. As he was doing so the door slammed shut, and one of the boy's fingers was so badly crushed that it had to be amputated.

MINISTER'S EXPERIENCE TOLD

Rev. Mr. Dunsmore, pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Independence, was quoted to say that after 25 years' active work for prohibition in Kansas, Iowa and Oregon, he had reached a conclusion that the results obtained are worse than the original condition.

James Clark, of Springfield, was named ex-officio member of the State Board of the Hop Growers and Dealers' Association of Oregon.

John Edmunson, of Eugene, was named chairman of the Lane County Division, organized today. The organization will be an active factor against the state-wide prohibition movement.

Industry at Stake in Vote.

"The climate and soil of Western Oregon make hop growing a natural industry," said Colonel E. Hofer, of Salem. "The whole world is demanding our products. The hop industry is declining elsewhere in the United States. Within ten years this industry will be located in the Willamette Valley and will make it the most prosperous region in all the world.

"We are putting this industry up to a popular vote under the name of prohibition. An industry worth \$25,000,000

will, in the opinion of experts, be destroyed without compensation if Oregon joins the ranks of prohibition states. If these people had to pay the hop growers of Oregon for the destruction of this property, the enthusiasm of the dry campaign would expire prematurely." (Paid Advertisement.)

worth \$300 an acre, employs 50,000 people part of the year and brings \$6,000,000 into the state annually.

Eastern brewers, they say, have stated that they will boycott a state which has no exchange market.

(Paid Advertisement.)

FIGHT IS CONTINUED AGAINST "DRY" STATE

Industry Worth \$25,000,000 Would Be Ruined, Say Hop Men at Eugene Meeting.

BREWERS' BOYCOTT IS FEARED

\$6,000,000 Brought Into Oregon Yearly Threatened, Assert Speakers—Minister Quoted as Saying Prohibition Results Are Bad.

Eugene, Or., June 20.—(Special.)—Opposition to state-wide prohibition, as destructive to the \$25,000,000 hop industry in Oregon, was expressed by 100 hop growers and dealers in session here today. The speakers included Mrs. M. J. Tibbetts, of Eugene, who said she had reared two girls and four boys, and that none of them had been harmed by the industry in which she has participated for a quarter of a century.

The hop men favored the local and county option, but declared that state-wide prohibition will destroy the industry, which utilizes 26,000 acres of land

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