

The Agricultural College Is a Friend to the Farmer

Page of News Notes and Interesting Articles Written by College Experts



VIEW OF OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AT CORVALLIS, OR. ITS SOLE AIM IS TO AID AGRICULTURISTS.

Conference Week at O. A. C.

To place some of the leading related facts of Oregon's most important agricultural and rural social conditions in a single picture wherein each is portrayed as it is and also in its relation to other great events, is one object that the Agricultural College Extension division had in preparing the work for Farmers' Week.

The instructional work is offered in the belief that it is of sufficient value to the people of the state to justify them in coming to the Agricultural College to attend the exercises. The lectures and demonstrations will be practical and to the point. The subject matter will be of interest and profit to farmers, business men, housewives, and all men and women interested in the advancement of the industrial progress, the social betterment and the general welfare of the state.

A number of conferences will be held during the sessions for the consideration of particular interests. A serious attempt has been made to outline plans of campaign which will be effective in securing results during the next year.

Everything possible will be done to make it pleasant and profitable for those who attend the exercises. Committees of the faculty and students will meet guests at the trains and assist them to secure accommodations. Throughout the week guides will be available to assist those who wish to inspect the college plant.

Ample and suitable accommodations will be available at very reasonable rates. The hotels of the city, the student rooming and boarding-houses and the college dormitories will be open for service.

Farm Livestock Interests.

Monday—Meat demonstration with live animals, by J. E. Forrestel, Union Meat Company, Portland, Or.

Tuesday—"The Housing of Sheep," by E. L. Potter; "Recent Progress in the Marketing of Wool," by O. M. Nelson; shearing demonstration by C. E. Robinson, assisted by professional shearers; "Fitting of Sheep for Show," C. M. Hubbard; "Sheep-Breeding Problem in the Willamette Valley," Frank Brown.

Wednesday—Judging market classes of cattle, by E. L. Potter; "Cattle Feeding Experiments at the Eastern Oregon Experiment Station," Robert Withycombe; "Capital and Equipment in Beef Production," E. L. Potter; organization of Willamette Valley Shorthorn Association; "The Early Days of Shorthorn Breeding in Oregon," by George Gammie; "Present Day Shorthorn Cattle and Shorthorn Breeders," by Frank Brown; "The Small Breeder in the Production of Shorthorn Cattle," by A. D. Dunn.

Thursday—Market classes of hogs, by E. L. Potter; "Hog Feeding Experiments at the Oregon Experiment Station at Corvallis," by G. R. Asmson; "What the Farmer Can Do to Prevent Hog Cholera," by Dr. W. H. Lytle; "Hog Feeding Experiments at the Eastern Oregon Experiment Station," by Robert Withycombe; meat demonstrations by William Constantine, Portland, Or.

Friday—"Methods of Horse Feeding in Oregon," by E. L. Potter; lecture and demonstration on unsoundness in horses, by Dr. B. T. Simms; judging draft horses, by C. N. Kennedy; "Artificial Impregnation and

the Physiology of Breeding," by Dr. B. T. Simms; organization of Horse Breeders' Association of Oregon. Friday night, horse show.

Saturday—Special programme for the Oregon Pure-Bred Livestock Breeders' Association; "Grading Livestock and the Market for Pure-Bred Sires," by E. L. Potter; "Breeding for Economical Production," by G. R. Samson; "Breeding for Wool Production," by O. M. Nelson.

School Officers to Confer.

The first three days of Farmers' week will be of special interest to County Superintendents and Supervisors. On Monday, February 1, Mr. O. H. Benson, agriculturist for the United States Department of Agriculture and specialist in boys' and girls' club work, will be at the college. Having been a County School Superintendent himself and having had more experience in boys' and girls' club work than anyone else in America, Mr. Benson will have many good, practical talks in store for those who can attend. Mr. Benson is also a specialist in canning, and he will demonstrate the latest methods of canning fruits, vegetables and meats on both days.

On Tuesday the conference of local and county fair workers will be held, and this work will be of very great interest to all County Superintendents.

On Wednesday afternoon, February 3, will be held a conference on "The Rural School as a Community Center." The speakers at this meeting will include President Showalter, of the Cheney Normal School; State Superintendent J. A. Churchill, Dr. Joseph Schafer and Professor H. T. French, O. A. C.

On the forenoons of each of these three days college specialists will give demonstrations and lectures on the teaching of agriculture, manual training and household economies in rural schools.

Road Builders' Conference.

The purpose of the road builders' conference is to bring together in mutual aid and conference the Road Supervisors, County Judges, County Commissioners and other citizens interested in securing the most efficient construction, management and maintenance of our public roads. It is hoped that this meeting can be made of very great assistance to all Road Supervisors of the state, and especially so to the newly-appointed ones who are now taking up their work. Every effort will be put forth to make the meeting instructive along practical lines. It is not the intention to cover a very wide range of subjects, but to do what we do attempt in such a way that each one will feel well repaid for his attendance.

In order that the programme may be of the greatest interest and value to those attending, the college, in the preparation of the same, has invited the advice and co-operation of the County Judges of Lane, Linn and Benton counties.

Anyone desiring information upon any question relating to roads or bridges is invited to hand in the same as early as possible and an answer will be given either at one of the periods devoted to questions or privately, as may seem best.

The testing laboratories will be running on samples of local material with plenty of assistants in charge to answer all questions and give the necessary information to visitors. Visitors will be supplied at the door with microscopical copies or printed descriptions of the tests being run and the proper interpretation of results, the purpose being to show the practical value of the tests in determining the value of the material for road purposes.

Work in Horticulture.

The division of horticulture during Farmers' week will conduct three

special days in addition to lectures which will be given the three remaining days.

One of the special days will be the by-products day. Mr. W. S. Brown will tell about work of the Northwest by-products committee, of which he is a member. Professor C. I. Lewis will give an address on "Establishing and Maintaining the Cannery." Mr. F. S. Brown will give his latest findings on loganberry juice, and also his recent investigations on the evaporation of fruits and vegetables. Professor A. G. Bouquet will take up "Vegetables for the Cannery."

The division has decided to have a prune day. The topics will be: "Pruning the Prune," V. R. Gardner; "New Prunes and Plums for Oregon," C. I. Lewis; Professor Lewis has been getting some special statistics on varieties of prunes and plums for canning, evaporating and shipping for Oregon conditions. Mr. F. R. Brown will give an address on standardizing and drying the prune, in which he will give some notes on the two years' investigation of this subject. Mr. W. S. Brown, field man in horticulture, will give a lecture on the prune outlook. Mr. Brown the past summer has visited many prune orchards and obtained much data concerning the problems which the prune-grower has to face.

The third day will be devoted to pruning and will be a very unique programme. Dr. Atwood, of the botany department, will give an address on "Plant Physiology as Related to Pruning." This will be followed by an address by Professor E. J. Kraus on "The Study of Fruit Buds," which will deal with fruiting habits of trees, variety characteristics and factors that control the bearing habits. Professor V. R. Gardner will lecture on "Pruning the Bearing Tree."

The addresses start at 8 o'clock in the morning. In addition to lectures listed there will be one on "Nuts," one on "Strawberries" and one on "Cane Fruits" by W. S. Brown. "Fruit-Marketing Problems" will be handled by Professor C. I. Lewis; "Pollination of Fruits," E. J. Kraus; "Plant Breeding for Practical Fruit and Vegetable Grower," V. R. Gardner; "The Outlook for Intensive Farm Crops, Onions, Celery, Cauliflower, Tomatoes," etc., A. G. Bouquet. Professor A. L. Peck will give two illustrated lectures on "Landscape Gardening Applying to Rural Conditions."

On Tuesday and Wednesday there will be a conference of fruit inspectors to consider matters of interest in connection with inspection and quarantine of horticultural products.

Conference on City Markets.

"The Public or City Market and Its Relations to the Farmer" will be the subject of one of the conferences of farmers during Farmers' week of this year at the Oregon Agricultural College.

In holding such a conference at this time we feel that we are undertaking the discussion of a subject that is of the greatest importance to every producer, namely that of the disposition of the goods. It is desired that the question of the relation of the public or city market be considered from every viewpoint and angle, both toward the producer and the consumer. For this reason it is planned to have present at this conference representatives of all bodies who are personally interested in the city market and its activities.

The reports of city markets the state over will form a leading part of the discussion; reports of city market masters or those who have been largely instrumental in caring for the market will be heard and considered; also reports of producers catering to the market will be freely discussed.

The morning of the conference will be given over to various members of the college agricultural staff discussing the marketing of the various kinds of farm produce at the city market, Instructor Samson dealing with the meat market, Instructor Lamb the marketing of poultry and

poultry products, and Instructor Bouquet discussing methods of marketing horticultural products.

Agronomy Conference.

The conference of the seed growers, potato growers and those interested in land drainage in this state, all three of which have been called to meet during Farmers' week, promise to be well attended if correspondence coming in to the department of agronomy at the present time is any indication. Farmers from every part of the state are showing interest in these three conferences, although, as might be expected, the drainage conference will attract its largest attendance from the Willamette Valley.

The potato growers, however, hail from every portion of Oregon, and Eastern Oregon is by no means unrepresented with seed-growers. A considerable amount of alfalfa seed is produced in Eastern Oregon and it is of good quality, while some seed potatoes are also grown and considerable seed grain. The vetch seed and clover seed and potato seed growers of the Willamette Valley will be in attendance in numbers.

The programme for all three conferences are practically completed and are strong and interesting. In both the seed growers' and potato growers' conference some of the more important subjects already placed on the programme are:

"Present Markets and New Possibilities for Oregon-Grown Seed and for the Oregon Potato," "Breeding Methods for the Production of High-Grade Seed," "Standardization of Oregon Seed Crops," "Seed Production From the Practical Growers' Standpoint," "Seed Crops and Potatoes From the Standpoint of the Buyer and Warehouseman," "Potato Disease and Insect Control," "Manufacturing Possibilities for the Potato," etc.

Every important seed crop in the state will be given consideration. Oregon is unusually well favored, both from the standpoint of climate and soil conditions and as to market possibilities, for high-class and very profitable seed production, and the seed-growing industry should be greatly developed. The purpose of the conference is to show just how this development may proceed.

The drainage conference will take up not only the costs and methods of drainage as related to the individual farm and the experiences and results of many practical farmers who have profitably undertaken drainage, but also will give attention to the subject of district drainage—the costs and procedure in connection with organization for the same.

Dairy Convention.

The leading speaker for the dairy convention during Farmers' week will be Professor C. H. Eckles, chief of the dairy department of the University of Missouri. Professor Eckles is perhaps the foremost authority on matters pertaining to dairy production in the United States. Professor Eckles has conducted many experiments with dairy cattle, the results of which have attracted wide attention and have been of much importance to the dairy industry.

He is the man who a few years ago discovered that a cow carrying a great deal of flesh at the time of freshening and fed lightly for a few weeks thereafter would draw from this body flesh to supply nutrients for the production of milk and that this milk will contain an abnormally high percentage of fat, showing that many of the large present day tests are a direct result of this high fat content of the milk.

A few years ago he went abroad and studied dairy conditions in the European countries. He comes here almost direct from Massachusetts, where he addressed the Massachusetts State Dairymen's Association. Professor Eckles will address the Oregon Jersey Cattle Club and the Oregon Holstein Breeders' Association.

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A page of interesting items from the Oregon Agricultural College at Corvallis will alternate in the farm weekly with a page of news notes from the Washington State College at Pullman. This will afford an interchange of views from the two big agricultural colleges of the Northwest that should prove of benefit to the reader, for the institutions deal with similar problems.