

# FARM BUREAU NEWS

(From the Morrow County Farm Bureau News.)

## Thoughts for the Busy Sheepman

(Continued from last month.)  
The sheepmen of the United States have been a live organization for many years. It is feared that while they have accomplished a great deal yet in the real problem facing them they have made little progress. They have not been ignorant of the facts of the case and ten years ago the National Association organized the Chicago Wool Warehouse, to handle the selling end of the sheepmen's business. It has done all that could be expected, but there is need of a more wide-spread and united combination of growers in this line. When the half of the wool is sold to speculators at any available price the market is weakened to a very serious extent, and yet cooperative wool selling has been a great success.

## United States A Heavy Importing Nation

If we were forced to invade the foreign markets with our wool we would of course be governed locally by the foreign prices. Such however, is not the case. We import about 1-2 of our wool and all we have to do is to determine what is a reasonable price and ask it and wait—wait till we get it. Organization will make this possible.

## Will You Continue To Gamble On Your Wool?

If you mean to do so at least play safe instead of playing the other fellow's game, every man bidding against his neighbors for the privilege of selling your wool as you have in the past. Be honest now, that is what it amounts to. Go in with him and each one get a square deal. The other fellow buying your wool is entitled to buy it as cheap as possible and means to bid when you have to sell. Beat him to it. Be prepared to sell to him when he must buy.

## Wool Pools Do Succeed

Illinois last year cleared \$300,000 by pooling their wool. One 1,000,000 pound pool from Iowa sent to the Growers Warehouse last year netted 18 cents per pound more than was paid to the farmers selling the same grade of wool to local buyers. Another pool from Utah had the same experience. That 18 cents per pound would go pretty well in the ordinary sheepman's bank account. We doubt if it would cause any complaint. We cannot of course guarantee what a wool-pool will really get for the people of Morrow county, but we sincerely believe that it will net you every cent there is in the deal.

## Selling Lambs

Another item that cannot be ignored is the marketing of sheep and lambs. This is a problem that should have careful study. Illinois and Iowa are doing more in cooperative selling of lambs than any other States and we can gain much from them. Let us get our heads together and work out a plan to fit the occasion. You each have your own ideas, they are all more or less practical and all together if we are so minded they will get results.

## What About the Water Shortage

The State Engineer has issued a statement that from all appearances the coming season appears to be the shortest for irrigation for many years. And we have had some pretty short ones. We sincerely hope that they will send us a lot of rain if we can have no water. We must get busy on these storage reservoirs and get something definite done.

## Makes Good

"Sunflower Silage Is Satisfactory," Says Lemhi Co., Ida., Agent, L. E. Tillotson.

The cattle on the C. A. Norton ranch are in better condition, and are making better gains this year than ever before. Mr. Norton attributes this all to the feeding of sunflower silage, which is the chief ration of his stock this winter.

Mr. Norton has the honor of having the first silo constructed in Lemhi county. This silo is of 200 tons capacity, and contains about 120 tons of first class sunflower silage. The sunflowers were grown on six acres, part of which was old and part new land. The old alfalfa land produced 30 tons to the acre, while the new land only produced 25 tons to the acre. Mr. Norton states that "sunflowers should be grown only on well worked, rich soil. The sunflowers make a rank growth and need plenty of plant food to make the best silage crop."

The cost of producing a ton of silage is low in comparison with other crops. Mr. Norton states that his cost of growing the crop was from 50 cents to 75 cents per ton, and the expense of putting this in the silo was about \$2 per ton. In comparison with \$30 hay, sunflower silage is worth about \$20 per ton.

Cattle turn away from good alfalfa hay on the Norton ranch and eat only silage until it is all cleaned up. About 50 pounds per day is being fed to mature stock, and about 20 pounds per day to the young animals. This feed is supplemented by a small ration of ground corn. The cows show a marked increase in the milk flow. A number of silos will be constructed in Lemhi county this year, and the Farm Bureau is planning a

silage campaign under its dairy project. Twenty acres of good irrigated land in Lemhi county will produce 20 tons of alfalfa hay and from 6 to 10 acres will produce 100 tons of sunflower silage. This will give 20 cows all the feed they will eat from the 15th of September to May 15th following. With 30 to 40 acres of permanent pasture 20 good dairy cows, with a butterfat market averaging 50 cents will produce an average of 25 pounds of butterfat each for 10 months in the year, or 250 pounds to the cow, or \$125 for each cow. The land under this system will be more productive at the end of five years than when starting.

More good dairy cows, more alfalfa, more silos and modern dairy barns will put Lemhi county to the front.

**A Lard Pail-Sprouter.**  
Poultry raisers who feed sprouted oats to their flocks have difficulty in keeping the feed in proper condition, without going to a great deal of expense. By using wooden lard or butter containers, which may be obtained at any grocery store, the trouble can be easily avoided. A hole is bored in the side of the pail near the bottom and a wooden plug provided for it.

In use, the oat sprouter is filled with oats, the hole is plugged and water poured over the grain. The pails must be kept in a dark, rather warm place, to encourage the sprouting. After the grain is thoroughly soaked, which usually requires several hours, the plug is removed from the hole in the pail and the water allowed to flow out. At least one pail should be kept empty all the time; this makes it possible to change the oats from time to time, thus preventing them from spoiling.

This system is highly recommended, as being both cheap and effective.  
ROBERT S. CLAY.

## What About Weed Control?

Farmers in Sherman county are making a special project of controlling the weeds in the fields and along the road. There is no question but that this is a very important proposition. These men in Sherman county have been working the matter for a year or two with more or less success. It is a very greivous proposition to have a lot of weeds blow along a lot of otherwise perfectly clean summerfallow. What do the farmers of Morrow county think about controlling their weeds this year? Write to the County Agent your opinion and see if we can work anything out of it.

## How Deep to Plow

This is the time of year when every farmer is stading his plow, usually making a very thorough personal inspection thereof. Some people this spring are not plowing over 4 inches deep, we hope not very many. There is a difference of opinion among farmers as to how deep people should plow, especially here in Morrow county. In Umatilla and Sherman counties the successful farmers of the north-west wheat there seems to be very little argument. All the farmers there make a practice of setting their plows pretty deep in the ground, some big farmers go to the length of saying that it all depends on plowing deep. We doubt if this is true. However, we do believe that the greater part of the successful farmers of the north-west will agree that we should plow 8 to 10 inches. We think that it is probably true that we shouldn't make all this change at one time, but if in the habit of plowing 6 inches plow 7 at one time, then 8 another, then 9, then 10, then set back up to 6, that you would be better off than to make all the change at one time. We are however, willing to hand you this statement that one of the reasons that Morrow county wheat land don't produce as high on an average as the neighboring counties is largely because of poor plowing. Another practice which is largely being overcome is late plowing, many farmers in the northern part of the county being nearly through plowing already. A very large percent of the plowing for the summerfallow will be done this year by the first of April, which in view of the spring is very gratifying. From Lexington towards the south good summerfallow may be gotten by plowing as late as the fifteenth of April, where the moisture is considerably heavier. There is no doubt that early summerfallow like the early bird is what catches the worm.

**Sacks and Sacks!!**  
This is the last call for sacks for this season. A great many farmers have already given in tentative orders, we will at the Executive meeting on the 27th, have definite figures on the price of sacks. We know that it is going to range somewhere from 18 to 21 or 22 cents. The price is high, there is no real reason to doubt that it will be higher. We think that every farmer should buy at least a part of a sack, he will get the very best possible bid. We have four firms who have agreed to submit by wire at the time specified, we will expect every farmer to place 15 per cent of the purchase price of the sack. If you have not already taken the matter up with the County Agent don't delay any longer. We must close this order on the fifth of April. Anyone having sent in their statement in writing or in person will be taken care of, a very large number of farmers have already signified their intention of doing this.

## A New World Record Cow

The Pacific Homestead contains quite an article this last week regarding a new world record cow, and this time the title is not in Oregon. Prior to this time the highest producing butter fat cow in the world was a Jersey owned by Pickard Bros. near Marion Station in the Willamette Valley. Now clear across the Atlantic seaboard in the town of Bangor, Me., there is another Jersey, registered Jersey of course, called just plain "Mary" that has finally completed a test after careful supervision by as many as twenty-two experts giving a total yearly yield of 1,040 pounds of butterfat. This supercedes the record made by the wonderful Viva La France by only 8 1-3 pounds. This next season Viva La France goes on a new record test and many people hope that she will produce as high as 1200 pounds of butter-fat. Where is the limit in butter-fat production?

## How About A Balanced Ration

Many farmers in feeding their cattle do not use balanced ration, they simply feed hay and grain and what ever happens to come handy and never bother about ration. However, passing this joke it is barely possible that it is worth while to consider some of the things that really enter into the constituents of balanced ration. No farmer would start out to feed his cows nothing but wheat and corn and barley, neither would he start out to feed his children nothing but potatoes, he would not even call potatoes and beans a balanced ration for his children. What does make a balanced ration for cattle depends somewhat on the climate in which they are living, somewhat upon the requirements expected from the cow, but at the Boardman Institute, Professor Pitts gave some points that divorced from their technical terms are of considerable importance. He made very clear that alfalfa was not a complete ration for cattle, neither for beef nor for milk production, neither is it a balanced ration for sheep. Some kind of grain is absolutely necessary. We were very agreeably surprised to find that he classed corn as in the first rank and exceeded only by molasses as a balance of ration to go with the alfalfa hay. It has three points which are of considerable importance. In the first place its scientific combinations are correct; second, it is more readily relished by cattle and sheep than either barley or wheat; third, it is cheaper than either. Therefore, all farmers interested in feeding sheep or cattle would do well to investigate the corn situation for next year.

## Poison Some More Rabbits

The spring is nearly here, your wheat is coming up and the rabbits are still around on the edge of the fields, at least there are a few in the grain section that were not caught. They will show up and they will take plenty of toll unless they are taken care of. Remember that last year we had very great success in a mixture of salt and strychnine for rabbits during the growing season, this will be a good bait any time from now on. Use one ounce of strychnine, to 15 ounces of salt, and one ounce of brown sugar, using bulk measures rather than weight. This can be put in hollowed sticks or in blocks of wood in which holes are bored and left around so that the rabbits can get them and still be pretty safe from stock. If you have to scatter this out on the range, and are rather worried, use poisoned stakes; this has given exceptional results in very many places, and in Deschutes county is considered the major rabbit poison. To do this take one ounce of strychnine and dissolve in six quarts of water, then put in as much salt as the water will dissolve, then stand your stakes on end, using stakes of soft pine about one inch square, and boil four or five inches of the top of the stake in this strong solution of strychnine and salt for an hour and one-half. Let your stakes fairly dry then drive in the ground in the vicinity of rabbit harbors. The rabbit will chew these stakes as far down as the salt penetrated the wood. You will find that this will give satisfactory results and is a very satisfactory method of protecting the grain fields.

## Squirrel Poison

The first lot is already gone and another lot is ready mixed. Come one, come all, come great and small, will mix enough to suit you all. We have examined quotations from other Farm Bureaus and find that we are apparently several cents cheaper than other counties, but see who compose the Morrow County Farm Bureau.

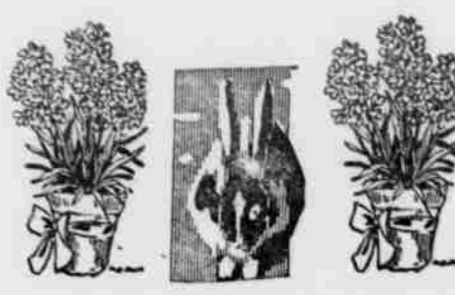
## County Fair

Everybody Boost, Everybody Buy Stock, Everybody Bring Exhibits. Through the activities of the Farm Bureau a plan has been evolved to scatter the stock for the Fair all over the county. If everybody helps it will not cost anyone much. We are entitled to a good fair, not a makeshift; good fairs pay—yes, and pay dividends too. This can pay everything back in four or five years. Let's all do our part. Start now.

## Farm Record Book

Are you going to keep records this year? Do you mean to know what it costs you to raise a bushel of wheat, to plow an acre of ground? What will you do when the income tax collector calls on you next year? Better make a new resolution and cut out the guess work. Get one of the Farm Bureau Books. We believe that we have the best Farm Record Book ever published. Call and see it.

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A band of young ewes after shearing. Write H. J. Colman, Omak, Wa.  
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## The Poor Man's Nest Egg

There is no one who deserves relatively greater benefit from a savings account than the poor man, whose savings are necessarily small, but who may gradually get a little money ahead by the smallest savings, and will find the nest egg of great value to him if he should suddenly be deprived of work and income.

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- FUEL TANK: 30 gallons capacity. System for low grade fuel.
- COOLING: Force feed pump and fan.
- ENGINE PROTECTION: Double three-point suspension of power plant and tread units.
- BRAKES: Expanding type. 24 inches in diameter. Lined with Thermoid Hydraulic Compressed Brake Lining.
- PULLEY: 10 inch diameter, 8 inch face. Belt can be attached from front or rear.
- AIR CLARIFIER: Air intake of carburetor protected against dust.

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