

SEED TESTING MEANS IMPROVEMENT OF CROPS

Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station at Corvallis is Aiding Oregon Farmers.

O. A. C. Experiment Station, Corvallis, May 21.—Farmers all over the state have taken advantage of the opportunity to have seeds tested for purity, germination, and identification this year to a larger extent than ever before. Samples received since July 1, 1919 number 2,643 while last year the figure was 1,495.

Farmers and commercial seed growers are beginning to realize the great difference in crop results obtained from tested seed, and are increasing their farm production. Extensive examination has been made by the station of the northwest which includes Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah, Montana, and Wyoming. This is the region designated by the government to be served by these laboratories. Seedsmen, individuals, county agents, and others have sent in samples.

As custom houses are not permitted to allow most forage crop seed to enter without passing the germination and purity tests, a quantity of forage crop seed is sent from the custom houses in Montana, Seattle and Portland, respectively. Approximately 125 samples have been sent in by the custom houses.

The test for vitality is one of the outstanding helps. The percentage of foreign seed is not only determined in the purity test, but the seed itself is identified. Tests for purity have been largely with alfalfa, red clover, white clover, alsike clover, sweet clover, crimson clover, and vetch. Grasses such as English Rye grass, Italian Rye grass, Orchard grass, Timothy, Kentucky Blue grass, Canada Blue grass, Red Top, and Fescue, also receive the purity test. Cereals are tested.

The purity test is made on the percentage basis, determining the amount of weed and foreign seed and of inert matter. In tests for germination, a count of the original number of seed is taken, and then the number of sprouts of each seed. The largest part of the germination work has been in testing vegetable seed.

Neighbors of Woodcraft Making Remarkable Growth Here

Maple Circle, No. 259, Neighbors of Woodcraft, is experiencing a remarkable growth, the number of active members now being 165. Three new members were initiated last Saturday evening.

Maple Circle has ever been one of the leading fraternal orders of the city and much of the success of the lodge's endeavors is due to the untiring efforts of its members and more especially the work of the secretary, Rosa B. Richardson.

The lodge has attractive insurance features with small dues and assessments. In case of death of a member, there is a standing appropriation of \$100 which goes toward buying a proper monument to erect over the grave of the deceased. All insurance claims are paid with the utmost promptness. The late Mrs. Louretta Yeager had been a member of the order for many years. She carried \$1000 insurance. This was paid within a few days after Mrs. Yeager's death.

Seniors of High School Enjoy Fine Picnic in the Mountains

Then Senior Class of 1920, Heppner high school, journeyed to Reid's Mill in the mountains last Friday, where they had a most enjoyable picnic party. They were chaperoned by Mrs. L. N. Traver and Mrs. Chester Darbee. Members of the class attending were Alma and Etta Devin, Bernice Githens, Edythe Boyd, Ruth Huddleston, Odile Groshens, Everett Pattison and Herbert Hynd. As a reward for their work in the recent class play of the Seniors, Alvin Boyd and Raymond Ferguson, lower classmen, were guests. Louis Burlingame of the faculty took his car and aided in transportation. Elizabeth Phelps, Cyrene Llewallen, Violet Corrigal, Margaret Doherty and Mae French were members of the class who were unable to participate in the picnic.

Ione People Will Visit Old Home in the East

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Wilson will leave the first of next week for the East, where they expect to spend the summer visiting with relatives. Mr. Wilson, who has been a prominent wheat grower of the Ione section for many years, recently disposed of the larger part of his holdings there. They will stop first at Mr. Wilson's old home in Ohio and from there will go on to Woodlawn, Virginia to spend the summer at Mrs. Wilson's old home. The family will return West in the late summer and spend next winter in California. The Wilsons were in Heppner Monday, where the young son underwent an operation for the removal of adenoids.

Local Superintendent Chosen to Head Enterprise Schools

D. W. Boltz, superintendent of the Heppner schools for the last two years, has been elected to the superintendency of the Enterprise, Wallawa county, schools for the coming year. Mr. Boltz goes to his new position highly recommended by the patrons and directors of school district No. 1. He expects to move his family to Enterprise just as soon as he can secure a house. His successor here has not yet been chosen.

GOOD ROADS GREATEST AID TO DEVELOPMENT

The only thing in Oregon from which the tax payers derive any benefit without any cost to themselves is good roads, according to Charles Hall, of Marshfield, president of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce, referring to the proposed constitutional amendment raising the state bonding limit from two to four per cent, to be voted upon May 21 at the primary election.

"The people of Oregon should make this measure carry unambiguously," said Mr. Hall. "Good roads build up the state and the time has come for us to get out of the mud. When the good-road movement was started there were only 39,000 automobiles in the state, and now there are 56,000 registered to date.

"Good roads in one community inspire other communities to build them and greater efforts along the lines of advancement should be put in action at once. The automobile license fees and gasoline tax are sufficient to pay interest on and retire any bonds which may be issued under the proposed amendment, and the money from these bonds will match federal aid, of which \$2,629,555 remains unclaimed, as all available funds are exhausted by being spent or contracted. In addition, whatever would be appropriated under the proposed bill before congress, which is sure to result in Oregon having the opportunity to claim more than \$5,000,000, would be lost.

"The cost of good roads to a farmer is easy to figure out, but the cost of bad roads to the same individual is hard to determine. A farmer living at Meadow Lake stated that bad roads cost him 50 cents a bushel to haul out his potato crop, which, of course, is ultimately paid by the consumer at his table. Never have the markets paid higher prices, and the farmers want to get their products to market to sell them.

"Oregon had a great influx of people coming to invest and settle down following the Lewis and Clark Exposition, which they had previously visited. Persons passing through Oregon will inquire about the roads, and if they learn that the road building program has stopped, their interest in the state will be greatly diminished if not lost."

Sheep and Wool Conditions Look Good to R. J. Carsner

The sheep and wool situation does not look bad to R. J. Carsner, south end stockman who spent Saturday here on business. Mr. Carsner views the future of the industry with optimism, and while he thinks that the sheepman cannot expect to clean up any money this year on account of the expensive winter just passed through, he looks for prices to hold up well. Mr. Carsner has only one regret. He is wheeling for the legislature over in Wheeler county unopposed and is therefore denied the opportunity to spend a lot of money in getting elected.

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Notice to Knights of Pythias.
All Knights will meet at the I. O. O. F. Hall on Sunday morning, May 23, and will march from there in a body to the Christian church to attend the Memorial services.
CHAS. THOMSON,
H. F. TASH,
THOS. BOYD, Committee.

Capt. Wood Briggs Again a Chautauqua Visitor



The fiery oratory of the old South which has proved to be the natural heritage of many of the statesmen and educators of below the Mason and Dixon line, is still alive. This priceless possession is naturally called to the Chautauqua platform where its possessor can meet and sway the greatest of all present day assemblies.

The Chautauqua management is glad to announce Captain Wood Briggs is a new lecture, "Keep off the Grass." This lecture is a careful presentation of the relationship of the English speaking peoples. Captain Briggs will speak on the third afternoon.

Fifty acres a day is turning the soil over pretty fast, but that is just what John Bergstrom has been doing with the Holt tractor on the Frank Anderson ranch. Mr. Bergstrom, who was in town Saturday, reports crop conditions excellent.



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