

# Farm Activities

FROM THE "MORROW COUNTY FARM BUREAU NEWS"

## CLUB WORK FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

By R. B. WILCOX, Lexington

During the year 1921-22 ten thousand boys and girls in Oregon, not only joined some club, but completed their work. Morrow county, I am sorry to say, furnished very few. If any, of those boys and girls. It is the sincere desire of the writer of this article, and the purpose of the writing, to try and arouse an interest in this work. When boys and girls and their parents come to understand the advantages and pleasure of this work, they will need no further coaxing.

In the school where I was principal last year every boy and girl old enough was doing club work, and the only trouble I had was to keep them from undertaking too many projects. The last 3 years I have put in the most of my spare time working with a county leader in organizing and furthering club work. When club work is first mentioned in a community I notice a tolerating indifference. As soon as a few boys and girls become interested and seriously undertake the work I find they are continually coming back for more.

We might say that club work is a correspondence study helped out by actual instruction by specialists.

Club work is carried on throughout the United States. Thru this work instruction in the projects favorable to a locality may be secured. Help from competent specialists is available at times also.

As an example: Five or more boys or girls in a community wish to organize a pig club. They must select their officers, elect a local leader, and send to the extension department at O. A. C. for their instructions. These are sent to them and contain the instructions as to care and handling of pigs. Reports from time to time must be filled out and sent in and further instructions will be sent until the course is completed. During this time an expert on this project will visit and give instruction and criticism on the work the boys and girls have done. By the time they have actually fed pigs, made out reports about pigs, and talked pigs in their club meetings, I don't think they would give the kind of an answer I found given in an eighth grade state examination some time ago. I corrected the papers for a certain county that year in the final examination and this is the answer I got on one paper to the question, "name two breeds of hogs." This boy I suppose after careful thought was able to think of only one breed and wrote "Razorbacks."

Almost all endeavors in the home and on the farm are included in some project of club work. There are 17 different projects at the present time. The work is free to all boys and girls from 9 to 18 years of age. The information given out is practical—the best available and valuable for young and old alike.

I enjoy along with my children their club work. Some will say "I can teach these things to my children." I have noticed a tendency sometimes on the part of some parents to construe club work as meddling too much with home affairs. But I find instead of that it helps to carry on home affairs more pleasantly and profitably.

In conclusion I wish to say that if any community or person wishes further information on club work, I am willing to help you in any way that I can—also the following are recognized as boys and girls club workers, teachers, county school superintendent, county agent, farm bureau, parent-teachers associations and other organizations. For supplies and definite instruction write H. C. Seymour, State Club Leader, Corvallis.

Club work is conducted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the

Extension Department of the O. A. C., cooperating with the State Department of Education.

## Copper Carbonate Treatment For Wheat Gaining Rapidly.

A recent trip into the wheat growing section of Washington by the County Agent revealed the fact that from 50 to 90 per cent of all the wheat seeded there is being treated by copper carbonate. The Washington farmers have had one more year's results with copper carbonate than have we had in Oregon and bankers, business men, and farmers are all well versed in its merits and it is predicted that next year all the wheat in that section will be treated with copper carbonate.

While we do not hesitate to recommend that you treat your wheat with copper carbonate, we do recommend that you be mighty careful about the brand of powder that you buy. A product known as Corona Copper Compound, commonly known as Corona, is on the market. This contains only 18 per cent basic copper whereas copper carbonate contains at least 52 per cent. This is a very inferior product and has not given the same results that copper carbonate is giving and is liable to be disappointing to you. It may cost five or ten cents less per pound but you are treating to control the smut. We hope to be able to issue definite recommendations of the sources of good copper carbonate before you will need it in the fall.

## PAST YEAR'S WORK

C. C. CALKINS, County Agent.

A fairly complete report is rendered by the County Agent annually. It required 75 typewritten pages to cover the field properly. More rooms were available in this paper would draw your attention to the work handled through this office during the past year with the help of the organized farmers.

Since, however, one of the chief virtues of this little publication is brevity we will call your attention to a few of the projects only and those briefly.

130,000 rabbits were killed by organized poison campaigns, hunts and drives, saving at least \$30,000 damages during the past year. 4000 quarts of squirrel poison were mixed and put out by the farmers. The saving that was estimated amounted to at least \$20,000.

5130 acres of wheat were certified and a large percentage of which was disposed of profitably by these farmers and this will do much to raise the standard of the wheat grown in this county. Variety trials on a field basis have been checked upon and in order to get more definite concrete results eight variety demonstrations have been arranged for winter farmers in the various communities which will be put on on an acre basis side by side for the present year. These results will be checked upon next fall. Eighteen tests of copper carbonate were conducted and careful checks were made on twelve of these. This information was summarized together with information available from all over the Northwest and put in the hands of farmers. As a result 20,000 acres of copper carbonate treated wheat have been seeded this past fall.

Mr. Jackman, our Farm Crops Specialist, said that this treatment will do more for our wheat farmers than any one discovery that has been made.

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made in several decades. Because of the work done here in an organized way Morrow county leads the State of Oregon in this work. This treatment ought to make it possible for us to increase our yields at least 15 to 20 per cent.

A tour to the Sherman County Experiment Station was organized and conducted and 45 farmers participated. That this trip was worth while is shown by the fact that every farmer who participated has made one or more changes in their farming practices which will mean thousands of dollars to them within the next few years. Their influence has been extended in the communities from which they came. A similar tour will be conducted this year.

Extension schools were conducted in all of the larger communities of the county and these were attended by 450 different people. Good results obtained from these meetings can be seen in every community; in addition, too, 400 people hearing Brewster, the poultry specialist, at which meetings two poultry calling demonstrations were put on at Boardman and Irrigon. More poultry work is planned for 1923.

Through our farm organization Morrow county took a leading part in establishing a wage scale in Oregon and Washington which not only stabilized the labor situation but undoubtedly saved \$12,000 to \$15,000 in wages to the farmers that would have been paid had the scale not have been established.

442 cows belonging to 82 individuals were tested for tuberculosis. 12 reactors were located and disposed of. A number of meetings were called affording an opportunity for the wheat growers to meet and discuss the merits of the Association.

The office started a movement to obtain a star route from Arlington to Heppner serving way points. This would result in speeding up our mail service between Heppner and Portland and return by almost two days. Very satisfactory progress has been made and we may be successful yet in getting this route.

By securing the services of a Bee Expert for the farmers of the Boardman and Irrigon projects we are getting that industry on a very solid basis.

A county-wide picnic was put on in June which was attended by some 7500 people. This picnic should be an annual and a profitable affair, bringing the farmers of the county together for an annual play day. It affords a wonderful opportunity for them to get acquainted as well.

The County Agent made 549 farm visits, wrote 2198 personal letters to take care of business transacted through the office, and conferred with 1243 office callers and put out over 3000 circular letters. Conducted 75 meetings which were attended by 3300 farmers. That this office working for the organized farmers meets a real need, there is no question but that it can do a greater service cannot be doubted. We ask your most

hearty cooperation; if you have suggestions or ideas you are only doing your part by giving us the benefit of them. Come up to the office whenever you are in town. Get acquainted and be ready to put across a still larger program for 1923, which will be made possible with your help.

## COUNTY WHEAT YIELD

Our agricultural statistician gives the following figures on the wheat yield for Morrow county during the four years:

1919, 987,000 bushels.  
1920, 1,251,000 bushels.  
1921, 2,586,000 bushels.  
1922, 1,159,000 bushels.  
(Figures for 1922 were gathered by the County Agent from the warehouse men and perhaps to this should be added the seed wheat which was retained at home and which probably was counted in on the other figures given.)

The average yields of winter wheat were given as follows:  
1919, 10 bushels.  
1920, 13 bushels.  
1921, 23 bushels.

We cannot expect to have a crop here like 1921 every year but there is something we could do to make this yield more constant. There was not such a wide fluctuation in Umatilla county or in Sherman county, for instance. A part of this can be attributed to the fact that they have come to the place that they have established a definite system of farming. A larger percentage of the farmers are plowing early and therefore are able to seed early. Our rainfall is lighter and one of our big problems is getting a good stand of fall wheat. It is the opinion of those in position to know that with the advent of the dry treatment the wheat can be seeded quite safely in the dust and earlier seeding can be safely practiced. This is going to mean a much better stand. Stephens' results show very plainly that much better stands are secured on early plowed land and the yields are consistently far better where the land is plowed early and the summer fallow is kept clean. If every farmer will make this his motto: "Early plowing, clean summer fallow, and early seeding, coupled with proper seed treating," there is no doubt but that we can increase our wheat yield in any year fifteen or twenty per cent over present yield and maintain it. You have this advantage, you do not have to wait for the other man, you can start now with this safe recommendation. It means real dollars to your bank account.

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# Ford

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The unprecedented demand for Ford Cars throughout the winter months has taken the entire output of the Ford plants working at capacity, indicating that the demand this Spring will be far in excess of the number of Ford Cars that can possibly be built.

II.

January was the tenth consecutive month in which retail deliveries exceeded 100,000 Ford Cars and Trucks. Requirements for February, the month when preparations are already under way for Spring business, called for 148,407 Cars and Trucks—more than 24,000 in excess of the number we can possibly produce.

III.

Ford dealers in many parts of the country are already finding it necessary to specify future delivery dates on Ford Products because there are no reserve stocks to draw from.

IV.

Your order placed now will protect you against delay or disappointment later on—it is the only way you can be assured of reasonably prompt delivery.

We consider it important to give you these facts, so that if you are planning to purchase a Ford Car, Truck or Fordson Tractor for use this Spring or Summer you can list your order at once and take advantage of our dealer's first opportunity to make delivery.

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