

THE HERMISTON HERALD

VOL. XII

HERMISTON, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON, SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1918

NO. 39

AGRICULTURAL AGENT TELLS OF OBSERVATIONS

During the month of May it was my pleasure to spend three days on the Hermiston project in company with F. W. Kehrl making a survey of the dairy herds that are owned by members of the Jersey Breeders Association, says County Agricultural Agent M. S. Shrock. The purpose of this survey is to study the conditions as they are now, and to get as nearly as possible the records of the herds. It is our intention to make another survey in a few years when the herds will be mostly made up of daughters out of the cows in the present herd and by the five splendid bulls now owned by the association.

We are all progressive enough to believe that good blood pays, but if we were asked how much it pays, we could not answer with any degree of accuracy. Here is an opportunity to tell in a few years how much dividend good blood pays on the investment. I have no fear that the showing will not be good. I believe it will be far above the owners' expectations. There will be disappointments at first because usually too much is expected of the heifers' first trial.

I have spent years in dairy work, and nowhere have I seen such an outstanding contrast between mothers and daughters as there is on this project. The daughters of the association bulls can be recognized almost at sight. I have some splendid photographs showing the contrast between heifers sired by scrub bulls formerly in these herds and those sired by the association bulls. The association members should feel proud of the selection they made, for they have some of the best blood in the world in these herds.

If I may be allowed to make suggestions for the future of the dairy industry in your part of the county I would name 4 important points that your dairymen should keep before them.

First: Provide ample provision for exercise of the bulls in the association. These bulls are so valuable that their services should not be dispensed with for 12 or 15 years. This is utterly impossible without exercise.

Second: A system of daily weighing of each cow's milk should be installed on every farm and monthly test should be made. The testing can, in this case, best be done through the schools. The children will gladly do this if proper supervision can be provided. There is no better experience for the children.

Third: Green feed should be supplied the dairy cows. The one disappointment to me on the whole project was the sight of dairy cows being fed on dry hay worth \$15 a ton and green feed growing on all sides, but none being fed. In no other dairy country is this to be found. Succulent feed is essential to profitable dairying.

Fourth: More silos are needed. No cow will do her best on one feed alone, not even on alfalfa. Corn and alfalfa make the best possible combination. They are both cheap. If any of the dairymen doubt the value of a silo, let me supply them with the statements of those who have tried them.

If the dairymen of the Hermiston Project will keep these four facts in mind at all times they will prosper.

HERMISTON YOUNG MAN WILL JOIN BENEDICTS

Announcement is made of the engagement and marriage of George L. Challis of this city and Miss Irene Martin of Stanfield. The news was spread Thursday afternoon of last week at a party given at the Stanfield home of Mrs. W. T. Reeves by Miss Audrey Wallace and Miss Beth Martin.

The date of the wedding of the nuptial knot has been set for July 10th. As there is to be no Fourth of July celebration in either Hermiston or Stanfield, as far as we know, it is currently rumored that the boys and girls of both towns will celebrate on the night of the above date, not with firecrackers and such like, but with cowbells, trumpets and other things too numerous to mention, the idea being to give the above young people a glorious sendoff at the beginning of their married life.

WEATHER REPORT

The weather man sent us an electrical storm one day this week which contained just a little sprinkle of rain. During the week the thermometer registered as high as 102, the minimum being 50 and the rainfall .03 of an inch.

NEWLYWEDS WILL RESIDE IN PORTLAND

On Monday occurred the marriage of Miss Gladys West, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. West, to Mr. Verlin Graham, son of Rev. and Mrs. T. A. Graham, the ceremony being performed in Pendleton by the groom's father in the presence of a few relatives and friends. Shortly after the wedding the happy young couple left for Portland, there to make their home, Mr. Graham being in the employ of the government in the shipbuilding yards.

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Correll in honor of the bride a shower was held last Saturday, the hostesses being Mrs. Correll and Mrs. Brown. The invited guests were Misses Esther and Hattie Graham, Ruth Scott, Doris Percy, Alice Prann, Goldie Mumma, Emily Shotwell, Genice Brigham, Pearl Sullivan, Viola Crandall, Everette Kingslev, Ruth Chamberlain, Frances Hinkle, Florence Bryant, Ruth and Georgia Skinner, Lena Ward, Dorothy Ross, Enid Waterman, Lila McMillan, Nellie Davis, Laura Carson, Gladys and Mrs. West, Verlin and Mrs. Graham. Smoked glasses were provided the guests through which to observe the eclipse of the sun. Then kodak pictures were taken, after which a two course luncheon was served, consisting of shrimp salad sandwiches, ice cream, strawberries, cake, kisses, mints and punch. The place cards were dainty affairs, being hand painted and depicted a kuple holding an umbrella in a "shower." After lunch the honor guest was given a shower of roses by all present. The gifts were many and beautiful and were most highly appreciated by the recipient.

HEADING OFF THE LABOR FAMINE NOW

The government realizes the necessity of relaxing the labor laws to allow farm labor to come into the country from Mexico and Canada. The anti-contract laws, literacy test and \$8 head tax laws have been suspended for the duration of the war, but immigration is restricted to farm purposes.

The government is demanding that farmers pay the prevailing wages to all such labor and retain 25 cents a day for a fund to ensure deportation. The idea is that all such labor shall be returned to the country whence it came as soon as the war is over and not acquire permanent residence.

State governments are asked to provide for the distribution of such labor to sections of the state where it is most urgently needed to harvest crops.

SUN'S ECLIPSE WAS GRAND SPECTACLE

The long heralded eclipse of Old Sol by his night-riding sister Miss Luna came on schedule time last Saturday, and for a very short space of time on that afternoon a creepy feeling came over all who gazed at the marvel of the sky through smoked glasses as the moon gradually shut out the light of the sun and darkness settled over the community.

The eclipse was almost total here, and proved to be a grand, though awe-inspiring, spectacle that will not occur again for many, many years. Clouds interfered somewhat with observations, but a break in them occasionally gave all a fairly good view of this grand transformation in the heavens.

Making Honey Fast

Bee men on the project now predict a bumper crop of honey, for within the past ten days the bees have got right down to business and are rapidly filling up the combs. This comes from ideal conditions, the vegetation that supplies the nectar to these busy little workers now being in its zenith.

The local Beekeepers Association is looking forward to good prices for the product, and this will mean the distribution of much money among apiarists that will come from the enormous shipments from this project this season.

Mrs. F. L. Kelly came home Thursday from a lengthy visit with relatives in Western Oregon.

HORSE AND SIDE-CHAIRS FOR THE WOUNDED



An artillery horse and side-chairs are impressed into the service of transporting wounded Tommies to the rear.

THE WAR, THE FARM AND THE FARMER

By Herbert Quick
Member Federal Farm Loan Board

The farmer everywhere loves peace. The American farmer especially loves peace. Since the dawn of history, the farmer has been the man who suffered most from war. All that he possesses lies out of doors in plain sight and is spoil of war—his house, his grain, his livestock. The flames that light the skies in the rear of every invading army are consuming the things that yesterday represented his life work, and the life labors of past generations of farmers.

Everywhere the farmer is a warrior when war is the only thing which will make and keep him free. He cannot rally to the colors as quickly as can the dwellers in the cities, because it takes longer to send to the farms the call to arms. It takes longer to call the farmers from the fields than the city dwellers from the shops. Many do not hear the first blast of the trumpet. Others do not at first understand its meaning because they have not had the time to talk the matter over with their acquaintances. Instead of reading half a dozen extras a day, the farmer may read weekly papers only. He must have more time in a sudden emergency to make up his mind.

It is impossible to set the farmers of the United States on fire by means of any sudden spark of rumor. But when they do ignite, they burn with a slow, hot fire which nothing can put out. They are sometimes the last to heat up; but they stay hot. In a long fight they are always found sturdily carrying the battle across No-Man's Land in the last grim struggle. The American farmer will give all that he has and all that he is to win this great war against war.

This war was at first hard to understand. No armed foe had invaded the United States. The night skies were not reddened by burning ricks and farm houses. No raiding parties robbed us of our cattle or horses. No sabre-rattlers insulted our women. It seemed to many of us that we were not at war—the thing was so far off. We did not realize what a giant war had become—a monster with a thousand arms that could reach across the seas and take from us three-fourths of everything we grew. But finally we saw that it was so.

If the Imperial German government had made and enforced an order that no American farmer should leave his

own land, haul grain or drive stock to town, it would have done only a little more than it accomplished by its interdiction against the freedom of the sea. What was the order against which we rebelled when we went into this war? Look at the condition of the American farmer in the latter part of 1914 and the first half of 1915 and see.

When the war broke out, through surprise and panic we partially gave up for a while the use of the sea as a highway. And the farmers of America faced ruin. I know an Iowa farmer who sold his 1914 crop of 25,000 bushels of wheat for seventy cents a bushel. Farmers in the south sold their cotton for half the cost of producing it. All this time those portions of the world whose ports were open were ready to pay almost any price for our products. When finally we set our ships in motion once more, prosperity returned to the farms. But it never returned for the farmers of those nations which remained cut off from ocean traffic.

Take the case of Australia. There three crops have remained unsold on the farms. No ships could be spared to make the long voyage to Australia. In spite of the efforts of the Government to save the farmers from ruin, grain has rotted in the open. Millions of tons have been lost for lack of a market.

Such conditions spell irretrievable disaster. Such conditions would have prevailed in this country from the outbreak of the war until now if our Government had not first resisted with every diplomatic weapon, and finally drawn the sword.

Why did we draw the sword? To keep up the price of wheat and cotton, and to protect trade only? If someone should order you to remain on your farm, and not to use the public highways, would your resistance be based only on the fear of loss in profits from failure to market your crops? By no means! You would fight to the last gasp! Not to make money, but to be free!

When a man is enslaved, all he loses in money is his wages. But the white man has never been able to accept slavery. He has never yet been successfully enslaved. There rises up in him against servitude a resentment so terrible that death always is preferable.

Given New Number

Damascus Chapter, R. A. M., of Hermiston, which has been working under special dispensation, will hereafter be designated as No. 40, conferred on it by the Grand Chapter, the sessions of which were attended by S. R. Oldaker in Portland the first three days of the week, he having been selected as a delegate from the local Chapter. The grand high priest of the state and the grand secretary will come here in a few days and institute the Chapter under its name and number.

Mr. Oldaker reported having witnessed most excellent degree work while at the Grand Chapter sessions, and hugely enjoyed the festivities attendant on the annual banquet of the order.

The ice cream and cake social held in the old Civic Center rooms last Saturday by the ladies of the Altar society was well patronized, and proved to be both a social and financial success.

May Be Reclassified

Twenty-one ranchers and businessmen of the project were subpoenaed and went to Pendleton Wednesday to give evidence before the county draft board, which will endeavor to have the district board at La Grande determine the possibility of a reclassification of Phillip Lay, William Pearson, William E. Bell and William Kik.

Should the classification of these young men be moved up by the district board it is likely they will be called for service in the forthcoming draft.

Latest reports from the warzone are to the effect that the allies are holding the Huns on the western front. It is also said that a big naval battle is looked for soon between the warring nations.

A picture of "The Three Prophets" has been placed on the walls of the public library. It is the gift of Mrs. R. Alexander of Pendleton.

CORPORAL IN FRANCE WRITES TO FRIEND HERE

FIRE DEPARTMENT TO SERVE REFRESHMENTS

The seventeen members that attended the regular monthly meeting of the Hermiston Volunteer Fire Department last Monday night were a unit when the proposition of giving a little banquet was put forward, with the result that a motion prevailed that on the evening of Monday, July 8, a spread consisting of ice cream and cake be served to all members of the department.

It was further ordered that J. S. West and R. L. Barnard, as feast committee, see to it that there is plenty of the above delicacies on hand that evening so that every member of the department may get his fill, the desire being to have every fire laddie attend.

Other business transacted was an order issued to Secretary Brownson to secure from the reclamation service a blue print of the city with the location of all hydrants marked plainly thereon. This will be posted in the fire hall so that all members may familiarize themselves therewith, so that in case of fire they will know the exact spot to go to and connect onto a hydrant.

In the absence of B. S. Kingsley the appointment of captain of hose cart No. 2 was passed to J. S. West until his return.

Secretary Brownson reported that the department has the sum of \$85 in the treasury.

CULVER EDITOR FROTHS AT LITTLE FISH STORY

Evidently B. S. Kingsley, who is now rustivating in Culver, didn't take kindly to the embellishments added by us to a fish story he told while here from that town recently. But Kingsley is a good sport, nevertheless, and he went us one better by giving the editor of the Tribune at Culver a V, presumably to give us a good scoring in his paper—and he is the fellow we now have to deal with.

Space won't permit us to go into a lengthy article to set that editor right in order that he may hereafter know how to elucidate through the columns of his paper on matters piscatorial. We don't know this fellow from Adam's off ox, but we do know that he has got awful familiar with us all of a sudden on the strength of our friend Kingsley's "tip" to him—all of which leads us to believe that he is either one of those "sweet sixteen" editors or else one of the ossified sort that don't know a trout from a bullhead or perch. We would like to imagine him, as one of the fraternity, otherwise, but this we cannot do until he has "read up" on fish and fish stories more thoroughly.

He takes us to task for having mentioned speckled beauties as having inhabited the waters of Crooked river, and says that we should have said Red-sides or Rainbow trout. We admit now we stretched the truth a little there, but since reading his arraignment we doubt not that we should have omitted all three of the above species of fish and substituted "suckers" therefor.

This editor has invited us to come over, and himself and Mr. Kingsley will dispel our Missouri idea of having to be shown. Yes, no doubt they would, but it wouldn't be in the fishing line. So for the present we'll have to decline the kind invitation, as we are not hankering to get any ribs broken, until we have to go to war, at least. Maybe after we get better acquainted with the Tribune editor we'll "make up" with him and go fishing in Crooked river.

Patriotic Drama Coming

On the evening of June 20th, next Wednesday, The Movie will stage in film a grand patriotic drama entitled "For the Freedom of the World." Press accounts give the drama much prominence, and no doubt it will be greeted with crowded houses at the two shows to be given during the above evening.

The Honor Guard girls are mightily pleased over the proceeds from the dance they gave this week, for the money derived therefrom was badly needed to replenish their treasury. Nearly everyone bought a ticket, which made the affair a decided success in every way.

Corporal Floyd Hoisington of Company E, 116th Engineers, now in France, has written a letter to his friend William Shaar, excerpts from which will no doubt be of interest to our readers. From the letter we take the following paragraphs:

"Well, Bill, I suppose you are plugging along pretty regular nowadays? In fact, I suppose every one around the country is digging in to work owing to such a shortage in help. Well, we are not idle by no means over here. We have done no heavy fighting as yet but Uncle Samuel isn't going to make a fool of himself. We are getting whipped into such condition that all perdition can't stop us when we do start, let alone the Kaiser. Just at present I'm on special duty as an instructor in the Provisional Recruit Batt. of the 116th Eng. I am endeavoring to teach some of the men that war is just what Sherman said it was and no kids play. The hardest task I have is getting them to hit the ball and hold a cadence of 130 steps per minute. It is hard on a man to begin with but only a few days are required to harden up so he never notices it.

"The engineering end of our work is very interesting. I'd bet I can build a pig pen which no hog that ever lived can go through. Won't use any fence posts and staples to do it, either. Could dispense with a hammer as far as that goes. The regular army drill we are getting is old stuff to most of us and therefore we get rather tired of it at times. But if anyone thinks a soldier's life over here is a soft soap they have my invitation to take a whack at it and settle the question for themselves. We have no kick though. We have an unlimited amount of pleasure, plenty to eat and it's the kind of grub that sticks to the ribs, fine quarters to live in, better than I ever had in the States, and time for plenty of sleep.

"Just received a letter from Hermiston today which was mailed in January. Talk about addresses, it sure had its share. It has been over quite a good portion of France. Had been up where the main rumpus is.

"Well, Bill, we have discovered the missing link between man and monkey. It is in the form of a gas mask. If we only had a tail we certainly would look like a monkey when using a mask. Who cares for looks though when it protects you from death. I have seen the effects of gas several times. Don't care about being in an attack if I can keep out of it.

"Say, Bill, you ought to watch a French barber work. Why you would be so disgusted with them you'd be ashamed to claim you were in the same business. I guess they think when they shave a man they have to toughen up his face so it will stand the bayonet whacking which he may get on the front. They call shaving barbe. The proper name for it according to the way they do it would be barbeque. Believe me they cut one whisker off and pull out six. They use a razor which looks more like a butcher knife.

"Well, suppose I better quit or the censor will think I'm going to make a complete novel of this instead of a short story. I could write on and on for several pages yet by giving you some of our trip across the pond. But let it be sufficient for me to say I lost my Thanksgiving dinner, and you know I wouldn't do such a trick just for fun."

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SHIP LAUNCHINGS WILL SWAMP KAISER

Western ship yards are going to break all records in ship launchings July 4 when every yard possible will send ships into the water. Western yards are making themselves known to the world over for quality of product and speed in production.

With equitable laws governing the American merchant marine, giving it an even break with the rest of the world in cost of operation, we should be able to hold our supremacy as a shipbuilding and ship operating nation after the war.

Let's all pull together to make the Kaiser's spine creep when he sees the number of boats we will send into the water next month.

Merle Phelps returned Wednesday from a visit to Portland and Vancouver, Wash.