

FARMING METHODS SHOW BIG CHANGES

DIVERSIFICATION TAKES ITS PLACE ON PROJECT
Variety Of Crops Now Grown Here To Make Possible Adding To Farm Income

The changes that have been brought about in farming on the Hermiston project as the land has been developed through the years and as a result of shifting economic conditions cause residents of the project to believe that stability such as few districts may hope to achieve are in course of being secured here.

Original settlement of the project was made in the belief that the country was particularly adapted to fruit. This idea proved incorrect and gave way to a program of alfalfa raising and some dairying. This plan proved very profitable during the war days when hay prices were high, but the lower scale of prices ushered in with the adjustment period that followed the war caused farmers to turn their attention to other crops that could be used as supplementary sources of income.

The dairy cow rates high in the estimation of project farmers as a steady, dependable source of income. The dairy cow population has shown practically no gain on the project during the past year or two, but reports by dairy men now are that enlarged herds are being planned. The practice on the project has been to keep small herds, but many dairy men are keeping every promising heifer and planning to increase their herds to 20, 30 and 40 head.

Poultry raising has also forged ahead rapidly, and even though prices have not been high, a large majority of poultry raisers are building up their flocks in size and adding to their equipment. The turkey business has expanded at a rapid rate, and capon raising brings in quite a lot of money to farm families as a sideline endeavor.

Asparagus was added to the list of successfully grown crops several years ago. Marketing is done cooperatively through the Three Rivers

Growers' association with headquarters at Kennewick, and the average returns have been satisfactory. The 1927 season was the least satisfactory growers have had, but they blamed the adverse weather for less than normal returns and are looking forward to a profitable season this year.

Potato growing has steadily gained in popularity during the past few years. Early potatoes are grown in larger acreage than late, but some growers have a patch of both early and late tubers. Yields of more than 200 sacks to the acre are not uncommon. As is true in the potato growing business wherever conducted, some years bring big profits, some ordinary profits, and occasionally profits are practically nil, due to the condition of the market. The substantial growers do not plunge but devote a certain acreage to the crop every year and are able to show substantial profits over a five or 10 year period.

Quite a little wheat and barley are no being produced on the irrigated lands, not as commercial crops but to produce feeds for chickens and turkeys, and an occasional small herd of hogs. Corn can be grown very successfully, and poultry men are paying more and more attention to the crop.

Garden truck does well where proper care is given it and is coming more and more into favor. There are a few gardeners who produce stuff for the local and nearby markets. General farmers are also paying some attention to truck farming, and a patch of cucumbers, or peas or some other crop in which he is especially interested often adds an appreciable sum to the family income.

The change in farming in the Hermiston country has been from the big specialty idea such as all fruit or all hay, to greater intensification and diversification. Hay continues to be the chief crop from the point of view of acreage, and quite a little fruit is produced, but the idea of a farm being devoted to a number of projects that will give the farmer something to sell every week and help him to increase his income is the plan that has come to be adopted by practically 100 per cent of the farmers.

Local Ad.—Wanted a salesman, must be respectable until after Easter.

DAIRY & HOG SHOW KEEPS INTEREST KEEN IN STOCK

Hermiston Has Been Home Of Show During Past 15 Years; Big Growth Made

A lively interest in purebred stock has been manifested by Hermiston district farmers since the founding of the project, and this interest has been strengthened by the competition developed by the Hermiston Dairy & Hog show. The show is held every year in October and is now more than 15 years old.

Founded to foster interest in the breeding of dairy cattle and hogs, the show has gradually undergone a transformation that has caused it to broaden its scope until it has become a big community fair. Dairy cattle still remain the chief attraction in the livestock division, but new departments have been added as demand for them was made until every major activity of farming endeavor, both on the farm and in the home, receives attention.

Competition is open to dairy cattle, poultry, hogs, sheep and rabbits in livestock. Prizes are also offered in the women's department for needlecraft, cooking, canning and baking products. A prize is offered every year for the single farm exhibit that shows the greatest variety and quality of farm crops. Other crop prizes include premiums for corn, potatoes, sweet potatoes and other products of the soil.

The 1927 show established a new record in attendance and gate receipts, and plans are already under way for the 1928 show. The decision to change the name of the show from Hermiston Dairy & Hog show to the Umatilla Project fair was made at the annual meeting of stockholders.

Curtis Dyer is president of the board of directors.

"There must be a lot of golfers in this office building."

"Why so?"

"When I called 'Four!' in the elevator this morning all the passengers ducked."

"I have just heard that my sister has a baby. They don't say what sex and so I don't know whether I am an uncle or aunt."

FACTS ABOUT OREGON

Oregon, the "Beaver" state, was admitted to the Union, February 12, 1859, as the thirty-third state.

The state flower is the Oregon Grape.

Oregon is divided into 36 counties, containing 95,607 square miles, or 61,188,840 acres—3,121 square miles greater than the combined areas of New York and Pennsylvania.

The population of the state is a little less than 1,000,000.

The climate is mild and healthful, and is well suited for crop rotation.

Oregon has one of the lowest mortality rates in the Union.

Oregon stands high educationally and is one of the most progressive commonwealths.

There are about 13,000,000 acres of public land open for entry, some of which is good agricultural land, but most of it is suitable for little more than grazing purposes.

Oregon which contains one sixth of the standing timber in the United States stands fourth in the list of lumber producing states.

Standing timber in the state consists of approximately 283,302,587,000 B. M. feet in private ownership, 190, 853,531,000 B. M. standing feet timber in national forests. An additional quantity in national parks, on Indian lands and on state lands.

Another way to keep cookies and doughnuts safe from juvenile hands is to lock them in the pantry and hide the key under the soap on the washstand.

"What's that putty on your finger for?"

"That's to remind me to forget my tools," the plumber replied.

Helen: "What kind of a watch is that?"

Jim: "It's a wonder watch."

Helen: "How's that?"

Jim: "Every time I look at it I wonder what time it really is."

It was at a poets' club meeting. Each versifier recited an effort. Applause followed.

Finally one woman arose, began to recite, stopped, then stammered, "I have forgotten my poem." The applause was deafening.

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After you have read this paper--

And made up your mind that the Hermiston country is the place you have been looking for as a home, drop me a line and ask for information about farms and tracts I have for sale or exchange.

I have listings that will appeal to you, whatever you may be interested in, a hay farm, a dairy ranch, a chicken or turkey ranch. All sizes of places at prices that are in accordance with the present re-adjustment conditions, and will give you a chance to re-sell at a profit, or pay you to live on them.

This office also carries a large listing of properties throughout the Northwest, and if you wish to turn your property where you now live, a listing of your real property will be appreciated, both for sale and exchange.

A general line of insurance is written at this office fire, auto, life, accident, bonds, and your patronage is invited, and you can be assured of the best for the dollars invested.

J. M. Biggs, Realtor
Hermiston, Oregon