

## EXPERIMENT FARM DOES BIG SERVICE

LOCAL STATION AT WORK FOR  
20 YEARS

Experimental Tests Results Are  
Studied By Farmers Here  
And Other Districts

An institution that has proved of value, not only to farmers in the Hermiston district and in neighboring irrigated districts but to many sections all over the state and even to adjoining states, is the Umatilla Experiment station, located a couple of miles north of Hermiston.

The station started its activities in the spring of 1909 and is now in its 20th year of operations. H. K. Dean is superintendent and has served in that capacity since the spring of 1918. The United States department of agriculture and the Oregon Experiment station co-operate in carrying on the program of work.

A number of activities have been carried on by the station during the years it has been functioning, and among those that are outstanding are experiments in alfalfa varieties, irrigation methods, maintaining soil fertility, particularly by the use of barnyard manure, crop variety testing, lamb feeding and the re-establishing of alfalfa stands that have been depleted by reason of gradual thinning or winter killing during the rare winter seasons when the weather causes freezing damage.

Of interest to students of alfalfa culture in all districts that have been growing the crop practically continuously for 20 years or more is the statement by Supt. Dean on some experimental work that has been done in re-establishing stands on land that has grown the crop for a long period.

"Our work is not at all conclusive on re-establishing stands," he said, "and I am not prepared to say that we have solved the problem, but it is my opinion now, based on one year's work, that application of barnyard manure will make it possible to get a good stand of alfalfa on land where the old stand has run out."

"We re-seeded some alfalfa in plots here on the farm last year, and on plots treated with manure we were able to get a good stand and a satisfactory yield. On plots that were re-seeded without any manure applications the stand was not good, nor was the yield of hay satisfactory. It will be necessary to get more complete information on the subject before we can say definitely that we have the solution of the problem, but my personal opinion is that the liberal use of manure on fields that are plowed up to be re-seeded will prove to be the remedy we are seeking."

A reduction of alfalfa yields in districts that have grown the crop almost continuously for many years has been experienced in many districts. Butter creek farmers realize that it is a problem on their highly fertile soils, and farmers in Southern Idaho admit that their yields have shown a steady decrease after many years of successful hay raising.

Lamb feeding experiments with the idea in mind of marketing alfalfa hay in the form of fat lambs have been carried on at the station for six years, and the results secured have proved of interest, not only on the project, but in even greater measure to farmers and stock men in other counties of Oregon and in Washington and Idaho.

This year's tests are to determine the relative value of alfalfa meal, hay and chopped hay as feed for lambs, the hay fed in each case being supplemented with some grain.

Project farmers use the information that the station has worked out in solving some of their problems. Once or twice a year general meetings are usually held at the station to which visitors are invited. Results of special work are made known at such meetings.

### FACTS ABOUT OREGON

The state grows approximately 50 per cent of the hops produced in the United States.

There are 73 mining districts in the state, and the production of gold, silver, copper and lead is steadily increasing.

There are uniformly good highways.

—Come to Hermiston—

## Truck Crops Are Coming to Have Big Place Here

Many Farmers Devote More And  
More Time And Land To  
Growing Gardens

Gardening, at one time considered impractical on the Hermiston project, has gradually proved its worth as a sideline of farming endeavor until today it is being practiced in ever increasing measure on farms, both little and big. Many farmers devote quite a lot of their time to garden crops, take pride in them and make reports of income realized that have resulted in more and more consideration being paid to this line of activity.

The family garden has come to be accepted as a part of the activity of every farm, but on an increasing number of places it has taken on greater importance. Baxter Hutchinson devotes nearly all of his time to commercial gardening. On the S. L. Carson place a big garden plot is worked each year. H. J. Ott nearly always has a patch of garden truck that brings in some extra money, and the same is true of Fred Lenz and George Liebe, to mention only a few.

Mr. Hutchinson raises a wide variety of crops and sells in Hermiston and other nearby towns. The Carsons have been raising onions for a number of years, and their yields and average gross returns have been very satisfactory.

"I had a Walla Walla onion man and gardener on the place looking at some of our onions and other garden crops," said Mr. Carson, "and he told me that he had just bought an additional 10 acres adjoining his land for which he had paid \$1,000 an acre. He said my land is as good as the land he bought."

George Liebe usually has quite a patch of early peas which he puts on local markets for a good price. Fred Lenz, one of the most successful farmers of the project, finds it profitable to spend quite a little of his time raising early potatoes, cabbage and other garden crops which he sells locally or hauls into the wheat

belt for sale about harvest time. Each year at the Hermiston Dairy & Hog show, held in Hermiston in October, a special prize is given for the best display of a variety of crops grown and shown by one farmer. Several such exhibits are made each year, and the wide variety, increasing each year, makes this feature one of the most interesting to strangers that is offered.

"I guess the old timers here were a little too high minded to raise much garden truck," one of the newer farmers said the other day. "I know that when I came here a number told me that I would n't find gardening worth while. I took a whirl at it, though, just the same, and my experience is that it does pay. It is possible to grow practically everything here, and it is worth while."

"I have spent quite a lot of my life in town, and I know how much money is required when all the vegetables are purchased. Just to have them in your own garden is worth a lot from the point of view of savings made. I usually add to my farm income by selling some, too."

### PROJECT FARM BUREAU IS CLEARING HOUSE FOR IDEAS

Organization Has Been Active For  
Many Years In Studying  
Problems Of Farmers

Farmers on this project have always believed in working through organizations, and one of the oldest of such bodies in this section of the state is the Umatilla Project Farm bureau.

The organization is utilized as a clearing house for ideas of particular interest to the farming industry and its members, and in many cases suggestions made in meetings result in special action by a group of farmers.

The farm bureau is operating this year on an annual program that has been planned ahead to include topics of what are considered the most vital to members. Meetings are held once each month, and at each meeting some one major topic has the place of honor on the program. Other matters that need consideration may be introduced for action by the body.

Outside speakers appear before

the meetings several times during the year and discuss subjects of major importance such as different phases of the dairy and poultry businesses or crop farming and farm management. The use of special speakers, and round table discussions by project farmers of their experiences in any given line of activity make for a constant study of methods and enable farmers to get new ideas about their specialties.

In addition to the president, vice-president and secretary-treasurer, there are a number of chairmen, or leaders, who are elected to head special groups. Dairying, poultry raising, rodent control, legislation and other kindred subjects are handled through departments with the action of the big organization as the final step in any decision.

H. J. Ott is president of the body, New Madden is vice-president, and J. W. McMullen is secretary-treasurer.

The social side of life is not over-

looked, and at practically every meeting a social session follows the business part of the program with the Womens' auxiliary in charge.

### Couldn't Locate It

A colored woman walked up to the ticket agent in a large railroad station and said: "I'd like to get a ticket for Magnolia."

The agent looked over his tickets to find one for Magnolia, but as he couldn't he went over to a map to see where it was, but was also unsuccessful.

Thereupon he enquired, "Where is Magnolia, ma'am?"

And the negro woman replied: "Why there she is sitting on that bench over there."

Architect: "Have you any suggestions for the study, Mr. Newrich?"

Newrich: "Well, I'd like to have it brown. Great thinkers, I understand, are generally found in a brown study."

## White Leghorn BABY CHIX FOR SEASON OF 1928

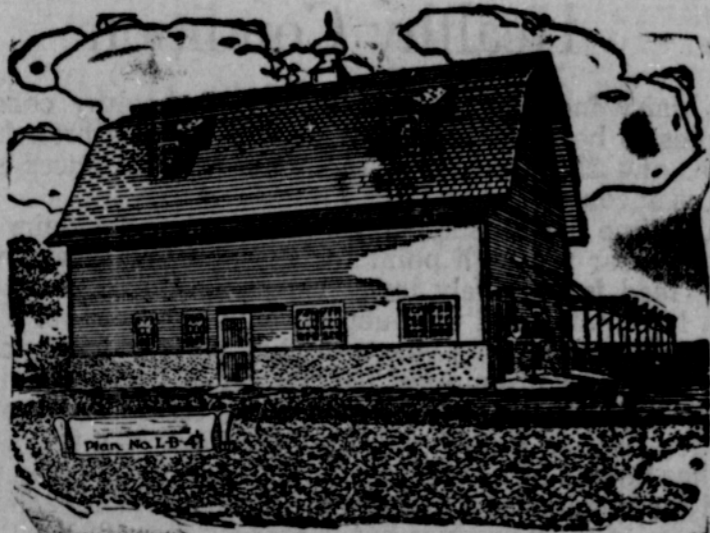
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