

# SOIL MANAGEMENT REDUCES QUANTITY OF WATER NEEDED

(Second of a series of articles on farm problems.)

By W. W. WATSON.

Agriculture under irrigation should be the most attractive of all modes of farming. Proper soil management, maintained at all times during the growing crop season, greatly reduces the quantity of water necessary to vigorous plant life. This fact stands out prominently among those which have deceived the average farmer into believing that he can produce a maximum crop yield with a minimum use of water. One of the evil consequences of this deception is found in the fact that he neglects irrigation until the wilting of his crop plants warns him that they have reached the danger point of thirst. They are sick. The moisture films about the soil particles are too thin to yield any sustenance to famishing root feeders. The latter quickly warn the plant foliage, and it, in turn, cries out for food by wilting. In this condition a growing crop may suffer grievous loss in a few hours if the remedy is not applied at once. The remedy is water. The farmer may vainly beseech the heavens for a downpour; but the crop can't wait; it is dying. If the farmer is blessed with an irrigation supply of water the relief is quickly applied, the soil grains perfect their chemical combinations, the plant food is thereby released and the crop gradually responds to the nourishment.

## HYDROGEN CO-OP

Let us get rid of this technical phrase at once. It means the quantity of moisture absorbed from the air by the soil. It seldom exceeds 6 per cent, and, in that measure, it is of no practical value to the growing crop. No commercial plant can live in soil that depends on that source for its moisture. In the average loam soil the wilting co-efficient of moisture is about 9 per cent. At that point the crop is dying. The soil particles haven't enough water for their own use. The natural process of chemis- tization has been interrupted. There is no food for the plants. Like the human body, they cannot enjoy vigor of growth without the active operation of the forces of life. When they cease to grow they begin to deteriorate. That process in plant life is rapid. Fever consumes the life of the human body. Fever also consumes the life of the growing plant. The farmer who concedes the application of this natural law to himself, but cannot understand why he should apply it to his growing crop has a great deal to learn about his business. Indeed it is the vital fact among all those involved in the operation of his farm; and it applies alike to himself, to his stock and to his fields of growing crops.

## Lens Capillary Effect

The importance suggested in the use of that technical phrase in a description of productive soil conditions is very great; and for that reason it is probably more generally understood among farmers. It represents the percentage of moisture at which the soil refuses to yield any sustenance to the growing crop. It varies according to the variation of soil differences. In any soil, when that point is reached in the stage of moisture, irrigation should be applied; and the quantity of water to be used at that time also varies according to the type of soil being treated.

Thirteen per cent is the average measure of moisture at the lens-capillary point in the loam soils of this valley. In gravelly soils, technically called residual, with a general clayey sub-stratum, the percentage may be as low as 10. It depends somewhat on the depth at which sandpan, if there be any, may be found. From the lens-capillary point, however, the decrease in the percentage of moisture is rapid. Especially will this be the case when the soil is in its present condition in this valley. The drought has affected it to a depth of four to six feet, depending in a measure on the formation.

## Giant

In that condition the capillary movement of moisture is downward, and in that direction it is accelerated by the law of gravity. The earth below attracts it as long as the supply lasts in the formation of moisture films about the soil grains. The application of more water creates a hydrostatic action in the capillary movement until it reaches the dry stratum, where again the soil particles take it up for chemical uses; and so on, until the soil column shall have been affected, if the quantity of water applied be sufficient. The soil column by which plant life is favorably arrested, is from six to eight feet deep.

Now, if the soil in this valley has been dried out to half that depth,

# Freckles and His Friends



Webster Sunday in honor of Mr. Webster's birthday. All are residents of Talent.

## ALONG ROGUE RIVER

At the annual meeting of the Rogue River-Eagle Point Telephone company January 8, held at Gene Bellows' home, the following officers were elected: Henry French, president; Peter Betz, vice-president, and Gene Bellows, secretary.

La Grippe has visited every home, and sometimes every member of the family.

John Foster called on the French and Foster families the last of the week.

Mr. Wyant has returned to his home in Ashland.

Road Supervisor Pence attended commissioners'ough in Jacksonville.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Igumville have returned home from Sardine creek.

Among the Eagle Point visitors are Dr. Kirchgessner, Steve Smith, Henry French, Fred Bellows and Peter Betz. Myrt Dally returned to Eagle Point Saturday after spending a few days with his brother, Tim.

Mr. and Mrs. Boundtree gave a social dance to their friends Friday night and every one enjoyed themselves very much.

Pearl Stowell started Monday for Bellingham, Wash., to make his home.

Among the valley visitors were: Jesse Ragsdale, Frank Middlebush, Will Hogdon, Alvin Albright, Boyd Tucker and family.

Mrs. Mayd Rush and little daughter made a business trip to Ashland the last of the week.

## EDEN PRECINCT

The Odd Fellows and Rebekah lodges had quite a jolly time in Talent Saturday evening, the occasion being installation of officers.

Mrs. C. Gray was installing officer for Oak Circle, No. 242, at Phoenix, January 13. Only part of the officers were present.

E. C. Reimer returned Saturday from Corvallis, where he has been assisting for the past ten days with the winter short-course lecture.

The sympathies of all go out to Mr. and Mrs. H. C. High of Talent, who lost nearly everything they had when their home burned in Talent, January 11.

Mrs. Lizzie Stancliff of Central Point has been at the home of her husband's mother, Mrs. Lizzie Stancliff, the past week, on account of the illness of the latter.

Mrs. John Griffiths of North Eden has been visiting her brother, A. S. Fury, and family, and Mrs. Joe Baker since Thursday, returning home Sunday.

Mrs. E. O. Rease has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Carey, the past ten days. Mr. Rease came over from Hornbrook Thursday, but will return in a few days to take charge of a contract for a large building.

Mrs. Effie Taylor came over from Klamath Falls last week on business and has been at the home of her sister, Mrs. Joe Radke.

Mrs. G. C. McLean, A. H. Houston and Mrs. J. E. Roberts and E. C. Reimer are all victims of la grippe this week.

Chester Wolters of Talent gave his many friends quite a surprise last week by his return from Ashland with his bride. They will reside in Talent. We join in best wishes for a happy and prosperous journey through life.

Mr. and Mrs. Noah Chandler of North Talent were trading in Medford Thursday.

We wonder if the game warden is doing his duty as to quail and China pheasants during this snow and cold weather. They fall an easy prey to the unscrupulous hunter.

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Reimer, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Frame, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Fish were guests at a dinner given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dr.

## BUTTE FALLS BUBBLES

Mrs. Wm. Sears is back from Medford where she and her children have been since Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Barker are visiting her parents at Santa Cruz, Cal.

Mrs. Dog Woods is in Medford this week visiting relatives.

Howard Fox, and E. A. Abbott were in the valley the first of the week on business.

A leap year dance was given at Mr. Cross' hotel Wednesday. All had a fine time.

Ray Parker's school is closed for a week. He is up at Parker's ranch feeding stock.

Mrs. B. F. Morris is giving a dinner for her Sunday school class. Many little tots are making big plans.

## OPEN MOUTH! END A COLD OR CATARRH

How To Get Relief When Cold and Flu Are Settled Up.

Sound Sleep! Your cold in head or catarrh disappears. Your congested nostrils will open, the air passages of your head will clear and you can breathe freely. No more snoring, hacking, mucus discharge, dryness or headache remaining for health at night.

Get a small bottle of Ely's Cough Balm from your druggist and apply a little of this fragrant antiseptic cream in your nostrils. It penetrates through every air passage of the head, soothing and healing the swollen or inflamed mucous membrane, giving you instant relief. Head colds and catarrh yield like magic. Don't stay stuck-up and asthmatic, get relief.

NEW TODAY

Fine new bungalow, very slightly in Capital Hill, an acre of good ground, water piped all over it, and to house, which is new and not quite finished. To make a quick turn the owner will sell for \$1250.00.

Have a fine irrigated Idaho ranch of rich soil, large house, and all farming features attractive. 240 acres for \$15,000. Will take a \$5000 house here in the deal, balance easy terms.

C. D. HOON  
Room 10, Jackson County Bank Bldg.

## COURTHOUSE NEWS

Reported by Jackson County Abstract Co. Sixth and Fir Sts.

C. A. Hamlin et ux vs. G. W. Dick, suit in equity.

L. Niedermeyer vs. David Palmer et al, default decree and cost bill filed.

State of Oregon vs. F. A. Hyde et al, demurrer filed.

## PROTEST

In the matter of the estate of Dennis Ellis, deceased; oath of executor filed.

In the matter of the estate of Emma Hughes, deceased; petition and order appointing appraisers and oath of administrator filed.

## REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

John W. Armstrong et ux to Carl S. Peterson, pt 21-25-

2W ..... \$10.00

H. F. Pohland et al to Wilson M. Barker et ux, land in Ashland ..... 10.00

M. P. Seaman, trustee of Trail Lumber Co to Guy R. Lindley

deed of correction ..... 1.00

John R. McReynolds et ux to William Stuewe Jr., mining claims in Ely Cr. mining district, Q.C.D. ..... 45.00

W. O. Singler, sheriff to L. W. Thomas, pt 37-3W. sheriff's cert. of sale ..... 0.00-258.38

Wm. Stuewe Jr. to M. S. Johnson, mining claims in Foothills Cr. mining district, Q.C.D. ..... 1.00

W. H. Singler, sheriff, to M. W. Heinenrater, pt. 15-57-1W, sheriff's deed ..... 184.56

## FOR RENT—HOUSINGKEEPING ROOMS

Nice house keeping rooms, also furnished rooms. 322 South Central.

## FOR RENT—FURNISHED ROOMS

Furnished and unfurnished modern rooms. Inquire 731 West 2nd street.

## FOR RENT—HOUSES

Furnished house for rent, close in. Phone 776-J, or call 147 N. Holly St.

3-room modern apartment, 146 South Central, Phone 479-M. ..... 272\*

Furnished, attractive five-room bungalow, paved st., strictly modern, electric heat, electric range, Alan Blackbird, phone 337, or Hotel Holland, 257\*

Colonel Sergeant's residence on Oregon ave., telephone 447-128, or inquire at Jacksonville, or Medford Post Office and Egg Co. 257\*

First class 2-room modern bungalow, range connected, garage. Tel. 488-A.

## FOR SALE—ONE FURNITURE

Orchard furniture. What have you? Address Box H, Mail Tribune.

## FOR SALE—CORN

Phone 597-R. ..... 259

Five-room bungalow, Birdseye's Albion Clerks & Conveniences Assistant, new \$1; case \$7.50. The best form book to the market for notation. Box 441, Medford, Oregon. ..... 255

Thoroughbred Shetland Red & White at the city reservoir. Phone 370. W. J. Peterson; also eggs for hatching. ..... 260\*

High-grade furniture, sewing machine, fruit and other household goods. 311 N. Central. Mrs. A. A. Mood. ..... 256

FOR SALE—Furniture. Phone 139-N. 1017 W. Main St. ..... 255\*

Manus. Phone 274-V. F. Y. Allen. ..... 256\*

FOR SALE—1915 Ford touring car in A-1 condition; fully equipped; all new tires. Box 65, Medford. ..... 256

Five passenger auto, perfect condition; six good tires, electric lights, very cheap. Address Box H, Mail Tribune.

FOR SALE—Barley, 500 bushels barley straw. Phone 732-32. ..... 255\*

Shuttle pots, 3 gallons "Tanner"; also 600. Apply Roy Shulpole, Eagle Point. ..... 260\*

## SELL TO ME

\$1000 on improved ranch homes the Insurance Man.

## LOANS

One or two acres adjacent to city.

Available water and some trees.

Address BUY, Mail Tribune.

## RENTALS

Office space for rent.

Office space for rent.