

"BURBANK OF DRY FARMING WORLD"
Has Oregon Products at United States Land Show in Chicago



CHICAGO, ILL.—Fate made Tillman Reuter the "Burbank of the Dry Farming World." About ten years ago he left his home in Evansville, Ind., broken in body and spirit, and he went west in quest of health. He not only found health, but won wealth and fame as well. He located in Central Oregon and pioneered it as a cultivator of the dry farming variety. He worked wonders, growing everything in the shape of grains and vegetables that are produced with more ample rainfall.

This year at the International Dry Farming Exposition in Tulsa, Okla., Reuter, for the third consecutive time, swept the boards in competition with the exhibits of the entire North American continent. Louis W. Hill, chairman of the board of directors of the Great Northern railway, has installed a portion of the famous Reuter exhibit in the Great Northern railway's booth at the United States Land Show, which opened Nov. 20th in the Chicago Coliseum. Reuter, meanwhile, is too busy getting ready for his next year's crop to attend the Chicago show. He is bent on making it four consecutive "world's championships" by improving his next dry farming congress exhibit.

**COUNTY LIBRARIAN
MAKES REPORT**

Hood River's county library has established itself firmly as an educational force during its first year of existence, as shown in the report of Miss Edna Northey, librarian, submitted to the County Library Board. This shows that the total circulation of books for the year was 16,857 and interest in the library such as to make its influence felt in all sections of the county. The report follows:

On August 15, 1912, the librarian entered upon her duties in the room in the Smith Building on Third street. With the help of an untrained assistant, the numerous gifts and first purchases were prepared for the shelves. On Sept. 15 the library was opened to the public with a total of 1093 volumes on the shelves. These were supplemented by five traveling libraries from the Library Commission, making a total number of volumes at our disposal 1143. From the first the citizens of both city and county have been much interested. Patrons have been most generous in donations and have added materially to the stock in hand.

Circulation is Large
The number of books circulated from the central library for home reading was 15,633; that from the county stations 1014, making a total of 16,647 for the year. It has been absolutely impossible this first year to keep accurate records at all the stations of the circulation of the different classes of books, because we have had to depend entirely upon volunteer service and have had no regular circulation in charge, the attendant changing each week.

At the central library fiction formed 60 per cent of the entire circulation. This is a record of which we may be justly proud. The per cent of the fiction read at the county stations is even less, not because, as one might believe, that they are sent only serious books, but because there are more leisure for the higher life.

Books Returned Required
There are 1435 registered borrowers at the central library, 925 from the city and 507 from the county. There is the minimum of red tape to the system, no guarantor being required except in the case of children under 16 years of age. A special non-fiction card is issued on request and more than two books may be drawn on that card. Books for home study may be drawn for one month without renewal.

Generous Gifts Made
The total number of books added to the library this year was 2063, of which 702 were by purchase, 1219 by gift, 42 by the binding of magazines. The gifts include many valuable pamphlets, which were placed in the Gaylord binders and circulate as any

other book.

Reference Service Helpful
Although the library as a source of reference material is a new innovation in the community and our supply of such material is limited because of the youth of the library, results this year have, on the whole, been quite satisfactory. Material has been furnished to our four Parents' and Teachers' associations of the county and assistance has been given in the making of the programs. The Art division of the local Women's Club has also found the resources of the library useful in the preparation of their weekly work. The interest of the High School pupils is increasing day by day and teachers are encouraged to send pupils to the library for supplementary material in the different classes and for literary programs. The library furnishes collections for debates, supplementing that at hand with loans from the State Library. Twelve debate libraries have been furnished for the several schools of the county.

Six County Stations
There are at present six county stations at Parkdale, Mt. Hood, Odell, Fir, Cascade Locks and Oak Grove. The station at Dee has been temporarily closed because of peculiar lack of interest, the one at Pine Grove on account of its proximity to the central library and the preference of the patrons to draw books from the central library. However, some of the patrons have requested that a small collection be placed in the schoolhouse during the winter.

Odell is the first station to have a permanent reading room. It is understood that Cascade Locks is soon to open one also. At Mt. Hood the library is placed in a room adjoining the Odd Fellows' Hall, but is scarcely large enough for a reading room. At Oak Grove, Parkdale and Fir the collections are at present in the schoolhouses.

Books are sent on request to individuals or to the county stations, the transportation being prepaid.

Well Advertised
Although no special effort has been made to advertise the library, the work of organization requiring all available energy of the librarian and the assistant, some attention has been given to publicity. Through the courtesy of the local papers, lists of the new books and library news have appeared from time to time.

The Staff
In September Miss Lottie Kinnaird, having completed the required six months of apprentice work, was appointed a regular assistant in the library. In September she resigned and Miss Elsie Melucas was appointed to succeed her.

The Future Needs
In reviewing this first year's work we see much cause for encouragement for the county library is no longer an experiment, but has proved its right to a place as part of the educational

system of the county and city. However, only a mere beginning has been made. There is much more to be accomplished. Before we are content the library should reach every home in the county. There are still many who know nothing of the resources of their library. We need more books, more stations, more collections at out-of-the-way stations, closer cooperation with the schools and facilities to meet the needs of the children. All this extension requires funds. The future looks bright. We are filled with enthusiasm when we realize our wonderful opportunities for service, and with the completion of the new building and the increased appropriation from the city and county.

In conclusion the librarian wishes to express her grateful appreciation to each member of the Library Board for their heart and willing co-operation and support, without which nothing could have been accomplished that has been accomplished.

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