

Klamath Clover Fields Pave Way For Apiculture

Untold Opportunities Exist in County for Profitable Beekeeping; Chance of Promised Land

The discovery that sweet clover pasture in Klamath county will give more than double the feed which can be produced on any other kind of irrigated pasture land, paves the way for heightened development of an additional phase of agriculture in this most prolific of Oregon counties. Apiculture, or bee farming, is the newest "open sesame" for the progressive Klamath farmer seeking the highest net returns possible on his cultivated land.

There have been some bees in the county for a number of years, and the hives which have received proper attention brought their owners excellent dividends. N. E. Woodhouse, county bee inspector, has operated an apiary near Merrill for some time, with highly satisfactory results, and F. W. Van Buskirk, of Klamath Falls, has satisfied himself and neighbors that the industry is not only profitable, but interesting as well, and like most bee breeders, declares the work to be a recreational pastime.

Clover Paves Way
With the increasing popularity of sweet clover as a rotation crop for Klamath county's famous potatoes, as well as for permanent pasturage, however, the production of commercial honey is expected to gradually come into its own here. Just now local production of the processed nectar falls so far short of supplying home consumption and the Klamath markets that the commodity's entire field of possibilities may be safely said to remain untouched.

The annual production of honey and wax throughout the United States, has made apiculture a profitable minor industry of the country, and it has been shown that only in those sections of the land where sweet clover thrives, can bee culture be carried on profitably. Parts of Oregon and Washington are said to be the sole sections west of Minnesota where these favorable conditions exist. Because of the character of the bee-keeper's work, honey production is especially suited to specialization, and the constant demand on the part of the honey-consuming public make it readily possible for the apiarist to make a vocation of this industry.

Food Supply Limitless
One favorable feature of bee culture is that the apiarist is allowed to "feed" his bees on fields for miles around. The little creatures are famous for the good pollination work which they do for all blooming plants and crops, and it has been definitely established by government experimenters that the nectar which the bees gather from blooms, is not the least bit detrimental to the health of the plant. Rather beneficial in those blooms where pollination is vital.

Because of the certain amount of skill and knowledge necessary to highest success in bee culture, it is generally advised that the bee-keeper begin on a small scale and increase his colonies as experience grows. Convenient advice for Klamath county farmers who must devote the major part of their attention to other crops. It is a mistake, however, for the experienced bee-keeper to spend years in prepara-

tion for commercial bee-keeping, and the opportunities in Klamath for the alert bee-man to increase his colonies with utmost rapidity, are many.

Clover Honey Best

Clover, throughout other parts of the country, is said to furnish more honey than any other nectar-secreting plant, and since honey from this source is unsurpassed by any other, Klamath county with its present promise of one-fourth total pasture acreage consisting of sweet clover, should become readily famed for honey production. If this pursuit is developed in accordance with existing possibilities.

Due to the industry's present stage of utter infancy, virtually no conclusive data on bee culture in the county as a whole, is available. Experiments show, however, that where clover grows in profusion there will honey bees thrive also, if given half a chance.

Good Local Markets

Market facilities for good honey in Klamath county alone, are unlimited, and it has been stated that the bee industry here could expand to several times its present size before producers would even have to start considering shipping to outside points. In this, Klamath beekeepers would be fortunate, as comb honey holds up best and presents its finest appearance to the buyer, when transportation distances are not too great.

Many bee-keepers have found it

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BUILDING BOOM IS CONTINUING

(Continued From Page Seven)

company of Oregon, a Portland concern. The new structure will provide accommodations for physicians, surgeons and dentists, and will be thoroughly up-to-date in the most minute detail.

Home building continues in every part of the city and those who are providing permanent places of residence have urged their contractors to rush structural work that the houses may be under cover and as near completion as possible before the inclement fall and winter weather begins. There are scores of homes and apartment houses in course of construction, and it seems like no one particular section of the city is favored to any great extent. Sub-divisions that have been placed upon the market are being dotted with bungalows and substantial residences, which lend grace and dignity to their respective localities.

Street Paving Program

The street paving program is being rushed and a small army of men is finding employment. Terminal work in the Southern Pacific

OLD KING SPUD PERSISTENT BOOSTER

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mers are growing potatoes exclusive of other crops, however. Most of the people engaged in the pursuit, also grow a great deal of hay and many operate dairies.

Henry Semon is King

Semon, with his astounding production records, is probably the outstanding spud grower of the county, and early this year received state-wide recognition through a feature article in the Oregon Farmer, expounding his successes. Semon has been growing potatoes for several years, and in 1924, in connection with the state college extension service, kept definite records which showed at the end of the season that his 39 acres of spuds gave him

yards is giving employment to fully 200 men.

It will only be a short time until the contract will be awarded for the building of the Sixth street viaduct. The \$62,000 bond issue voted by the city of Klamath Falls is being advertised for sale and following negotiations for its transfer, the money will be available and a contract will naturally follow.

a gross income of \$6,322.31, not including value of seed saved for this year's planting, probably amounting to \$1200.

Others Become Interested

Klamath county has the land, its adaptability to the super-production of quality potatoes is proved beyond all questioning, and the prices on choice acreage are extremely low. One seer of alleged repute recently was quoted as stating that Klamath county with its wide range of activities, is due for unheralded development, both industrially and agriculturally. He may rest assured that the potato will play no small part in spreading the fame of the latter pursuit, growers state.

Tillamook — Mountain States Power company will build Ocean-side and Netarta power line.

Medford — Masonic lodge will rebuild and enlarge St. Mark block, for lodge home.

Garibaldi — Contracts let for new high school, to cost almost \$34,000.



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